



## THE KOLPING CANADA NEWSLETTER

Spring and Summer 2013

### NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

God has appointed each one of us to our post, and wants us to fulfill His holy will with joy. A. Kolping

Good news! We have a new National Praeses! It is Rev. Father Mark Miller; he is head of the Redemptorists Toronto/Edmonton Province. It goes without saying that he is a very busy man: he is also Praeses of Kolping Toronto, and whenever his time permits, he helps out with the German Parish here. We are very fortunate to have him as our Spiritual Leader. God bless you, Father Mark!

The new Kolping International Secretary, Mr. Markus Demele\*, has contacted us; he wants to meet with us at our next convention. I have told him that there are no more conventions, but that he could still meet with us at any time. He could visit each Society or he could just come and see me in Toronto. He has not given me any dates yet, but I will let you know as soon as possible when I hear from him.

I think that we are doing the right thing here in Canada, at this time of our lives. You all know what happened at our last convention: the meeting closed without a Ntl. President. I stepped forward a year later, but that does not mean that I will stay on forever. I would like to ask the younger people to take over in about 2 years. Things are running fairly smoothly here in Canada right now, thanks to the cooperation of all members. I am always open to ideas or constructive criticism.

Our new Praeses will introduce himself in the next Newsletter. When we pray for others, God listens to us, and blesses them. When you are safe and happy, remember that someone has prayed for you. A. Kolping.

We hope that everyone had a blessed and happy Easter!

Treu Kolping! - Steve Salb [stevesalb1934@hotmail.com](mailto:stevesalb1934@hotmail.com)

### GENERAL SECRETARY HUBERT TINTELOTT SAYS GOODBYE.

I would like to say goodbye to you today. As you may understand, on the one hand I am looking forward to being retired, and am excited about the new challenges that lie in store for me. On the other hand, this goodbye is occasion is tinged with sadness, because it means the end of many personal contacts and relations in many countries of the world. I am leaving behind a function that I have performed with a lot of enthusiasm and joy for all these years.

I have warm memories of the many times we met, of our joint struggles to follow, in our time, the line once taken by Adolph Kolping. For me it has always been a great source of satisfaction to note to what extent it was possible to work together in a spirit of solidarity.

I wish to personally thank you all very much for the years - in part decades - of your cooperation based on trust. Without you and without your support many things would not have been possible. I will remember with gladness the cooperation at the International level, while keeping busy with my Kolping Family at the local level in the future.

Yours sincerely in Kolping - Hubert Tintelott

**\*PORTRAIT:** The new General Secretary of Kolping International, Markus Demele, began his new job in September, taking over from Hubert Tintelott who retired after nearly 40 years. Markus Demele was born in 1978 in Luenenburg. After finishing school he completed an integrated degree program in Economics and then began to study Catholic Theology in Frankfurt/Main. During a semester abroad, which he realized in Kenya, he got to know the International Kolping Society. His diploma thesis dealt with the micro-finance program of the Kolping Society of Uganda. In 2006 he graduated in Theology at the Sankt Georgen Grad School of Philosophy and Theology and has worked part time as pastoral worker for the Catholic Higher Education Parish at the U of Frankfurt/Main and as research associate of the Nell Breuning Inst. for Business Ethics of St. Georgen in F/Main. In August 2012 he graduated as Doctor rerum politicarum in the area of development policy. Markus Demele is married and is 34 years old.

Dear Kolping Members in Canada : This year, Kolping International will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the death of Blessed Father Adolph Kolping. Our National President, Steve Salb, wants us here in Canada to do something as well, marking it in some way such as a special Mass, perhaps, and to also come up with some donations to a Kolping project somewhere in the Kolping world. Both Vancouver and Kelowna have made suggestions in the past and in this issue. Rose Vetter has included it in their report, see below, and Dieter and Gisela Howald have written the following:

Gisela and I just returned from Uganda where we had several meetings at the Kampala Kolping Hotel with Aloysius Mugasa, the executive director, of the Kolping national body of Uganda. Aloysius explained to us that Kolping Uganda is currently looking at improving lives in the northwestern part of Uganda. This rural area, bordering on the Congo is one of the poorest parts of Uganda and was most affected by the war with the LRA. Hunger, disease, water problems, education, family problems are just a few areas that these people have to deal with on a daily basis. Kolping Uganda is focusing on four main tasks that they would like to address in 2013. We know the area well and definitely the need is the greatest there.

Any of these projects might fall within the potential area that one or several of our Canadian Kolping Families might be able to afford and be interested in. If you are interested in other, larger items we would be pleased to forward them to you. A list of possible projects for us you consider has been sent to your local society.

Treu Kolping - Gisela and Dieter Howald, in Kelowna

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## GREETINGS FROM EDMONTON!

As I write this letter, we are having what I hope is the last snowfall of the year. Enough already!

Kolping Edmonton started our year with a February meeting and elections. The executive members are: Anita Hochdorfer, president. Vice-president position vacant. Secretary, Donna Novak. Treasurer Guenther Breymann. Casino chairperson, Donna Novak. Newsletter reporter, Donna Novak. Non-elected positions of auditors were accepted by Victor Hochdorfer and Henry Werner. Also, we are blessed once again to have Fr Georg Neumann lead us as Praeses.

This year's agenda has been set, and a busy one it will be. It was agreed to continue with 9 meetings for the year. As well we will have a BBQ at the lakeside cottage and a pot-luck there in late summer. With Fr Neumann's guidance we will work on a special mass to celebrate Fr Kolping's 200th birthday this fall. Another mass and social will be held to celebrate Kolping World Day of Prayer in October. Members and Fr. Neumann will arrange videos and guest speakers for our meetings. We are never too old to learn something new! Our meetings always end with a wonderful luncheon provided by 2 or 3 host families. This is a great deal of work but so much appreciated as we enjoy each other's company over those delectables.

Our members have worked casino events to raise charitable funds. We have donated substantial amounts of money to many charities here in our province; last year to Kolping Tanzania as well; and we donated to the Kolping Bishop's Relief Fund recently.

Kolping Edmonton would like to send our thanks to Regina Knoll for dedicating her time to putting this newsletter together. Also thanks to Steve Salb for taking on another year as national president. And thank you to our own Inge Baumstark for her work as national treasurer. And we send a warm welcome to Fr Mark Miller who will serve as national Praeses.

Our Kolping families are spread far and wide in this vast country. Although we may not see each other, we do look forward to reading about your activities and wish you all an enjoyable and successful year ahead.  
Treu Kolping, Donna Novak

## NEWS FROM KOLPING TORONTO

Dear Kolping Members! We are embarking on another year in the life of our local Kolping Society. At the executive meeting at the end of January we planned the program for February to September 2013.

Notice March 22nd, when Kolping takes on the saying of the Stations of the Cross for the whole parish. One group of the parish takes on one Friday during Lent, and this is our date.

We settled on the following donations from our fund for this year: Cologne - \$1,000, Out of the Cold - \$1,000, Redemptorists in Haiti - \$1,000, Asha Deep Indian Orphanage - \$500, Parish Continuing Renovations - \$1,000, Bazaar for Africa - \$500. Still available - \$500.

This year we will again need our members' full support to successfully conclude the Lenten Meal for Share Life. We need about 10 pots of pea soup plus help serving our guests. Members are urged to invite their friends to join us.

That brings us to another important event. The 200th Birthday of Blessed Father Adolph Kolping. The advance plans call for a bid 'do' on Dec. 8th, instead of or along with the Christmas party. Werner Scheliga will head the team organizing and planning it. Here is our new executive for one more year:

Praeses - Fr. Mark Milleir CSSR

President - Henry Buss Vice President - Karl Wilker

Secretary - Ann Salb Treasurer - Reinhard Drobig

Eddy Urwalek, Linda Urwalek, Hans Josef Knops, Clara Wuebbolt, Mia Buss Steve Salb, Alfons Loeffler

We welcome our newest members: Carolyn and Erich Kralik. Congratulations, we are very pleased to have you.

Treu Kolping - Henry Buss

## NEWS FROM KOLPING VANCOUVER

As we watch our winter visitors, the snow geese, gather their families for their 5000 km flight to their nesting grounds near the Arctic Circle, we are wishfully looking forward to warmer spring weather, especially for our friends in central and eastern Canada, for they have had more than their share of cold weather and snow in the past few months.

The only function we have had since our last report was our Annual General Meeting on February 3rd. After celebrating Mass with Father Boniface, we went through the usual routine-luncheon followed by reports of the executive members and election. Horst and Erika Zimmerman and Gustavo Romero, whose terms had expired, were re-elected as president, secretary and 2nd vice-president respectively, without contest. Thus our executive remains the same as last year. The election process lately has been a far cry from the good old days, when much time was squandered with arm-twisting and endless nominations from the floor.

Now I'm pleased to share with you a report below by Horst and Erika Zimmermann, who have just returned from a trip to Jucuaran, El Salvador to visit the community we have been supporting for a number of years.

Treu Kolping - Rose Vetter

Our Visit to El Salvador By Horst and Erika Zimmermann

We have just returned from the Central American country of El Salvador, where we met with Father Herman Montoya, with whom we have been in contact since 2008. It all began in 2006, when Msgr. Axel Werner visited us on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of Kolping Vancouver. He met with a Hispanic group in Holy Family Parish and planted the seed for our project by encouraging them to join Kolping and thereby help the underprivileged people in their homeland. At that time Kolping International was involved in various projects in aid of Kolping Families in Central America. After two of our Salvadorian members travelled to Honduras to inform themselves about an agricultural project there, we decided to donate \$7,000 towards it through Kolping International. However, we felt very detached from that project, as there was no personal contact--we had merely sent money and received acknowledgement, but never heard back about how the project progressed. That's when we became involved in a project with a personal and more satisfying aspect. El Salvador is the smallest and most densely populated country in Central America and has a population of about 6.5 million. It borders the Pacific Ocean on the south, Guatemala to the west and Honduras to the north and east. During the Salvadorian Civil War (1979-1992) an unknown number of people disappeared and more than 75,000 were killed. In 1980 Archbishop Oscar Romero was assassinated while celebrating Mass, as well, many priests who opposed the repression and violence were killed. During this time many Salvadorians, fearing for their lives, came to Canada.

Our membership in Kolping Vancouver had increased immensely after Msgr. Werner's visit, but a number of circumstances, such as communication difficulties and our move to another parish, led to the decline of those numbers. Presently we have a solid, committed group of Hispanic members, with whom we have worked on establishing contact in El Salvador. After consultations with Hubert Tintelott and Peter Schwab in Cologne, we have been working towards actively engaging these new members. From the beginning, our fervent hope has been to help bring Kolping to El Salvador, because such a project would be very close to the

hearts of our membership.

Our project began in 2009 with the shipment of computers and other electronic equipment to Jucuaran, El Salvador. In January 2010 a building was rented and renovated in Jucuaran to house a computer school and Internet café. In March 2010 the computer school opened and the first 10 girls completed their courses. In the same year, Senior Tovar of Kolping Mexico paid a visit to Jucuaran in view of establishing a Kolping Family there. In 2011 the coffee shop opened, employing young people. In 2013 baking courses started; from a class of ten, two young people have opened their own businesses.

Visiting this country during Semana Santa (Holy Week) was a memorable experience for us. After having communicated with Father Herman Montoya and his assistant Douglas Monjaras by telephone and e-mail for the past few years, we were finally able to meet them in person. The village of Jucuaran is situated in the mountains, a half hour's drive from the city of Usulután. What we saw and experienced not only met, but exceeded our expectations. It was very gratifying to witness the excitement and enthusiasm of the youth. Father Montoya is an incredible person; he cares very much for the people in his community and at the age of 73 years, he is still working tirelessly for the betterment of his people. He was born in Jucuaran and will always stay there. He is very enterprising and with the help of Douglas has built a computer school, an Internet café, a cafeteria and now a baking school/shop. Four to five young people have found permanent employment. He fully understands the Kolping philosophy; all we did here in Vancouver was to supply him with seed money and additional funds to purchase equipment. They are largely self-sufficient now and never ask for additional money, in fact, we always have to ask if there is anything they need. And they do need help, for example, part of the course includes the baking of buns, but they were in dire need of a commercial mixer—up to our visit, one young man had to knead piles of dough by hand. From the Kolping funds we took with us, a large mixer was purchased, as well as other badly needed equipment, such as scales, pots, a work table, etc.

The young people are more than prepared when it comes to understanding what Kolping is about, in fact, they are so excited about formally establishing a Kolping Family, they have been proudly displaying a Kolping sign on their building for some time! With the help of Kolping International, we hope to realize the dream of a formal establishment of the first Kolping Family in the country of El Salvador.

We were fortunate to travel with a couple from Kolping Vancouver, Delmy and Gustavo Romero, who had come from El Salvador in the mid-eighties, and who, like us, used their own funds for this trip. Through them we met a young priest who teaches theology and has a parish in Santa Ana, a city with many troubled young people. He knows Father Montoya and is also very interested in a connection with Kolping. With the involvement of Kolping International, their needs could be assessed and solutions brought forward—the potential of our help in that country is endless.

#### NEWS FROM KOLPING WINNIPEG

Winnipeg is patiently awaiting Spring, which is long overdue. People arriving from their holidays have driven day after day in above-normal temperatures - record-setting in places - and can't believe that so much snow is still on the ground here, and the temperatures are well below freezing. A quick melt will raise the flood danger. They are sand-bagging in Fargo, and hope to have 1,000,000 bags ready in time. Hope they don't need them, because whatever happens down there will affect us.

Our Annual General Meeting, held in early January, saw a return of the same executive, except for the position of Social Chair, which is being taken over by Margret Littau again, after a short break. Although everything will go on as before, there is some doubt that we will have another Schlachtfest, our only source of income. For one thing, our German butcher shop has been sold, and the new owners will no longer be making our sausages; for another, our workers have pretty well had it. Many of us have done it for decades, some actually since the founding of Kolping in Winnipeg, and there are no more spring chickens in this crowd. Everybody is going to miss the Schlachtfest, it was the only successful German dinner/dance left here.

Our Communion Breakfast on March 17th was well attended. Thank you to our Vice President, Wolfgang Kubisch, who presided in the absence of the President. A collection for Share Lent was taken up.

There was a Bowling Tournament this year after all, even though apparently only a handful of people wanted to have it.

Sadly, our long-time member, Roman Kuncze, passed away on Jan. 7th. We celebrated his Funeral Mass of Christian Burial with our new pastor, Father Boguslaw Wardzinski. Roman had a beautiful tenor voice, and loved to sing. Lissy is having a terrible time with this, as are the children, Sibylle, Yvonne and Raymond and of course the little ones who will miss their Opa very much. We extend our heart-felt sympathies.

Our pizza windup in May and then our picnic in August are all the we have lined up at this time. We wish all of you a safe and happy summer.

Treu Kolping! Hans Kessling

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Editor's comment: I would like to clarify something about the last issue of our Kolping Newsletter. Firstly, I had some space left after all the reports were in, so I wrote something about the situation in the Middle East, the Holy Land, as I saw it, and as I felt about it. Apparently some people mistakenly thought that I was blaming all the troubles there on the Arabs, spec. the Palestinians. Be assured that I am well aware that both sides are so hawk-like and stubborn that an end to the current dispute is hardly possible, at this time or in the near future. The old customs, resentments, misplaced blame and memories keep things boiling. The message from the Cross, and Bethlehem, have not reached them yet.

\* On another topic, it appears that somebody found that an article by Rose Vetter in the Christmas issue was not appropriate for a Kolping publication because it had nothing to do with Kolping. I have always asked our reporters to send me something for our Christmas newsletter and was very pleased to receive her little article, and decided to use it. I find it surprising that anyone would object to it. Bottom line: I asked Rose to write something, and I stand by my decision. I'm just sorry that Rose had to hear complaints about it. If you'd like to comment, you can always reach me at [rhknoll@shaw.ca](mailto:rhknoll@shaw.ca)