

Owatonna



Council 945

The Key

to greater Council unity.

MARCH
2016

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

March 2 - Officers' and
Gambling Meeting
KC Hall - 7:30 p.m.
March 4 - Benefit Lenten
Fish Dinner
KC Hall - 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Medford Knights of Columbus
and Catholic Daughters
March 7 - Building Meeting
KC Hall - 7:00 p.m.
March 9 - General Meeting
KC Hall Program - 7:30 p.m.
March 11 - Benefit Lenten
Fish Dinner
KC Hall - 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Msgr. Henry Speck Fourth Degree
and Grandparents for Education
March 13 - Benefit Breakfast
St. Mary's School
8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
for St. Mary's Music Boosters
March 18 - Benefit Lenten
Fish Dinner
KC Hall - 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Birthright and
Compassionate Friends
March 24 - Fourth Degree
Meeting - KC Hall - 7:30 p.m.
March 25 - Benefit Lenten
Fish Dinner
KC Hall - 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Izaak Walton League

COMING EVENTS

OFFICERS' MEETING

Wednesday, March 2
KC Hall
Meeting - 7:30 p.m.

GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, March 9
Program - 7:30 p.m.
Our speaker will be Fire Chief Mike
Johnson who will speak on severe weather
preparation and fire safety.

BENEFIT BREAKFAST St. Mary's Music Boosters

Sunday, March 13, 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
at St. Mary's School
\$6.00 Advance, \$6.50 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.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE DINNER

Thursday, March 17
Serving our famous Corned Beef & Cabbage
meal from 6:00 p.m. till gone - \$8.00 per person



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - BENEFIT BREAKFAST SCHEDULE-2016

February 28 4-H Purple Ribbon Club
March 13 St. Mary's Music Boosters
April 10 St. Vincent de Paul Society &
Hospitality House

TUESDAY NIGHT AT THE CLUB

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



BAR TRIVIA

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

BENEFIT LENTEN FISH DINNERS

Every Friday during Lent
5:00 - 7:00 p.m. served in the KC Hall
and Lounge

Fried or Baked Fish Plate,
Whipped potatoes with country gravy,
vegetable, cole slaw, roll, milk, and coffee
Presale tickets - \$9.00, \$10.00 at the door

Kids under six eat free
All you care to eat.

2016 Beneficiaries

February 26 KC 945 Charitable Activities and
Relay For Life
March 4 Medford Knights of Columbus and
Catholic Daughters
March 11 Msgr. Henry Speck Fourth Degree
and Grandparents for Education
March 18 Birthright & Compassionate Friends
March 25 Izaak Walton League

MARCH MADNESS

Stop by the Club and catch the NCAA hoops
action. Chances to win great prizes. Stop by the
Club for details. Picks need to be made by
March 16. Starts on March 17.



Chaplain's Message by Rev. John Sauer

We are now several months into the Year of Mercy that Pope Francis has called for the Universal Church. He invites us to be attentive to God's work of mercy in our life and to be ambassadors of mercy to those around us.

We are fortunate to have, at Sacred Heart in Owatonna, one of the Doors of Mercy for this Jubilee Year. When he announced the Year of Mercy he asked the bishops of the world to dedicated Holy Doors at their Cathedrals and other parishes in their dioceses. Bishop Quinn chose the churches of our diocese dedicated to the Sacred Heart to have Holy Doors. I encourage you to make some space for a visit to one of the Holy Doors. Celebrate Reconciliation and Mass, pray for the intentions of the Holy Father and recite the Creed. These elements will open a special plenary indulgence of God's mercy for you or a loved one.

But not all can come to a place with a Holy Door. In his visit to Mexico Pope Francis visited a prison in Juarez. While there he said in part, "Celebrating the Jubilee of Mercy with you means learning not to be prisoners of the past, of yesterday. It means learning to open the door to the future, to tomorrow; it means believing that things can change. Celebrating the Jubilee of Mercy with you means inviting you to lift up your heads and to work in order to gain this space of longed-for freedom."

We might ask ourselves if we are imprisoned by our past. Maybe it is an inability to forgive, maybe it is a grudge that we have nursed, maybe we are ashamed of past sins and are struggling to accept God's forgiveness and forgive ourselves. This Year of Mercy and especially this Lenten season are a great time to allow God to "open the door to the future." May this be a special year and season of grace for all.

Benefits Corner by Luke J. Rennie

The following is an excerpt from the February issue of Columbia Magazine:

Columbia Magazine: What role does the Order's insurance program play in relation to Father McGivney's founding vision for the Knights of Columbus?

Supreme Knight: The insurance program is - and has always been - at the core of the Knights of Columbus. We have to remember the historical circumstances surrounding our founding. Father McGivney was the associate pastor of a church that largely served an underprivileged, immigrant community. Many in that community were dying young, and many were leaving behind large families - widows and orphans - with scant resources. In fact, Father McGivney had experienced their plight firsthand when his own father died. Young Michael McGivney had to leave the seminary to return home to Waterbury, Conn., to help his family.

So the genius of Father McGivney's vision, forged through his own personal experience and suffering, was that he was able to combine spiritual principles and practical insights. That is, he was confident that a fraternal society like the Knights of Columbus could deepen the faith of its members while providing a strong sense of Catholic brotherhood. Yet the Knights of Columbus was also - in large part - his solution to the problem of financial poverty as well. It was critically important to him. He had hands-on involvement in the formulation of the original pass-the-hat insurance program, and studied how other fraternal benefit societies worked. And we know that he was himself the Order's first insurance member.

To learn more, Call me,

Luke Rennie, FICF, LUTCF, FSCP 507-417-4169

Grand Knight's Message by David Lax

Dear Brother Knights,

This time of year always puts me in a frame of mind that is pleasing to me. Why you ask, because Lent is a time of personal reflection on my life as I move forward in my faith. Work on being a better and closer person with God, as he has done so much for me. We all take things for granted, and need to be more in tune with our everyday life as one of God's children. We should never put aside what the Lord has done for us, and what he continues to do for us daily. Let us never forget that.

As you know, the Knights of Columbus Friday night fish dinners have started and are a way to support all the beneficiaries through Lent and also support the Knights of Columbus. It, as well, is a time to enjoy a great meal and enjoy good company among family and friends.

This time of year also is winter winding down and the beginning of March Madness. How will your NCAA basketball bracket finish? How about the Minnesota Golden Gophers beating number six ranked Maryland. No wins in the Big 10 and then to beat Maryland, that was a miracle! Determination by these young players and never giving up, is a great lesson for all of us.

I ask all of you to continue to help out with all the many activities put on by the Knights of Columbus. Breakfasts, fish dinners, and the Tootsie Roll Drive coming up on April 29, 30, and May 1. I am looking for captains at all locations for this event. If you would like to help with this project and even sign-up as a captain, please call me at (507) 456-1575. Thank you in advance for helping out to make this the best Tootsie Roll Drive it can be. Please help! Thank You!

In closing, I want to ask all of you to sign-up a new member for this year. Some of you have already done so. We need your help and participation to achieve Star Council. Recruit a new member this year, as the Council cannot do it without you. For Star Council we need 35 new members and have 21 new members so far this year. We still need 14 new members to make it.

Thank You all for that You do!

Vivat Jesus

Membership by LaVerne Klecker

Congratulation to our two new members. 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 April. More information will be available in the April **Key**.

Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive a complete success!

by Bill Lawrence, Red Kettle Chairman

Once again the Owatonna KCs came through with staffing the Salvation Army Kettles during their annual drive. More than 85 KC members and their families worked 175 hours and manned all of the spots in Owatonna. Thank you to all who helped, volunteered, or dropped money into the kettles on December 5.

Our captains, Bill Lawrence, Dave Lax, and Dan Wolfe, did a fantastic job! These three KC members did the bulk of the work by scheduling volunteers, delivering coffee/hot chocolate, and filling holes when needed. You can't do a project like this without a great team, and these guys have stepped up several years in a row.

And thanks to all of the volunteers and their families who helped our community. Our volunteers ranged from the young to the old and Knights who joined two weeks to 30 years ago.

But the real winner is the Owatonna community. It was nice to see pockets of change, bills (large and small), and even children dropping a dollar into the kettle. After seeing all the smiles and hearing all the good wishes, it seemed that the weather wasn't that cold.



Duane Ludewig ringing the bell for the Salvation Army.



Walt Spindler volunteering his time.



Dan Sawyer and Harlan Kern



Eric Tucker and Patrick Hawkins



The LaVerne Klecker crew.



Dave and Nate Skala



Nick Matejcek and Gary Sanford and their helpers.



Tom Gebur volunteering his time.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS EXEMPLIFIED ON FEBRUARY 15



Brian Meiners and his wife Katie, have four children, Jacob, Calvin, Haley, and Emma. They are members of Sacred Heart Parish. He works at Federated Insurance as a underwriting product manager. He was sponsored by SK Brother Knight LaVerne Klecker.



Marie John Paul Dominic (MJ) and his wife Tinie have two children, Tiffini and Tanya.. They are members of St. Joseph Parish. He works at Bosch as a software engineer. He was sponsored by Brother Knight Lee Jardine.



Owatonna First Degree Team from left to right: Grand Knight Dave Lax, John Ahlberg, Tim Rice, Gerry Gunderson, Bill Lawrence, Walt Spindler, and Chuck Wencl.

NICE WINTER WEATHER HELPS BREAKFASTS' SUCCESS

The winter weather has been quite pleasant this year which may have helped the two recent breakfasts. One near the end of January and the other in early February saw some nice financial results for the beneficiaries. The January 31 breakfast was a part of National Catholic Schools Week and was held in conjunction with a St. Mary's School open house. There was no presale of tickets – rather attendees made a free will donation for their meal. A total of 513 meals were served resulting in \$2,800 going to St. Mary's School.

The Saturday morning prep crew workers were: *Jerry Barry, Tony David, Mike Jensen, Al Jirele, LaVerne Klecker, Al Nelson, John Oberstein, Tim Rice, Lyle Snider, Jerome Spindler, Ken Thurnau, Earl Wheeler, and Ray Willmott.*

The Sunday team included: *Tom Burke, Brian Carlson, Tom Docksey, Steve Dornquast, Dan Filzen, Steve Fisher, Bill Foreman, Kevin Gallagher, Dave Heim, Dave Introne, Lee Jardine, Jim Kaplan, Mark Kearin, Harlan Kern, LaVerne Klecker, Pat McGrath, Al Nelson, Tony Nguyen, Dave Pfeifer, Dan Ruitter, Lavern Soukup, Jerome Spindler, Curt Supalla, Eric Tucker, Eric Wandersee, Dan Wolfe, and Dave Wunderlich family.*

The annual Valentine's Day breakfast was actually held on February 14 – that doesn't happen very often. The hungry patrons came out for the KC signature breakfast featuring three different varieties of omelets and the ever popular country breakfast. When the final numbers were tallied up, there were about 250 meals served which added a nice sum to the Council 945 coffers for various charitable activities. This money is used for the benefit of the various causes and charities supported by the Council.

The Saturday morning prep team: *Jerry Barry, Tony David, Steve Dornquast, Bob Grebe, Al Jirele, LaVerne Klecker, John Oberstein, Tim Rice, Lyle Snider, Jerome Spindler, Walt Spindler, Matt Thurnau, Ken Thurnau, Earl Wheeler, Ray Willmott, and Ron Wolf.*

The Sunday team members: *Keven Boettcher, Tom Burke, Brian and Shari Carlson, Tim Chiccos, Tony David, Tom Docksey, Steve Dornquast, Steve Fisher, Tom Gebur family, Steve and Karen Graff, Roger Green family, Brian Haggerty family, Jim Kaplan, Harlan Kern, LaVerne Klecker, Tony Nguyen, Kyle Olson, Will Pieper family, Dan Sawyer, Jerome Spindler, Curt Supalla, Troy Titus, Eric Tucker family, Eric Wandersee, Rick Wittrock, Dan Wolfe, Dave Wunderlich, ,*

We have many volunteers and try to name everyone. But, if we missed your name, please accept our apology and know that your help is very much appreciated.

SMOKIN' IN STEELE PRESENTS CHECK TO SPECIAL OLYMPICS



Pictured left to right: Tim Rice, KC member, Tony David, Special Olympics board member and coach, Megan Hall, unified partner with Special Olympics athletes, Snowflake holding check, Roy Koenig, Special Olympics board member, Joe Elbert, Smokin' In Steele General Chairman, John Deneau, former Special Olympics swimmer, and Walt Spindler, Smokin' In Steele Registration Chairman. The Polar Plunge was held at Lake Kohlmeir on Saturday, January 30.

2015-16 COUNCIL OFFICERS

Chaplain: Rev. John Sauer
Grand Knight: Dave Lax (507) 456-1575
Deputy Grand Knight: Gary Sanford
Chancellor: Nicholas Matejcek
Advocate: Open
Warden: Lynn Becker
Inside Guard: Pete Schneider
Outside Guard: Harlan Kern
Financial Secretary: John Ahlberg
Treasurer: Tom Eichten
Recorder: Dan Sawyer
Trustee (3 year): PGK Wade Schroeder
Trustee (2 year): PGK Dustin Reese
Trustee (1 year): PGK Dan Wolfe

Directors and Chairmen

Program Director: Gary Sanford (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: Pete Schneider
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)
Benefits Advisor: Luke J. Rennie - (507) 417-4169

Knight of the Month



Tom Standke

Our Knight of the Month for January, Tom Standke, has been a member of our Council since 1991. Tom is an Owatonna native and he and his wife Sandy are members of Sacred Heart Church where Tom coordinates the church ushers. They have two grown children Eric and Beth who both live in Owatonna, along with their four grandchildren, all boys. Tom has been employed with Harland's Tire in downtown Owatonna for the past 35 years.

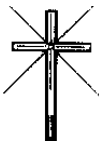
Over the years, Tom has been involved in many Council activities such as bingo nights, pancake breakfasts, spaghetti suppers, I-35 clean up, and Smokin' in Steele. He has also served as Community Director for the Council.

When it is time to relax, Tom enjoys golfing when he gets the chance but most of all he loves spending time with his four grandchildren. Tom says he enjoys his time with the Knights participating in our chartable activities and

helping people and the friendly faces that greet him when down at the KC Hall.

Thank you Tom for your years of fellowship with our Council and we look forward to welcoming those four grandsons as future Knights someday.

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, Jonathan Becker, John Berning, Bruce Born, Barb Claeys, Fr. Michael Cronin, Jack Dillemath, Marilyn Dillemath, Lois Doyle, Joe Elbert, Mary Floersch, Ron Hanson, Rose Hoffman, Nancy Janke, Dennis Kelm, 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, Karen Pirkl, Ray Pirkl, Kevin Raney, Sharon Rohwer, Peter Schneider, Sharon Skala, Ivan Snorek, Howard Snyder, Jeanine Snyder, Duane Spindler, Barb Strand, Wilfred Wagner, Gary Wandrey, Jerry Weber, Ludwig Wencl, Irene Wierzbinski, Jim Wierzbinski, Shirley Wierzbinski, and Jan Wolf.

IN MEMORY

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

Brother Knight Alton A. Johnson, father of Brother Knights Dennis and John, and grandfather of Brother Knight Jeremiah, passed away on January 23.

James Gunderson, brother of Brother Knight Gerry Gunderson passed away on February 2.

Bill Rose, brother of Brother Knight Pat Rose passed away on February 2.

June Trom, grandmother of Brother Knight Ben Trom passed away on February 14.

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



CATHOLIC LENTEN PRAYER

*Almighty and Everlasting God,
You have given the human race
Jesus Christ our Savior as a model of humility.
He fulfilled Your Will by becoming Man
And giving His life on the Cross.*

*Help us to bear witness to You
By following His example of suffering
And make us worthy to share in His Resurrection.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son.*

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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

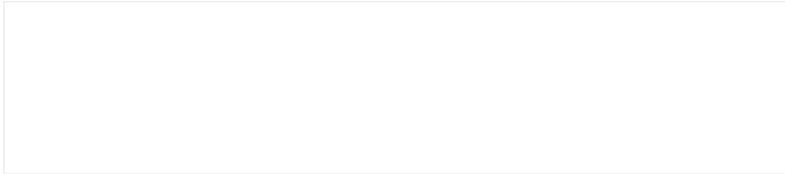
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Benefit Breakfast
St. Mary's Music Boosters
March 13, 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
St. Mary's School

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

Benefit Lenten Fish Dinners
Every Friday during Lent
KC Hall 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.



MARCH 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	2 Officers' Meeting and Gambling Meeting - 7:30 pm	3	4 Benefit Lenten Fish Dinner for Medford KC and Catholic Daughters 5:00 - 7:00 pm	5 Bar Trivia KC Hall - 4::00 pm
6	7 Bldg Mtg - 7:00 pm	8 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	9 General Meeting Program - 7:30 pm	10	11 Benefit Lenten Fish Dinner for Msgr. Henry Speck Fourth Degree and Grandparents for Education 5:00 - 7:00 pm	12 Bar Trivia KC Hall - 4::00 pm
13 Benefit Breakfast St. Mary's School 8:00 am-12:30 pm for St. Mary's Music Boosters	14	15 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	16	17 St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner KC Hall 6:00 pm	18 Benefit Lenten Fish Dinner for Birthright and Compassionate Friends 5:00 - 7:00 pm	19 Bar Trivia KC Hall - 4::00 pm
20 Palm Sunday	21	22 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	23	24 Fourth Degree KC Hall - 7:30 pm	25 Good Friday Benefit Lenten Fish Dinner for Izaak Walton League 5:00 - 7:00 pm	26 Bar Trivia KC Hall - 4::00 pm
27 Easter	28	29 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	30	31		