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THE LENTEN PROJECT – KOLPING KENYA

Thank you to everyone who has donated to our 2018 National Lenten Project We are excited and proud of the response to this endeavor had received.

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Kolping Banner

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Catholic Kolping Society of America

Mission Statement:

We, the members of the Catholic Kolping Society of America, extend the vision of our founder, Blessed Adolph Kolping, by promoting the development of the individual and family; we foster a sense of belonging and friendship through our program of spiritual, educational, charitable and social activities.

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For more information about the Catholic Kolping Society of America, becoming a member, or establishing a Kolping family in your parish or community, please contact the Catholic Kolping Society of America, P. O. Box 4907, Clifton, NJ, 07015-4907, Telephone: 1-877-659-7237, e-mail: PATFARKAS@optonline.net.

> Please visit the Catholic Kolping Society of America internet website at: http://www.kolping.org.



From the President's Desk ...

CONVENTION

Have you booked your flight for the Philadelphia convention yet? I know, many members will be driving, taking the train or renting buses, but it's time to get

those plans on paper! It looks like it will be a great event.

If you haven't given it much thought yet, here are a few tips and considerations:

1. Have a look at their website. It can be accessed through kolping.org OR directly phillykolpingnews.org. Kolping Philadelphia has created a very clear, user-friendly page on which you can review the schedules, download information about the events and costs and access the registration form – it's easy.

2. Submit a proposal for discussion at the convention. Is there anything in particular you think we should discuss, change, revise? In 2016 our proposals focused on how to position ourselves for the future and what can we do as a "national" family. That's how the Lenten Project supporting the Kenyan small animal initiative evolved as well as redesigning our website. We need to hear from YOU our members. Your local president and national representatives have received information, so let your voice be heard!

3. Consider getting involved. Our leadership team has dedicated many years to supporting the National office. We would LOVE to welcome new people and fresh ideas. The convention is a wonderful venue for understanding what opportunities exist as well as getting to know members from other families around the country.

Personally, I have fond memories of our conventions. I think this will be the 5th or 6th one that I've been able to attend. The conventions have allowed me to understand just how important the Kolping family is to many people, not just in my own community, but around the country and internationally. They have exposed me to the work and activities other Kolping families undertake and the challenges they face, keeping the Kolping spirit alive. The time spent at the conventions has allowed me to meet some wonderful individuals. I've been able to go to places around the country that I may not have on my own – and experience events "as a local". And they provide a forum to help shape the direction of the National Kolping.

I encourage everyone to attend this 42nd convention in Philadelphia. Unlike prior years, it will be held the weekend **after** Labor Day, making travel easier for many.

I hope to see you there. Lisa Brinkmann

A Praeses Proclaims...

MIGHTY AND WONDROUS ARE YOUR WORKS, LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, RIGHTEOUS AND TRUE ARE YOUR WAYS

By Deacon William McLoughlin Praeses of the San Francisco Kolping Society



God's first morning of creation was a wonderful display of His love for us, and if we think about it, every morning is a repeat of that God glorious first morning. God's creation is that place where the divine gets visible. We experience God's gifts in every thing we see, and everyone we meet. And we give thanks to God every day for all His gifts.

The First Sunday of June is the Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. And the Eucharist is where Jesus physically touches us and lets the divine Spirit of God fill our heart. We hear Jesus say that glorious good news, "This is my body,..... This is my blood." We go forward then, strengthened by God's Spirit to follow Jesus' Way back to the Father, our Creator. We are also gently taught by Jesus that by doing the Will of God we become Jesus' brother and sister and mother. We are His disciples as we love one another and praise our Heavenly Father.

Father's Day happens June 17. It will be most appropriate to celebrate Father Kolping's life and pastoral example this Father's Day. Blessed Adolph Kolping, through his fatherly ministry, has given us our Kolping Family.

Blessed Adolph has provided us with this practical and successful

organization to follow Jesus' way. We are the worldwide society for the sanctification of family life and the dignity of labor.

Blessed Adolph said, "The needs of the times will teach you what to do," and we are responding to that everyday. He also tells each of us, " The first thing that a person finds in life and the last to which he holds out his hand, and the most precious that he possesses, even if he does not realize it, is family life." We bring life

6 6 The first thing that a person finds in life and the last to which he holds out his hand, and the most precious that he possesses, even if he does not realize it, is family life. 9 9

and family to the world as Jesus has shown us. Mighty and wondrous are the works of each Kolping member. Through each of us the divine Spirit of Jesus becomes visible to the world. So let us remember on Father's Day, as we honor the wonderful works of all our fathers, the special heritage we have been given by our own Blessed Father Adolph.

Summer begins June 21. And we celebrate the birthday of John the Baptist, Sunday June 24. St. Augustine found John's birthday near the summer solstice appropriate because after the birth of John. daylight begins to grow shorter, whereas after Jesus' birth daylight begins to increase. John the Baptist will be "called the prophet of the Most High"who will "Make ready the way of the Lord,...Every valley shall be filled And every mountain and hill shall be leveled. The windings shall be made straight And the rough ways smooth, And all mankind shall see the salvation of God." John is preparing us to be ready for the coming of the Light of the World.

So this June will be an extraordinary time as we honor and give thanks for so many of God's Blessings: Jesus' Body and Blood, our fathers, Blessed Adolph Kolping, John the Baptist, and our own opportunity to praise God and love one another.

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you all. Amen!!

Deacon Bill McLoughlin

Greetings from Detroit Kolping!

Belated Happy New Year to all!

We here in Detroit are now in our second year without our beautiful center. As you must have heard, we sold our facility in September 2016. It was not an easy decision to make but our membership and officers studied our options carefully and due to having less membership activity in the past few years (among other factors), it was unanimously decided that selling both properties was out best bet. Unfortunately, like many other branches, our membership has aged and dwindled in numbers. Since the vast majority of workers have been doing the jobs for many years they too have grown weary so it seem obvious that this would be the road to take.

We are so very proud of the years of hard work from our membership in operating both facilities (the park and the center) and due to their diligence and perseverance, we are now in a position to still maintain our society, having meetings and even functions if we decide but most of all we can carry on our charitable works.

Over the past 18 years we raised well over \$50,000.00 for the Rainbow Connection sponsoring 26 children with life-threatening illnesses to help make some of their dreams come true. This was done through our annual Golf outing. We had a wall in our barroom dedicated to these young people with pictures and plaques with their names. It was always the pride of our society and we anticipate being able to still sponsor the Rainbow Connection and their endeavors. The "Wigs for Kids" program has also benefited from our hard work as well as the "Cops for Kids" and needy families in the area at holiday time. There are countless other programs we have participated in and we definitely plan to continue support them. The many card parties, fashion shows, balls and holiday teas are now wonderful memories. We may be small in numbers out our hearts are huge and as long as we can we will share the bounty we have worked so hard to obtain.

We meet on a quarterly basis at local establishments for our business meetings and many folks still get together once a month for lunch to retain the camaraderie which we so much enjoy and cherish.

So Detroit Kolping is still active and doing the works of our Beloved Blessed Adolph Kolping!

Our center was purchased by a group who have turned it into one of the very popular brewery type facilities and while it has changed somewhat in



Wall at former Detroit Kolping Center featuring "Rainbow Connection" Recipients.

appearance, the owners have opened the doors and their hearts welcoming us whenever we care to attend. They were very interested in the history of Kolping and especially the building and assure us we are always welcome and we plan to take them up on their offer!! In fact our younger generations did just that!

A group of 25 to 30 of them gathered recently at the Shipwreck Brewery(formerly Kolping Center) to rekindle old friendships and see what major changes have been done to the facility. Needless to say they were amazed at the wonderful job done in transforming our former home away from home. But the nostalgia and memories still remain, it's hard to cover up over 45 years of fabulous times. This is what Kolping is all about. These young folks represent four generations of members and friends that no matter how long since they have been together, that kinship takes over and the years simply disappear and memories take over. Some of them still camp together at the annual Kolping Kampers Karavan which has been going on for over 30 years also. It is so wonderful to keep those memories growing and hopefully for many years to come.

So you see, a building is not always necessary. As long as there is the love and harmony between each other, Kolping will always be the backbone of this wonderful voyage we call life.

Times have changed for sure, but we anticipate holding strong and keeping ourselves dedicated to the works of Blessed Kolping.

Lynne Rheker

National Endowment Fund

The National Endowment Fund received the following contributions for the months of March 15, 2018 to May 15, 2018

In memory of Gunther Uhlhorn, deceased member of the Cincinnati Kolping Society

> Barbara Kunz, Cincinnati Kolping

> Gerry Kreutzjans, Cincinnati Kolping

Joan and James Kohl, Cincinnati Kolping

Harry & Carol Kuntsman, Cincinnati Kolping

Kolping Society National Endowment Fund c/o Lisa Brinkmann 311 Greene Street | Mill Valley, CA 94941-4132

Please Remember To Pray For All Our Dear Departed Members Who Have Gone To Their Eternal Rest

> CINCINNATI Walburga Kappen Gunther Uhlhorn

NEW YORK Josef Sedlmair Rita Fister



Happy Father's Day

From the Editor and Staff of the Kolping Banner

KOLPING INTERNATIONAL statement on May 1: Labour Day



Achieving decent work

"Most workers – despite being employed – often do not earn more than their daily bread. Wages have been going from bad to worse for years; (...) All too often a family labours [!] the entire week after a long and bleak wait and still can't manage to save up two or three thalers, which are not much to speak of in the local circumstances!

And not to mention that the manner workers are treated in (...) is often outrageous. Workers endure, suffer, and hold their tongues since they do not want to tighten the noose these cruel circumstances have wrapped around their neck or to even suffocate them. (...) I repeat: Our current industry is cunning, cold-hearted egotism, the likes of which the world has never seen so far."

Adolph Kolping¹

These words were written by Blessed Adolph Kolping 170 years ago, almost 50 years before the first social encyclical Rerum Novarum was published. And yet, there are still millions of people who are forced to work for a pittance under exploitative conditions. Modern slavery in textile production and on banana plantations, the destruction of the environment and natural resources by extractive industries are still common practice in worldwide economic activities. According to estimates of the International Labour Organization (ILO), more than 40 million people are in "modern slavery".

KOLPING INTERNATIONAL calls for the observance of standards of decent work as they were laid down in the ILO Core Labour Standards as binding international law. These rights must not only be ratified but also be implemented in all nations of this world. This requires an extensive system of labour inspections.

There shall no longer be an unrestricted trade of goods from countries that verifiably do not adhere to core labour standards, where people are forced to do work they have not agreed to, where they are not granted the freedom of association and the right of collective bargaining, where exploitative child labour and discrimination at work are not punished.

In 2015 almost all nations of the world adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Goal 8 promotes decent work for all people in the world once again. Decent work shall now be legally enforceable. Labour laws without labour inspections, certification marks without controls are useless and did not bring about any major improvements in the past decades.

Following the tradition of Blessed Adolph Kolping. Kolping associations in over sixty countries in Africa. Asia, Latin America and Europe are fighting for the rights of working people, for decent work across the globe.

KOLPING INTERNATIONAL International Executive Committee



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THANK YOU NEW YORK!

Thank you to the New York Kolping Society for their donation of \$3,000 towards the printing of the Banner, as well as a donation of \$3,000 towards the support of Kolping USA. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Ted Wilke National Treasurer

KOLPING

"Celebrating a Long Standing History of Kolping Values in the City of Brotherly Love"

Dear Kolping Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grüß Gott !

It is with great pride that we, your Philadelphia Kolping Family, welcome you to the 42ND National Kolping Convention in the City of Brotherly Love.

From Friday September 07th to Sunday September 09th 2018, we will endeavor to provide you with 3 days of Philadelphia hospitality, sights and tastes. Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly Love is a bustling city of life, history and tradition. On Day 1 of your arrival, we will hold a Meet and Greet at the **Embassy Suites Hotel.** There, we will provide good drink, a light fare and be joined by 2 special guests. You will have the opportunity to make new friends and be reacquainted with old friends. On Day 2, after Holy Mass at the Hotel, the delegates will begin their day of meetings on Kolping affairs and the non delegates will be entranced by a VIP Guided Tour of the New Museum of The American Revolution, followed by a delicious luncheon at the Brauhaus Schmitz. On Saturday evening, we will dine and dance the night away at our Awards and Dinner Dance at Cannstatters Volkfest Verein. On Day 3, before Holy Mass at the historical Saint John the Evangelist Church, we will march through City Hall proudly brandishing our Kolping colors, followed by a *"Taste of Philadelphia"* luncheon. *More details of the weekend can be found on our website*.

On our website, you may find all instructions for registering for the convention, paying all fees and hotel bookings. The Airport Embassy Suites Hotel has graciously offered us a group rate of \$185.00 per night for a double room. Room rates are based on availability, so please send in your form with payment as soon as possible. **Please remember that the deadline for registration is July 07, 2018.** Don't forget to take advantage of the **Free Airport / Hotel Shuttle Service** by calling (215) 365-4500.

As always it is our wish that your time with us is a good one. We will do whatever we can to accommodate your needs and ensure a nice experience. Please don't hesitate to contact us via our website with any questions or concerns.

We look forward to seeing you in September.

For now, safe travels, a peaceful Summer and Treu Kolping.

Frank Staub Philadelphia-President



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



International Kolping

Germany Pope Francis: "I know about Kolping!"

Members of Kol ping Germany's Executive Board meet with the Pope in Rome. He welcomed National President Thomas Dorflinger with the words "I know about Kol ping!". The great spread of Kolping in Latin America has indeed not gone unnoticed by the Argentine Pope. The meeting was also attended by Spiritual Director Rosalia Walter as well as the Deputy-Presidents Klaudia Rudersdorf and Manuel Hormeyer, National Secretary Ulrich Vollmer, and the Head of Finance and Administration Guido Mensger. National Youth Secretary Magdalene Paul informed the Pope about the YouthEvent "Clear as a star-lit sky" in September of 2018 and invited him to come to Frankfurt. To his blessings for all members of the Kol ping Society he also added a request: "Kolping - please pray

for me too!"

If Pope Francis were to canonize Adolph Kolping, even more people could soon say: "I know about Kolping!"

Costa Rica Looking ahead to the World Youth Day

In January, Kolping Costa Rica was visited by the Youth Pastor of the diocesan Kolping organization of Paderborn, Stefan Schroder, and the World Youth Day Secretary Benedikt Hebbecker, to co-ordinate the options to accommodate young people from the Diocese of Paderborn for the World Youth Day preprogram in the Diocese of San Isidro Labrador and then to proceed to the meeting with Pope Francis in Panama.

World Youth Day is an event of the Catholic Church. The meeting for all

adolescents and young people, aged 14 to 30, from all over the world is organized by the Vatican and the respective host country. The origin of these meetings was an initiative of Pope John Paul II, who issued invitations to the "International Jubilee of Youth" in Rome in 1984. For 2019, Pope Francis invited to Costa Rica's neighbouring country, Panama.

As part of the pre-program, the young people are to have the opportunity to get to know the country and its people, especially young people with their customs and their lives. Kolping Costa Rica is still a small and young Kolping association. However, thanks also to the co-operation with Kolping Paderborn, the Kolping sisters and brothers have great goals for the further development of their association.