

Owatonna



Council 945

# The Key

to greater Council unity.

MARCH  
2020

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

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**March 4** - Officers' and Gambling  
Meeting  
KC Hall - 7:30 p.m.

**March 6** - Benefit Lenten

Fish Dinner  
KC Hall - 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
Medford Knights of Columbus  
& Catholic Daughters

**March 9** - Building Meeting  
KC Hall - 7:00 p.m.

**March 11** - General Meeting  
KC Hall - 7:30 p.m.

Speaker to be

**March 13** - Benefit Lenten  
Fish Dinner

KC Hall - 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
St. Vincent de Paul Society &  
K of C Council 945

**March 15** - Benefit Breakfast

St. Mary's School  
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
St. Mary's Music Boosters

**March 20** - Benefit Lenten

Fish Dinner  
KC Hall - 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
Grandparents For Education &  
SeniorPlace Inc.

**March 25** - Fourth Degree

KC Hall - Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

**March 27** - Benefit Lenten

Fish Dinner  
KC Hall - 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
Civil Air Patrol & Boy Scout Troop 253

## COMING EVENTS

### OFFICERS' MEETING

Wednesday, March 4

KC Hall

Meeting - 7:30 p.m.

### GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, March 11

Program - 7:30 p.m.

### BENEFIT BREAKFAST

Benefiting the

### St. Mary's Music Boosters

Sunday, March 15, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
at St. Mary's School

\$7.00 Advance, \$8.00 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.

## SAVE THE DATE

### CELEBRATION OF SERVICE

Join us on **April 25** for the  
Knights of Columbus Council 945

#### "Celebration of Service"

(Formerly the Awards Banquet)

Speaker will be Leif Arvidson,

Executive Director of Shrine of

Our Lady of Guadalupe in LaCrosse, Wisconsin.

Details to follow.



SHRINE OF  
OUR LADY OF  
GUADALUPE

La Crosse, Wisconsin

### CHRISM MASS - APRIL 6

Social Hour - 4:30 p.m. St. Joseph Parish

Meal - 5:00 p.m. St. Joseph Parish

Mass - 7:00 p.m. Sacred Heart Parish

Snack after Mass at Sacred Heart

### TUESDAY NIGHT AT THE CLUB

Serving BLTs, soup, and burger baskets  
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 at 4:00 p.m. Weekly  
winners receive a \$25.00 bar tab.

### FISHING BANQUET

Saturday, April 4

Social - 5:30 p.m. Banquet - 6:30 p.m.

Speaker and program to follow.

Call Mark at 451-6103 for details.

### CHRIS LEWIS WHEEL CHAIR DRIVE

March 7 and 8 - All Masses

St. Joseph and Sacred Heart Parishes

### 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 18. Starts on March 19.

### HELP WANTED

Benefit Breakfast Committee, looking for volunteers  
to help with the benefit breakfasts, either on the prep  
team or the Sunday morning crew. We are still in  
great need of a Director of Life Activities. Please  
contact Tom Jirele at (507) 213-9765.

## Chaplain's Message by Rev. James Starasinich

Dear Brother Knights,

I thought the following, thanks to Zenit, is worth reading.

Vivat Jesus!

Fr. Jim Starasinich

Dear friends,

I offer you a warm welcome on the occasion of your pilgrimage to Rome in this year that marks the centennial of the charitable activity of the Knights of Columbus in this city.

In fact, it was one hundred years ago that my predecessor Pope Benedict XV invited the Knights of Columbus to provide humanitarian aid to young people and others in Rome following the terrible conflict of the First World War. The Knights responded generously, establishing sports centers for youth that quickly became places for education, catechesis and the distribution of food and other essentials so needed at that time. In this way, your Order proved faithful to the vision of your founder, Venerable Michael McGivney, who was inspired by the principles of Christian charity and fraternity to assist those most in need.

Today the Knights of Columbus continue their work of evangelical charity and fraternity in a variety of fields. I think in particular of your faithful witness to the sacredness and dignity of human life, evident at both the local and national levels. This conviction has also led the Knights of Columbus to aid, both materially and spiritually, those Christian communities in the Middle East that are suffering the effects of violence, war and poverty. I thank all the members of your Order for seeing in our persecuted and displaced brothers and sisters of that region neighbors for whom you are a sign of God's infinite love.

Since its foundation, the Knights of Columbus has demonstrated its unswerving devotion to the Successor of Peter. The establishment of the Vicarius Christi Fund is a testimony to this devotion, as well as to the desire of the Knights to share in the Pope's solicitude for all the Churches and in his universal mission of charity. In our world, marked by divisions and inequalities, the generous commitment of your Order to serve all in need offers, especially to young people, an important inspiration to overcome a globalization of indifference and build together a more just and inclusive society.

Dear brothers and sisters, with these thoughts and sentiments, I entrust you to the loving intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary. I offer my prayers for the members of the Knights of Columbus and their families, and for the good works accomplished by the local Councils worldwide. To all of you present here and to your loved ones, I impart my heartfelt blessing, and I ask you, please, to pray for me.

Thank you!

Pope Francis

## Grand Knight's Message by Tom Jirele

Dear Brother Knights,

As Lent begins and we make sacrifices, the Fourth Degree starts their Lenten fish dinners. The March 13 fish dinner will go the Third Degree causes, but please support all fish dinners and their beneficiaries.

Sir Brother Knight Bill Lawrence and his family held the Andrew Lawrence Chili Cook off for the 16th year. Brother Knights, friends, family, and our community continue to show support and have fun raising money for scholarships in Andrew's name. There will be five scholarships given for \$1,500 each. Thank you to all who cooked, worked, and attended this event.

I would like to thank everybody who attended the Blessing of the Altar by Bishop Quinn at Sacred Heart Parish.

Thank you everyone who makes the pancake breakfasts so successful.

You're invited to attend our Celebration of Service banquet on April 25.

Thank you Michael Flanagan for speaking at our February meeting. Take a minute and talk to him about your insurance needs or annuities.

## Membership by LaVerne Klecker

Congratulations to our two new members exemplified on February 3.

It's the beginning of a new era for the Knights of Columbus. A modern single, public exemplification ceremony can now be used to welcome men to our ranks as full members of the Order. The new ceremony combines the three ceremonies used in the past. We will be having an Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity in the near future at the KC Hall in Owatonna. This would involve receiving a lesson on the Knights of Columbus principles of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. We need to recruit 16 more new members to be eligible for Star Council. If you need any help in signing up your new member give me a call at (507) 451-4102. 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.

All members have recently received their new 2020 dues statement. Please get your dues paid as soon as you can. We need the money from our dues to make ends meet for our Council expenses.

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

## Benefits Corner by Michael Flanagan



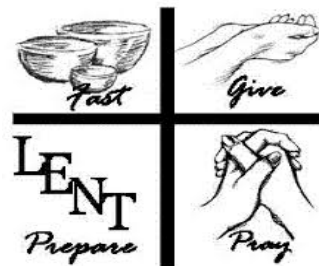
If you have questions or need help with your KC Insurance program call or email Michael.

Michael Flanagan

Phone number **507-696-6633**

E-mail [michael.flanagan@kofc.org](mailto:michael.flanagan@kofc.org)  
Sorry but the wrong phone number has been listed in prior Keys. This is his correct phone number.

Dues Reminder: Annual dues renewals have been mailed out. Please pay your annual dues as soon as possible and make arrangements to pay any past-due dues. State and Supreme Council continues to charge Council #945 for all members, so it is essential that we collect our dues in a timely manner to pay these on behalf of each member and to allow us to do all we do as a Council.



## 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, & coffee  
Presale tickets -\$11.00, \$12.00 at the door - Kids under six eat free  
*All you care to eat.*



### 2020 Beneficiaries

<b>February 28</b>	Owatonna Catholic Daughters of the Americas
<b>March 6</b>	Medford Knights of Columbus & Catholic Daughters
<b>March 13</b>	St. Vincent de Paul Society & K of C Council 945
<b>March 20</b>	Grandparents For Education & SeniorPlace Inc.
<b>March 27</b>	Civil Air Patrol and Boy Scout Troop 253
<b>April 3</b>	Msgr. Henry Speck Assembly & St. Joseph Music Ministry
<b>April 10</b>	Izaak Walton League

## 2020 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS DISTRICT 32 FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP

The Free Throw Contest was held on February 3 at St. Mary's gym. The Championship Winners are:

### Girls:

9-year-old: Molly Simmons (Owatonna)  
10-year-old: Payhten Busho (Owatonna)  
11-year-old: Carmen Jirele (Owatonna)  
12-year-old: Amelia Baldwin (Owatonna)

### Boys:

9-year-old: Adam Brandel (Owatonna)  
10-year-old: Gavin Purman (Owatonna)  
12-year-old: Carsten Ingvalson (Blooming Prairie)  
13-year-old: Jacob Ginskey (Owatonna)  
14-year-old: Tyson Reger (Waseca)

The winners move on to the Regional Basketball Competition, Sunday, March 8, in Rochester. A special thank you to St. Mary's School and staff for gym accommodations, Randy Balauskys, Ron Blakstad, John Connor, Joe Herzog, Kevin Herzog, Gary Sanford, Dan Sawyer, and Diane Skala.



*Back Row (L to R): Carmen Jirele (Owatonna), Carsten Ingvalson (Blooming Prairie), Amelia Baldwin (Owatonna), Tyson Reger (Waseca)  
Front Row (L to R): Adam Brandel (Owatonna), Gavin Purman (Owatonna), Molly Simmons (Owatonna)  
Not Pictured: Payhten Busho (Owatonna) and Jacob Ginskey (Owatonna)*

## 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 26. You could have a four-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.



## COUNCIL 945 DONATES TO HOMESTEAD HOSPICE HOUSE



As part of our charitable activities, our Council provided a donation to the Homestead Hospice House in Owatonna. It is a pleasure to be able to help this great organization that honors one of the KC missions of supporting life from conception through natural death. Left to right: Deputy Grand Knight, Lee Jardine, Marcy Olson, Pat Buretta, and Grand Knight, Tom Jirele. The picture was taken by Lucy Wurster - another of the smiling staff.





## ST. MARY'S SCHOOL BREAKFAST A GREAT SUCCESS!



St. Mary's School was bustling on January 25, to kick off Catholic School Week. The breakfast served in the cafeteria was a good start for the event. The cooks served up over 340 meals to the hungry patrons. As usual, SMS received all the (free-offering) proceeds for the event. THANKS to all who attended this special breakfast. THANKS to the Saturday prep team for setting up the cafeteria and prepping the food: *Jerry Barry, Brian Carlson, John Oberstein, Will Pieper, Tim Rice, Ken Thurnau, Matt Thurnau, Earl Wheeler, Ray Willmott, and Ron Wolf.*

Thanks also to the Sunday kitchen staff: *Pat Baldwin, Brian Carlson, Tim Chicos, Tony David, Tom Docksey, Steve Fisher, Kevin Gallagher, Tom and Lana Gebur, Richard Gerds, Roger Green, Vince Guggisberg, Jeff Hall, Ron Heim, Lee Jardine, Nick Jirele, Jim Kaplan, Joe Kearin, Mark Kearin, Dennis Kelm, LaVerne Klecker, Terry Kuck,*

*Izzy Leonard, Dan Newkirk, Mark Pfeifer, Alex Pieper, Ethan Pieper, Steph Pieper, Will Pieper, Dan Sawyer, Lavern Soukup, Grady Strand, Curt Supalla, Eric Tucker, Jeff Vortherms, Eric Wandersee, Rick Wittrock, Dan Wolfe, and Dave Wunderlich.*

We have many great workers, so if we missed anyone, please accept our apologies.

Comments from satisfied patrons continue to pour in about the excellent food and service. If you haven't attended a breakfast recently, it's about time you give it a try. You'll be delighted. Our next breakfast is on March 15 for the St. Mary's Music Boosters. The students deserve our support. Take advantage of this opportunity to support this fine group of youth here in Owatonna – and enjoy a great breakfast as well. Come join us if you're interested in helping and having a good time doing it.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BENEFIT BREAKFAST SCHEDULE - 2020

March 15	St. Mary's Music Boosters
April 5	St. Vincent DePaul Society and Hospitality House
May 3	Owatonna Clay Target Team
May 31	Smokin' in Steele

### WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS EXEMPLIFIED ON FEBRUARY 3



**Mike Oldenberg** and his wife, Valerie, have one son, Sam and a daughter, Amy. They are members of Sacred Heart Parish. He is self-employed as a photographer. He was sponsored by Brother Sir Knight Tom Jirele.



**Brian Swanson** and his wife, Judy, have two daughters, Kysta and Kaylen. They are members of Sacred Heart Parish. He is employed at Federated Insurance as a product manager. He was sponsored by Brother Sir Knight LaVerne Klecker.



**2019-20 COUNCIL OFFICERS**

Chaplain: ..... Fr. James Starasinich  
 Grand Knight: ..... Tom Jirele (507) 213-9765  
 Deputy Grand Knight: ..... Lee Jardine  
 Chancellor: ..... Richard Gerdts  
 Advocate: ..... Grady Strand  
 Warden: ..... Mike Schroeder  
 Inside Guard: ..... Eric Wandersee  
 Outside Guard: ..... Dean Schuette  
 Financial Secretary: ..... Dan Wolfe (PGK)  
 Treasurer: ..... Tom Eichten  
 Recorder: ..... Greg Nelson  
 Trustee (3 year): ..... PGK Gary Sanford  
 Trustee (2 year): ..... PGK Nic Matejcek  
 Trustee (1 year): ..... PGK Dan Sawyer

**Directors and Chairmen**

Program Director: ..... Lee Jardine (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 Faith Activities: ..... Dave Lax (PGK)  
 Director of Family Activities ..... Nic Matejcek (PGK)  
 Dir. of Life Activities: ..... Open  
 Dir. of Community Activities: ..... Lee Jardine  
 Gambling Manager: ..... Terry Evans  
 District Deputy: ..... Gary Sanford (PGK)  
 KC Hall Manager: ..... Mark Cunningham (PGK)  
 Field Agent: ..... Michael Flanagan

**Knight of the Month**



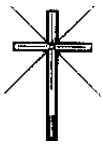
*Albert Rysavy*

This month we honor Albert Rysavy as our newest Knight of the Month. Albert joined the order in October 1989 at the urging of his first cousin LaVerne Klecker and is currently a Third Degree member.

Albert grew up on the family farm near Litomysl, south of Owatonna. He attended Marian High School through his junior year until it closed and then graduated from Owatonna High School. After high school graduation, Albert attended seminary school at Mount St. Mary's College in Emmetsburg, Maryland. After several years of study Albert realized the seminary wasn't his true calling and left the school with a Theology major. He relocated to Duluth, Minnesota, where he worked for several years before returning to take over the home farm. In addition to his farming career, Albert has worked for almost 30 years at Jostens Company, where he currently does computer design work.

Albert and his wife Peggy have three sons, Albert, Elliott, and Gabriel, all who are Brother Knights and are currently attending college at various stages. The Rysavy family are members of Holy Trinity Church in Litomysl, where Albert has been actively involved as a trustee, musical director, and lector. In Albert's limited spare time, he enjoys doing artistic drawings, woodworking, and music. We thank Albert and his family for their strong commitment to the Knights of Columbus and congratulate him on being named as 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.

The KCs' prayers and good wishes go out to:

*Brother Sir Knight Harlan Kern is in need of some help after having surgery.*

Let us be united in prayer for those facing ongoing challenges:

*Les Abraham, Dan Bauer, Julie Bauer, John Berning, Ted Blockey, Barb Claeys, Pete Connor, Sylvia Dalle, Jim Deml, Margaret Deml, Jack Dillemath, Marilyn Dillemath, Lois Doyle, Joanne Fagan, Jan Fandel, Terri Grose, Otto Havelka, Rose Hoffman, Lorraine Jirele, Harlan Kern, Tom Kingsley, Jim Klecker, Larry Klocek, Marlys Knight, Mary Lax, Gil Mamer, Mary Mamer, Msgr. James McCauley, Mary Meixner, Suzanne Miedema, Father Ed Mountain, Dorothy Mulert, Darlene Mumm, Mark Nelson, Willard Peterson, Karen Pirkel, Kevin Raney, Steve Roden, Pat Rose, Paul Schneider.*

*Mike Seykora, Ivan Snorek, Jeanine Snyder, Duane Spindler, Eugene Spindler, Dick Thamert, Garrett Thigpen, Mary Lou Thurnau, Robert Vosejka, Joe Wagner, Eric Wandersee, Gary Wandrey, Jerry Weber, Jim Wiggins, Irene Wierzbinski, Jim Wierzbinski, Shirley Wierzbinski, Steve Wiese, and Tim Ziemke.*

**IN MEMORY**

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

*Sir Brother Knight Frank Schiller, father of Brother Knights Ken and John Schiller, grandfather of Brother Knights Tony Schiller and Patrick Ingvaldson, and brother-in-law of Brother Knights Jim Kenney and Lyle Snider, passed away on January 21.*

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

**2020 "PEACE OFFICER OF THE YEAR"**



*On Friday, February 21, the Exchange Club of Steele County recognized their 2020 "Peace Officer of the Year" during their regular meeting that morning. Steele County Sheriff's Deputy Tony David was presented this year's award. Pictured from left to right: Steele County Sheriff Brother Knight Lon Thiele, Deputy Brother Sir Knight Tony David, and Exchange Club of Steele County President Brother Knight Bruce Kubick.*

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

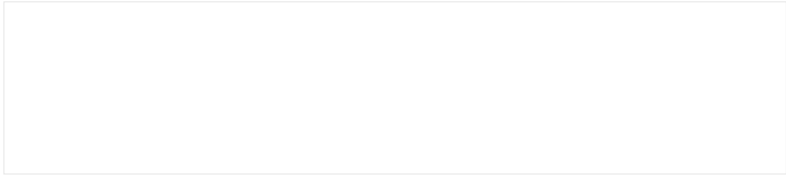


**Benefit Breakfast**  
for St. Mary's Music Boosters  
**Sunday, March 15 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**  
St. Mary's School

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

Nonprofit Organization U.S. POSTAGE <b>PAID</b> Owatonna, MN Permit No. 202
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**MARCH 2020**

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 Officers' Meeting and Gambling Meeting - 7:30 pm	5	6 Benefit Lenten Fish Dinner for Medford Knights of Columbus & Catholic Daughters 5:00 - 7:00 pm	7 Bar Trivia KCHall - 4:00 pm  Chris Lewis Wheelchair Drive All Masses at Sacred Heart & St. Joseph
8 Chris Lewis Wheelchair Drive All Masses at Sacred Heart & St. Joseph	9 Bldg Mtg - 7:00 pm	10 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm  Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	11 General Meeting Program - 7:30	12	13 Benefit Lenten Fish Dinner for St. Vincent de Paul Society & K of C Council 945 5:00 - 7:00 pm	14 Bar Trivia KCHall - 4:00 pm
15 Benefit Breakfast St. Mary's School 8:00 am-12:00 pm for St. Mary's Music Boosters	16	17 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm  Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	18	19	20 Benefit Lenten Fish Dinner for Grandparents for Education & Senior Place Inc. 5:00 - 7:00 pm	21 Bar Trivia KCHall - 4:00 pm
22	23	24 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm  Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	25 Fourth Degree KC Hall Meeting - 7:00 pm	26	27 Benefit Lenten Fish Dinner for Civil Air Patrol & Boy Scout Troop 253 5:00 - 7:00 pm	28 Bar Trivia KCHall - 4:00 pm
29	30	31 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm  Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm				