

Owatonna



Council 945

# The Key

to greater Council unity.

FEBRUARY  
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](http://www.kofccouncil945.org)

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**February 1** - Officers' and  
Gambling Meeting  
KC Hall - 7:30 p.m.  
**February 6** - Building Meeting  
KC Hall - 7:00 p.m.  
**February 8** - General Meeting  
KC Hall Program - 7:30 p.m.  
**February 12** - Benefit Breakfast  
St. Mary's School  
8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
for KC Special Valentine  
**February 13** - First Degree  
Exemplification - KC Hall  
Candidates please be at Hall  
at 6:30 p.m.  
**February 23** - Fourth Degree  
Meeting - KC Hall - 7:30 p.m.  
**February 26** - Benefit Breakfast  
St. Mary's School  
8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
for 4-H Purple Ribbon Club

## FIRST DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION

Monday, February 13  
at KC Hall in Owatonna,  
Minnesota  
Candidates please be at Hall at  
6:30 p.m.

## COMING EVENTS

### OFFICERS' MEETING

Wednesday, February 1  
KC Hall  
Meeting - 7:30 p.m.

### TUESDAY NIGHT AT THE CLUB

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

### GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, February 8  
Program - 7:30 p.m.  
Our speaker will be Charlie and Theresa Seykora,  
Co-chairs of the Night of Knights auction.

### 13th ANNUAL CHILI COOK OFF

January 28, 2017  
4:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers  
6000 Frontage Road W.  
Owatonna, MN



### BAR TRIVIA

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

### SHRIMP FRIES ARE BACK

Serving Shrimp & Steak, Shrimp Dinners,  
and Burger Baskets  
Every Friday in February  
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the Lounge

### KC FAMILY CORPORATE COMMUNION

Sunday, January 29 - 10:00 a.m.  
at St. Joseph Church  
All members and their families are invited  
to process in and be seated together at this Mass.

### SUPERBOWL PARTY

Sunday, February 5 - KC Hall  
Doors open at 2:00 p.m. - Steak fry at 4:00 p.m.  
Please RSVP for steak fry by Wednesday,  
February 1 to guarantee your meal

### FAT TUESDAY - FEBRUARY 28



Serving gumbo in the Lounge from  
6:00 - 7:00 p.m..  
Hurricane drink specials & beads.

### Two great breakfasts this month!

### KC SPECIAL VALENTINE'S BREAKFAST

Sunday, February 12, 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
at St. Mary's School  
All are welcome!

(Advance tickets available at the KC Hall and  
from Brother Knights)

Bring all the special people in your life to this  
special breakfast

\* \* Valentine's candy for the kids \* \*

Super food - KC Country Breakfasts  
and KC Three Egg Omelets

### BENEFIT BREAKFAST 4-H Purple Ribbon Club

Sunday, February 26, 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
at St. Mary's School  
All are welcome!

Featuring the delicious  
KC Country Breakfasts &  
KC Three Egg Omelets.

### ST. MARY'S SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 29  
Special KC breakfast (freewill donation)  
served at St. Mary's School  
8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - BENEFIT BREAKFAST SCHEDULE 2017

February 12	KC Valentine Breakfast - KC projects
February 26	4-H Purple Ribbon Club
March 12	St. Mary's Music Boosters
April 9	St. Vincent DePaul Society & Hospitality House



## Grand Knight's Message by Gary Sanford

I hope everyone enjoyed the Chili Cook Off. What a great event. An opportunity to see many Brother Knights and others in the Owatonna community.

Thank you Fourth Degree Honor Guard and all those who attended the Corporate Communion at St. Joe's.

A big THANK YOU to Jeff Pumper for chairing the Free Throw Contest. I appreciate your time and effort.

The dues statements are out. In the letter are two raffle tickets for the state raffle held at the State Convention. Our Council receives half of every ticket sold. Last year, our Council had the Grand Prize winner, Walt Spindler. An easy fundraiser for our Council and a chance to win some money.

Our Council needs your help. We have open positions that need to be filled, church director and recorder position. Please contact me if you are willing to help our Council. Call me at 507-456-3793.

Our Council is hosting our second Major Degree Exemplification on May 7th. We need new members. We have five new members this year with a quota of thirty five. Star Council is our goal for the year, but the bigger picture is growth and being able to maintain our charitable giving. The money we donate is important to so many people in our community.

Vivat Jesus

## Membership by LaVerne Klecker

We are holding a First Degree Exemplification on Monday, February 13, at the KC Hall in Owatonna. Please have all new candidates at the Hall by 6:30 p.m.. 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. The publication rack at the club also has Form 100s and information brochures. New members are important to our Council.

Our Council has accomplished a great deal, but with new talent and renewed energy we can do more. 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.

If you have overlooked paying your dues, please do so as soon as possible. We use money from the dues to make ends meet running our Council.

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

We are also considering a First Degree Exemplification in March. More information will be available in the March **Key**.

For the first time since its inception, there was a four way tie for the Top Sword recognition for the 2015 – 2016 Honor Guard year for the Msgr. Henry Speck Assembly, Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus. LaVerne Klecker, Tim Rice, Walt Spindler, and Eric Wandersee each participated in thirteen of nineteen events. In these nineteen events, twenty different Sir Knights participated. Recipients were presented with a personalized Polar Camel Stainless Steel Vacuum Insulated Tumbler. The awards were presented at the Assembly's annual Christmas party which was held at the KC Hall on Sunday, December 4.

When the recognition was created, the premise was it is not a competition where one Sir Knight is trying to beat out another; rather, it is an opportunity to recognize and thank everyone who participates in the Honor Guard, whether it is one time or thirteen. The Honor Guard is the visible arm of the KCs and it is important that there be dedicated Honor Guard members who respond when they are called.

## Benefits Corner by Chris Retterath

### About Knights of Columbus

Thanks to the efforts of Father Michael J. McGivney, assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church in New Haven and some of his parishioners, the Connecticut state legislature on March 29, 1882, officially chartered the Knights of Columbus as a fraternal benefit society. The Order is still true to its founding principles of charity, unity and fraternity.

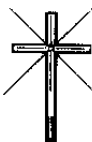
The Knights was formed to render financial aid to members and their families. Mutual aid and assistance are offered to sick, disabled, and needy members and their families. Social and intellectual fellowship is promoted among members and their families through educational, charitable, religious, social welfare, war relief, and public relief works.

The history of the Order shows how the foresight of Father Michael J. McGivney, whose cause for sainthood is being investigated by the Vatican, brought about what has become the world's foremost Catholic fraternal benefit society. The Order has helped families obtain economic security and stability through its life insurance, annuity and long-term care programs, and has contributed time and energy worldwide to service in communities.

The Knights of Columbus has grown from several members in one Council to more than 15,100 councils and 1.9 million members throughout the United States, Canada, the Philippines, Mexico, Poland, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Panama, the Bahamas, the Virgin Islands, Cuba, Guatemala, Guam, Saipan, Lithuania, Ukraine, and South Korea.

## 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, John Berning, Ted Blockey, Bruce Born, Barb Claey's, Tom Dietz, Jack Dillemath, Marilyn Dillemath, Lois Doyle, Terri Grose, Rose Hoffman, Lorraine Jirele, 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, Howard Snyder, Jeanine Snyder, Duane Spindler, 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.**

## FOUR WAY TIE FOR TOP SWORD



LaVerne Klecker



Tim Rice



Walt Spindler



Eric Wandersee

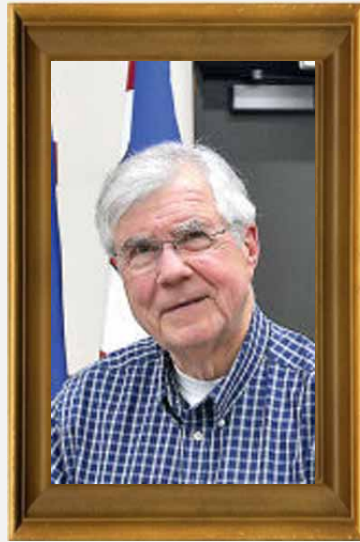
## 2016-17 COUNCIL OFFICERS

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 Balauskys (PGK)  
 District Deputy: ..... Randy Balauskys (PGK)  
 KC Hall Manager: ..... Mark Cunningham (PGK)  
 Field Agent: ..... Chris Retterath - (320) 266-8962

## Knight of the Month



Pete Connor

Our Knight of the Month Peter Connor can be described as tall in stature and long on commitment. He has been a member of Council 945 for 40 years, having joined in April 1976. This year also marks Peter's 50 years of service and support to the Owatonna community, as well as 50 years of marriage to his wife Sheila this coming August.

Peter grew up on the Iron Range in Gilbert, Minnesota. He also lived on the same street as his future wife, she in a house up the hill and Peter down below. After high school Peter decided to pursue a career in teaching and eventually earned his BA and MA in Education from Winona State University. As Peter tells it, there was a whirlwind two weeks in 1967 in which he graduated from college, got married, and then moved to Owatonna to start his first job as a 6th grade teacher. After six years of teaching, Pete decided to take a job with Owatonna Tool Company where he worked for 18 years in Human Resources. He, however, continued his interest in teaching by also serving 22 years on the adjunct faculty at St. Thomas University. In 1991, Peter decided to leave OTC and branch out on his own, starting his own HR consulting practice, Petrus Human Resource Consulting. His professional career in Owatonna also included 20 years of public service with the Owatonna city council, planning commission, and several terms as Mayor. He started the Cultural Diversity Network in Owatonna, provides support to those in addiction recovery and currently serves on the board of the Hospitality House. Along the way, Peter and Sheila raised three now grown children, who have returned them four grandchildren. He is an avid bike rider, enjoys gardening, and reading and can also be seen and heard singing in the St. Joseph's choir.

Peter has also become more active recently with our Council, volunteering to run the family bike ride event for SIS, assisting with the Tootsie Drive, as well as leading the KC Rosary for fellow Brother Knights who have passed. Peter noted that the KCs do a lot for the church, schools, and community, jumping behind the things that are for the common good. He admires that we are a service first organization along with being a fraternal one. We thank Peter for his many years of service to his community, his church and his KC Council and congratulate him on this well deserved recognition.

## BREAKFAST FOR 'SPECIAL PEOPLE' KICKS OFF NEW YEAR

The first breakfast of 2017, held on January 15 at St. Mary's School, had a good turnout for Special Olympics and Advocates for Developmental Disabilities. Thanks to our dedicated breakfast patrons for the good attendance totaling 410. A big thank you goes out to the Sunday breakfast team. We couldn't do it with you: *Keven Boettcher, Tom Burke, Brian Carlson, Tim Chicos, Tony David, Tom Docksey, Steve Fisher, Richard Gerdts, Kevin Gallagher, Steve & Karen Graff, Roger Green, Vince Green, Jeff Hall, Ron Heim, Lee and Rob Jardine, Mark Kearin, Dennis Kelm, LaVerne Klecker, Terry Kuck, Al Nelson, Tony Nguyen, Will Pieper family, Greg Robillard, Lavern Soukup, Jerome Spindler, Curt Supalla, Troy Titus, Jeff Vortherms, Eric Wandersee, Rick Wittrock, Dan Wolfe, and Dave Wunderlich.* Thanks to the Saturday prep team: *Jerry Barry, Tom Bremer, Tony David, Mike Jensen, LaVerne Klecker, Al Nelson, John Oberstein, Will Pieper, Tim Rice, Lyle Snider, Jerome Spindler, Walt Spindler, Ken Thurnau, Matt Thurnau, Earl Wheeler, Ray Willmott, and Ron Wolf.*

We have many workers, so if we missed anyone, please accept our apologies. We always receive comments from patrons about the excellent food and service. If you haven't attended a breakfast recently, this is a good time to find out for yourself. The next benefit breakfast will be held on January 29. This freewill offering breakfast is a part of the St. Mary's School open house during Catholic Education Week. Take advantage of this opportunity to support Catholic Education in Owatonna. The following breakfast is February 12, the KC Valentine Breakfast, supporting the many KC projects run throughout the year. Following that, on February 26, the 4-H Purple Ribbon Club will be the beneficiary for that breakfast. Come on out to support these fine groups – and enjoy a great breakfast as well.





**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

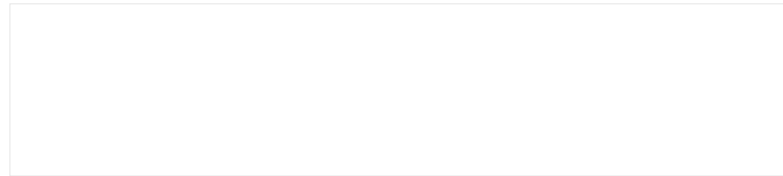


**Benefit Breakfast**  
**KC Special Valentine**  
**February 12, 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**  
**St. Mary's School**

**KC Family Corporate Communion**  
**Sunday, January 29 - St. Joseph Church - 10:00 a.m.**

**Benefit Breakfast**  
**4-H Purple Ribbon Club**  
**February 26, 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**  
**St. Mary's School**

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



## FEBRUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> Officers' Meeting and Gambling Meeting - 7:30 pm	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Shrimp Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	<b>4</b> Bar Trivia KC Hall - 4:00 pm
<b>5</b> Superbowl Party KC Hall - Doors open at 2:00 pm Steak fry - 4:00 pm	<b>6</b> Bldg Mtg - 7:00 pm	<b>7</b> Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm  Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	<b>8</b> General Meeting Program - 7:30 pm	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Shrimp Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	<b>11</b> Bar Trivia KC Hall - 4:00 pm
<b>12</b> Special Valentine Breakfast St. Mary's School 8:00 am-12:30 pm for KC charitable projects	<b>13</b> First Degree Exemplification KC Hall in Owatonna Candidates please be at the Hall at 6:30 pm	<b>14</b> Valentines Day  Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm  Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Shrimp Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	<b>18</b> Bar Trivia KC Hall - 4:00 pm
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm  Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Fourth Degree KC Hall - 7:30 pm	<b>24</b> Shrimp Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	<b>25</b> Bar Trivia KC Hall - 4:00 pm
<b>26</b> Benefit Breakfast St. Mary's School 8:00 am-12:30 pm for 4-H Purple Ribbon Club	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm  Fat Tuesday Serving gumbo from 6:00 - 7:00 pm Hurricane drinks Beads				