

Owatonna



Council 945

The Key

to greater Council unity.

DECEMBER
2011

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

December 3 - Red Kettle Drive
8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
December 4 - Fourth Degree
Christmas Party
KC Hall - 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
December 7 - Officers' Meeting
and Gambling
KC Hall - 7:30 p.m.
December 7 - Richard Rohwer
Christmas Party
Senior Place - 6:30 p.m.
December 11 - Benefit Breakfast
St. Mary's School
8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
KC Christmas Holiday Breakfast
Extravaganza
Breakfast with Santa
December 12 - Building Meeting
KC Hall - 7:00 p.m.
December 14 - General Meeting
KC Hall - 7:30 p.m.
January 21 - 8th Annual
Chili Cook-Off
National Guard Armory
4:00 - 8:00 p.m.

COMING EVENTS

OFFICERS' MEETING

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

KC Christmas Holiday Breakfast Extravaganza

- Breakfast with Santa -

Treats for the kids - bring your camera

Christmas Carols by the

KC Chorus - 9:00 a.m. to noon

Sunday, December 11
8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
at St. Mary's School

"KC Omelet Breakfasts"

The Twins omelet
The Viking omelet
The Wild omelet

Each served with pancakes or French Toast,
milk and coffee

"KC Country Breakfast"

Pancakes or French toast; ham or sausage,
eggs - scrambled or fried-to-order, milk, & coffee

All with table service - delicious food served
hot from the grill to your table.
\$6.00 - advance, \$6.50 at the door
Everyone is welcome.



MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL CHALLENGE

Every Monday starting Sept. 12 thru Dec. 26,
weekly winners receive a large Heggies pizza,
a bucket of Coors Lite beer, and Coors Lite prizes.
Year-end winners receive: 1st - \$100,
2nd - \$50, & 3rd - \$25
Tacos - 2 for \$3.50 served 6:30 p.m. thru half-time.
Happy hour prices and free peanuts during game.
\$1.50 Coors Lite tap beer with purchase of glass.

GENERAL MEETING



Wednesday, December 14

Program - 7:30 p.m.
by KC Insurance Field Agent,
Kevin Gallagher.
Door Prizes Awarded
Holiday treats to follow meeting.

RICHARD ROHWER CHRISTMAS PARTY

For special people with developmental disabilities.
Wednesday, December 7 6:30 p.m.
SeniorPlace
Contact Russ Bowar, 451-1778, if you can help.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

LOUNGE OPEN

Christmas Eve Club Hours - 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Stop by the Club for your Christmas treats.

8th ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF



January 21, 2012

4:00 - 8:00 p.m.

National Guard Armory
2323 West Bridge
Owatonna, MN

NEW YEARS EVE AT THE LOUNGE

Ring in the New Year with Champagne and
party favors at midnight.



**HAVE A
BLESSED
AND
MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

Prayer in the Days Before Advent



My brother, Jesus. It happens every year. I think that this will be the year that I have a reflective Advent.

I look forward to Sunday and this new season, Jesus. But all around me are the signs rushing me to Christmas and some kind of celebration that equates spending with love.

I need your help. I want to slow my world down. This year, more than ever, I need Advent, these weeks of reflection and longing for hope in the darkness.

Jesus, this year, help me to have that longing. Help me to feel it in my heart and be aware of the hunger and thirst in my own soul. Deep down, I know there is something missing in my life, but I can't quite reach for it. I can't get what is missing.

I know it is about you, Jesus. You are not missing from my life, but I might be missing the awareness of all of the places you are present there.

Be with me, my dear friend. Guide me in these weeks to what you want to show me this Advent. Help me to be vulnerable enough to ask you to lead me to the place of my own weakness, the very place where I will find you the most deeply embedded in my heart, loving me without limits.

Membership by LaVerne Klecker

Thanks to all Brother Knights who sponsored our new members for our Exemplification. Thanks to the many members who helped with the Exemplification. Thanks to the First Degree Team who performed the First Degree Exemplification. I would especially like to thank the dads who sponsored their sons. We will be having another First Degree initiation shortly after the first of the year, the date has not been set. If you need any help in signing up your new member give me a call at (507) 451-4102. 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.

Benefits Corner by Kevin Gallagher



Kevin Gallagher, LUTCF
213-9410
Kevin.gallagher@kofc.org

Life Insurance
IRA'S (Regular & Roth)
Annuities
Long Term Care
Income Replacement

I will be giving a Knights of Columbus Insurance update at our general meeting on December 14. There will also be door prizes. I hope to see you there.



Grand Knight's Message by Randy Balausky

I have to give this one a "WOW". My wife and I had the opportunity to volunteer for the Special Olympics State Bowling tournament that was held on the weekend of November 12, 2011. A great turnout of volunteers from the Owatonna 945 Council was in attendance. We as a Council do many great things through our volunteerism that often we sometimes forget to sit back and watch who we are affecting. It was evident in the expressions on the faces of these Special Olympic competitors that the event, that was sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, had a great and lasting impression. A big "Thank You" to all those who traveled to Lakeville for this event!

The Holidays are quickly upon us, and we have many events that will be happening. Please take the time to help with these events that so many people benefit from.

Congratulations to all the new 1st degree members who were inducted, and a congratulations to Father Vogel to be chosen as "Knight of the Month."

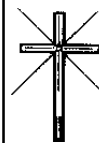
January is the time when we renew our membership by paying our dues. It is always a hard task to get everyone to get their dues in during January, and in fact we are still chasing down people who have yet to pay for this year's dues. I urge everyone who has yet to pay for 2011 dues to get them in and keep current by paying your 2012 dues. This will help us from making this a year long task.

As an incentive and a way to get as many people paid up and current, we will be holding a "Membership Night Social" at the Knights of Columbus Hall. The event will be on Saturday, February 4, 2012. An Italian spaghetti dinner will be served from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. And those members who are paid up and current will receive a free dinner along with a free beer or glass of wine. After the dinner, we will have a Corn Hole (bean bag) tournament and/or card tournament. We will also have door prizes to give out. You can also bring a prospective member and if they have a form 100 filled out and paid that night, they will also receive a free dinner along with a free beer or glass of wine. This will be an adult only event and you can bring your spouse. This is something new for us, so I hope to see as many people there as possible.

Have a Safe and Wonderful Holiday Season.

God Bless!!!

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.

The KCs' prayers and good wishes go out to:

Brother Knight Kevin Raney is dealing with health issues.

Colleen Adams, wife of Brother Knight Carl Adams is recovering from a broken arm.

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

Frank Conley, Lois Doyle, Mary Floersch, Gene Gallea, Rose Hoffman, Erlis Kelzenberg, Renee Kern, Marlys Knight, Jim Joachim, Mary Ann Lammers, Bev Macht, Father James McCauley, Gil Mamer, Mary Mamer, Mary Meixner, Bob McDermott, Suzanne Miedema, Father Ed Mountain, Dorothy Mulert, Terry Nelson, Terry O'Brien, Karen Pirkle, Sylvia Prokopec, Sharon Rohwer, John Schmidt, Mary Jo Schroepfer, Howard Snyder, Jeanine Snyder, Becky Walsh, Gary Wandrey, Jerry Weber, Rowell Weber, Phyllis Wheeler, Irene Wierzbinski, Jim Wierzbinski, and Shirley Wierzbinski.

If anyone knows of a Brother Knight who is sick or injured, please call Greg Nelson at 455-3976.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

EXEMPLIFIED ON NOVEMBER 9, 2011 AT THE KC HALL IN OWATONNA, MN



Jordan Ludewig

Jordan Ludewig is a member of St Joseph Parish. Jordan is employed at Wenger Corp. and is also a student at Riverland Community College. He was sponsored by his dad, Brother Knight Duane Ludewig.

Ben Rysavy and his wife Wendy have two children, a daughter Hailey, and a son Marcus. They are members at Holy Trinity Church at Litomysl. Ben is farming on the family dairy farm. He was sponsored by his dad, Brother Knight Joe Rysavy.



Ben Rysavy

Ryan Sanford is a member of Sacred Heart Parish. Ryan is employed at the Owatonna Public Schools as a information technology specialist. He was sponsored by his dad, Brother Knight Gary Sanford.

Daniel Sawyer and his wife Sheila have three children, a son Devin, and two daughters Abby and Jessica. They are members at St. Joseph Parish. Daniel is employed at Nature Works as a business development director. He was sponsored by Brother Knight Mark Kearin.



Daniel Sawyer



Joel Willaert

Joel Willaert and his wife Jamie have two daughters, Sydney and Addyson. They are members of St. Joseph Parish. Joel is employed at K and G Manufacturing. He was sponsored by Brother Knight LaVerne Klecker.

Josh Willour and his wife Devan have three children, one daughter Ayla, and two sons Maddox and Aidyn. They are members of St. Joseph Parish. Josh is a financial advisor for Northwestern Mutual Insurance. He was sponsored by Brother Knight LaVerne Klecker.



Ryan Sanford



Josh Willour

Deceased KC Members Honored

Our annual KC Deceased Member Memorial Mass was celebrated by Brother Knight, Reverend John Sauer on Saturday, November 5 at 8:30 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church. Brother Knight Ludwig Wencil led the Rosary before Mass. Resolution of Respect plaques occupied a place of honor in front of the altar. The KC Chorus and an honor guard from the Msgr. Henry Speck Assembly added to the solemnity of the occasion. Family members came forward as the eulogies were read by Brother Knight Jack Dillemath and the Resolution of Respect plaques were presented by Fr. Sauer, assisted by Aid & Assistance Director, Greg Nelson. Those deceased members honored included: John J. Graff, Gerald A. Kent, and Albert M. Seykora.



The Resolution of Respect were presented to the deceased members families at the conclusion of Mass.



KC Chorus members included: (Left to right) Director Stephen Nelson, Accompanist Mary Carlson, Administrator Frank Conley, LaVerne Klecker, Dave Lax, Dennis Heimerman, Steve Dornquist, Chuck Walerius, John Carlson, Dan Walsh, Harlan Kern, Tom Gebur, Lloyd Mans.



Brother Knights participating in the Resolution of Respect included: (Left to right) Walt Spindler, Jack Dillemath, Reverend John Sauer, Greg Nelson, Dennis Kelm, and Joe Elbert.

Congratulations Father Tom



Our congratulations go out to Fr. Tom Hargesheimer who was recently named the Minnesota State Chaplain for the Elks. Fr. Tom, who is now pastor at St. Stanislaus Parish in Winona, was the pastor at St. Joseph's Church from 1993 to 2004. He was also the Chaplain for our Council as well as the Faithful Friar for the Msgr. Henry Speck Assembly. – Fourth Degree. In addition, Fr. Tom was the State Chaplain for the Minnesota State Council of the Knights of Columbus for the fraternal year -- July 1, 1998 to June 30, 1999. He sends his best wishes to all the members of Council 945 and says he misses our Council activities.

Council 945 Well Represented at Fall Classic



Pictured left to right: George Zwack, Walt Spindler, Joan Spindler, Joe Elbert, Lee Jardine, Linda Elbert, Paul Jardine, Robert Jardine, Megan Rosenau, Glen Meger, Randy Balausky, Tim Rice, Linda Rice, Dennis Kelm, Linda Klecker, LaVerne Klecker, Sonia Becker, Lynn Becker, and exchange students living with the Beckers, Malta Scheibe from Germany, Tammy Balausky, and Carlos Sebastian Del Rio from Spain.

The Special Olympics Fall Classic bowling tournament was held November 11 through 13 in the Twin Cities area. Nearly 2,000 Special Olympic athletes participated in this annual event sponsored by the Knights of Columbus - Minnesota State Council.

Athletes were treated to a celebration ceremony on Friday evening, which included a dinner and dance at the Richfield High School. This was followed up by bowling in individual as well as doubles competition. The bowling took place at three Twin Cities' suburban Brunswick Bowling Lanes: Brooklyn Park, Blaine, and Lakeville.

The Owatonna volunteers worked at the Lakeville location on Sunday afternoon,

“Join us for one of the most fulfilling events the

Knights of Columbus support!”

Much of the funding for this event comes from a portion of the Tootsie Roll drive money which is allocated by the Councils from across the state. Owatonna Area Special Olympics was well represented at the tournament with 40 athletes competing.



Red Kettle Drive

We have answered the call from the Salvation Army to help out in their Annual Red Kettle Christmas Campaign. On December 3, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., member Knights will staff kettles across all of Owatonna in the Salvation Army's annual drive. Brother Knight Bill Lawrence has agreed to chair the event and will be calling Knights to volunteer for two hour shifts at local hotspots around Owatonna. Please answer the call and help out in one of the oldest annual fundraisers of its kind. Bill can be reached at 507-390-2210.

2011 Children's Halloween Party

The Council's annual children's Halloween party was a great success. Close to 200 children were in attendance. Thanks to Hy-Vee, Cashwise Foods, McDonalds, Steve Dornquast, and AutoZone for donating the food and prizes. Thanks for the donation to the food shelf also, \$117 and about two hundred pounds of food was collected. Also, thank you to the following KC members and families for volunteering their time at the Halloween party to make it a success: Randy & Tammy Balausky, T. J. Burke, Steve Dornquast, Joe Elbert, Brian & Lisa Fisher, Gary Fisher, Steve Fisher, Bill Foreman, Jim Gleason, Mike Goddard, Dave Lax, Ruth Pfeifer, Will Pieper family, Walt and Joan Spindler. In addition, a big thanks to our Council sponsored Scout Troop #253 for their usual fine help.



Ruth Pfeifer, on left, and Joan Spindler made sure all the children got a "goodie" bag as they entered the party.



Little princess one of our younger attendees enjoys the McDonalds orange drink.



Long-time organizers Will and Steph Pieper take a well-deserved break for this picture.

Ho, Ho, Ho - Everyone Welcome!

*KC Christmas Holiday
Breakfast
Extravaganza*



**8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Sunday, December 11
at St. Mary's School**



\$6.00 advance tickets available at the KC Hall or KC Officers
\$6.50 at the door - (free under 6)

Music - Christmas Carols by the KC Chorus and others from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Santa - Breakfast with Santa - Treats for the Kids
Bring your children or grandchildren to visit Santa from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Santa will be available for pictures, so bring your camera.

Fine Food - Table service & food hot from the grill:

“KC Omelet Breakfasts”

The Twins omelet

The Viking omelet

The Wild omelet

Each served with pancakes or French Toast, milk, and coffee

“KC Country Breakfast”

Pancakes or French toast; ham or sausage, eggs - scrambled or fried-to-order, milk, & coffee



Sponsored by
OWATONNA
COUNCIL 945

***Make the KC Christmas Holiday Breakfast
Extravaganza a family tradition.***

2011-12 COUNCIL OFFICERS

Chaplain: Rev. Andrew Vogel
Grand Knight: .. Randy Balausky (507) 213-9862
Deputy Grand Knight: Wade Schroeder
Chancellor: Dustin Reese
Advocate: Steve Graff
Warden: Dan Wolfe
Inside Guard: Pete Schneider
Outside Guard: Harlan Kern
Financial Secretary: John Ahlberg
Treasurer: Tom Eichten
Recorder: Scot Berkley
Trustee (3 year): PGK Joe Elbert
Trustee (2 year): PGK Bill Lawrence
Trustee (1 year): PGK Steve Dornquist

DIRECTORS AND CHAIRMEN

Program Director: Wade Schroeder
Adv/Publicity Director: Dan Ruitter
Church Director: Pete Schneider
Community Director: Jim Gleason
Council Activity Director: PGK Kevin Raney
Family Director: Stephen Nelson
Health Director: Dr. Mark Nelson
Recruit Director: PGK Mark Cunningham
Youth Director: Will Pieper
Membership Director: PGK LaVerne Klecker
Aid & Assistance: Greg Nelson
Lecturer: PGK Mark Cunningham
Historian: Open
Retention Chairman: PGK LaVerne Klecker
KC Chorus Director: Stephen Nelson
Building Comm Chairman: Tom Elbert
Gambling Manager: Josh Klecker
District Deputy: PGK Joe Elbert
KC Hall Manager: PGK Mark Cunningham
Benefits Advisor: Kevin Gallagher - 213-9410

Knight of the Month



Rev. Andrew Vogel

The October Knight of the Month serves as the Council's Chaplain. Fr. Andrew Vogel first became a Knight back in 2002 as a charter member of Rochester's newest Council. He says he respected the Knights because of the organization's commitment to Pro-Life issues and its support of vocations. "The work they (Knights of Columbus) do is amazing," Fr. Vogel said.

Later, going through the seminary at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, Michigan, Fr. Vogel experienced the KC's reverence for the priesthood firsthand. "When I was in the seminary, the KC's were very supportive." Fr. Vogel became active in the Knights of Columbus once again when he came to Owatonna just over a year ago. He became a member of the Fourth Degree in October 2010.

Fr. Vogel's path to priesthood wasn't a direct one. He was born in South Korea and was adopted at the age of 2 1/2. He grew up in Ames, Iowa with his three sisters and one brother. He graduated from high school there before attending Iowa State University,

earning a degree in Computer Science. After college, he worked at the Mayo Clinic as a Computer Analyst/Programmer in the Oncology Department for five years. That's when he heard God's call to enter priesthood, and left his professional life for the Seminary.

Fr. Vogel arrived in Owatonna in July of 2010 as Sacred Heart's Parochial Vicar. He remains active with the youth of Owatonna's Catholic Community, playing soccer during the summer with kids, and playing a big part in U.F.C. - which stands for Ultimate Fighting Catholics - an opportunity for Catholic juniors and seniors to have fun while getting a deeper understanding of their faith.

In Fr. Vogel's free time, he enjoys travelling as well as playing golf and tennis - and of course - rooting for his alma mater Iowa State Cyclones.

Congratulations to Fr. Andrew Vogel, the October Knight of the Month!

Good Turn Out for St. Mary's Home & School Association Breakfast

Many thanks to the patrons and workers at St. Mary's Home & School Association's benefit breakfast held at St. Mary's School on Sunday, November 13. As always, the excellent advance ticket sales and member participation made the breakfast a very successful fund raiser for St. Mary's Home and School Association, with approximately 500 meals being served. The parents and students from St. Mary's did a terrific job helping with the dining room.

These brother knights prepared and served the tasty food on Sunday morning: *John Ahlberg, Keven Boettcher, Tom Burke and son, Brian Carlson, Tim Chicos, Peter Cook, Steve Dornquist, Dave Fandel, Steven Fisher, Kevin Gallagher, Mike Goddard, Steve Graff, Roger Green, Ron Heim, Jim Kaplan, Mark Kearin, Harlan Kern, LaVerne Klecker, Dave Lax, Bill Lawrence, Tony Nguyen, Al Nelson, Will Pieper, Paul Schneider, Lavern Soukup, Dick Thamert, Eric Tucker, Chuck Walerius, and Dave Wunderlich.*

These are the Saturday morning team members responsible for food and dining room preparation work: *Gerry Barry, Bob Grebe, John Henry, LaVerne Klecker, Tom Kingsley, Tim Rice, Lyle Snider, Walt Spindler, Earl Wheeler, Jim Wiggins, and Ron Wolf.* Thanks to all for an excellent job.

Make plans now for the KC Christmas Holiday Breakfast Extravaganza on Sunday, December 11 at St. Mary's School. Bring your children or grandchildren to visit with Santa from 9:00 to noon. Santa will have treats for the kids and will be available for pictures, so bring your camera.

Our KC Chorus will be there caroling from 9:00 a.m. to noon. You'll also enjoy the delicious menu and table service. Just come in, sit down at a table, (no more standing in line!) order your breakfast, and have your food served hot to your table!

Membership Night Social

Saturday, February 4, 2012 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Italian Spaghetti Dinner Owatonna Knights of Columbus Hall

As an incentive and a way to get as many people paid up and current, we will be holding a "Membership Night Social" at the Knights of Columbus Hall. The event will be on Saturday, February 4, 2012. An Italian spaghetti dinner will be served from 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. And those members who are paid up and current will receive a free dinner along with a free beer or glass of wine. After the dinner, we will have a Corn Hole (bean bag) tournament and/or card tournament. We will also have door prizes to give out. You can also bring a prospective member and if they have a Form 100 filled out and paid that night, they will also receive a free dinner along with a free beer or glass of wine. This will be an adult only event and you can bring your spouse.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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

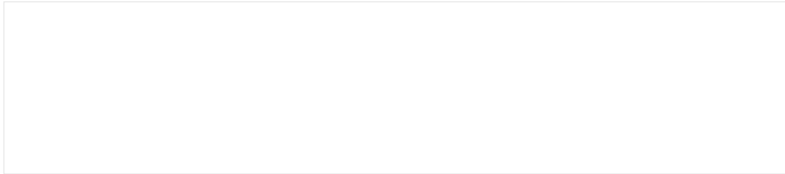
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Benefit Breakfast
KC Christmas Holiday Breakfast Extravaganza
- Breakfast with Santa -
December 11, 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
St. Mary's School

Richard Rohwer Christmas Party
Senior Place
December 7 - 6:30 p.m.

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



DECEMBER 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Red Kettle Drive 8:00 am - 8:00 pm
4 Fourth Degree Christmas Party KC Hall 5:00 - 8:00 pm	5 Bldg Mtg - 7:00 pm Monday Night Football Tacos Served 6:30-Halftime	6 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm	7 Officers' Meeting and Gambling Meeting - 7:30 pm Richard Rohwer Christmas Party Senior Place 6:30 pm	8	9	10
11 Benefit Breakfast St. Mary's School 8:00 am-12:30 pm KC Christmas Holiday Breakfast Extravaganza - Breakfast with Santa -	12 Monday Night Football Tacos Served 6:30-Halftime	13 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm	14 General Meeting 7:30 pm	15	16	17
18	19 Monday Night Football Tacos Served 6:30-Halftime	20 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Lounge open 1:00 - 5:00 pm
25 Merry Christmas	26 Monday Night Football Tacos Served 6:30-Halftime	27 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm	28	29	30	31 New Years Eve