

Owatonna



Council 945

The Key

to greater Council unity.

AUGUST
2017

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 2 - Officers' and Gambling
Meeting

KC Hall - 7:30 p.m.

August 7 - Building Meeting

KC Hall - 7:00 p.m.

August 9 - General Meeting

Jaycee Park
Social - 5:00 p.m.
Meal - 6:00 p.m.

August 15 - 20 - Steele County
Free Fair

Steele County Fairgrounds

August 23 - Fourth Degree

KC Hall - 7:30 p.m.

HELP NEEDED

The KC Hall is looking for
part-time bartenders. Here is
an opportunity to make
some extra money. If you
enjoy people, having fun, &
hard work, stop at the Club
and talk to Mark.

COMING EVENTS

OFFICERS' MEETING

Wednesday, August 2

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.

MINNESOTA TWINS BUS TRIP

Sunday, August 6

Minnesota Twins vs. Texas Rangers

\$65.00 includes lower level tickets, bus ride,
refreshments, and tour of the Minnesota Twins
museum with Minnesota Twins curator Clyde
Doepner. Call Club for details.



FOR GREAT FOOD

AT THE FAIR

KNIGHTS OF
COLUMBUS
FOOD STAND

Steele County Free Fair

Aug. 15 - 20

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 Tom Burke at (507) 363-1889 if
you would like to volunteer 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!

KC GOLF OUTING

September 16th at
Brooktree Golf Course.

It will be a four person scramble format and there
will lots of fun, prizes, dinner, and did we
mention fun?

GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, August 9

Jaycee Park

Social - 5:00 p.m.

Meal - 6:00 p.m.

Note that our August Council meeting will be held
August 9 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!

SUMMER STEAK FRIES ARE BACK

Served in the Lounge

Friday, August 4, 11, & 25

Served from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Serving our wonderful grilled steaks and
other grilled items.

MINNESOTA TWINS

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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GRANDSTAND BEER SALES

Steele County Free Fair

August 17 - Hairball and August 19 - 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.



**EACH DAY HOLDS THE
POSSIBILITIES FOR
GREAT DISCOVERIES
AND HIDDEN JOY!**

Grand Knight's Message by Nic Matejcek

Dear Brother Knights,

It has been about a month since I began the journey and challenge of being the Grand Knight of our great organization. I am amazed at the support network that is in place in our Council and appreciate the well wishes and support from all of you. They say that good leaders surround themselves with good people. Well, those good people are in place and will be for many years to come. That is why the Knights of Council 945 should be proud of their membership in this organization.

I hope you and your families will join us for the annual KC Picnic at Jaycee Park on August 9th starting at 5:00 pm. We will serve delicious burgers, brat patties, sweet corn, and various side dishes around 6:00 pm. After dinner, we will have a short presentation to distribute the proceeds from the Tootsie Roll drive. We are encouraging all of our recipients to join us to celebrate this success, and so our members can meet the people that benefit from their hard work. I hope to see you there!

There are two opportunities in August to make a difference in our Council. During the Steele County Free Fair, we will have our food stand again, and will sell beverages in the grandstand. Both of these tasks require a lot of people power and benefit our Council in many ways. Please contact me, and I will direct you to the right people if you are interested in helping out.

Our Council continues to work hard day in and day out to make the lives of people around us so much better. This is the true essence of the mission set forth by Father Michael J. McGivney so long ago. I don't think we realize the far reaching impact our actions have. We are truly a force for good in our community.

Hug your families today, tell your spouses you love them, and always be thankful for what the Lord has blessed you with. I am continually reminded there are so many people in this world that face many more challenges than we do!

Vivat Jesus

2017-18 Council Officers



Front row from left to right Warden Matt Thurnau, Chaplain Fr. Kevin Connolly, Grand Knight Nicholas Matejcek, Past Grand Knight Gary Sanford, and Deputy Grand Knight Dan Sawyer.

Back row from left to right: Trustee Dan Wolfe, Recorder Tony David, Treasurer Tom Eichten, Trustee LaVerne Klecker standing in for Dave Lax, Financial Secretary John Ahlberg, Advocate Lee Jardine, and Inside Guard Tom Jirele.

Benefits Corner by Chris Retterath



Christopher Retterath, NSSA
Field Agent
320-266-8962 Cell
Christopher.Retterath@KofC.org

Call for any help or questions
you have concerning
Knights of Columbus
Insurance. I am here to serve
you.

Membership by LaVerne Klecker

Congratulations to our new member, Mark Kubista. Our goal is to achieve Star Council. To achieve Star Council we need to have 35 new members. Star Council is the highest award that a Council can achieve from Supreme. We are planning to have a First Degree Exemplification in the near future 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 2017 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.



10TH 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. 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 another remarkable success. The music line up just gets more amazing each year. We were blessed this year with great weather for the whole weekend. On both nights the crowds were large, and they were hungry and thirsty. 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 Sport 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 continued its strong contribution to the weekend as another great family event. The Kids Q grew in participation, sponsorship support, and volunteer help. Blues 4 Kids continues to be a popular child-centered event.

The VIP dinner this year moved to Thursday night and was in the Beer Garden for the first time. This is a positive change that will continue at that time and place. It is vital for showing our appreciation and for strengthening our bond with those who provide money and services to us. In its second year, the steak grilling competition generated a lot of interest and was very successful. PGK Dustin Reese won the Steak Competition and will represent us at the national final in Texas in October.

The Backyard event continues to be very strong in every way. With a near maximum 17 teams and a large crowd of spectators, Backyard increases in importance to our weekend. We are already looking for ways to expand it for next year.

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 is another great year for Council 945 and Special Olympics. Many thanks again.



SMOKIN' BREAKFAST

The 2016 – 17 Breakfast Season is over as of June 4. About 250 people were served a delicious breakfast at the concluding event of Smokin' in Steele. 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 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.

2017 SMOKIN' IN STEELE MEMORIES

**2018 11TH
ANNIVERSARY
SMOKIN' IN STEELE
JUNE 1, 2, & 3**

2017 SMOKIN' IN STEELE MEMORIES



**2018 11TH
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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 one important project. 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 bucket truck allows Jeremiah to perform this duty safely and efficiently.



Owatonna Knights of Columbus Golf Outing and Picnic

Saturday, September 16, 2017

Where: Brooktree Golf Course – 369 Cherry Street, Owatonna, MN

Time: Registration begins at 10 am. Shotgun start at 11 am.

Format: 4 person best ball scramble. *Fun for golfers of all levels.*

Open to all KC members, spouses and adult children. Guests (potential future Knights) are also invited to join us.

Golf includes on course competitions, skins game and team flight prizes.

Picnic: Immediately following golf, event moves to Mineral Springs Park Chalet next door to the golf course.

Dinner will be served; awards presented; and raffle prizes drawn.

Non-golfing family members are invited to join the picnic. (A \$5.00/per person donation is requested to help cover food cost.) The park has plenty of activity areas for kids of all ages, with a bonfire to end the evening.

Cost: \$40/per golfer, which includes green fees, cart, dinner and prize drawings. *What a sweet deal!*

Sign Up: Sign up deadline is September 1st . You can register as a team or as individuals. *We ask that you register early so we can get counts to the golf course and there are still spots available.*

To register, please contact: Dan Wolfe – 507-451-3935 or dkwolfe@charter.net or John Kniefel – John.Kniefel@wengercorp.com

Come join us for a day of fun and fellowship. Call now – operators are standing by!



2017-18 COUNCIL OFFICERS

Chaplain: Rev. Kevin Connolly
 Grand Knight: Nicholas Matejcek
 Deputy Grand Knight: Dan Sawyer
 Chancellor: Open
 Advocate: Lee Jardine
 Warden: Matt Thurnau
 Inside Guard: Tom Jirele
 Outside Guard: Harlan Kern
 Financial Secretary: John Ahlberg
 Treasurer: Tom Eichten
 Recorder: Tony David
 Trustee (3 year): PGK Dan Wolfe
 Trustee (2 year): PGK Dave Lax
 Trustee (1 year): PGK Gary Sanford

Directors and Chairmen

Program Director: Dan Sawyer (DGK)
 Membership Director: LaVerne Klecker (PGK)
 Adv/Publicity Director: Dan Wolfe
 Aid & Assistance: Greg Nelson
 KC Chorus Director Stephen Nelson
 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 Balasky (PGK)
 District Deputy: Gary Sanford (PGK)
 KC Hall Manager: Mark Cunningham (PGK)
 Field Agent: Chris Retterath - (320) 266-8962

Knight of the Month



Greg Robillard

Our Knight of the Month, Greg Robillard, joined our Council in 2015. He was born and raised in Minneapolis, Minnesota and after high school he joined the US Marine Corp for a four year stint. Following his military duty, Greg enrolled in Colorado Technical University where he studied Business Management and Computer Science. Following graduation he worked as a college professor for ten years. In 2004, Greg relocated to Owatonna to be closer to his immediate family.

Greg currently works managing a team of software engineers for a company that supplies the majority of air traffic control systems internationally. He works primarily from his home office staying in virtual contact with his team across the country.

Greg and his wife Kristi have two sons Thomas and Lucas, ages 17 and 15. They are members of St. Joseph Parish. When asked about hobbies outside of work, Greg mentioned the Missouri 340 (Mile) Canoe Race that he and a friend are

going to compete in later this year.

You may have seen Greg helping man the griddles for our KC breakfasts or at Smokin' in Steele and he looks forward to becoming more involved with the Council as his busy schedule allows. Greg has two brothers who are Knights in different Councils and they are amazed, as Greg is, at the level of support and activity that our Owatonna Council generates. We wish Greg the best of luck in his upcoming big river paddling adventure and congratulate him on being our Knight of the Month for June.

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.

Let us be united in prayer for those facing ongoing challenges...

Dan Bauer, Julie Bauer, John Berning, Ted Blockey, Bruce Born, Marianna Bunkers, Barb Claeys, Margaret Deml, Tom Dietz, Jack Dilleuth, Marilyn Dilleuth, Lois Doyle, Terri Grose, Rose Hoffman, Lorraine Jirele, Tom Kingsley, Barb Klecker, Jim Klecker, Larry Kloczek, Marlys Knight, Don Loeb, Bev Macht, Gil Mamer, Mary Mamer, Msgr. James McCauley, Mary Meixner, Suzanne Miedema, Father Ed Mountain, Dorothy Mulert, Darlene Mumm, Willard Peterson, Karen Pirkel, Ray Pirkel, Kevin Raney, Ivan Snorek, Jeanine Snyder, Duane Spindler, Barb Strand, Mary Lou Thurnau, Gary Wandrey, Wilfred Wagner, Jerry Weber, Irene Wierzbinski, Jim Wierzbinski, Shirley Wierzbinski, Steve Wiese, and Jan Wolf.

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



Knight's Prayer

Our Lady, Queen of the Knights, bless all the activities of our Order. Keep us true to our pledge, to extend the kingship of thy divine son on earth. Through Thine intercession, win for us the grace, ever to exemplify in our

public and private lives, the virtues that should characterize those especially dedicated to the service of the heavenly court. Make us always aware that as your Knights, we are constantly observed, our faith judged, and our Order appreciated. Accept, O Mary, this renewed pledge of fealty and devotion, of Thy Servants, the Knights of Columbus.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**General Meeting**

Wednesday, August 9

Jaycee Park

Social - 5:00 p.m. Meal - 6:00 p.m.

Nonprofit Organization

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Owatonna, MN

Permit No. 202

Steele County Free Fair

Steele County Fairgrounds

August 15 - 20

Enjoy a brat at the KC Food Stand.

AUGUST 2017

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