

Owatonna



Council 945

The Key

to greater Council unity.

JULY
2018

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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- July 9** - Building Meeting
KC Hall - 7:00 p.m.
- July 10** - Officers' and
Gambling Meeting
KC Hall - 7:30 p.m.
- July 11** - General Meeting - KC Hall
Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
Officer Installation - 8:45 p.m.
- July 16** - First Degree
Exemplification
KC Hall - 7:00 p.m.
Candidates please be at Hall at
6:30 p.m.
- July 20** - Relay for Life
Steele County Fairgrounds
- July 25** - Fourth Degree
Meeting - KC Hall - 7:30 p.m.
- July 29** - Litomysl 47th
Annual Summer Festival
and KC Family
Corporate Communion
Mass - 10:00 a.m.
Festival - 11:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- August 14 - 19** - Steele County
Free Fair
Steele County Fairgrounds

MINNESOTA TWINS

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

COMING EVENTS

OFFICERS' MEETING

Tuesday, July 10
KC Hall
Meeting - 7:30 p.m.

GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, July 11
Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
Officer Installation - 8:45 p.m.

FALL FISHING TRIP

Once again, we are planning a Fall Fishing Trip to Cut Foot Sioux (off the NE corner of Lake Winnibigoshish) and there is room for you to join the trip. The reserved dates start September 29 - you could have a 4-day trip - or make a whole week of it. Fishing has been good on this trip during the past few years - and the fall color scenery is really nice as well. The trip includes one free dinner (usually Sunday) provided by Mark and the Columbian Center. For more info, please contact Walt Spindler (451-7613). Would be glad to have you along.

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 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.

2018 RELAY FOR LIFE

Friday, July 20, at the Steele County Fairgrounds
Luminaries for sale - \$10.00 each -
see Mark at the KC Hall

TUESDAY NIGHT AT THE CLUB

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

LITOMYSL 47th ANNUAL SUMMER FESTIVAL AND KC FAMILY CORPORATE COMMUNION

Sunday, July 29
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 Czech Lites,"
Raffle Tickets - \$4,000 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.

MINNESOTA TWINS BUS TRIP

Sunday, August 5
Minnesota Twins vs. Kansas City Royals
Great seats, no driving or parking worries.
Call Mark at the Club to reserve your seats.

SUMMER STEAK FRIES ARE BACK

Served in the Lounge
Friday, July 13, 20, & 27
Served from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Serving our wonderful grilled steaks and
other grilled items.



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 16 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 2018 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.

Relay For Life

The Owatonna Council 945 is proud to announce we will again be having a Knights of Columbus Council 945 Relay for Life Team participating in the upcoming 2018 Relay for Life event on Friday, July 20 at the Steele County Fairgrounds. We invite all fellow Brother Knights and their family members to come and join us in this event. Come and listen to our KC Chorus as they open the event at 6:00 p.m. that evening, from 6:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m., as we walk the luminary trail in remembrance of loved ones touched by cancer and celebrate those survivors among us. Co-chairs of this event are Wade Schroeder and Dan Wolfe.

The Relay for Life is an organized, family-friendly, community fund-raising event most noted for raising money for the American Cancer Society. Besides the many beautiful lit luminarias lining the walking track, there will be activities for kids, live entertainment, food, and a silent auction on the night of the event.

Each and every one of us in our Council has been indirectly or directly affected by cancer and involvement in or support of this event is a fun and rewarding way to raise money to continue to fund cancer research. Individual Brother Knights who would like to join the Council's Relay for Life team can contact Dan Wolfe at (507) 838-9541. Individuals who would like to purchase luminaria can purchase them at the KC Hall or contact any member of the Knights of Columbus 945 Relay for Life team.

FIRST DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION

Monday, July 16 - 7:00 p.m.
Owatonna KC Hall

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

HELP WANTED

Seeking Council Officers for this Fraternal Year, Recorder, and Activity Chairmen for the Tootsie Roll Drive and Basketball Freethrow Contest, please contact Dan Sawyer at (612) 840-6608.

Grand Knight's Message by Dan Sawyer

Brother Knights:

For many Knights of Council 945, it is hard to believe another Fraternal Year has passed. Under the leadership of Past Grand Knight Nic Matejcek, together we have accomplished many great things. When you see Brother Nic, please take the time to thank him for the countless hours spent in preparation and leadership of our Council. Under Nic's leadership, Council 945 was recognized at the State Level for our Celebration of Service, Tootsie Roll Drive, Salvation Army bell ringing and of course, Smokin' In Steele. Not only did Nic seamlessly lead us through all the various events this year, but he was able to communicate well about our activities in a way that reflects positively on Council 945 both within the State organization and in our community.

Like Nic, I am both humbled and proud of what our Council accomplished in the past year. Smokin' In Steele was the most recent example of what we can do together in service of others. Nic has set a high bar for our Council and future Officers. His leadership has increased my enthusiasm to take on the Grand Knight role and see if we can build on this success. I look forward to doing everything I can to serve our Council, our Parishes, and our Community. Although I did not grow up here in Owatonna, our Council has led to some great friendships that I anticipate deepening and leaning on as I serve.

I was recently asked about my goals for the coming Fraternal Year. This is something I've reflected on and would like to share:

1. Grow our Council-As a large Council in a large Catholic Community, we need to help reverse the trend of declining numbers of Knights. I challenge every Knight to find just one member this year-Laverne Klecker-your goal remains 10!
2. Engage and recruit leaders among our younger members-From Baby Boomers to Millennials, we all have something to offer each other as we grow in our Faith and Service
3. Find ways to continue to strengthen the great activities our Council already does and seek more or alternative opportunities to serve

I know we are all busy and it is hard to find time to do more. Please continue to do all the great things you do and be there for me when we call on you to help lead and serve. I trust our Blessings will be many in return for doing what we can to help grow our Catholic Faith, Support our Clergy, those who serve our Country, strengthen our Families, and Serve our Church and Community. If you have any questions or suggestions for me, don't hesitate to get in touch with at 612-840-6608 (mobile) or dsawyer70@gmail.com (email).

Be sure to join us for the Officer Installation on July 11th and see firsthand the impact of our efforts helping those with developmental disabilities when we host our annual family picnic at Jaycee Park and General Meeting on August 8th. Also, join me in welcoming our new Priest at St. Joseph and praying for Father Stephen in his new role in Caledonia.

Vivat Jesus!

KC GOLF OUTING

September 15th 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?



OFFICER INSTALLATION

On Wednesday, July 11, the Officer Installation will be held. New officers will be installed for the 2018-2019 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 11. The following Brother Knights have agreed to represent you in 2018-2019.

Grand Knight:	Dan Sawyer	Advocate:	Open	Outside Guard:	Harlan Kern
Deputy Grand Knight:	Tom Jirele	Warden:	Open	Treasurer:	Tom Eichten
Chancellor:	Lee Jardine	Inside Guard:	Open	Recorder:	Open

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.

AWARDS PRESENTED AT GENERAL MEETING ON JUNE 13



The Owatonna Knights of Columbus Council 945 earned three very prestigious awards at their state convention held in Rochester in May. First, Smokin' in Steele was recognized as the top Community Service Project in the state. This weekend-long barbeque competition and music festival raises thousands of dollars each year for Special Olympics of Steele County. Second, the Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive was recognized as the top Family Service Project in the state. The first weekend in December, the Knights and their families (over 100 people) took turns ringing bells at all eight Owatonna Red Kettle locations, earning over \$4,000 in 2017 and over \$13,000 in the last 3 years! Third, our Celebration of Service Awards Dinner was recognized as the second best Council Activity in the state. This banquet, meant to recognize all Council members for their continued service throughout each year, turned

the traditional awards banquet on its ear by turning it into a true celebration and another opportunity to raise funds for the Purple Heart Foundation of Southern Minnesota. Great job to ALL Council 945 members! This is a testament to the hard work and valuable contributions to the community that is the core of the Knights' mission!

FLAGS FOR FORT SNELLING



The Owatonna Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus assisted by Cadets from the Civil Air Patrol joined with 5,000 other volunteers to place flags on the graves at Fort Snelling National Cemetery on Saturday, May 26. There will be 200,000 flags honoring 200,000 Heroes this Memorial Day.

Pictured left to right: Ryan Heydon, Wesley McGhee, Stephen Fennell, Rachel Peterson, Joe Elbert, John Schulz, Tim Rice, and Linda Rice.

FLAG COLLECTION A SUCCESS DESPITE HEAVY RAINS



The flag collection conducted on June 9 by the Msgr. Henry Speck Assembly Fourth Degree was a success despite the heavy thunderstorms that rolled through Owatonna for much of the morning. A new feature was added this year and it aided those wanting to turn in their worn and tattered flags. Event organizers Randy Balausky and Tim Rice thought it might be good to offer drive thru service. The collection point was set up on the edge of the parking lot owned by Brother Sir Knight Terry Evans at 121 West Main Street. Flag donors were able to turn in their flag without leaving their vehicle. The canopy provided by Brother Sir Knight Duane Ludewig provided shelter for the Sir Knights who were accepting the flags. While an exact count of retired flags is not known, at the conclusion there was a large box and 3 large plastic tubs filled to overflowing with worn and tattered flags. Eight people took advantage of purchasing a replacement flag from the Assembly.

Thanks to these Sir Knights who helped with the collection: *Tony David, Dave Fandel, Duane Ludewig, Tim Rice, Conrad Bahe, and Bruce Born.*

2017 WILLIAM WARNER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

On Wednesday, May 23, 2018, the Knights of Columbus announced Caroline Nelson as this year's recipient of the William Warner/ Knights of Columbus Memorial Scholarship. Each year, the winner is announced at the Fine Arts Scholarship & Awards Reception at the Owatonna High School.



Caroline plans to attend the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul. She is excited to study Catholic Studies/ education, and music (both violin and voice). Caroline's dad, Stephen Nelson, is a member of the KC's, and has directed the KC Chorus for 17 years. Many of her brothers are Knights as well. Over the years, Caroline has helped out with the KC Tootsie Roll Drive at Cabelas and Hy-Vee and Salvation Army Bell Ringing. She has been active at Sacred Heart Church, through altar serving, liturgy music, fellowship, and cleaning up the fairgrounds race-track through the Social Justice Committee. Caroline has sung as an OHS Caroler the past three Christmases, and loved every moment of it! Caroline and one of her good friends have played violin-cello duets at community events for several years. Caroline is grateful to the Knights of Columbus community and to Owatonna for offering her all these beautiful opportunities, and looks forward to coming back to Owatonna for good someday!

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. We will have more information on the scholarship program and an update on the fund in the August edition of *The Key*.

2018 ELKS CLUB FLAG DAY



The Msgr. Henry Speck Fourth Degree Honor Guard participated in the Flag Day event on Thursday, 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: Fourth Degree Honor Guard Tim Rice, Eric Wandersee, Joe Elbert, Glen Meger, LaVerne Klecker, Conrad Bahe, Gary Wandrey, and Bruce Born.



From left to right are: K C Chorus Steve Dornquast, John Schulz, Wayne Kubicek, Dan Glaser, Dave Lax, Stephen Nelson, John Nelson, LaVerne Klecker, Dan Walsh, Ryan Heydon, and Lee Staupé.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE - MAY 28



Msgr. Henry Speck Fourth Degree Honor Guard members Glen Meger and Tim Rice carry the banner.



Joseph Elbert, Dennis Kelm, and Walt Spindler participate in the parade.

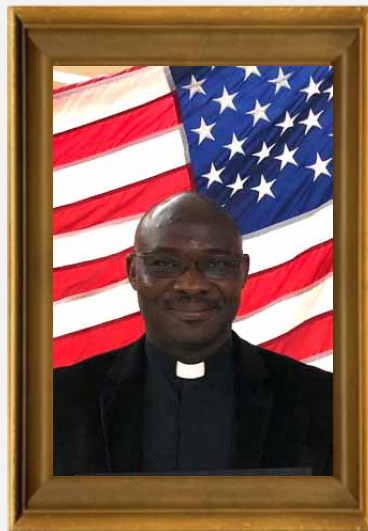
2018-19 COUNCIL OFFICERS

Knight of the Month

Chaplain: Open
Grand Knight: Dan Sawyer (612) 840-6608
Deputy Grand Knight: Tom Jirele
Chancellor: Lee Jardine
Advocate: Open
Warden: Open
Inside Guard: Open
Outside Guard: Harlan Kern
Financial Secretary: Dan Wolfe (PGK)
Treasurer: Tom Eichten
Recorder: Open
Trustee (3 year): PGK Dave Lax
Trustee (2 year): PGK Gary Sanford
Trustee (1 year): PGK Nic Matejcek

Directors and Chairmen

Program Director: Tom Jirele (DGK)
Membership Director: LaVerne Klecker (PGK)
Adv/Publicity Director: Dan Wolfe (PGK)
Aid & Assistance: Greg Nelson
KC Chorus Director Stephen Nelson
Building Director Tom Elbert
Director of Church Activities: Dave Lax (PGK)
Director of Youth Activities Will Pieper
Dir. of Family Life Activities: Stephen Nelson
Gambling Manager: Ron Probst
District Deputy: Gary Sanford (PGK)
KC Hall Manager: Mark Cunningham (PGK)
Field Agent: Open



Fr. Stephen Abaukaka

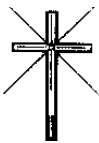
Our Knight of the Month is Fr. Stephen O. Abaukaka. He is a priest of the Catholic Diocese of Lokoja, Nigeria. He was born into the Catholic family of late Pa Anthony Abaukaka and late Mrs Veronica Abaukaka, June 7th, 1967. He is the fourth of six children; two of his older siblings had died and now has three siblings with many nieces and nephews, all back in Nigeria.

After the completion of his secondary education he proceeded to St Thomas Aquinas Seminary, Makurdi, Benue State, where he completed a diploma program in Philosophy, and subsequently completed his Theological Studies with Bachelor of Theology at Ss Peter & Paul Major Seminary, Ibadan Oyo State, Nigeria, in affiliation with the Pontifical Urban University, Rome. He was ordained a Catholic priest May 3rd 1997 by late Bishop Joseph Sunday Ajomo.

After his priestly ordination he served in many capacities in home diocese of Lokoja, Nigeria, until January 2011, when he came over to the United States of America. He enrolled for Graduate program in Pastoral Studies at the Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, IL, January 2011 and graduated with Master's Degree in 2013.

He subsequently worked with the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, NM, as a hospital chaplain. He entered into CPE program at the Genesis Health System, Davenport, IA, from August 2015 to August 2016. From September 2016 to October 2017 he worked at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN, as Catholic Priest/Staff Chaplain. Thereafter, he has been with Diocese of Winona-Rochester since January 2018 as Parochial Vicar to St Joseph Parish, Owatonna. Congratulations to Fr. Stephen Abaukaka on being our May 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, Dave Dietz, Jack Dillemath, Marilyn Dillemath, Lois Doyle, Dave Fandel, Jan Fandel, Jim Gleason, Terri Grose, Rose Hoffman, Lorraine Jirele, Harlan Kern, 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 Mountain, Dorothy Mulert, Darlene Mumm, Willard Peterson, Karen Pirkl, Ray Pirkl, Kevin Raney, Steve Roden, Paul Schneider, Ivan Snorek, Jeanine Snyder, Duane Spindler, Barb Strand, Mary Lou Thurnau, Joe Wagner, Gary Wandrey, Jerry Weber, Irene Wierzbinski, Jim Wierzbinski, Shirley Wierzbinski, and Steve Wiese.

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

Fourth of July Prayer

Father God, I first pray for our president and all who are in authority over us. I ask, Lord, that You would speak to their hearts so that they might lead our nation into righteousness and restoration. I pray that You would grant our leaders with supernatural wisdom so that they will make the right decisions in every situation and follow after You in all things.

I also pray a hedge of protection over our nation, its leaders, and the men and women in uniform who serve in our great military. I ask that You keep us in the palm of Your hand, Lord, watching over us and covering us no matter what. Help us not to walk in fear, Lord, but to remember that You have given us a spirit of power, love and a calm and well-balanced mind.

And, Father, I praise You for the freedoms that we enjoy in this country, and I ask that You would continue to shine upon the land of the free, and the home of the brave. In the Mighty Name of Your Son Jesus, Amen.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Litomysl 47th Annual Summer Festival

and

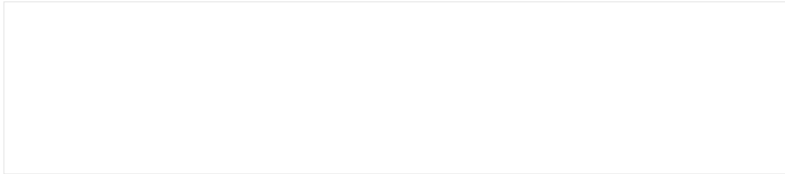
KC Family Corporate Communion

Sunday, July 29

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

2018 Relay For Life
July 20 - Steele County Fairgrounds



July 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	4 Fourth of July KC Hall Club Closed	5	6	7
8	9 Bldg Mtg - 7:00 pm	10 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm Officers' Meeting and Gambling Meeting - 7:30 pm	11 General Meeting Program - 7:30 pm Officer Installation - 8:45 pm	12	13 Summer Steak Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	14
15	16 First Degree Exemplification KC Hall - 7:00 pm Candidates please be at the Hall at 6:30 pm	17 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	18	19	20 Relay for Life Steele County Fairgrounds Summer Steak Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	21
22	23	24 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	25 Fourth Degree KC Hall - 7:30 pm Installation of Officers	26	27 Summer Steak Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	28
29 Litomysl 47th Annual Summer Festival and KC Family Corporate Communion Mass - 10:00 am Festival - 11:00 am	30	31 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm				