

Owatonna



Council 945

# The Key

to greater Council unity.

JULY  
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

**July 5** - Officers' and  
Gambling Meeting  
KC Hall - 7:30 p.m.  
**July 10** - Building Meeting  
KC Hall - 7:00 p.m.  
**July 12** - General Meeting - KC Hall  
Program - 7:30 p.m.  
**July 21** - Relay for Life  
Steele County Fairgrounds  
**July 26** - Fourth Degree  
Meeting - KC Hall - 7:30 p.m.  
**July 30** - Litomysl 46th  
Annual Summer Festival  
and KC Family  
Corporate Communion  
Mass - 10:00 a.m.  
Festival - 11:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
**August 15 - 20** - Steele County  
Free Fair  
Steele County Fairgrounds

## HELP NEEDED

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

## COMING EVENTS

### OFFICERS' MEETING

Wednesday, July 5  
KC Hall  
Meeting - 7:30 p.m.

### TUESDAY NIGHT AT THE CLUB

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

### MINNESOTA TWINS BUS TRIP

Sunday, August 6  
Minnesota Twins vs. Texas Rangers  
\$65.00 includes lower level tickets, bus ride,  
refreshments, and tour of the Minnesota Twins  
museum with Minnesota Twins curator Clyde  
Doepner.  
Call Club for details.

### For great food at the fair KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FOOD STAND

Steele County Free Fair  
Aug. 15 - 20  
The KC Food Stand is located between  
the Beer Garden and Fair Square.  
**"Downright Delicious Food"**  
YOUR CHOICE OF GREAT BRATS AND  
our tasty "Holy Mojo sandwich"  
Please plan on volunteering to work a shift at  
the food stand. More info on who to contact in  
the August *Key*.

### 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.

### 2017 RELAY FOR LIFE

Friday, July 21 at the Steele County Fairgrounds  
Luminaries for sale - \$10.00 each -  
see Mark at the KC Hall

### GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, July 12  
Program - 7:30 p.m.  
Our speaker will be Ellen Heydon  
on Habitat for Humanity.

### LITOMYSL 46th ANNUAL SUMMER FESTIVAL AND KC FAMILY CORPORATE COMMUNION

Sunday, July 30  
KC Chorus will sing before Mass, at 9:30 a.m.  
**Polka Mass - 10:00 a.m.**  
Fourth Degree Honor Guard will participate  
Festival - 11:00 a.m - 4:30 p.m.  
Food - Drinks - Live Music  
Bands will be the "Dan Stursa Band" and  
"The Sand Creek Connection Band,"  
Raffle Tickets - \$3,500 in prizes  
Silent Auction - Pony Rides - Games  
Used-A-Bit Sale  
Garden Produce - Plants  
Display of old engines  
Prune, Poppyseed, and Apricot Biscuits  
Fun For All Ages!!  
Everyone welcome.

### SUMMER STEAK FRIES ARE BACK

Served in the Lounge  
Friday, July 14, 21, & 28  
Served from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
Serving our wonderful grilled steaks and  
other grilled items.

### MINNESOTA TWINS

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

### KC GOLF OUTING

September 16th at  
Brooktree Golf Course.  
It will be a four person scramble format and there will  
lots of fun, prizes, dinner and did we mention fun?



## Grand Knight's Message by Nic Matejcek

Brothers,

I hope that this issue of *The Key* finds you well. First, a huge thank you to our immediate Past Grand Knight, Gary Sanford, for taking on the challenge and dedicating countless hours to our great organization! Next time you see him, thank him for his service and dedication to the Knights. Our organization is filled with so many great leaders and selfless Catholics, and it will be my honor and privilege to lead you, my fellow Knights, over the next year. I will do my very best to grow and strengthen this organization. If you have any questions or suggestions over the next year, I would love to hear your ideas.

Our most recent display of great leadership was shown at Smokin' in Steele. The event was an incredible success again this year! A huge thank you to all of the leaders and volunteers who worked MANY hours to make this possible. We will be looking for people to step up to lead and volunteer for programs throughout the year. Please say "YES!" when you are called. Better yet, give me a call (507-420-1113) if you would be willing to take on a leadership or volunteer opportunity. We are looking for a Knight to lead our Tootsie Roll Drive next spring. Thanks to Tony David for stepping in this past year. Contact me if you are interested. You will not be alone! This one is truly a group effort. It is a great fundraiser for people with developmental disabilities in the Owatonna area.

With your help, support, and prayers we will continue to make the Knights a successful pillar of charity, unity, and fraternity in our Owatonna community. You can help by asking a fellow Knight to get more involved or ask a fellow Catholic man who is not a Knight to join. We need to continue to grow our organization and membership to reach our goals. If you would like help with this task, ask our master recruiter LaVerne Klecker or myself. We would love to help you out! I know many people are busy. I understand that, having four kids of my own. Encourage prospective members to join on the "KC Light" program as DGK Dan Sawyer puts it. After joining, pick one or two programs to participate in and see where their interest lies. Many of our programs encourage family participation. Without the strength and support of our families, the Knights would not be as strong as they are. Many hands make light work. With over 600 members and their families, we should never have an issue finding volunteers or leaders for the great programs we run throughout the year.

I hope to see you on August 9th at Jaycee Park for our Annual Picnic. Social time will begin about 5 pm with food being served about 6 pm. ALL members and their families are encouraged to attend this free event. This is a great time to meet with other Knights and connect again to the reason you joined the KC's in the first place. Come and introduce yourself to me if we haven't already met. I would like to get acquainted with Knights new and "old" on that day. During the event, we will distribute over \$6,000 raised from our Tootsie Roll fundraising event. We will hold a very short business meeting afterwards.

Thanks to all for your dedication, leadership, and vision in making KC Council 945 of Owatonna a force for change in our community and for touching the lives of thousands of people each year through the charity, unity, and fraternity that the Knights display every day. I will come and go as your grand knight, but this organization will live on and continue the mission set forth by our founder, the venerable Fr. Michael J. McGivney.

Vivat Jesus!

## Benefits Corner by Chris Retterath



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

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

## Membership by LaVerne Klecker

July 1st starts a new fraternal year. Our goal is to achieve Star Council. To achieve Star Council we need to have 35 new members. Star Council is the highest award that a Council can achieve from Supreme. We are planning to have a First Degree Exemplification on July 24 at the KC Hall in Owatonna. If your son or grandson is home for the summer, please invite him to join the Knights of Columbus.

We need the help of our entire membership to make our Council's membership goal. Now is the time to make contact with your prospective member. If you need any material or help in signing up a member, please contact me at (507) 451-4102 or (507) 456-6738. The publication rack at the club also has Form 100s and information brochures. New members are important to our Council. Don't wait any longer, call and visit your prospective member today. Explain our Council's accomplishments and invite them to join us, they will thank you.

The members in the KCs who are involved in our projects have a lot of enthusiasm and enjoy the projects that they participate in. We need to continue to sign up new members to provide us with new ideas for projects that we could bring into our Council.

Any members who have not paid their dues for the past year, please get them paid. Statements have been sent out for the 2017 dues. Please pay them as soon as possible so you can remain a member in good standing. We need the money from our dues to make ends meet for our Council expenses.

## FIRST DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION

Monday, July 24 - 7:00 p.m.

Owatonna KC Hall

Candidates please be at the Hall at 6:30 p.m.

## OFFICER INSTALLATION

On Wednesday, July 12, the Officer Installation will be held. New officers will be installed for the 2017-2018 Council year. The Officer Installation ceremony will take place at the KC Hall. Please mark your calendar.

### *Election of Officers*

The annual election of Officers for next year will be held at our general meeting on Wednesday, July 12. The following Brother Knights have agreed to represent you in 2017-2018.

<b>Grand Knight:</b>	<b>Nicholas Matejcek</b>	<b>Advocate:</b>	<b>Lee Jardine</b>	<b>Outside Guard:</b>	<b>Harlan Kern</b>
<b>Deputy Grand Knight:</b>	<b>Dan Sawyer</b>	<b>Warden:</b>	<b>Matt Thurnau</b>	<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Tom Eichten</b>
<b>Chancellor:</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>Inside Guard:</b>	<b>Jerome Spindler</b>	<b>Recorder:</b>	<b>Tony David</b>

This slate has been proposed and endorsed by the Council Trustees for your approval. Additional nominations for all positions were accepted at the May and June meetings, and anyone wishing to serve was welcome to make it known at that time. These members and the Committee Chairs will shape the direction of the Council for the upcoming year. Come and show your support.

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## AWARDS PRESENTED AT GENERAL MEETING ON JUNE 14



*Gary Sanford and Dan Sawyer present the Outstanding Scrapbook Award at the State Level. Dan Sawyer put the scrapbook together; it was the first time this award had ever been won by Council 945.*



*Gary Sanford presented the Excellence in Programming for the Council.*

At the General Meeting on June 14 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Owatonna Gary Sanford presented awards. Both awards were presented to Gary at the state convention on May 20.

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## INDEPENDENCE DAY PRAYER

*Dear Lord,*

*There is no greater feeling of liberty than to experience freedom from sin and death that you provided for me through Jesus Christ. Today my heart and my soul are free to praise you. For this, I am very thankful.*

*On this Independence Day, I am reminded of all those who have sacrificed for my freedom, following the example of your Son, Jesus Christ.*

*Let me not take my freedom, both physical and spiritual, for granted. May I always remember that a very high price was paid for my freedom. My freedom cost others their very lives.*

*Lord, today, bless those who have served and continue to give their lives for my freedom. With favor and bounty, meet their needs and watch over their families.*

*Dear Father, I am so thankful for this nation. For all the sacrifices others have made to build and defend this country, I am grateful. Thank you for the opportunities and freedoms we have in the United States of America. Help me never to take these blessings for granted.*

*Help me to live my life in a way that glorifies you, Lord. Give me the strength to be a blessing in someone's life today, and grant me the opportunity to lead others into the freedom that can be found in knowing Jesus Christ.*

*In your name I pray.*

*Amen*

## 2017 WILLIAM WARNER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

On Wednesday, May 24, 2017, the Knights of Columbus announced this year's recipients of the William Warner/ Knights of Columbus Memorial Scholarships at the 2016-17 Scholarship & Awards Reception at the Owatonna High School. Two high school seniors were selected and each will be receiving a \$500 check in their name and the school which they will be attending. The recipients are:

- Mark Kubista, St. Mary's University; Winona
- Elliott Rysavy, St. Mary's University of Minnesota



Mark Kubista will be attending Saint Mary's University of Winona. The selection committee was impressed with his involvement in sports, music, (choir and symphony), his academic achievement, and The National Honor Society. Mark has also earned a black belt in Tae Kwan Do and is also an Eagle Scout. Mark is the son of Tom and Jane Kubista.



In the fall, Elliott Rysavy will be attending Saint Mary's University of Minnesota. The selection committee was impressed with his academic achievement, his involvement in The National Honor Society, his leadership and participation in 4H and music, and his volunteer work at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Litomysl. Elliot has also recently joined the Knights of Columbus as a Third Degree Knight. Elliott's parents are Albert and Peggy Rysavy.

The William Warner Scholarship was established on May 10, 1972, by the William Warner Family and the Knight of Columbus. The original funds came from the William Warner Family, whose son died at a young age, and the KC members have also contributed funds over the years. The Council is responsible for Fund investments and administration of the scholarships.

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic fraternal benefits organization headquartered in New Haven, Connecticut. Owatonna Council 945 was founded in 1904 and has grown to over 500 members. Council 945 works closely with St. Joseph's and Sacred Heart parishes, providing funds for various projects. Council members are active participants in their parishes.

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## 2017 ELKS CLUB FLAG DAY



The Msgr. Henry Speck Fourth Degree Honor Guard participated in the Flag Day event on Wednesday, June 14, at the Elks Club in Owatonna, Minnesota. The Elks provided a very nice meal and the interesting program went very well as usual.

### What is Flag Day?

Flag Day is celebrated on June 14, marking the adoption of the American flag by the Continental Congress in the First Flag Act on June 14, 1777. The Act declared that the new flag would have "13 stripes alternate red and white: that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation."



*From left to right are: VFW representatives Leroy Meier and Earl Wheeler folding the Flag. Back row from left to right: Fourth Degree Honor Guard Tim Rice, Eric Wandersee, Joe Elbert, Bruce Born, Glen Meger, Tony David, Dave Fairbrother, and Gary Wandrey.*

## 2016-17 COUNCIL OFFICERS

Chaplain: ..... Rev. John Sauer  
 Grand Knight: ..... Gary Sanford (507) 456-3793  
 Deputy Grand Knight: ..... Nicholas Matejcek  
 Chancellor: ..... Dan Sawyer  
 Advocate: ..... Open  
 Warden: ..... Lee Jardine  
 Inside Guard: ..... Jerome Spindler  
 Outside Guard: ..... Harlan Kern  
 Financial Secretary: ..... John Ahlberg  
 Treasurer: ..... Tom Eichten  
 Recorder: ..... Tony David  
 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  
 KC Chorus Director ..... Stephen Nelson  
 Building Director ..... Tom Elbert  
 Director of Church Activities: ..... Open  
 Director of Youth Activities ..... Will Pieper  
 Dir. of Family Life Activities: ..... Stephen Nelson  
 Gambling Manager: ..... Randy Balausky (PGK)  
 District Deputy: ..... Randy Balausky (PGK)  
 KC Hall Manager: ..... Mark Cunningham (PGK)  
 Field Agent: ..... Chris Retterath - (320) 266-8962

## Knight of the Month



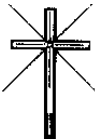
Jeff Hall

Our Knight of the Month, Jeff Hall, became a First Degree member of our Council in March 2014. Like many of his Brother Knights, he was encouraged to join by recruitment specialist LaVerne Klecker.

Jeff grew up in Owatonna and following high school he attended college at St. Cloud State University, where he earned a degree in Finance in 2004. Jeff began working for The Travelers in St. Paul, making the commute to the Twin Cities Metro first from Northfield, Minnesota and then from Owatonna in 2010. Jeff recently decided to stop fighting the torturous traffic on the daily commute to St. Paul and is enjoying time now as a stay at home dad with his five and three year old sons while he looks at other career options closer to home. Jeff's wife Jennifer teaches 1st grade at St. Mary's School and their family are members of St. Joseph's Church.

In his spare time, Jeff enjoys all things outdoors, likes to garden, and play golf. Jeff has been an active volunteer at the Benefit Breakfasts and Smokin' in Steele and looks forward to getting more involved in the future activities. Jeff says his KC experience has helped him get to know more great people in town and in our Council and thinks it would be nice to see more younger people getting involved in the Kknights of Columbus. We look forward to Jeff's continued involvement in our Council and 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.

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

*Dan Bauer, Julie Bauer, John Berning, Ted Blockey, Bruce Born, Marianna Bunkers, Barb Claeys, Margaret Deml, Tom Dietz, Jack Dilleuth, Marilyn Dilleuth, Lois Doyle, Terri Grose, Rose Hoffman, Lorraine Jirele, Tom Kingsley, Barb Klecker, Jim Klecker, Larry Klocek, 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 Pirkl, Ray Pirkl, Kevin Raney, Ivan Snorek, Jeanine Snyder, Duane Spindler, Barb Strand, Mary Lou Thurnau, Gary Wandrey, Wilfred Wagner, Jerry Weber, Irene Wierzbinski, Jim Wierzbinski, Shirley Wierzbinski, Steve Wiese, and Jan Wolf.*

### IN MEMORY

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

*Brother Knight Dan Filzen passed away on June 3.*

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



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**Litomysl 46th Annual Summer Festival  
 and**

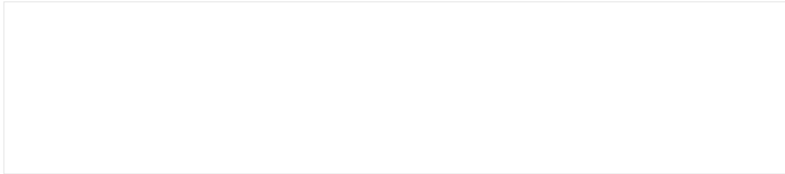
**KC Family Corporate Communion**

**Sunday, July 30**

**Mass - 10:00 a.m. Festival - 11:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

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

**2017 Relay For Life  
 July 21 - Steele County Fairgrounds**



**JULY 2017**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 KC Hall Club Closed	4 Fourth of July KC Hall Club Closed	5 Officers' Meeting and Gambling Meeting - 7:30 pm	6	7	8
9	10 Bldg Mtg - 7:00 pm	11 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	12 General Meeting Program - 7:30 pm	13	14 Summer Steak Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	15
16	17	18 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	19	20	21 Summer Steak Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm Relay for Life Steele County Fairgrounds	22
23	24 First Degree Exemplification Owatonna KC Hall 7:00 pm Candidates please be at the Hall at 6:30 pm	25 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	26 Fourth Degree KC Hall - 7:30 pm	27	28 Summer Steak Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	29
30 Litomysl 46th Annual Summer Festival and KC Family Corporate Communion Mass - 10:00 am Festival - 11:00 am	31					