

Owatonna



Council 945

The Key

to greater Council unity.

AUGUST
2016

COLUMBIAN CENTER

820 Elm Avenue South
P.O. Box 623
Owatonna, MN 55060
507.451.6103

KC LOUNGE

Open: Mon-Sat 3:30-12:30
Happy hour Mon-Fri 4 - 6
Free Hors d'oeuvres during
Friday happy hour.
Member discount for Hall rental.

BAR BINGO

Every Tuesday in the
Lounge at 7:00 p.m.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Officers' Meeting - KC Hall,
First Wednesday 7:30 p.m.
General Meeting - KC Hall,
Second Wednesday 7:30 p.m.
Fourth Degree Meeting - KC Hall,
Fourth Thursday 7:30 p.m.

KC WEBSITE

visit our website
www.kofccouncil945.org

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

August 1 - First Degree
Exemplification
KC Hall - 7:00 p.m.
Candidates please be at Hall
at 6:30 p.m.

August 3 - Officers' and Gambling
Meeting
KC Hall - 7:30 p.m.

August 8 - Building Meeting
KC Hall - 7:00 p.m.

August 10 - General Meeting
Jaycee Park
Meal - 6:00 p.m.

August 16 - 21 - Steele County
Free Fair
Steele County Fairgrounds

August 25 - Fourth Degree
KC Hall - 7:30 p.m.

October 1 - Fall Fishing Trip



SEE YOU AT THE
STEELE COUNTY
FREE FAIR

COMING EVENTS

OFFICERS' MEETING

Wednesday, August 3
KC Hall
Meeting - 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY NIGHT AT THE CLUB

Serving BLTs and salad
every Tuesday in August
5:45 - 6:45 p.m. in the Lounge.



FOR GREAT FOOD
AT THE FAIR
KNIGHTS OF
COLUMBUS
FOOD STAND

Steele County Free Fair
Aug. 16 - 21

The KC Food Stand is located between
the Beer Garden and Fair Square.

"Downright Delicious Food"

YOUR CHOICE OF GREAT BRATS AND
our tasty "Holy Mojo sandwich"
Please contact Jerome Spindler at (507) 213-0079
if you would like to volunteer to help.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GRANDSTAND BEER SALES

Steele County Free Fair
Thurs. Aug. 18 - Hairball, Fri. Aug. 19 - Truck/
Tractor Pull, and Sat. Aug. 20 - Enduro
Please contact LaVerne Klecker at 451-4102 or
(507) 456-6738 or

Joe Elbert at (507) 279-4015
if you would like to help.

BINGO AT THE FAIR

St. Mary's Home & School Association will be
running the bingo stand at the
Steele County Free Fair this year.
The bingo stand is located east of the
Four Seasons building.
Come and Play!

FIRST DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION

Monday, August 1 - KC Hall - 7:00 p.m.
Candidates please be at the Hall at 6:30 p.m.

GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, August 10
Jaycee Park
Social - 5:00 p.m.
Meal - 6:00 p.m.

Note that our August Council meeting will be held
August 10 at Jaycee Park, located at 631 Rice Lake
Street.

We will be treating the Tootsie Roll workers to a
meal, a preview of our Fair Stand menu. All members,
spouse/guest, and children are invited to attend.
Checks will be presented to the Tootsie Roll Fund
Drive beneficiaries: Therapeutic Recreation
(Owatonna Park & Recreation), Rainbow
Residence, Cedar Valley Services, and Steele County
Special Olympics

A short meeting will follow the meal.
We look forward to seeing you there!

LITOMYSL 45th ANNUAL SUMMER FESTIVAL AND KC FAMILY CORPORATE COMMUNION

Sunday, July 31
KC Chorus will sing before Mass, at 9:30 a.m.
Polka Mass - 10:00 a.m.
Fourth Degree Honor Guard will participate
Festival - 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

SUMMER STEAK FRIES ARE BACK

Served in the Lounge
Friday, August 5, 12, and 26
Served from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Serving our wonderful grilled steaks and
other grilled items.

THE KC CHORUS

will sing your favorite patriotic & folk songs
Steele County Free Fair
Tuesday, August 16 - 4:45 p.m.
Fair Square

MINNESOTA TWINS

Stop at the Club to catch all the Minnesota
Twins action. Play Taters For Toppers for
chances to win free drinks.

MINNESOTA TWINS BUS TRIP

Sunday, August 14
Call Club for details.

Chaplain's Message by Rev. John Sauer

"There was a scholar of the law who stood up to test Jesus and said, 'Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'What is written in the law? How do you read it?' He said in reply, 'You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself. Jesus replied to him, 'You have answered correctly; do this and you shall live.' But because he wished to justify himself, he said to Jesus, 'And who is my neighbor?'"

And who is my neighbor? That is a question that continues to challenge us as our community and nation become increasingly diverse. The people next door no longer necessarily look like us. They don't come from the same ethnic background. They may not speak our language or share our customs. I think this reality is part of the challenge of these past few weeks with the shootings of police and by police. We have not yet come to terms with the increasing diversity of our communities and the stress is showing.

This makes the question which provokes Jesus' parable of the good Samaritan a timely one for reflection. For some of our neighbors" are only those who are like us. They share our skin color, our ethnic background, our language, our religious affiliation. But Jesus broadens the definition of neighbor. He includes even those who are traditional enemies. Few Jews of Jesus' day would have identified a Samaritan as good. Historic and cultural differences ran deep. But Jesus makes the point that when we show mercy for another – even a Samaritan can be our neighbor. The point of the parable is not that the beaten man was a neighbor of the Samaritan but that the Samaritan acted as a neighbor to someone.

The challenges facing our country right now do not lend themselves to easy solutions. A deep and respectful conversation is necessary for us to move forward. It must begin by recognizing each other as neighbors, as brothers and sisters.

An old rabbi once asked his pupils how they could tell when the night had ended and the day had begun. "Could it be," asked one of the students, "when you can see an animal in the distance and tell whether it's a sheep or a dog?" "No," answered the rabbi. Another asked, "Is it when you can look at a tree in the distance and tell whether it's a fig tree or a peach tree?" "No," answered the rabbi. "Then when is it?" the pupils demanded. "It is when you can look on the face of any man or woman and see that it is your sister or brother. Because if you cannot see this, it is still night."

Grand Knight's Message by Gary Sanford

Congratulations to PGK Dave Lax for all his work in leading us to Star Council. We could not have achieved this success without the help of our Brother Knights. THANK YOU! I know I can count on the same support this next year.

I would also like to welcome Father Kevin Connolly to Owatonna. I am looking forward to getting to know him.

With a Council as large as ours, I have not had the pleasure of meeting all Brother Knights. I hope that will change over the next year. I will share a little about myself and family. I grew up in Spring Valley, Minnesota. I am the second oldest of six children. I graduated from Mankato State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Management and Marketing. While attending Mankato State, I met my wife Deb. We will be married for thirty years in October. We have four children, Alicia, Ryan, Cody, and Bailey. We are also blessed with our Granddaughter Ella. We moved to Owatonna nineteen years ago from Fort Dodge, Iowa. For the last fourteen years, I have worked at Modern Metal Products as their Sales Manager.

August is a busy month for us. At our August general meeting, we will distribute our Tootsie Roll drive funds. Thank you for all who made this possible. Our meeting will be held at Jaycee Park. Social hour at 5:00, eating at 6:00 followed by the distribution of funds. Brief meeting to follow. We also have the fair booth to man as well as beer sales in the grandstand. I hope everyone can find the time to help make these events successful and fun.

All Brother Knights of Council 945 should be proud of the money we have raised and donated to numerous charities. We help so many people and organizations. This past year, as Deputy Grand Knight, I had the privilege of reading all the thank you notes sent to us. It really puts into perspective how many people and organizations appreciate our hard work and commitment to charity. In order to grow and maintain our commitment to charities we need your help in growing our Council. I ask each of you to talk to someone about becoming a member. If anyone has questions or would like assistance in recruiting a new member, please contact LaVerne Klecker home (507) 451-4102, cell (507) 456-6738, or you can contact me.

I will be happy to talk to any Brother Knight with a question, concern, or an idea to make our Council better. My contact information is, home (507) 455-0511, cell (507) 456-3793, or email: garysanford82@msn.com

I am proud of what our Council has accomplished and am excited to see what we can do this year.

Vivat Jesus

Membership by LaVerne Klecker

Congratulations to Council 945 for achieving Star Council. All forms have been approved, new members, and member insurance quotas have been approved. Thanks to our entire Council for their help in achieving this goal.

July 1st started a new fraternal year. Our goal is to achieve Star Council. We are planning to have a First Degree Exemplification on August 1 at the KC Hall in Owatonna. If your son or grandson is home for the summer, please invite him to join the Knights of Columbus.

We need the help of our entire membership to make our Council's membership goal. Now is the time to make contact with your prospective member. If you need any material or help in signing up a member, please contact me at (507) 451-4102 or (507) 456-6738.

The publication rack at the club also has Form 100s and information brochures. New members are important to our Council. Don't wait any longer, call, and visit your prospective member today. Explain our Council's accomplishments and invite them to join us, they will thank you.

The members in the KCs who are involved in our projects have a lot of enthusiasm and enjoy the projects that they participate in. We need to continue to sign up new members to provide us with new ideas for projects that we could bring into our Council.

Any members who have not paid their dues for the past year, please get them paid. Statements have been sent out for the 2016 dues. Please pay them as soon as possible so you can remain a member in good standing. We need the money from our dues to make ends meet for our Council expenses.

9TH ANNUAL SMOKIN' IN STEELE

All of the Smokin' in Steele committee give a heartfelt thank you to all the rest of Council 945 for another wonderful year. Again this year, over 200 Brother Knights donated a total of close to 3,000 man hours for this year's event. It does not matter if you worked all year, or only an hour or two during the weekend. And check out the July issue of *Columbia* magazine for a nice recognition for us in the Knights in Action. Every bit of your help was vital and is much appreciated. Thank you from the bottom of our collective hearts.

No matter how you measure it, this year's festival was a remarkable success.

The music line up just gets more amazing each year. On both nights, the crowds were large, more local people were in evidence. People stayed late, partied hard, and were very appreciative of the truly wonderful music. The 5K run continues to be strong and our partnership with Gopher Sports is important, so please say thanks to any Gopher Sports employees that you know.

The antique tractor and truck show plus the hot rod show both grew this year Both are positive additions to give our weekend wider appeal. The family bike cruise doubled in participation this year and is another great family event for our weekend.

The Kids Q, in spite of a rainy Friday night for the second year in a row, grew in participation, sponsorship support, and volunteer help.

Blues 4 Kids continues to be a popular child centered event.

The Ike's building was packed to capacity for the VIP dinner. It is vital for showing our appreciation and for strengthening our bond with those who provide money and services to us.

New this year was the steak grilling competition. It generated a lot of interest and was very successful. The Backyard event continues to be very strong in every way. Our friends at Fareway again stepped up this year by donating all the rib eye steaks for the steak competition. They also put up challenge money to our Backyard teams. When you shop at Fareway, please identify yourself as a KC and thank them for their great support.

Curiosity may bring spectators or participants to Smokin' in Steele once. But we have people who come back year after year. That return business is because of the positive experiences they have here. And a lot of that is because of you, my fellow Knights. 2016 was another great year for Council 945 and Special Olympics. Many thanks again.



SMOKIN' BREAKFAST

The 2015 – 16 Breakfast Season is over as of June 5. About 250 people were served a delicious breakfast at the concluding event of Smokin' in Steele. \$1,250 was raised for charitable causes to be named by the KCs. Thanks to all who assisted. Take a rest for a few weeks – the next 'season' starts in September – giving us another chance to promote all the great things we do as an organization. While raising the money for many needy groups (Charity), we get to work together (Unity) to further the original wishes of Fr. McGivney to always help others (Fraternity). Thanks again to all who helped as well as those who supported the event by their attendance.



2016 SMOKIN' IN STEELE MEMORIES

2017 10TH ANNIVERSARY SMOKIN' IN STEELE JUNE 2, 3, & 4, 2017

2016 SMOKIN' IN STEELE MEMORIES



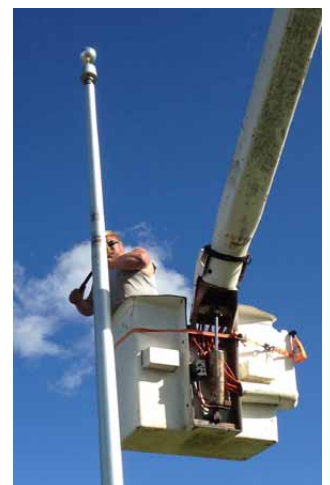
**2017 10TH
ANNIVERSARY
SMOKIN' IN STEELE
JUNE 2, 3, & 4, 2017**

FAREWELL FATHER MCGRATH



On Sunday, June 26, 2016, the Council recognized Father Edward McGrath with a plaque and gift in appreciation for his unselfish and devoted service to the Knights of Columbus and their families. After 12 years of service to the Owatonna community as Pastor for St. Joseph's, and several years as Chaplain for the Council, Father McGrath left to become pastor for the Chatfield, Lanesboro, and Preston cluster of parishes. We wish him well in his new assignment.

JEREMIAH JOHNSON GIVES COUNCIL A BIG LIFT



A big thank you goes out to Brother Knight Jeremiah Johnson who uses his bucket truck to help with two important projects. He takes charge of erecting and taking down the Smokin' in Steele banner which is displayed on the west end of the beer garden at the Steele County Fairgrounds.

The other important task is the cleaning of the KC's flag pole at the Sacred Heart Cemetery. The action created by the wind causes chaffing of the flag pole by the collar which is attached to the bottom of the flag. The bucket truck allows Jeremiah to perform these duties safely and efficiently.

2016-17 COUNCIL OFFICERS

Chaplain: Rev. John Sauer
Grand Knight: Gary Sanford (507) 456-3793
Deputy Grand Knight: Nicholas Matejcek
Chancellor: Dan Sawyer
Advocate: Lynn Becker
Warden: Lee Jardine
Inside Guard: Tony David
Outside Guard: Harlan Kern
Financial Secretary: John Ahlberg
Treasurer: Tom Eichten
Recorder: Open
Trustee (3 year): PGK Dustin Reese
Trustee (2 year): PGK Dan Wolfe
Trustee (1 year): PGK Dave Lax

Directors and Chairmen

Program Director: Nicholas Matejcek (DGK)
Membership Director: LaVerne Klecker (PGK)
Adv/Publicity Director: Dan Wolfe
Aid & Assistance: Greg Nelson
Stand In KC Chorus Director Raymond Bissen
Building Director Tom Elbert
Director of Church Activities: Open
Director of Youth Activities Will Pieper
Dir. of Family Life Activities: Stephen Nelson
Gambling Manager: Randy Balausky (PGK)
District Deputy: Randy Balausky (PGK)
KC Hall Manager: Mark Cunningham (PGK)
Benefits Advisor: Luke J. Rennie - (507) 417-4169

Knight of the Month



John Green

Our Knight of the month, John Green, joined our Council in 2002, and not surprisingly was sponsored by master recruiter LaVerne Klecker. However, what was unique is that John made it a family affair by joining at the same time with his father, Roger Green.

John was born in Luverne, Minnesota and moved to Owatonna in 1982. After high school, John attended RCTC to study the construction trades, and he has been in the carpentry/construction business for the past 20 years. In 2005, John started his own contracting construction business doing both residential and commercial building.

John is married to wife Amy, and they have three daughters ranging in age from 14, 10, and 6 years old. John is no stranger to being the only man in the house as he grew up in a household with four siblings, all sisters. John is currently a 3rd degree Knight and has been involved in a number of KC activities over the years. When asked to choose

his favorite, it would be working the Steele County Fair Grandstand as that has the most people interaction.

When he gets a break in his busy schedule, John enjoys the opportunity to hunt and camp and hopping on his motorcycle. Being in sports for most of his life, John has enjoyed being part of a team and that is what he has enjoyed in being part of a great team with KC's and the camaraderie with his fellow Knights. Over the years, he has become more aware of the positive impact that the Knights of Columbus has had on its members and the community. Thank you John for building a long partnership with our Council and we look forward to your continued support of our Council 945 team of Knights.

Benefits Corner by Luke J. Rennie

Update Your Beneficiaries

Sometimes it is easy to overlook the simplest of things. Take, for example, the beneficiaries on your life insurance policies. If your policy was applied for and issued several years ago, it may very well be that the person you originally selected as the beneficiary is no longer the person you would want to receive the policy proceeds. If you bought the policy when you were single, for example, you may have named your parents as beneficiaries. If you have since married, your policies should be updated to reflect your spouse as beneficiary. Maybe you've had children since, who are not named on the policies.

Most people list a primary beneficiary, who is specifically designated as the first in priority to receive policy proceeds. We also encourage the naming of a contingent beneficiary, an alternate person designated to receive policy proceeds, usually in the event that the original beneficiary pre-deceases the insured.

I routinely call all of my policyholders for annual review appointments, usually near the anniversary date of your policy - that is, the date it was originally issued. One of the matters that I'll discuss during this review is the status of your beneficiary designations. If they need updating, and they often do, I can complete the paperwork during that appointment.

I look forward to meeting with each of you to discuss your family's needs.

Call me to learn more about protecting your assets.

Luke Rennie, FICF, LUTCF, FSCP 507-417-4169

Aid & Assistance by Greg Nelson



Please remember in your prayers and thoughts all of our sick or injured members of the Knights of Columbus and their families. Let's also offer up prayers for all deceased members and their families.

Dan Bauer, Julie Bauer, Jonathan Becker, John Berning, Tom Blockey, Bruce Born, Barb Claeys, Fr. Michael Cronin, Jack Dillemath, Marilyn Dillemath, Lois Doyle, Mary Floersch, Rose Hoffman, Barb Klecker, Jim Klecker, Larry Klocek, Marlys Knight, Mary Lax, Don Loeb, Bev Macht, Gil Mamer, Mary Mamer, Msgr. James McCauley, Mary Meixner, Suzanne Miedema, Father Ed Mountain, Dorothy Mulert, Darlene Mumm, Karen Pirkl, Ray Pirkl, Kevin Raney, Sharon Rohwer, Peter Schneider, Sharon Skala, Ivan Snorek, Howard Snyder, Jeanine Snyder, Duane Spindler, Barb Strand, Mary Lou Thurnau, Gary Wandrey, Wilfred Wagner, Jerry Weber, Ludwig Wencl, Irene Wierzbinski, Jim Wierzbinski, Shirley Wierzbinski, and Jan Wolf.

IN MEMORY

Please remember in your prayers the following individuals and their families:

Brother Sir Knight George Zwack passed away on July 9.

If anyone knows of a Brother Knight who is sick or injured, please call Greg Nelson at (507) 676-1748.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Council No. 945
P.O. Box 945
Owatonna, MN 55060

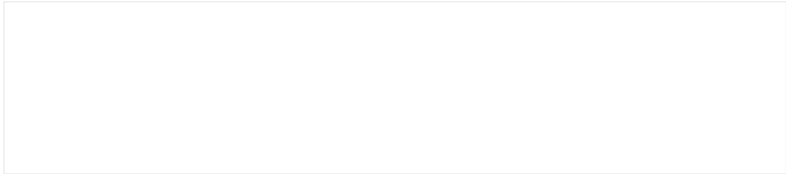
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



First Degree Exemplification
KC Hall - Owatonna, Minnesota
August 1 - 7:00 p.m.
Candidates please be at the Hall at 6:30 p.m.

Steele County Free Fair
Steele County Fairgrounds
August 16 - 21
Enjoy a brat at the KC Food Stand.

Nonprofit Organization U.S. POSTAGE PAID Owatonna, MN Permit No. 202



AUGUST 2016						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 First Degree Exemplification KC Hall - 7:00 pm Candidates please be at the Hall at 6:30 pm	2 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	3 Officers' Meeting and Gambling Meeting - 7:30 pm	4	5 Summer Steak Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	6
7	8 Bldg Mtg - 7:00 pm	9 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	10 General Meeting Jaycee Park Social - 5:00 pm Meal - 6:00 pm	11	12 Summer Steak Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	13
14	15	16 NO Bar Bingo First day of the Steele County Free Fair KC Chorus Fair Square	17 Enjoy a brat at the KC Food Stand	18 Enjoy the fair and all of the activities	19 Play a game of Bingo at the St. Mary's Home & School Assn Stand	20 Enjoy a Holy Mojo sandwich at the KC Food Stand
21 Last day of the Steele County Free Fair - enjoy one more brat at the KC Food Stand	22	23 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	24	25 Fourth Degree KC Hall - 7:30 pm	26 Summer Steak Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	27
28	29	30 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	31			