

Owatonna



Council 945

The Key

to greater Council unity.

JULY
2012

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

- July 2 - Officers' Meeting
and Gambling
KC Hall - 7:30 p.m.
- July 8 - SCHS Extravaganza
Village of Yesteryear
Steele County Fairgrounds
- July 9- Building Meeting
KC Hall - 7:00 p.m.
- July 11- General Meeting and
Program - 7:30 p.m.
- July 26- Fourth Degree
Meeting - KC Hall - 7:30 p.m.
- July 29- Litomysl 41st
Annual Summer Festival
Mass - 10:00 a.m.
Festival - 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- August 14 - 19 - Steele County
Free Fair
Steele County Fairgrounds

COMING EVENTS

OFFICERS' MEETING

Tuesday, July 3
KCHall
Meeting - 7:30 p.m.

GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, July 11
KCHall
Program - 7:30 p.m.

FOR GREAT FOOD AT THE FAIR

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FOOD STAND

Steele County Free Fair
Aug. 14 - 19
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 Brian Carlson at 451-9629 if you
would like to volunteer to help.

SUMMER STEAK FRIES

Served in the Lounge
Friday, July 6, 13, 20, and 27
Served from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Delicious marinated steaks or
windsor chop, served with salad, roll,
and baked potato.

LITOMYSL 41st ANNUAL SUMMER FESTIVAL

Sunday, July 29, 2012
KC Chorus will sing before Mass, at 9:15 a.m.
Polka Mass - 10:00 a.m.
Fourth Degree Honor Guard will participate
Festival - 11:00 a.m - 5:00 p.m.
Food - Drinks - Live Music
Bands will be the "Klecker Band,"
"The Czech Lites," and
"Luverne's Concertina."
Auctions - Rides - Games
Used-A-Bit Sale
Garden Produce - Plants
Display of old engines
Prune, Poppyseed, and Apricot Biscuits
Fun For All Ages!!

The KC Chorus

will sing your favorite
patriotic & folk songs, including:
*"This Land is Your Land, America the Beautiful,
God Bless the USA, Lion Sleeps Tonight,
Sweet Caroline, & A Salute to the Armed Forces"*

Steele County Historical Society

EXTRAVAGANZA

Sunday, July 8, 11:00 to 11:30 a.m.
Village of Yesteryear
Steele County Fairgrounds

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GRANDSTAND BEER SALES

Steele County Free Fair
Date to be determined
Please contact LaVerne Klecker at 451-4102 or
(507) 456-6738 or
Joe Elbert at (507) 279-4015
if you would like to help.

Read *The Key* and Drinks Are On Us!

We will be hiding 6 KC membership numbers
someplace in the newsletter. Find your number
and collect two free drinks at the KC Club Room.
Simply present your membership card and show
the bartender your number in *The Key*. There is a
copy of *The Key* posted on the bulletin board.
You will receive two complimentary drinks.
Winners' names will be published in the next
edition of *The Key*.



HAVE A SAFE AND
HAPPY INDEPENDENCE
DAY!!!



Chaplain's Message by Rev. Edward McGrath

Thank you to the Knights of Columbus for your support of Fr. Jason Kern during his seminary years and at the ordination and Mass of Thanksgiving. Let us not cease to pray for vocations!

Please continue to pray and inform yourselves about the current conflict concerning religious liberty. The secular world likes to reduce the questions to contraception and point out that many, if not most, Catholics dissent from the Church's teaching regarding artificial contraception. All are on the path of conversion and along the way many dissent about this or that in the faith. Dissent can range from outright rejection, to various compromises, to apathy. In our minds the controversy is not about that, it is about the freedom of the Church to proclaim the Gospel in its fullness, not only in the parish church or parish school, but also in our institutions and our services. We do not discriminate in offering services, but our services whether sacramental or social serve the Gospel, not the current secular trends.

The Church has received support from other faiths because it seems to me that most know that the reach of the government into the practice of faith (again, which is much more than preaching and teaching the faithful, as our Lord said, "Go, teach all nations...") compromises the opportunity of all faiths to have their message reflected in their own institutions. The patriotism practiced by the Knights of Columbus unites the conviction of the faith, as formulated in II Vatican Council, that there is a right to freedom of religion and freedom of conscience, with the First Amendment of our federal constitution. Our republic has fostered an atmosphere of tolerance and freedom that is the envy of the world. We have had periods of sectarian violence and intolerance, but that has given way to the blessing of freedom. There are, of course, natural limits on the freedom of religion. One may not resort to ritual human sacrifice would be the best example. But a Jehovah Witness may refuse a blood transfusion, a Christian Scientist may refuse what we consider ordinary medical care, a Muslim may have a ritual bath available even in public buildings for the cleansing required before prayer. But there is a certain degree of intolerance developing toward Christian practices and signs, and specific teaching which mark a Christian as in communion with the See of Peter as a Roman or Eastern Rite Catholic. 2012398

If the Supreme Court ruling expected on the Affordable Health Care Act voids the act in part or totally, the question will not go away.

Jesus pointed out in the Gospel of John that the Holy Spirit, being the spirit of truth, will prove the world wrong in regard to sin and righteousness and condemnation (Jn 16:8). The Catholic faith represents the fullness of the truth God revealed in Christ, even if most reject a portion of it, or misunderstand it, or fail to inquire after it. God will bring us to all truth. The Church has recognized the right to fundamental freedom of religion, as seen in the Second Vatican Council. Gone are the days when faith is force fed. The method of preaching and teaching the truth that makes us free is more in line with the method of Christ. God will bring us to the fullness of truth even in the midst of witness to the contrary. Even if a Roman Catholic personally dissents, I would hope every Catholic cherishes the freedom the Church enjoys to order her institutions in the manner of the Gospel we have received.

Vote on November 6

On November 6, 2012 we have an important vocation to protect, that is marriage! Our leaders of Minnesota want to redefine the definition marriage! I urge everyone to visit www.Minnesotaformarriage.com and educate yourself and I urge you to vote YES on November 6th. 4384408

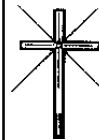
Grand Knight's Message by Wade Schroeder

Brother Knights, it is hard to believe a year has gone by since Randy wrote his inaugural Grand Knight message last July... but what a year it has been! I congratulate Randy and the rest of the officers for leading the Council in another outstanding year. Initial figures show well over 8700 volunteer hours were given by various Council members and in excess of \$50,000 was shared with groups that fit within our principle of charity and Catholic beliefs. Those two figures are a testament to the quality of people in our council and we all should be proud of both our efforts and the result! And I know I had a lot of fun and fellowship over the year and suspect many of you also shared the same experience. 3879873

As we begin the next chapter, we are looking forward to another exciting year and, although I have just been handed the gavel, we are already on the cusp of the busiest time of our year. Summer only officially began on June 20th but already, the preparation for the County Fair food stand and grandstand beer sales are underway. As with every year we are looking for individuals who would be interesting in being a food stand captain, volunteer for a shift (or two) in the food stand or hawking beer in the grandstand. Other upcoming events we should all have on our calendars are the Litomysl Festival at Holy Trinity Catholic Church on July 29th and the KC family picnic (more details in the August Key) to name a few. These events will be "tomorrow" before we know it. This promises to be an exciting year with an important presidential election and an amendment vote on the meaning of marriage happening here in Minnesota. Both of these political events should have some meaning for all of us. As the Council's Grand Knight, I look forward to your support and anticipate another great year for the Council in the 2012-2013 fraternal year.

Vivat Jesus

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...

Lois Doyle, Mary Floersch, Rose Hoffman, Erlis Kelzenberg, Harlan Kern, Marlys Knight, 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 Pirkl, Sylvia Prokopec, Kevin Raney, Lauren Ryan, Sharon Rohwer, John Schmidt, Mary Jo Schroepfer, Howard Snyder, Jeanine Snyder, Becky Walsh, Gary Wandrey, Jerry Weber, Rownell Weber, Phyllis Wheeler, Irene Wierzbinski, Jim Wierzbinski, and Shirley Wierzbinski.

IN MEMORY

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

Gertrude Trenda, wife of Brother Knight Ray Trenda and sister-in-law of Brother Knights Donald and Francis Trenda, passed away on June 2.

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

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Three New Knights Exemplified on June 7



Alex Pieper

Alex Pieper is a member of St. Joseph Parish. Alex is employed by the circulation department of the Owatonna People's Press and Area Shopper. He was sponsored by his dad, Brother Knight Will Pieper.



Doug Gathje

Douglas Gathje is a member of St. Joseph Parish. Douglas is employed at Crown Cork and Seal. He was sponsored by his dad, Brother Knight Martin Gathje.



Theo Asuncion

Theo Asuncion is a member of St. Jeromes Catholic Parish in Maplewood. Theo is employed at First Transit in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He was sponsored by his brother-in-law, Brother Knight Bill Lawrence.

Membership by LaVerne Klecker

Congratulations to our three newest members who have joined the Knights of Columbus this past month. Congratulations to Council 945 for achieving Star Council. Thank you to all of the Brother Knights who have signed up new members. A special thank you to the ten dads who have signed up their sons as Brother Knights this past year. We are planning a summer exemplification to accommodate the schedules of college students home for the summer. If your son will be 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, just give me a call at 451-4102 or 456-6738. The publication rack at the club also has Form 100s and information brochures. New members are important to our Council. 2871482

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.

Our goal will be to achieve Star Council for the coming year and we will need everyone's help to achieve this.

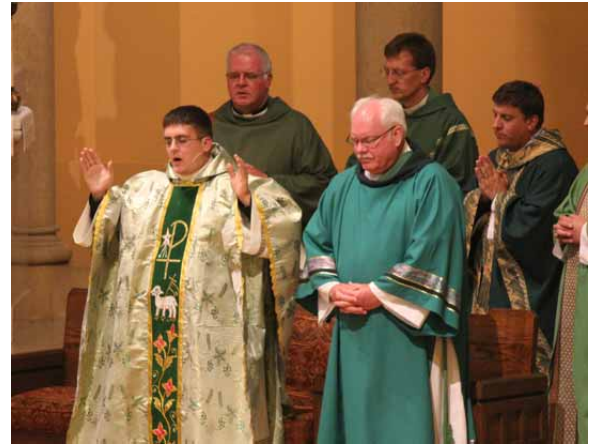
Also, I would like to remind anyone who has not paid their dues for 2012 to please get them paid. Our Council needs the money we collect from dues to make ends meet and to pay our Council expenses. Thank you.

*Thank you Fr. Andrew Vogel for everything you have done for the
Knights of Columbus and the Owatonna Catholic community.
Good luck in your future.*

Fr. Jason Kern's Journey to the Priesthood Completed



Several of the Sir Knights who were a part of the honor guard for Fr. Jason Kern's Mass of Thanksgiving, left to right: Walt Spindler, LaVerne Klecker, Fr. Kern, and Tim Rice.



Fr. Jason Kern celebrates his Mass of Thanksgiving on June 17 at his home parish of St. Joseph's.



Procession of the clergy in attendance at Fr. Kern's Mass of Thanksgiving.



Sacred Heart Cemetery Memorial Gets a Facelift

Thanks go out to one of our newest members, Dan Haberman, owner of Oak View Nursery, who had re-landscaped the Memorial Flagpole area at the Sacred Heart Cemetery. Rains the past few years pushed over the retaining wall and washed out or destroyed the plants that were there. Dan and his crew re-landscaped the area to help resist any future rains.



Employees from Oakview Nursery complete the new facelift for Sacred Heart Cemetery.

OFFICERS FOR 2012



Officers for 2012 — 2013, Owatonna Council 945

The officers pictured were installed on June 16 following the 4:00 p.m. Mass at St. Joseph Church. From left to right, Past Grand Knight Randy Balausky, Warden Gary Sanford, Deputy Grand Knight Dustin Reese, Trustee Bill Lawrence, Grand Knight Wade Schroeder, Financial Secretary John Ahlberg, Advocate Dave Lax, Outside Guard Harlan Kern, Trustee Steve Dornquast, and Inside Guard Peter Schneider.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION



Mark Cunningham, KC Hall Manager, was recognized for his 25 years of dedicated service. Presenting the award is Trustee Bill Lawrence.



Fr. Edward Mountain presented a plaque of appreciation to Lavern Soukup for his work as chairman of the project that brought a new crucifix, altar, and statuary to Sacred Heart Cemetery.

KNIGHT OF THE YEAR



Tom Burke on left with Jim Gleason, last year's Knight of the Year.

Tom Burke is our 2011-12 Knight of the Year. In making the presentation of this prestigious award, 2010-11 Knight of the Year recipient Jim Gleason noted Tom's many accomplishments after joining the Knights of Columbus in 2003 and becoming a very active member, including: being a Fourth Degree member for five years, very involved in the KC food stand at the fair, grandstand beer sales at the fair, cooking at just about ALL of the benefit breakfasts, cooking at special functions like the officer installations (in fact he's cooking here tonight!), Tootsie Roll drive, and his favorite Smokin' in Steele. He held the office of outside guard for two years. He really enjoys being a KC. He likes the camaraderie of it but mostly having an opportunity to give back to the community.

TRUSTEE SERVICE AWARD



Steve Fisher is the proud recipient of the 2011-12 Trustee Service Award. Trustee Joe Elbert presented the award and noted that Steve's accomplishments are helping out at the benefit breakfasts, fair stand, the Campaign for Intellectual Disabilities (AKA the Tootsie Roll Drive), Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive, Smokin' in Steele, fish fries, Key folding... the list is long. Pictured; left to right, Bill Lawrence, Trustee, Steve Fisher, Joe Elbert, Trustee and Steve Dornquast, Trustee.

PAST GRAND KNIGHT AWARD



2011-12 Grand Knight Randy Balausky is pictured here with the Past Grand Knight Award presented by 2012-13 Grand Knight Wade Schroeder. Under Randy's leadership, participation in all our projects showed an increased level of participation.

- MEMBER RECRUITMENT - New First Degree Members

MEMBER
Theo Asuncion
Thomas Bauer
Dylan Carlson
Thomas Dietz
Matthew Durand
Doug Gathje
Adam Hedberg
Scott Holzerland
Jason Iacovino
Charles Keohen
Rev. Jason Kern
Gregory Lenz
Nicholas Matejcek
Michael Mulet

SPONSOR
Bill Lawrence
Danny Bauer
Brian Carlson
David Dietz
Bill Lawrence
Martin Gathje
Joe Herzog
Chris Herzog
Jim Gleason
David Lax
Harlan Kern
Wade Schroeder
Thomas Elbert
LaVerne Klecker

MEMBER
Dr. Miguel Mulet, Jr.
Christopher Nickolai
Andrew Nylund
Alex Pieper
Benjamin Rysavy
Ryan Sanford
Daniel Sawyer
Todd Schwanke
Nathan Skala
Tyler Supalla
Matthew Thurnau
Kenneth Thurnau
Gerald Wacek
Joel Willaert
Joshua Willour

SPONSOR
LaVerne Klecker
Randy Balausky
Chris Herzog
Will Pieper
Joseph Rysavy
Gary Sanford
Mark Kearin
Bill Lawrence
Joe Herzog
Curtis Supalla
John Ahlberg
Lyle Coleman
LaVerne Klecker
LaVerne Klecker
LaVerne Klecker

New Third Degree Members

MEMBER
Ron Ankrum
Oscar Dalle
Mike Goddard
Jordan Ludewig
Jeffrey Titus

SPONSOR
Mark Cunningham
LaVerne Klecker
LaVerne Klecker
Duane Ludewig
Randy Balausky

Reinstatements

REINSTATEMENTS
John Berning
Bruce Louks
Willard Peterson
Gary Sanford
Otto Rysavy

SPONSOR
LaVerne Klecker
LaVerne Klecker
Thomas Eichten
Randy Balausky
LaVerne Klecker

AWARDS & INSTALLATION BANQUET - JUNE 16

The Council 945 annual Awards and Installation Banquet was attended by a large number of members and their spouses. Officers for the upcoming term beginning July 1 of this year were installed by District Deputy Joe Elbert, following the 4:00 p.m. Mass at St. Joseph Church. He was assisted by Chaplain Rev. Edward McGrath and Warden Tim Rice. The banquet was the culmination of a very successful fraternal year for the Council.

The Officers installed for the 2012-13 Council year are as follows:

- Chaplain - Rev. Edward McGrath**
- Grand Knight - Wade Schroeder**
- Deputy Grand Knight - Dustin Reese**
- Chancellor - Dan Wolfe**
- Advocate - Dave Lax**
- Warden - Gary Sanford**
- Inside Guard - Pete Schneider**
- Outside Guard - Harlan Kern**
- Recorder - Scot Berkley**
- Treasurer - Tom Eichten**
- Financial Secretary - John Ahlberg**

Following the Installation, activities moved from St. Joseph to the KC Hall. Attendees enjoyed fellowship during the social hour and then were served an excellent meal prepared by Brother Knights Tom Burke and Dustin Reese. Serving was handled by Casey Balausky and Bailey Sanford.

Master of Ceremonies' duties were conducted by Trustee Bill Lawrence. One of the highlights of the evening were special presentations to Mark Cunningham and Lavern Soukup. Mark was recognized for his 25 years of dedicated service as the Manager of the KC Hall. Lavern's kudos were for his work as chairman of the project which brought a new crucifix, altar, and statuary to the Sacred Heart Cemetery.

The membership and Oak awards were presented by Randy Balusky and Wade Schroeder. The Trustee Service award was presented to Steve Fisher by Trustee Joe Elbert. The prestigious Knight of the Year Award for 2011 - 12 was presented by Jim Gleason to Tom Burke.

Grand Knight Randy Balausky and Program Director Wade Schroeder presented the following Owatonna Active Knights (OAK) awards:

<i>John Ahlberg</i>	<i>Mark Kearin</i>
<i>Randy Balausky</i>	<i>Dennis Kelm</i>
<i>Lynn Becker</i>	<i>Harlan Kern</i>
<i>Keven Boettcher</i>	<i>LaVerne Klecker</i>
<i>Donald Boesen</i>	<i>Wayne Kubicek</i>
<i>Thomas Burke</i>	<i>Bill Lawrence</i>
<i>Brian Carlson</i>	<i>David Lax</i>
<i>John Carlson</i>	<i>Kurt Lindenbaum</i>
<i>Frank Conley</i>	<i>Lloyd Mans</i>
<i>Mark Cunningham</i>	<i>Al Nelson</i>
<i>Lyle Coleman</i>	<i>Stephen Nelson</i>
<i>John Degner</i>	<i>Tony Nguyen</i>
<i>Steve Dornquast</i>	<i>Will Pieper</i>
<i>Joe Elbert</i>	<i>Dustin Reese</i>
<i>Tom Elbert</i>	<i>Tim Rice</i>
<i>Terry Evans</i>	<i>Daniel Ruitter</i>
<i>David Fandel</i>	<i>Paul Schneider</i>
<i>Steve Fisher</i>	<i>Wade Schroeder</i>
<i>Bill Foreman</i>	<i>Kevin Sedivy</i>
<i>Kevin Gallagher</i>	<i>Lavern Soukup</i>
<i>Thomas Gebur</i>	<i>Walter Spindler</i>
<i>Jim Gleason</i>	<i>Lee Staupe</i>
<i>Mike Goddard</i>	<i>Richard Thamert</i>
<i>Steven Graff</i>	<i>Eric Tucker</i>
<i>Roger Green</i>	<i>Dan Walsh</i>
<i>John Hammer</i>	<i>John Wheeler</i>
<i>Ronald Heim</i>	<i>Ronald Wolf</i>
<i>Lee Jardine</i>	<i>Charles Walerius</i>
<i>Al Jirele</i>	<i>David Wunderlich</i>
<i>James Kaplan</i>	

Knight of the Month Recipients in 2011-2012

July	<i>John Wheeler</i>
August	<i>Rev. John Sauer</i>
September	<i>Dave Lax</i>
October	<i>Mike Goddard</i>
November	<i>Lynn Becker</i>
December	<i>Rev. Andrew Vogel</i>
January	<i>Kevin Gallagher</i>
February	<i>Brandon Pofahl</i>
March	<i>Terry Evans</i>
April	<i>Dan Wolfe</i>
May	<i>Tim Biegert</i>
June	<i>Tom Soukup</i>

Owatonna K of C Chorus Members

<i>Lynn Becker</i>	<i>Matt Jessop</i>	<i>Sam Nelson</i>
<i>John Carlson</i>	<i>Harlan Kern</i>	<i>Brandon Pofahl</i>
<i>John Degner</i>	<i>LaVerne Klecker</i>	<i>Pete Schneider</i>
<i>Steve Dornquast</i>	<i>Wayne Kubicek</i>	<i>John Schulz</i>
<i>Tom Gebur</i>	<i>David Lax</i>	<i>Lee Staupe</i>
<i>Mike Goddard</i>	<i>Lloyd Mans</i>	<i>Dan Walsh</i>
<i>Dennis Heimerman</i>	<i>Jim Nelson</i>	<i>Chuck Walerius</i>
<i>Ryan Heimerman</i>	<i>Johnathon Nelson</i>	
<i>Stephen Nelson (Director)</i>		

<p style="text-align: center;">50-Year Members</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Myron Homuth</i> <i>Armond Rezac</i> <i>Earl Wheeler</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">25-Year Members</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Kent Leidall</i> <i>Delmar Mullenbach</i> <i>Bruce Rozeske</i> <i>Robert Weber</i></p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">Honorary Members</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Joseph Adelman</i> <i>Rev. Mr. George Anderberg</i> <i>Gerald Barry</i> <i>Lyle Coleman</i> <i>Robert Weber</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Honorary Life Members</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Conrad Bahe</i> <i>William Disher</i> <i>James Farley</i> <i>Wayne Kubicek</i> <i>David Olson</i> <i>David Pfeifer</i> <i>Gregory Salmonsens</i> <i>Richard Thamert</i></p>
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2012-13 COUNCIL OFFICERS

Chaplain: Rev. Edward McGrath
Grand Knight: .. Wade Schroeder (507) 573-1586
Deputy Grand Knight: Dustin Reese
Chancellor: Dan Wolfe
Advocate: Dave Lax
Warden: Gary Sanford
Inside Guard: Pete Schneider
Outside Guard: Harlan Kern
Financial Secretary: John Ahlberg
Treasurer: Tom Eichten
Recorder: Scot Berkley
Trustee (3 year): PGK Bill Lawrence
Trustee (2 year): PGK Steve Dornquist
Trustee (1 year): PGK Randy Balausky

DIRECTORS AND CHAIRMEN

Program Director: Dustin Reese
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



Peter Guenther

The May Knight of the Month has struck a chord with Council 945. Pete Guenther may be best known as Owatonna High School's band director and leader of the Marching Band. However, he also became a member of the KC's in Owatonna in the summer of 2011.

Pete originally joined the KC's when he was a teacher in Lake City, MN. He moved his family to Owatonna in 2001 and has been busy raising his family and teaching Owatonna's next generation of musicians. However, he says he was very impressed with how visible and active Council 945 was in the community. He said, "My next door neighbor, Tom Gebur, had talked to me about joining, and then my brother-in-law John Degner

joined, so I decided to re-up. Next thing I know I'm working at pancake breakfasts." It's not just the pancake breakfasts that he enjoys, even though it is his favorite fund raising activity. He enjoys the camaraderie with the organization, adding that "since there are so many members, it's a very deep organization. You can be involved as intensely as you want to be. It provides an outlet for stewardship and service." Pete's wife of 20 years is Holly. Together, they have four sons and one daughter, and are members of Sacred Heart Parish. In addition to lending his musical talents to his church, he has been the conductor for the the Owatonna Community Band. Pete's hometown is Greenfield, Wisconsin. He received his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, and then his Master's Degree in 2000 at Winona State. When he's not juggling his family's schedule, he enjoys traveling with his family, camping, and describes himself as a "closet golfer." He also enjoys the art of cinema, especially the older classics. However, he still loves music, saying, "I love teaching music to kids. The best compliment I can get is to have former students come back years later and say they're still playing." Pete says over time he's learned to make a mission statement for his life, saying he now will "conduct my life like I conduct my band – with high expectations and discipline." Now he's joined the chorus of Brother Knights that set the bar high for others. Congratulations to our May Knight of the Month, Pete Guenther!

Benefits Corner by Kevin Gallagher, LUTCF, FIC

I just finished reading two interesting articles you also might be interested in. The first is authored by someone who I think truly has his finger on the pulse of what is happening economically on a U.S. and global scale. He has said over and over, if you understand "the math" you will understand where we are headed. And, what he sees gives him cause for great concern. 4282621

He believes the "fixes" we gave the economy, as a result of the 2007 & 2008 fiascos, were never corrected or repaired and that a "band-aid" was applied which made the problems even bigger and more dangerous. As he said, we now have countries going bankrupt...not just companies. And it's global. The "recovery" we're told we are now in and the assumption that the U.S. is a safe haven just isn't true. His justifications for this belief are many, and again, it all centers on "the math."

The second report, just issued this month, was about the Knights of Columbus Insurance Company receiving, for the 37th consecutive year, the highest possible financial strength rating of A++ from A.M. Best,

the world's foremost rating and information agency. A.M. Best conducts in-depth analysis and issues annual reports about the fiscal stability of insurance companies. Standard & Poor's also recently gave us their highest possible rating for the 19th consecutive year. There is no other insurance company in North America with higher ratings. This leads to an obvious question. If you're not doing business with the Knights of Columbus, how does your company rate? You might want to check that out (and then check us out).

My point is simply this. Despite all the negatives we hear and read about day-in-and-day-out concerning national and global financial issues, you can take comfort and pride in knowing the Knights' commitment to our mission of protecting the well-being of Catholic families is being accomplished year-in-and-year-out.

I look forward to working with you to help you and your family make sure those really important things in life are well taken care of. I can be reached at 507-213-9410. Have a great month!

kevin.gallagher@kofc.org

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Steele County Historical Society Extravaganza

Sunday, July 8

K of C Chorus performs at 11:00 a.m.

2527008

Nonprofit Organization

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

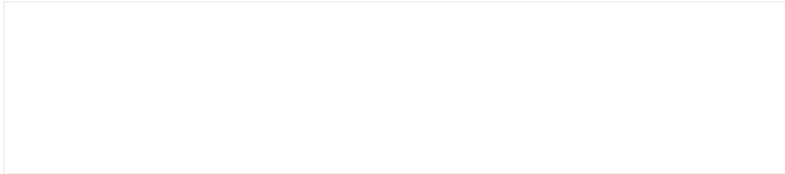
Owatonna, MN

Permit No. 202

Litomysl 41st Annual Summer Festival

Sunday, July 29

Mass - 10:00 a.m. Festival - 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.



JULY 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Officers' Meeting and Gambling Meeting - 7:30 pm Bar Bingo	4 Independence Day	5	6 Summer Steak Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 p	7
8 Extravaganza Steele County Fairgrounds KC Chorus - 11:00 am Village of Yesteryear	9 Bldg Mtg - 7:00 pm	10 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm	11 General Meeting 7:30 pm program	12	13 Summer Steak Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	14
15	16	17 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm	18	19	20 Summer Steak Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	21
22	23	24 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm	25	26 Fourth Degree Business Meeting KC Hall - 7:30 pm	27 Summer Steak Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	28
29 Litomysl 41st Annual Summer Festival Mass - 10:00 am Festival - 11:00 - 5:00 pm	30	31 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm				