



Kolping Banner

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LENTEN PROJECT 2020

While I was at the International Board of Director Meeting I was able to meet with Patrick Kioko who is the Executive Director of Kolping Kenya and who I have been working closely with for our Lenten Goat Projects. For our 2019 Lenten Project we had 151 donations that raised \$16,033.00. We added money approved at the 2018 National Convention and were able to send a check to Kenya (via Kolping International) for \$23,500. Patrick on more than one occasion expressed his gratitude and that of the Kolping Kenya membership for our generosity. With that money - Kolping Kenya was able to purchase 112 goats (including transportation and procurement costs). Goats were distributed to the Siranga (43), Ukwala (31), Kiruga (16) and Mukango (22) Kolping Families in the fall of 2019. Patrick has provided all receipts and supporting documentation including a list of each Kolping Member who received a goat. I was also able to speak with Volker Greulich with Kolping International who is the Country Manager for Kenya. Volker expressed his total confidence in Kolping Kenya and the use and management of Kolping USA lenten project funding.

Patrick Kioko has on more than on occasion invited myself and anyone else from Kolping USA to visit and see the work that Kolping Kenya is doing. To that end - the Kolping USA Board has approved a trip for myself and National President Lisa Brinkmann to visit Kolping Kenya and to view not only how the Goat Project is working but other projects that they've undertaken. Lisa and I will be spending a week in Kenya in early February 2020 as guests of Kolping Kenya. I am excited to get a chance to see first hand the



success of our Lenten Project and will provide an update and report in a future Banner issue.

As we approach the 2020 Lenten Season we again will have the Lenten Goat Project for Kolping Kenya. I would urge you to be generous with your donations to this project. I can assure you that the funds are well used and the membership of Kolping Kenya greatly appreciates our generosity and help that we provide via this goat project. We have again inserted in the Banner a return envelope for your convenience.

Ted Wilke
National Treasurer

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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 ...

Happy New Year!

This year is especially special as we welcome in a new decade, are gifted with an extra day in February, thanks to it being a leap year, and will gather as a larger community at our National Convention in Cincinnati in September.

I am hopeful that this year, being 2020, will bring a clearer vision on how we might better grow Kolping for the future, here in the United States. I'm looking forward to hearing ideas on how we might focus our efforts to identify additional, impactful initiatives on the National level. And, of course, how we might see ways of better supporting those Kolping families who may be struggling.

On a recent conference call, the Board approved to send Ted Wilke, our international representative (and Treasurer) and me to Kenya. The purpose of this trip is to see, firsthand, how the proceeds from our Lenten project are being utilized. Since this is the first project we've undertaken as a group in a few years and the decision on whether we continue with this project will be discussed at the Convention, we felt it was a good opportunity to visit these Kolping families.

I have to say, after getting the list of immunizations, shots and vaccinations, and booking the shortest flight at 24+ hours, I realized how far and different our Kolping brothers' and sisters' in Kenya lives really are! Despite the painful shots in the arm, I am wearing my bruises with excitement and curiosity knowing that this trip will probably be one of the most unique ones I've ever undertaken.

We will be in Kenya about a week, attending the local Kolping Mass in Nairobi, visiting three Kolping families in their Villages in different regions, and staying at local Kolping facilities and guest houses. While there we will also be meeting with the local project manager to understand the impact of our contributions, the viability of self-sufficiency and other needs that these families might have. We will definitely report back on our meetings, impressions and experiences.

Lenten officially begins on February 26th and we hope you will consider making a donation to this year's Lenten project. We thank you in advance.

I wish you all a healthy New Year.
Lisa Brinkmann

National Endowment Fund

The National Endowment Fund received the following contributions for the months of November 15, 2019 to January 15, 2020

Donations

In memory of Marie Carmen Vaughn, deceased member of the Los Angeles Kolping Society
Los Angeles Kolping Society

Kolping Society National Endowment Fund

c/o Lisa Brinkmann
311 Greene Street | Mill Valley, CA 94941-4132

A Praeses Proclaims...

TIME OUT

By: Deacon William McLoughlin
Praeses of the San Francisco Kolping Society



“Remember, your hands are Jesus’ hands. Your voice is Jesus’ voice. Your smile is Jesus’ smile.”

Mid-winter greetings to all. The year is rushing ahead for every Kolping family brother and sister. Groundhog Day, Lincoln’s Birthday, Valentine’s Day, Washington’s Birthday, keeping us all so busy we won’t be able to catch our breath. So, let’s call “Time Out”. One of the most widely celebrated days of the year is happening this February. And I don’t mean Super Bowl Sunday. February 26 is Ash Wednesday, and we will all see people in all walks of life that day with the Sign of the Cross on their foreheads traced with the ashes from last year’s Palm Sunday palms. It seems that all people, Catholic or not, come to church to get ashes that day. Together we all acknowledge our humble humanity, and share the Spirit of God with each other and the whole world. That Cross will be a visible sign for all of us to see, the sign of Jesus alive in the hearts of people today. So be part of this celebration, Kolping brothers and sisters.

The ashes are the start of a humble journey for each of us as we make our way to the Last Supper, the washing of each other’s feet, the Crucifixion, the laying of Jesus’ body in the tomb, and culminating in the glorious Resurrection of Christ Jesus. This is Jesus’ promise of our own Resurrection. So as we begin our Lenten Journey, we can come

together and turn to Jesus who is already alive in us. Remember that with Joy: Jesus is with us every step of the way. Remember, your hands are Jesus’ hands. Your voice is Jesus’ voice. Your smile is Jesus’ smile. Remember, you love one another as Jesus loves you

Each of us of the Kolping family are specially blessed by the love and guidance of Father Kolping. Our Blessed Father Adolph has shown us how his hands, voice, and smile were those of Jesus. It was Father Kolping’s voice in 1848, speaking for Jesus, when he said, “In the teeth of these troubled times we build a house of peace, with a Cross on its’ gable. God’s blessings will dwell herein.” And it was Christ working through Father Kolping’s hands who built this Kolping Society for all the world to see and benefit from. Now, us as Kolping brothers and sisters, are called by Jesus to carry on the loving work they started.

And if you are having trouble seeing Jesus alive in our world today, or Ash Wednesday, or any day, remember these words Nikos Kazantzakis gave us in his novel, “The Last Temptation of Christ”: “Wherever you find husband and wife, that’s where you find God; wherever children and petty cares and cooking and arguments and reconciliation are, that is where God is too.” We do remember God is always here with us, we just have to open our eyes and hearts to see. And we of the Kolping Family do see God every day.

So starting with ashes on our foreheads and Jesus in our hearts, let us joyfully journey to show Jesus alive in our world this Lenten season. We can show our joy by our actions, our prayers, our

generosity, our love of family, our love for one another. This joy could be as simple as remembering to smile at one another or as simple as helping with Kolping’s Lenten Project to Kenya. Now it’s our turn to “build a house of peace, with a Cross on its’ gable, so God’s blessings will dwell herein.”

Here is a little prayer our family would like to share with your family this winter:

A Franciscan Blessing

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships, So that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, So that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer pain, rejection, hunger and war, So that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain to joy.

And may God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in the world, So that you can do what others claim cannot be done, to bring justice and kindness to all our children and the poor.

God Joyfully Blesses Us all,
Deacon Bill McLoughlin

43rd National Kolping Convention

September 11, 12 & 13, 2020

Hosted by the Catholic Kolping Society of Cincinnati

We at Cincinnati Kolping are looking forward to welcoming all of you to our fine city during the weekend of September 11 – 13, 2020. The Convention Committee has been working hard to plan all of the events, and we'd like to give you a little taste of what is to come.

On Saturday, September 12, while the delegates will be conducting Kolping business at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Covington, Kentucky, our other guests will be taken to the Newport Aquarium in Newport, Kentucky, only a 5-minute drive away, where thousands of animals from around the world are showcased in a million



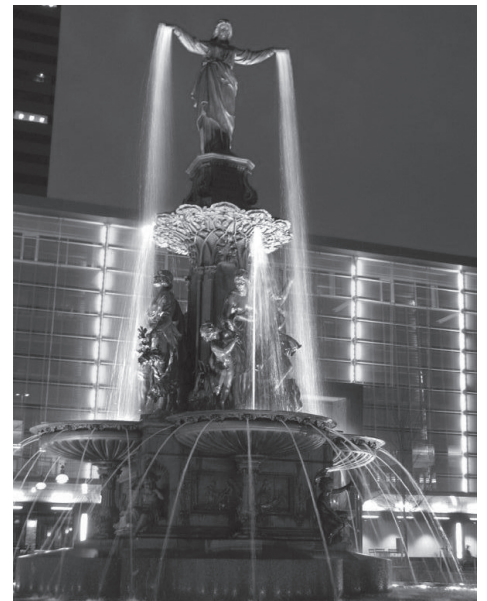
gallons of water. After a tour of the Aquarium, our bus will take you to our historic Over-the-Rhine district in Cincinnati, where a lunch will be awaiting at the Rhinegeist Brewery. After lunch, our special tour guide, Rick Pender, the author of *100 Things to Do in Cincinnati Before You Die*, will take everyone on a tour of Over-the-Rhine and other points of interest in the Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky area.

On Saturday evening, we will all go to the Kolping Center on the outskirts of Cincinnati in Springfield Township, where we will have a delicious dinner and Awards Ceremony, followed by dancing to the amazing music of the Sound Body Jazz Orchestra.

More details will follow in the April issue of the *Kolping Banner*, but in the meantime, check out our website at www.kolpingcincinnati.com for more information about the convention. In the April issue, we will also have forms to fill out to make your reservations.

We look forward to seeing all of you, learning about your Kolping families, getting to know you all better, and of course, working together to plan the future of the Catholic Kolping Society of America. Here's to a successful National Convention in September!

Treu Kolping,
Nancy Pelzel



Welcome the New President of Cincinnati Kolping

Theodore Hoerstman was elected president of the Cincinnati Kolping Society on November 1, 2019. He is a native of Cincinnati and he and his wife, Ann, as well as their two children, Theodore, Jr. and Elizabeth, reside in Hamilton, Ohio. He enjoys spending time with family and friends.

He joined Cincinnati Kolping in June 1997. He has been Schuetzen King 2018-2019 as well as a member of the Board from 2014 to 2016. Since his family has gotten involved with Kolping, they have had so much fun and have made many new friends. They consider Kolping an extension of their family.

As President he hopes to foster Blessed Adolph Kolping's vision to promote the individual, family and friendship through spiritual, charitable and social activities. He would also like to increase membership while still supporting Fr. Kolping's vision.



Congratulations Ted and wish you good luck in your presidency!

Patricia Farkas

International Board of Directors Meeting

I once again participated in the International Board of Directors meeting which was held this year in Germany in the town of Bensberg, a suburb of Cologne. Our meeting was held from Friday, October 11th to Sunday, October 13th 2019 at the Kardinal Schulte Haus - a hotel / retreat center run by the Diocese of Cologne.

Our meeting kicked off on Friday with an academic conference celebrating 50 years of Kolping International Development Cooperation. Notable dignitaries included Archbishop Ludwig Schick - Archbishop of Bamberg and Chairman for the Commission for International Church Affairs of the German Bishops' Conference. In addition special greetings from the Vatican were provided by Rev. Msgr. Bernard Munono Muyembe Senior Officer in the Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. Throughout the day, the achievements of Kolping International were highlighted. Two prominent former Kolping International leaders were in attendance including Msgr Heinrich Festing and former International Secretary Hubort Tintelot. I had the opportunity to speak with both of these gentleman who wanted me to pass on their warmest greetings to Kolping USA and our membership. The day concluded with a mass celebrated by Archbishop Schick and was held at the chapel on the grounds of the Kardinal Schulte Haus.

The actual business of the International Board of Directors Meeting occurred on Saturday and Sunday. Elections were held to replace former International Executive Board Member Thomas Dorlinger who represented Kolping Germany. He was replaced by Manuel Hormeyer of Germany who was confirmed by vote

of the International Board. Additional elections were held to replace several International Finance Committee members. Newly elected finance committee members include. Agnes Kaiserne Josvail of Hungary, Peter Jung of Switzerland and Martin Wilde of Germany. I will continue my role on the Finance committee.

I am happy to report that International Membership has seen an increase in 2019 from 376,122 world wide members in 2018 to 383,622 in 2019 a growth of 2%. While at the meeting Msgr. Ottmar Dillenburg gave an update on the canonization of Blessed Adolph Kolping. At the moment we are at a standstill as we are in need of an additional miracle through the intercession of Blessed Adolph Kolping to bring the procedure to a positive conclusion. Msgr. Dillenburg calls upon all Kolping members to continue our efforts to pray for a miracle and to appeal to Blessed Adolph Kolping at times of ill health or distress as well as to keep pointing out to Pope Francis that the beneficial work of Kolping Associations all over the world itself is a miraculous sign of the sainthood of Blessed Adolph Kolping.

As with past meetings - reports were given by each of the international Kolping organizations highlighting the various programs and achievements on a national level. As I have said in previous reports it is very interesting to walk around and view the various reports provided by each National Kolping and to talk with the people behind these achievements. When I see the work that Kolping does on an international basis - be it micro finance in India, water projects in Africa, or trade schools in South and Central America, I am thoroughly impressed. It is hard to believe that Father Kolping's good work that

started as a small organization for you journeymen in Germany has grown into this International Organization that has spread across the world.

International Partnerships have grown over the course of the 50 years of Kolping International with over 30 groups who have partnerships. Many of these partnerships are on a Diocesan level but also include National Organizations like Kolping USA. There are currently 60+ countries that benefit from these partnerships as some groups partner with more than one country. Likewise, some countries have partnerships with more than one group.

National Treasurer
Theodore Wilke

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

CHICAGO

William Mahrenholz

DETROIT

George Krappman

LOS ANGELES

Marie Carmen Vaughn

NEW YORK

*Joseph Haneman
Horst Schmitt
James Zambrano*

International Kolping



International Board of Directors' meeting marked by the Amazon Synod

The International Board of Directors of KOLPING INTERNATIONAL meets every other year. Delegates of Kolping organizations and societies with more than 1,000 members assemble to discuss the future of the international association. This time, they did not only exchange ideas about the large variety of activities in the different parts of the world but the agenda also listed the first report of the International Executive Board. The good news was that internationally Kolping is happy to report a global membership growth despite the fact that the situation of Kolping associations differs substantially depending on the region.

Besides attending the academic conference to celebrate 50 years of professional development cooperation, delegates dealt with the Instrumentum Laboris, the working document for the Pan-Amazon Synod of Bishops in Rome. Based on some quotes from the document, they discussed how the Gospel can be inculturated and adapted to local cultures, how the Creation can be preserved, the role of women in the official ministry in the Church, and new realities families are facing today. Delegates were searching for answers to the question how Kolping Families themselves become places for dedicated people to meet and work for a lively church and a sustainable economy.



Serbia: New vocational training center in Sajan

Kolping started its work in Serbia in the village of Sajan in 2001. Thanks to the support of Kolping Switzerland, a new vocational training center has now been opened there.

"The center is to make the Sustainable Development Goals known and to enable women to start a business", said Melinda Tomić, managing director of Kolping Serbia. "In addition, we want to train young people in sustainable agriculture because the large majority of the population in the region works in this area."

The new center will play an important role in reaching the goal of strengthening the overall economic structure in the Banat region and in engaging as many people on a low income as possible. Kolping Serbia has worked towards that aim intensively in cooperation with KOLPING INTERNATIONAL and with the support of the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development over many years. The commitment of Kolping Serbia is reaching out to more and more people: Not only in rural areas has Kolping become a synonym for dedicated work and high-quality education and training that is becoming attractive to more and more people to get involved, for example in the Kolping choir for women who helped to make the inauguration ceremony a festive event.



KOLPING INTERNATIONAL celebrates 50 years of successful development cooperation with an academic conference

In early October, KOLPING INTERNATIONAL had a reason to celebrate: For fifty years, it has been successful in doing sustainable project work all over the world.

High-ranking guests from the Church and politics came to celebrate and attend an academic conference with some 200 Kolping members. As there was also the meeting of KOLPING INTERNATIONAL's International Board of Directors, guests from Asia, Africa, Latin America and Europe demonstrated the diversity and size of the Association. Among the people expressing their good wishes there was the Archbishop of Bamberg and Kolping brother Ludwig Schick. He paid tribute to KOLPING INTERNATIONAL as a major player who is working for the common good in solidarity with people all over the world where the spirit of community is in decline.



South Africa: Occupational skills training for school leaverse

A training also for those who have dropped out from school and no longer believe in themselves? This is what KOLPING South Africa has offered young people with its Work Opportunity Programme (WOP) for over twenty years. At the end of October, another course started to train eleven young men and one woman in welding.

“The WOP programme has rescued me – I have become a new person“. This or similar statements is what Volker Greulich, our Africa desk officer keeps hearing when he visits the skills training courses. South Africa has got a good educational system but many children and young people, especially from poor and Coloured communities, have no access to it. KOLPING is focused on skills training for young people in the townships. Most of them experience for the first time that someone believes in them and trusts them to accomplish something. In a personal development course, the youngsters are psychologically cared for and learn about life skills before they select a suitable occupation and start a skills training course that will last several months. Participants can choose from a broad range of training courses, such as welding or cooking classes, but there is also a high demand for office management or short training courses where participants are taught how to repair mobile phones or computers.



Celebrating the World Day of Prayer on all continents

Kolping sisters and Kolping brothers were meeting in almost sixty countries on October 27 to celebrate the World Day of Prayer of KOLPING INTERNATIONAL. United in their sincere wish to pray for a canonization of Blessed Adolph Kolping in the near future, they also thanked God for the large variety of development projects on all continents.

In India, General Praeses Msgr. Ottmar Dillenburger celebrated with hundreds of Kolping sisters and Kolping brothers attending Holy Mass in the Vailankanni Shrine Basilica that was broadcast live and can be watched online.

In Togo, hundreds of Kolping members were not only meeting to celebrate mass together but also to attend various workshops and seminars to discuss and learn more about the life and work of Blessed Adolph Kolping and about the rights and duties of Kolping members today. This was followed by a social gathering to celebrate with Kolping choirs and to get everyone including the children involved in fun activities and games.

In Myanmar, some 200 Kolping members assembled in five regions of the country to celebrate the World Day of Prayer. In all regions, the day started with Archbishop Mathias U Shwe celebrating mass in the Shan region. The members used this World Day of Prayer to strengthen their Kolping membership and to meet for an exchange of ideas after mass. Between 20 and 95 members from various Kolping

The 2019 Annual Kolping Raffle

The annual raffle drawing was held on Tuesday, December 10, 2019.

This year’s winners were:

FIRST PRIZE \$1,500

Anita Buchholz
New York Kolping Society

SECOND PRICE \$1,000

Ingrid Franz
New York Kolping Society

THIRD PRIZE \$500

Ferdinand Zipprich
New York Kolping Society

The following is a brief accounting of the raffle:

Total amount received.....	\$ 9,775.00
Less expenses:	
Prizes.....	\$ 3,000.00
Printing & mailing	\$ 1,111.64
Total Amount to Operating Account.....	\$ 5,663.36

Families came to report on their activities, to thank for the harvest, to play music and to dance. KOLPING Myanmar used this day not only for prayer but also for networking and an exchange of opinions – the large variety of activities is evidence of the strong commitment Kolping members have in this Asian country.



**CATHOLIC KOLPING SOCIETY
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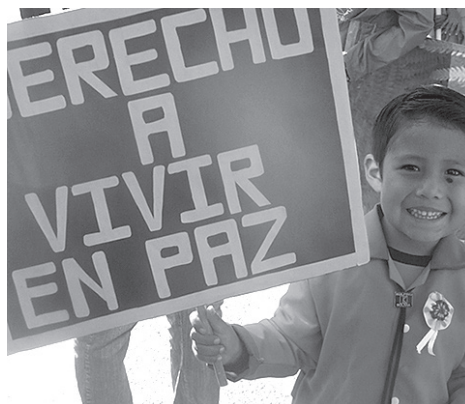
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International Kolping *(continued)*



Erasmus + youth exchange: A journey to Mexico to learn more about coffee

On August 19th -28th, 2019, the City of Mexico hosts youth exchanges from Poland, Romania, Germany and Mexico as part of the COFFEE-cooperation for fair economy & education (Erasmus +) project, whose leader is the Kolping Foundation in Poland.



Project of the month

Bad schooling and no vocational training – that means negative prospects for the future. In Brazil, the families often cannot afford a vocational training for their children. Who comes from a poor family often remains poor.

Ana Alice experienced just the same as many other young people in Brazil. Though she finished school, she didn't

know what to do afterwards. "I always wanted to do a vocational training, but I could not afford the courses", she said. When she heard about vocational training courses at Kolping, she realized her chance to make her dream come true and become a beautician. "I attended a course for manicure and I am now working in my own beautician salon. In this way I can earn money and help my family", says Ana Alice happily. That she is able to work in her desired occupation is a double lucky chance for her. "Everything what I achieved is thanks to Kolping!"

KOLPING Brazil promotes the vocational training of young people from poor families. Please help with your donation so that more young people get a perspective for the future and are able to fend for themselves. Teaching material costs 50 euro, the total costs for one youth are around 700 euro.