

Owatonna



Council 945

# The Key

to greater Council unity.

AUGUST  
2009

## 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 6:30 p.m.

## KC WEBSITE

visit our website  
[www.kofccouncil945.org](http://www.kofccouncil945.org)

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**August 5** - Officers' Meeting  
and Gambling Meeting  
KC Hall - 7:30 p.m.  
**August 10** - Building Meeting  
KC Hall - 7:00 p.m.  
**August 12** - General Meeting  
Gainey Park  
Meal - 6:00 p.m.  
Meeting - 7:00 p.m.  
**August 18 - 23** - Steele County  
Free Fair  
Steele County Fairgrounds  
**August 27** - Fourth Degree Meeting  
KC Hall - Soc. - 6:30 p.m.  
Meal - 7:00 p.m.  
Meeting - 7:30 p.m.  
**September 13** - Benefit Breakfast  
St. Mary's School  
8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
for St. Isidore's School  
**September 20** -  
K of C Family Picnic

## COMING EVENTS

### OFFICERS' MEETING

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

### FOR GREAT FOOD AT THE FAIR "KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FOOD STAND"

Steele County Free Fair  
Aug 18 - 23  
The KC Food Stand is located between  
the Beer Garden and Fair Square.  
"Downright Delicious Food"  
YOUR CHOICE OF A  
BRAT (REG, CHEDDAR, WILD RICE)  
OR BRAT BURGER  
We need your help! Please contact  
Dennis Kelm at 455-1916 or  
Al Nelson at [a50nelson@charter.net](mailto:a50nelson@charter.net)

### HELP NEEDED Grandstand Beer Sales

The Knights will be selling beer at the Steele  
Co. Fair this year at the Grandstand events on  
Tuesday, August 18 and Thursday, August 20.  
Wives, girlfriends, friends, etc. (21 and over)  
are needed for this fun event.  
Contact LaVerne Klecker at 451-4102 (home) or  
456-6738 (cell) or  
Joe Elbert at 279-4015 (cell) if you can help.

### BINGO AT THE FAIR

St. Mary's Home & School Association will be  
running the bingo stand at the  
Steele County Free Fair this year.  
The bingo stand is located east of the  
Four Seasons building.  
Come and Play!



**K OF C  
FAMILY PICNIC**  
More info will follow  
in the September Key.  
**Sunday, September 20**

### GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, August 12,  
Gainey Park  
Meal - 6:00 p.m.  
Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

Note that our August Council meeting will be held  
August 12 at Gainey Park, located at the corner of  
Selby and Lemond Road.

We will be treating the Tootsie Roll workers to a  
meal, a preview of our Fair Stand menu. All members,  
spouse/guest are invited to attend.

Checks will be presented to the Tootsie Roll Fund  
Drive beneficiaries.

A short meeting will follow the meal.

We look forward to seeing you there!

### SUMMER STEAK FRIES

Served in the Lounge  
Friday, August 7, 14, and 28  
Served from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
Delicious marinated steaks or  
windsor chop, served with salad, roll,  
and baked potato.

### KC FAMILY CORPORATE COMMUNION

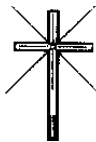
Sunday, August 30 - 9:30 a.m.  
at St. Joseph's Church  
Breakfast will be served at the KC Hall after Mass.  
All members and their families are  
invited to attend this Mass.

### K of C Chorus Schedule for August 2009

August 18 - Tuesday, 4:15 p.m. - Steele County Fair  
opening and flag raising ceremony.  
August 21 - Friday, 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. - Steele  
County Fair - Village of Yesteryear stage.  
August 30 - Sunday, 9:30 a.m. St. Joseph Catholic  
Church Corporate Communion  
Everyone is invited to attend the performances  
and enjoy your K of C Chorus.  
New members are welcome

**KC Breakfast Season starts on Sunday, September 13 - 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
St. Mary's School to benefit St. Isidore's School.**

## 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 Knight Gil Mamer and his wife, Mary were involved in a car accident.

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

*Jan Bates, Jack Dillemath, Lois Doyle, Mary Floersch, Gene Gallea, Marge Gruzebeck, Rose Hoffman, Erlis Kelzenberg, Renee Kern, Thomas Klecker, Marlys Knight, Mary Ann Lammers, Bev Macht, Mary Meixner, Bob McDermott, Suzanne Miedema, Father Ed Mountain, Dorothy Mulert, Terry Nelson, Terry O'Brien, Karen Pirkel, Sylvia Prokopec, Sharon Rohwer, John Schmidt, Mary Ann Schwab, Howard Snyder, Jeanne Snyder, Becky Walsh, Jerry Weber, Rownell Weber, Phyllis Wheeler, Irene Wierzbinski, and Jim Wierzbinski.*

### **IN MEMORY**

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

Brother Knight John Deml, father of Brother Knight Chris Deml, and brother of Brother Knight James Deml, passed away on April 25.

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

## Show Your Knights of Columbus Colors

Council 945 is pleased to again offer a great shirt at a real value. Wear it to Council events, on the golf course or any leisure time activity.

These top brand Cutter & Buck shirts are 100% cotton pique and are machine washable. Each shirt has the Knights of Columbus logo along with the Council name and number embroidered on the left chest.

Shirts are available in a variety of colors and sizes:

Black, Bottle (dark green), Cardinal Red, Chutney, Dark Navy, Desert Sky, White, Mid-grey Heather, Marlin, Sunflower, Sandstone, Putting Green, and Sea Blue

Small, Medium, Large, Extra Large, XX Large and XXX Large

Your Cost \$25.00\*

To see color swatches and a more detailed description of the shirt and to place your order, go to [www.kofccouncil945.org](http://www.kofccouncil945.org)

You can also see this information and order Shirts at the KC Hall. If you know the color and size you want, you can phone your order as well, 451-6103.

After the shirts arrive, you will be notified and they may be picked up and paid for at that time.

*Please make checks payable to Owatonna Council 945*

\*If you cannot pick up your shirt and would like it shipped, add \$5.00 for shipping and handling.



## Grand Knight's Message by Bill Lawrence

### Greetings Brother Knights

A warm welcome to our new members Dan Ruitter, Tom Docksey, John Hammer, John Wheeler, and Jon Konold who all completed their 1st degree at the July meeting. Please stop and say hello and get to know these new Knights the next time you see them at the KC Hall. Also, please read their bios included in this edition to *The Key*. Recruitment is certainly the key to keeping a Council fresh with new ideas and new energy and to keep our Council strong. Now is the time to ask your son, neighbor, or friend to join, and as a reminder, we will be having a 1st degree exemplification on September 9th, as well as the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd degree November 21. Just ask them to join.

I would also like to encourage all our members to get involved as we gear up for the many community activities our Council is known for. It all starts with the Steele County Fair where we will again be selling delicious brats at our Fair Stand and serving other refreshments at the Grandstand. As September hits, the best breakfast in town is again on the menu with our famous Sunday Benefit Breakfasts. Then there will be Soccer and Free Throw Challenges, a Poster Contest for Kids, Corporate Communion, Rosary Marches, our Halloween Party...whew...lots of activities that need a helping hand or two. Give a call to anyone of the officers or chairs of the events and volunteer for a few hours. You won't regret it.

So get up, ask a friend or relative to join, get involved, and have fun. Oh...and a little fellowship at the KC Hall is always a good idea! Vivat Jesus!

## Membership by LaVerne Klecker

Congratulations to all of our new members who completed their 1st Degree on Wednesday, July 8 at the KC Hall. Also thank you to the sponsors for recruiting these new members. Be sure to offer them a warm welcome when you see them at the KC Hall.

Star Council would be a great achievement for our Council this year. We are getting a good start with five new members and to make Star Council we need 35 new members. Also, for our Insurance goal for this year, we would need 17 new insured members.

We are planning on having a First Degree Exemplification at the KC Hall on Wednesday, September 9. Please be at the KC Hall by 6:45 p.m. Anyone who has a prospective candidate, let's get them signed up and bring them to the KC Hall. This is a perfect opportunity to get some new members started early in our new KC year.

Also keep in mind we are having a Major Degree in November. The date for this Major Degree is Saturday, November 21. More information will follow in a later edition of *The Key*.

If you have any questions, please call me at (507) 451-4724 or my cell phone (504) 456-6738.

## Looking Back

### Location - Location - Location

1904 - First meetings held in Metropolitan Hall - (Main & Cedar - new fire station is located there now)

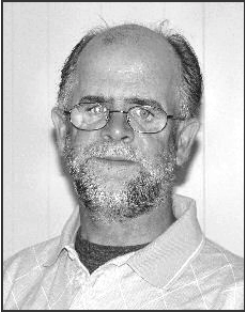
1922 - Meeting in Adsit Hall - (204 Cedar Ave. North, above Jerry's)

1948 - Moved to 109 1/2 Cedar Ave. North

1953 - Moved to 312 1/2 Cedar Ave. North (Auditorium Hall)

1958 - Moved to Columbian Center (820 Elm Ave. South)

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



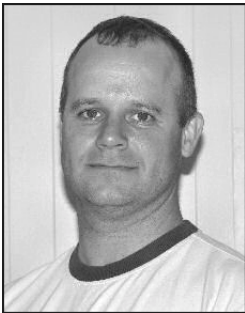
Tom Docksey

*Tom Docksey is a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church and is married to Karen. Tom and Karen have one son Joe who will be a senior in High School. Tom graduated from St. Cloud State University with a Bachelors degree in Business Marketing and presently is an Environmental Claims Supervisor with Federated Insurance in Owatonna. He joined the Knights to become more involved with the many volunteer efforts that the Knights are involved in. Tom's sponsor was Bill Lawrence.*



John Hammer

*John Hammer is a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church and is married to Dayne. John and Dayne have four adult children. John is self-employed with Blue Monday Monthly; he does a weekly radio show called Hammered by the Blues; and also owns Silver Hammered Holdings. John's sponsor was Tom Elbert.*



Jon Konold

*Jon Konold is a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church and is married to Meghan. Jon and Meghan have one daughter, Anna Grace. Jon is employed by the Willmar Public Schools where he is a sixth grade math teacher and the head varsity football coach. Jon's sponsor was Wayne Starman.*



Dan Ruiter

*Dan Ruiter is a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church and is married to Tracy, and has three sons; Brady (12), Brett (10), and Jack (4). Dan graduated from St. Cloud State University with a Bachelors degree in Mass Communications and is presently the News Director for KEYC-TV (Channel 12) in Mankato. He was interested in joining the Knights to be more active in the volunteer programs and found out his grandfather (deceased) was also a Knight. Dan's sponsor was Bill Lawrence.*



John Wheeler

*John Wheeler is a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church and is married to Donna. John and Donna have four children Cole, Gretchen, Lucas, and Hannah. John's specialty is drafting and design. His dad is Earl Wheeler, a Life member of Council 945. John's sponsor was John Ahlberg.*



# SMOKIN' IN STEELE - A SMOKIN' SUCCESS

A full year of planning and preparation plus perfect weather resulted in the 2nd Annual Smokin' In Steele being an unqualified success. From May 29 - 31 the group of activities that make up this weekend ran smoothly. Owatonna Special Olympics will directly benefit from this success.

The Kansas City Barbeque Society (KCBS) sanctioned State Championship barbeque contest is the cornerstone of Smokin' In Steele. From 27 teams last year, we went to 43 teams from three states who were each trying to win a part of \$10,000 purse of cash prizes. Grand Champion was team Tippi Canoe from Iowa. They now will be invited to the American Royal in Kansas City this fall. Reserve Grand Champion was Iowa's Smokey D's. 49 certified barbeque judges from Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa had the delectable task of scoring the entries on KCBS's complicated criteria.



Sponsorships are a vital part of our success. This year about 180 sponsors were our guests for our VIP dinner to show our appreciation for their support. Many KC's and their families helped make this lively evening an enthusiastic success.

New this year was Blues in the Beer Garden. Five prominent regional blues groups made music to move your body and mind. Thanks to the extensive publicity within the blues community by John Hammer, there were a lot of new faces in

the Beer Garden. The rave reviews in blues publications after the weekend are a good indication that next year will be bigger and better. Our four food vendors did a brisk business. Most were sold out of product by the end of the weekend. Our KC sponsored Boy Scout Troop sold pop and water. There were helicopter rides for the daring and strong of stomach.

Also new this year was the Backyard BBQ contest with five teams of local cooks competing for fun and prizes. Many people had lots of fun helping decide who was the people's choice winner. This event shows great promise for growth.

Blues 4 Kids was new with free group blues harmonica lessons from a master teacher provided by the Minnesota Blues Society. 71 budding musicians participated and got to keep their harmonicas inscribed "Smokin' In Steele". This was a record number for the Blues Society. They were happy and so were we.

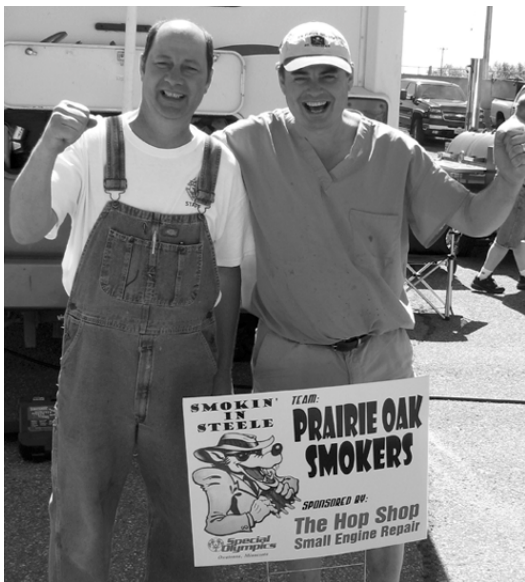
The modified garden tractor pull returned with another exciting show full of spinning wheels and roaring exhaust from these pint-sized muscle machines. A large crowd enjoyed the sights and sounds.

A perfect ending to the weekend was the Sunday morning pancake breakfast. The regular breakfast crew again served a wonderful meal to many appreciative customers.

Besides our core of dedicated hard-working but fun-loving committee, a great number of KCs stepped up and helped during the weekend. The success and growth of Smokin' In Steele is a direct result of the enthusiastic and cheerful Council 945 members working together.

All of the income producers: sponsors, team registrations, food sales, beer sales, and the pancake breakfast, performed strongly in spite of the adverse economic climate.

Preparations have already started for next year. Because we expect 2010 to be bigger and better, the circle of involvement of Council 945 must grow. There are many opportunities with jobs large and small just waiting for your help. Don't feel like you need to wait to be asked. Come join the fun. You will be glad you did. Contact Joe Elbert at (507) 279-4015 if you would like to help or for any questions.



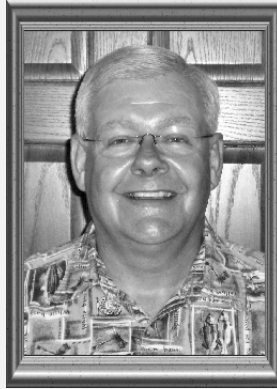
## 2009-10 COUNCIL OFFICERS

Chaplain: ..... Rev. Ed McGrath  
 GRAND KNIGHT: ..... Bill Lawrence - 451-2075  
 Deputy Grand Knight: ..... Steve Dornquist  
 Chancellor: ..... Randy Balauskay  
 Advocate: ..... Wade Schroeder  
 Warden: ..... Dustin Reese  
 Inside Guard: ..... Pete Schneider  
 Outside Guard: ..... Tom Burke  
 Financial Secretary: ..... John Ahlberg  
 Treasurer: ..... Tom Eichten  
 Recorder: ..... Scot Berkley  
 Trustee (3 year): ..... PGK Brian Fisher  
 Trustee (2 year): ..... PGK Al Nelson  
 Trustee (1 year): ..... PGK Joe Elbert

### DIRECTORS AND CHAIRMEN

Program Director: ..... Steve Dornquist  
 Adv/Publicity Director: ..... Open  
 Church Director: ..... Pete Schneider  
 Community Director: ..... Jim Gleason  
 Council Activity Director: ..... PGK Kevin Raney  
 Family Director: ..... Open  
 Health Director: ..... Dr. Mark Nelson  
 Recruit Director: ..... PGK Mark Cunningham  
 Youth Director: ..... Will Pieper  
 Membership Director: ..... PGK LaVerne Klecker  
 Aid & Assistance: ..... Greg Nelson  
 Lecturer: ..... Mark Cunningham  
 Historian: ..... Open  
 Retention Chairman: ..... PGK LaVerne Klecker  
 KC Chorus Director ..... Stephen Nelson  
 Building Comm Chairman: ..... Tom Elbert  
 Gambling Manager: ..... PGK Tom Klecker  
 District Deputy: ..... PGK Tim Rice  
 KC Hall Manager: ..... PGK Mark Cunningham  
 Benefits Advisor: ..... Aaron Jelinek

## Knight of the Month



Chuck Walerius

Council 945's Knight of the Month for June is Chuck Walerius. The announcement was made at the regular July Council meeting by Deputy Grand Knight, Steve Dornquist.

Chuck, a native of Minneapolis, MN, joined the KCs in November of 2001. When asked about his favorite KC projects, he mentioned that he enjoys singing in the KC Chorus, working on the Lenten fish fries and setting up for the Fourth Degree meetings. He is a Fourth Degree member of the Msgr. Henry Speck Assembly, where he serves as the Faithful Pilot. In summary he said, "I like to help out wherever I am needed."

A graduate of Columbia Heights High School, he attended Concordia University in St. Paul where he received a Bachelor of Arts as well as a Masters degree in criminal justice. He is presently the Deputy Police Chief with the Northfield, Minnesota Police Department. Prior to assuming this role, he served approximately three years with the Owatonna Police Department as Patrol Captain. His extensive law enforcement experience also includes 20 years with the Minnesota State Highway Patrol before coming to Owatonna.

Chuck, and his wife of 30 years, Cathy, are members of St. Joseph's Parish where he sings in the adult choir. They have 2 children; Amy who is 19 years old and Kevin who is 16.

When asked about his leisure time activities, Chuck said he likes to golf and is an avid fan of the Minnesota Twins. He went on to say that he really loves teaching, and in fact he does some teaching at Concordia University and Rasmussen College in the areas of criminal justice and corrections.

When you see Chuck congratulate him on being recognized as our Knight of the Month and also thank him for his past and present public service in protecting the citizens of our cities and state.

## K C CHORUS ENTERTAINS LARGE, APPRECIATIVE GROUP AT VILLAGE OF YESTERYEAR EXTRAVAGANZA.



People of all ages enjoyed the patriotic and folk selections on a beautiful Sunday afternoon.

The seats at the Village of Yesteryear music stage area filled rapidly with enthusiastic fans when the KC Chorus started singing. The Steele County Historical Society event held on Sunday, July 12, attracts a larger crowd every year. At the conclusion of an exciting 45-minute program, which included a perfect blend of patriotic and folk songs, and audience participation, Music Director Stephen Nelson commented, "The KC Chorus members are honored to represent Council 945 at community events such this. The Knights of Columbus do so much great work with direct fund-raising projects throughout the year; this provides another way to support our community."

KC Chorus members participating were: Director Stephen Nelson, Chuck Walerius, John Carlson, Matt Jessop, LaVerne Klecker, Dan Walsh, Ludwig Wencil, Wayne Kubicek, Jim Nelson, Steve Dornquist, O.J. Havelka, Sam Nelson, Lee Staupe, Lloyd Mans, and Pete Schneider.



Chorus members prepared for the program at the Village of Yesteryear stage.



Mary Carlson, mother of Brother Knight John Carlson, accompanied the chorus on "Alexander's Rag Time Band" and "The Bare Necessities." Mary has helped many times and we appreciate her excellent musical talent.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**KC Family Corporate Communion**

**Sunday, August 30**

**St. Joseph Church - 9:30 a.m.**

**Breakfast after Mass at KC Hall.**

Nonprofit Organization

U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

Owatonna, MN

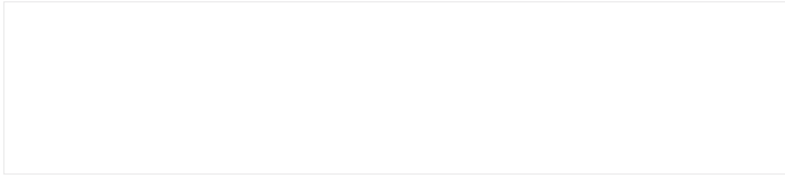
Permit No. 202

**Steele County Free Fair**

**Tuesday, August 18 - Sunday, August 23**

**Steele County Fairgrounds**

**KC Food Stand - come and work or eat!!**



**AUGUST 2009**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm	5 Officers' Mtg and Gambling Mtg. - 7:30 pm	6	7 Summer Steak Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	8
9	10 Bldg Mtg - 7:00 pm	11 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm	12 General Meeting Gainey Park Meal - 6:00 pm Meetin g - 7:00 pm	13	14 Summer Steak Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	15
16	17	18 KC Chorus 4:15 pm Steele County Fair Fair Square	19 Enjoy a Brat at the KC Food Stand at the Fair	20 Play Bingo at the St. Mary's Bingo Stand at the Fair	21 KC Chorus 6:30 - 7:15 pm Village of Yesteryear	22 Enjoy another day at the Steele County Fair
23 Last day of the Steele County Fair - Have One more Brat at the KC Food Stand	24	25 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm	26	27 Fourth Degree Meeting Social - 6:30 pm Meal - 7:00 pm Meeting - 7:30 pm	28 Summer Steak Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	29
30 KC Family Corporate Communion 9:30 am St. Joseph Church	31					