

Owatonna



Council 945

# The Key

to greater Council unity.

DECEMBER  
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 Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

## KC WEBSITE

visit our website  
[www.kofccouncil945.org](http://www.kofccouncil945.org)

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- December 2** - Salvation Army bell ringing 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- December 3** - Benefit Breakfast St. Mary's School 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. for KC Christmas Holiday Breakfast Extravaganza
- December 3** - Fourth Degree Christmas Party KC Hall - 5:30 p.m.
- December 4** - First Degree Exemplification KC Hall - New candidates please be at the Hall at 6:30 p.m.
- December 6** - Officers' and Gambling Meeting KC Hall - 7:30 p.m.
- December 6** - Richard Rohwer Christmas Party SeniorPlace - 6:30 p.m.
- December 11** - Building Meeting KC Hall - 7:00 p.m.
- December 13** - General Meeting KC Hall Program - 7:30 p.m.
- January 27, 2018** - 14th Annual Chili Cook Off

KC Lounge open for all  
Sunday Vikings games

## COMING EVENTS

### OFFICERS' MEETING

Wednesday, December 6  
KC Hall  
Meeting - 7:30 p.m.

### TUESDAY NIGHT AT THE CLUB

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

### Benefit Breakfast for 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 3, 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
at St. Mary's School

\$6.50 Advance, \$7.00 At the door, Free under 6  
All are welcome!

Featuring the delicious

KC Country Breakfasts & KC three egg omelets.

#### "KC Omelet Breakfasts"

- The Twins omelet - ham & cheese
- The Viking omelet - ham & cheese,  
with sauteed onions, red & green peppers
- The Wild omelet - cheese,  
with sauteed onions, red & green peppers

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.

### KC FAMILY CORPORATE COMMUNION

Sunday, December 31 - 10:00 a.m.  
at Sacred Heart Church

All members and their families are invited  
to process in and be seated together at this Mass.

### FIRST DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION

Monday, December 4  
KC Hall - 7:00 p.m.  
New candidates please be at the Hall at 6:30 p.m.

### GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, December 13  
Program - 7:30 p.m.

Our speaker will be Chris Retterath, our Knights  
of Columbus insurance agent.

### PUB GRUB FRIDAYS

KC Hall - 6:00-7:30 p.m.  
Friday, Dec. 1, 8, & 15

Serving appetizers, assorted burger baskets, steak  
sandwiches, fish sandwiches, shrimp baskets,  
chicken strips, and more.

### RICHARD ROHWER CHRISTMAS PARTY

For special people with developmental disabilities.

Wednesday, December 6  
SeniorPlace

Contact Russ Bowar, 451-1778, if you can help.

### MONDAY NIGHT

#### FOOTBALL CHALLENGE

Monday, September 11 - December 18  
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.



### 14th ANNUAL CHILI COOK OFF

January 27, 2018  
Place and time to be announced.

### BAR TRIVIA

Get your team of one to four together to play trivia,  
every Saturday in December at the KC Hall at 4:00  
p.m. Weekly winners receive a \$25.00 bar tab.

### MERRY CHRISTMAS LOUNGE OPEN

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



## Upcoming Meeting Notice

Knights of Columbus Council 945

1/10/18 at 8:00 PM

At its business meeting on 1/10/18, Council 945 will hold a vote to adopt a written motion that authorizes its grand knight/deputy grand knight to enter into a Terms of Use Agreement and Charitable Distribution Agreement with the Columbian Center. Your attendance at this meeting is strongly encouraged.

Respectfully,

Nicholas Matejcek

Grand Knight Council 945 Owatonna MN



## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - BENEFIT BREAKFAST SCHEDULE 2017-2018

December 3	KC Benefit Breakfast Holiday Extravaganza
January 14	Special Olympics & Advocates for Developmental Disabilities
January 28	KC Breakfast – St. Mary’s Open House
February 11	KC Valentine Breakfast & Relay For Life
February 25	4-H Purple Ribbon Club
March 18	St. Mary’s Music Boosters
April 8	St. Vincent DePaul Society & Hospitality House
April 29 or May 6	Owatonna Clay Target Team

### *Christmas Blessing Prayer*

May the joy of the angels,  
the eagerness of the shepherds,  
the perseverance of the wise men,  
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,  
and the peace of the Christ child  
be yours this Christmas;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
Amen.



## Grand Knight’s Message by Nic Matejcek

Worthy Brothers

Can you believe it? The season is upon us! The lights are coming out, the trees are going up, the stores are buzzing, and the children wait in anticipation. Oh, did I mention the Christ Child’s Birthday is coming up? I will admit that sometimes I get caught up in the “other” stuff that comes with the season. This season I pledge to keep “Christ” in Christmas because as the saying goes, “Jesus is the reason for the season.” Will you join me in taking that pledge? I am so proud to have seen all of the fellow Knights and their families participate in the Red Kettle Bell Ringing. What an awesome force for change and a great example of keeping Christ in Christmas! Our works are a great example of generosity and selfless acts that help out our fellow man and continue the mission of Fr. McGivney and show that we are the hands and feet of Jesus Christ here on earth.

## Benefits Corner by Chris Retterath

### Continued Support For Our Military and First Responders

I’d first like to start out by thanking all of our Veterans for their service to our great nation. It seems that in today’s climate it has become the “popular” idea to bad mouth our government and those who put their lives on the line to protect and serve us. The Knights of Columbus have a history of protecting and serving these individuals, including after 9/11 when we gave \$1.4M to the beneficiaries of the law enforcement officers, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel who died. Agents like myself were on the ground issuing checks to those who lost a loved one regardless of whether they were Catholic or members of the Knights of Columbus. Today the Knights of Columbus provide programs of support for our Brother Knights and their families who serve as law enforcement officers, firefighters, and in the armed forces. One of the most important programs we have in place is the Matthews and Swift Educational Trust Fund. This provides tuition-only scholarships to Catholic colleges up to \$25,000 per year for children of members in good standing who, while serving in the military forces of their country in a combat zone are killed by hostile action or wounded by hostile action resulting within two years thereof in permanent and total disability, and for children of members in good standing who are full-time law enforcement officers or full-time firefighters who, while in the lawful performance of their duties, are killed in the line of duty as a result of criminal violence directed at them. Brother Knight Thomas Decker, who was a police officer in Cold Spring, MN, was killed in the line of duty in 2012 leaving behind 4 children ranging in age from 5-8. When these kids are ready to go to school there will be \$400,000 of tuition all because Officer Decker cared enough to be a Knight.

If you or any of your family members/loved ones are currently serving us and are not members of the Knights of Columbus, please speak to them about joining or allow me the opportunity to sit down with them and discuss how the Knights of Columbus can help protect their family.

Yours in Christ,

Chris Retterath

Field Agent

320-266-8962

Christopher.Retterath@kofc.org



## OVER 400 PATRONS ATTEND THE ST. MARY'S HOME AND SCHOOL BREAKFAST



On November 12, we saw a steady stream of hungry patrons, which resulted in a successful benefit for the St. Mary's Home & School Association with 439 meals being served. The parents and students from St. Mary's did an excellent job helping with the dining room.

These Brother Knights prepared and served the tasty food on Sunday morning: *Ray Bissen, Tom Burke, Brian Carlson, Tom Docksey, Steve Fisher, Kevin Gallagher, Richard Gerdts, Steve and Karen Graff, Roger Green, Vince Guggisberg, Jeff Hall, Ron Heim, Jim Kaplan, Mark Kearin, Dennis Kelm, LaVerne Klecker, Terry Kuck, Izzy Leonard, Reagan Lindholm, Pat McGrath, Al Nelson, Dave Pfeifer, Will Pieper family, Jerome Spindler, Curt Supalla, Troy Titus, Eric Tucker, Eric Wandersee, Dan Wolfe, and Dave Wunderlich.*

These are the Saturday morning team members responsible for food and dining room preparation work included: *Jerry Barry,*

*Tom Bremer, Brian Carlson, Mike Jensen, LaVerne Klecker, Al Nelson, John Oberstein, Tim Rice, Lyle Snider, Ken Thurnau, Matt Thurnau, and Ron Wolf.* Thanks to all for an excellent job. Many people helped make these events a success. If we missed your name, please accept our apology and know that your help is appreciated.

Make plans now for the December 3rd breakfast – the KC Benefit Breakfast Holiday Extravaganza. Of course, there are special activities planned for this time of year – Christmas music and a visit from jolly old St. Nick for the kids. The funds from this event provides support for the many church and community projects we do every year. Besides giving your support to these very deserving activities, you'll also enjoy the delicious menu and table service. Just come in, sit down at a table, order your breakfast, and have your food served hot to you!

---

## COUNCIL AND ASSEMBLY DISTRIBUTE COATS FOR KIDS

Tuesday evening, November 7, Council 945 and the Msgr. Henry Speck Assembly distributed new coats to 18 families in need. This was conducted as a part of the Supreme Council's "Coats for Kids" program. Coats for both boys and girls in various colors and sizes were available. The balance of the 72 coats was delivered to the Steele County Clothes Line to be distributed to others in need of a warm coat. The cost of the program was split between the Council and the Msgr. Henry Speck Assembly – Fourth Degree.

Many children throughout the United States and Canada go without a coat each winter. Many low-income families use their scarce resources to meet the most basic essentials and they need help to provide this vital winter necessity.

That's why the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council developed the "Coats for Kids" program, which allows councils across North America the opportunity to purchase new winter coats for children at a discount and to distribute them to children in need in their local communities.

Through their "Coats for Kids" program, 1,780 local councils distributed 87,906 coats to children in need throughout the United States and Canada in 2016. Since the program began in 2009, nearly 400,000 coats have been distributed.



*Pictured is the crew who distributed the "Coats for Kids" a Knights of Columbus initiative.*

*Front row left to right: Sheila Sawyer, Tammy Balausky, Randy Balausky, State Community Programs Chairman.*

*Back row left to right: Dan Sawyer, Deputy Grand Knight, Tim Rice, Project Chairman, Nicholas Matejcek, Grand Knight, and Gary Sanford, District Deputy. Not pictured Tony David, Recorder.*



## MEMORIAL MASS REMEMBERS TWELVE BROTHER KNIGHTS

The Council 945 Memorial Mass was held on November 16 at St. Joseph's Church with Council Chaplain, Fr. Kevin Connolly as celebrant, assisted by Brother Sir Knight, Deacon Pat Fagan. Twelve Brother Knights were remembered in this impressive ceremony. They included: *Gordon Hofius, Ludwig Wencil, Dr. Robert De Werd, Thomas Effertz, Raymond Trendera, Howard Snyder, Dan Filzen, Thomas Byrne, Donald Loeb, Joe Breckner, Walter "Wally" Jandro, and Glenn Russell.* The KC Chorus, under the direction of John Nelson, provided inspirational music and the Msgr. Henry Speck Honor Guard participated.

A Rosary prior to the Mass was led by Council Treasurer, Tom Eichten and attendees were welcomed by Grand Knight, Nicholas Matejcek.

Dan Sawyer, Deputy Grand Knight, served as lector and Brother Knight Gerald Gunderson read the eulogies of the twelve deceased members.

Following the Mass a time of fellowship was held with Brother Knights and family members of the deceased Brothers in Joseph Hall.



*Certificates of remembrance were displayed in the sanctuary.*



*From left to right: Deacon Pat Fagan, Earl Wheeler, Joe Elbert, Fr. Kevin Connolly, Walt Spindler, Duane Ludewig, and Craig Wencil.*

---

## GLEN AND CHERYL MEGER HOST 18TH ANNUAL FOOD SHELF BENEFIT SOCIAL



Glen and Cheryl Meger hosted their 18th consecutive Food Shelf benefit social November 15 at the Reception Center at the Brick – Meger Funeral Home for fellowship and a meal.

The annual event brings together spouses and members of the Msgr. Henry Speck Assembly, Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus. They are treated to egg rolls made from Meger's own "secret" recipe and grilled pork kabobs. Hors d'oeuvres and desserts are furnished by members.

Attendees made cash donations and also donated non-perishable food items. At the conclusion of the event a total of 75 pounds of food and \$500 was collected for the Steele County food shelf.

Host Glen Meger said, "We are pleased to have hosted this event for the past 18 years and the generosity of my Brother Sir Knights certainly exemplifies the first principle of the Order, that being Charity."

---

## RED KETTLE DRIVE - DECEMBER 2



Our Council will again be assisting the Salvation Army during their 2017 Red Kettle campaign, which is their major fundraising effort for the year. On Saturday, December 2, our KC Council will ring the bells at all the locations in Owatonna from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. We are scheduling 2 people for each 2 hour shift at each location, some of which are inside and some outside. Bell ringing locations include: Cabelas, Walgreens, HyVee, Fareway, Cashwise, Fleet Farm, Sterling Drug, and Wal-Mart. Our day of ringing is by far the best day of contributions for the Salvation Army and they greatly appreciate our support. It's a great way to usher in the holiday spirit and help a very worthwhile organization. Thank you to all of you who have assisted in the past and who have already signed up again this year. We have a few spots left to fill so we would welcome your help with this large project.

Please take a time slot when the scheduling chair calls, or contact Dan Wolfe at (507) 838-9541. Thank you.

**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: ..... Dave Lax  
 Director of Youth Activities ..... Will Pieper  
 Dir. of Family Life Activities: ..... Stephen Nelson  
 Gambling Manager: ..... Randy Balausky (PGK)  
 District Deputy: ..... Gary Sanford (PGK)  
 KC Hall Manager: ..... Mark Cunningham (PGK)  
 Field Agent: ..... Chris Retterath - (320) 266-8962

**Knight of the Month**



*Richard Gerdts*

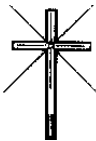
Our Knight of the Month for September is Richard Gerdts. Rich said that LaVerne Klecker had been insisting he join the KC's ever since he got married back in 1988. Rich decided to just focus on one new relationship at that time but he eventually found his way to our Council in 2015 and was sponsored by Eric Tucker.

Rich grew up in Owatonna and after graduating from high school, he worked with his father's crop farming operation and also rented a farm next door. Rich also worked on dairy farm operations, but in 2000, Rich decided to move from farm tractors to tractor trailers and began a career as a truck driver. He drove for Keck Enterprises, Sampson Dairy, and Foam Craft where he currently works.

He and his wife Sue are members of Sacred Heart Parish. They have four children ranging in age from 13 to 23. Their oldest son Josh is in the US Marine Corp currently stationed in Okinawa, Japan. Daughter Joan works for Jostens here in town, Holly is a 10th grader, and youngest son Jason is an 8th grader.

Rich has enjoyed getting involved in our KC breakfasts and doing bell ringing for the Salvation Army. He believes the special thing about the Knights of Columbus is the camaraderie of the membership. We thank Rich for being a part of this great Council of Catholic men and we congratulate him on being our Knight of the Month.

**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:

*Les Abraham, Dan Bauer, Julie Bauer, John Berning, Ted Blockey, Bruce Born, Barb Claeys, Margaret Deml, Tom Dietz, Jack Dillemath, Marilyn Dillemath, Lois Doyle, Dave Fandel, Jan Fandel, Jim Gleason, Terri Grose, Rose Hoffman, Lorraine Jirele, Tom Kingsley, Barb Klecker, Jim Klecker, Larry Klocek, Marlys Knight, Bev Macht, Gil Mamer, Mary Mamer, Msgr. James McCauley, Mary Meixner, Suzanne Miedema, Father Ed Moutain, Dorothy Mulert, Darlene Mumm, Greg Nelson, Willard Peterson, Karen Pirkl, Ray Pirkl, Kevin Raney, Paul Schneider, Ivan Snorek, Jeanine Snyder, Duane Spindler, Barb Strand, Mary Lou Thurnau, Gary Wandrey, Jerry Weber, Irene Wierzbinski, Jim Wierzbinski, Shirley Wierzbinski, and Steve Wiese.*

**IN MEMORY**

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

*Brother Knight Glenn Russell passed away on Oct. 31.  
 John Martin, brother of Brother Knight Al Martin and uncle of Brother Knight Keith Martin, passed away on Oct. 20.*

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

**Membership by LaVerne Klecker**

Congratulations to our new First Degree Brother Knights Craig Larson and Bernie Koslosky . Congratulations to our Third Degree Brother Knight Dan Glaser. Thanks to the many members who helped with the Exemplification. Thanks to the First Degree Team who performed the First Degree Exemplification. We are having a First Degree Exemplification on Monday, December 4 at the KC Hall in Owatonna. New candidates please be at the Hall at 6:30 p.m.

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. 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.

Any members who have not paid their dues for the past year, please get them paid. We need the money from our dues to make ends meet for our Council expenses.

If you have any questions, please call me at (507) 451-4102 or my cell phone (507) 456-6738.



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

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

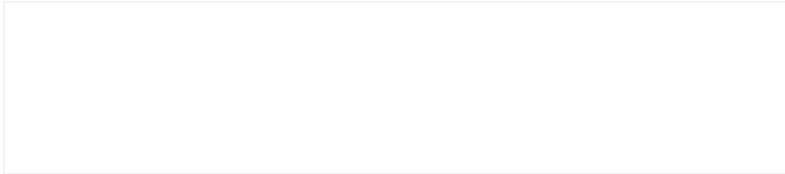
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**Benefit Breakfast**  
**for KC Christmas Holiday Breakfast Extravaganza**  
**Sunday, December 3 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**  
**St. Mary's School**

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

**Salvation Army Bell Ringing**  
**Saturday, December 2 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.**  
**Cabelas, Walgreens, HyVee, Fareway, Cashwise,**  
**Fleet Farm, Sterling Drug, and Wal-Mart**



**DECEMBER 2017**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> Pub Grub Friday 6:00 - 7:30 pm KC Lounge	<b>2</b> Salvation Army Bell Ringing 8:00 am to 8:00 pm  Bar Trivia KCHall - 4:00 pm
<b>3</b> KC Christmas Holiday Breakfast Extravaganza and Benefit for Dennis Wimer St. Mary's School 8:00 am-12:30 pm  Fourth Degree Christmas Party KC Hall - 5:30 pm	<b>4</b> Monday Night Football Challenge KC Hall  First Degree Exemplification New candidates be at the KC Hall at 6:30 pm	<b>5</b> Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm  Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	<b>6</b> Officers' Meeting and Gambling Meeting - 7:30 pm  Richard Rohwer Christmas Party SeniorPlace	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Pub Grub Friday 6:00 - 7:30 pm KC Lounge	<b>9</b> Bar Trivia KCHall - 4:00 pm
<b>10</b> .	<b>11</b> Monday Night Football Challenge KC Hall	<b>12</b> Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm  Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	<b>13</b> General Meeting Program - 7:30 pm Our speaker will be our KC Insurance Representative Chris Retterath	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Pub Grub Friday 6:00 - 7:30 pm KC Lounge	<b>16</b> Bar Trivia KCHall - 4:00 pm
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Monday Night Football Challenge KC Hall	<b>19</b> Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm  Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Bar Trivia KCHall - 4:00 pm
<b>24</b> Christmas Eve Club open from 1:00 - 5:00 pm	<b>25</b> Christmas KC Lounge Closed	<b>26</b> Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm  Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Bar Trivia KCHall - 4:00 pm
<b>31</b> New Years Eve  KC Lounge open at 11:30 am for Vikings game						