



# Kolping Banner

Official Publication of the Catholic Kolping Society of America | Vol. 97-No. 6 | August 2022

## Congratulations 2022 Kolping Scholarship Recipients

If you ever thought that Kolping may not have future, lay those doubts to rest. If the past two years' Kolping scholarship programs' responses are any indication of the talent, creativity and thoughtfulness of our younger generation, I have to say, "we're in pretty darn good shape!" Selecting awardees for the scholarships was no easy task. Lisa Brinkmann, Marilee Uhlhorn, Monika Weiss and Anna Stukenborg reviewed the 21 submissions and can easily say it was a close competition. Of our applicants, 12 were from Cincinnati; 2 from Chicago, L.A., New York and San Francisco, and one from Detroit.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2022 RECIPIENTS:

#### College-Level (\$3,000)

Julie Ahrnsen, Cincinnati Kolping ▪ Riley Jordan, Los Angeles Kolping ▪ Josh Moeller, Cincinnati Kolping  
Lauren Musbach, Cincinnati Kolping ▪ Daniel Schieder, Cincinnati Kolping  
Shelby Scott, San Francisco Kolping ▪ Aidan Wienkamp, Cincinnati Kolping

#### High School Level (\$1,000)

Zac LaValley - Detroit Kolping ▪ Matt Mayer - Chicago Kolping  
Lisa Brinkmann

## Greetings from Detroit

Even though Detroit doesn't sponsor large events anymore we are still making a big difference in people's lives.

In 2021 Detroit Kolping was happy to contribute in setting up two scholarship programs which are self-directed. In Ashland, Montana, on an Indian reservation, our former praeses Fr. Larry Webber, O.F.M., Cap. is pastor of St. Labre Parish. The seniors at St. Labre High School learned about the life of Blessed Adolf Kolping and the Catholic Kolping Society.



This year two worthy graduates were awarded the first Fr. Kolping Scholarship. The recipients are Myleigh Bigback and Kaylana Strange Owl pictured with Fr. Larry. The girls will attend a Catholic university and we congratulate them both.

The second scholarship program has been established at Macomb Community College in the local area. It is a foundation benefiting a student entering trade school. A recipient will be selected before the fall semester.

So a few young people in Montana and Michigan are being made aware of the Catholic Kolping Society and its importance in these times. We leave the rest to the Almighty.

Treu Kolping. Mary Dolland

### In the Banner this Month:

From the President's Desk .page 2  
A Praeses Proclaims .....page 3  
Endowment Fund .....page 3  
In Memoriam .....page 3  
International Convention ...page 4  
San Francisco Luncheon ...page 5  
Brooklyn Reports.....page 6  
International News .....page 8

## Kolping Banner

The Kolping Banner, published monthly, is the official newsletter of the Catholic Kolping Society of America.

Subscription Rates are \$13.00 per year, \$1.35 per issue, and \$1.00 for bulk orders over 100 plus postage. Back issues are available; by mail, all back issues \$2.50 including first class postage.

Send subscription requests with check, materials for publication, and address changes by the 10th of the preceding month to the Catholic Kolping Society of America, P. O. Box 4907, Clifton, NJ, 07015-4907, Telephone: 1-877-659-7237, e-mail: PATFARKAS@optonline.net.

Typesetting, Layout and Printing by Peerless Printing Company, 2250 Gilbert Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45206, 513-721-4657. Mailing by Performance Mailing, 2250 Gilbert Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45206, 513-241-5055. Postage paid at Cincinnati, Ohio, Permit No. 1474.

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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.

#### Episcopal Moderator:

Bishop John M. Quinn

#### National Officers:

Praeses, Fr. Richard Bretone  
Associate Praeses  
President, Lisa Brinkmann  
Vice President, Walter Amrein  
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Treasurer, Ted Wilke  
Trustees Lucille Colletti  
Henry Faulk  
Jonathan Groll  
Robert Mayer  
Marilee Uhlhorn

#### Kolping Family Locations:

**Brooklyn Kolping Family**, 6504 Myrtle Ave., Glendale, NY, 11385-6250, 718-456-7727

**Chicago Kolping Family**, 5826 N. Elston Ave., Chicago, IL 60646-5544, 773-792-2190

**Cincinnati Kolping Family**, 10235 Mill Rd., Cincinnati, OH, 45231-1924, 513-851-7951

**Detroit Kolping Family**, 1201 Rock Valley Drive, Rochester, MI 48307

**Los Angeles Kolping Family**, 1225 S. Union Ave., Los Angeles, CA, 90015-2021, 213-388-9438

**New York Kolping Family**, 165 E. 88th St., New York, NY 10128-2241, 212-369-6647

**Philadelphia Kolping Family**, 9130 Academy Road, Philadelphia, PA, 19114, 215-606-7020

**Rochester, New York Kolping Family**, 284 Malden Street, Rochester, NY 14615-2658,

**Saint Louis, Missouri Kolping Family**, 4035 Keokuk St., Saint Louis, MO, 63116-3513, 314-776-5312

**San Francisco Kolping Family**, 440 Taraval Street, San Francisco, CA, 94116-2530, 415-831-3989

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 ...

It'll be four years since we've been able to convene as a national group at our convention. Hard to believe on one hand, yet it seems like yesterday on the other. Over the last years our Kolping families have been challenged with wavering memberships, issues with local municipalities surrounding our buildings and the overall "graying" of our organization. Yet, we are buoyed celebrating 150 years of Kolping in Chicago, enjoying the biggest Schutzenfest turnout yet in Cincinnati and "finally" having activities together, in person.

If we've taken any lesson away from these past "Covid" years, it is the importance of community and appreciating what each of us brings to the table. Interestingly enough, in our recent scholarship competition, applicants used one quote from Father Kolping more often than any other, namely, "Humans need to join forces with other humans as soon as they want something that simply exceeds the capacities of the individual."

As one applicant wrote: *"Father Kolping understood most people want to feel like they are a contributing member in society and helping shape a fairer world. Father Kolping experienced this while helping workers wronged by industrialization with his help in spreading Journeyman's Society. In today's world, this is achieved through education, career, philanthropy, family and faith. Education aids in keeping Father Kolping's ideas alive by educating our youth to prepare them to become participating, mature members of society."*

Another wrote: *"Father Kolping seemed to promote the individual wealth and talents of a human and thought it was a good idea to bring those individual qualities and share them amongst a community to be a part of something even greater than oneself. This way everyone's strengths can come together, and individuals are encouraged, promoted, and supported by the community they have around them because of the genuine family aspect of a Kolping Family."*

Finally, a third shared: *"Compassion and empathy are two traits that define Father Kolping and his work to ensure that everyday people weren't forgotten in the drastic changes of societal industrialization. The "no man left behind" philosophy that guided Father Kolping is still extremely relevant in our world today. That relevance is so long lasting because no matter how much our world may change and grow, the core still remains the same. People will still need to be helped and there still needs to be people that provide the help. Understanding that no one has gone through life without the help of others is essential to grasping why Father Kolping's ideas are still so prevalent in our world."*

I am grateful for these reminders from our scholarship applicants and hopeful that we, as a larger community, can forge ahead and continue the works and legacy of Father Kolping. I look forward to seeing many of you at the convention and encourage those who may not be able to attend to send us their thoughts and ideas on how to craft our future.

***"The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new."*** Socrates

# A Praeses Proclaims...

## THE NEED FOR AUTHENTIC WITNESSES

By Fr. Christopher Heanue  
Praeses of the Brooklyn Kolping Society



A few years ago, a daughter of a permanent deacon told me that she had completely left the faith because she was tired of hearing her father preach against moral faults that he himself possessed. She could not separate the content of her father's words from the example of his own actions. He was condemning rather than leading. His hypocrisy gave him no credibility to speak about morality. He was trying to lead others in ways that he himself had not yet mastered

Hypocrisy is certainly a problem for anyone who tries to be an ethical teacher. A mother once asked Gandhi to tell her child to stop eating sugar. Gandhi told the mother to go home and to come back in two weeks. Though the mother was perplexed, she came back with her son two weeks later. This time, Gandhi said to the boy: "You should stop eating sugar. It is not good for your health." After the boy agreed, the woman asked Gandhi why he waited two weeks to chastise her son. He replied: "Mother, two weeks ago I was still eating sugar myself."

Like Gandhi, preachers of the Gospel of Christ have to guard against hypocrisy. Christ criticizes those who "tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men's shoulders, but they themselves are unwilling to move them with so much as a finger." (Mt 23:4) There is always the danger that a preacher will lay heavy burdens on the shoulders of his listeners without being willing to shoulder those burdens himself. The Church always needs more preachers that are authentic witnesses to Christian morality.

We must also remember, however, that most of us fail to achieve full moral consistency in this life. If we are honest and open about our own limitations, we can use that brokenness to help others.

In his great book "The Wounded Healer," Henri Nouwen writes about the vocation of an imperfect minister to direct others to God's healing message: "Making one's own wounds a source of healing, therefore, does not call for a sharing of superficial

personal pains, but for a constant willingness to see one's own pain and suffering as rising from the depth of the human condition that we all share." I have tried to take Nouwen's words to heart during my own ministry of preaching. Most of my homilies are homilies that I need to hear myself.

Most of us who participate in Sunday Mass regularly know that we are imperfect, that we are sinners, that we are so often hypocritical. We do not attend Mass because we are perfect; we attend because we are imperfect. It is only God who can heal and perfect us. This is true of parishioners and preachers alike.

God the Father is searching for authentic witnesses, men and women who will give their word to love and serve Him, and in their weakness, will work to inspire others. Let each of us strive to be such witnesses.

## National Endowment Fund

The National Endowment Fund received the following contributions for the months of May 15, 2022 to July 15, 2022

*Detroit Kolping*

*In memory of Irmgard Muller, deceased member of the Detroit Kolping Society*

*Edwin & Patricia Greisinger*

*In memory of Gertrude Krappmann, deceased member of the Detroit Kolping Society*

**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**

*Anthony Eckstein*

**DETROIT**

*Irmgard Mueller*



# 43rd National Kolping Convention

**Cincinnati, Ohio September 9 – 11, 2022**

We are quickly approaching the time when we will be holding the National Kolping Convention here in Cincinnati, Ohio, and we at Cincinnati Kolping are getting very excited about welcoming all of our Kolping brothers and sisters and showing you a little Midwestern hospitality. The theme for this convention is “New Beginnings”, signifying the reboot that we’ve all experienced, individually as well as in our Kolping Families, as we have redefined our lives coming out of the Coronavirus pandemic. Perhaps this is a good time to reflect on what direction we as Kolping U.S.A. should be going in.

Hopefully you all have your registration forms in (deadline was July 23rd) and you are at least in the process of making your hotel reservations, with the deadline being **August 19, 2022**. You can make your hotel reservations by calling the Embassy Suites phone number: 1-866-344-7548 and telling them that you are with the Cincinnati Kolping Society. You can also make your reservations by accessing the website at:

<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctyhocn=CVGCVES&groupCode=CESKS5&arrivaldate=2022-09-09&departuredate=2022-09-12&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT>

This will give you the Kolping rate of \$169 per night.

We have lots of information about sights to see on the Cincinnati Kolping website at: [www.kolpingcincinnati.com](http://www.kolpingcincinnati.com), so be sure to check it out! For our non-delegates, on Saturday, September 10th, after your visit to the Newport Aquarium and lunch at a local brewery, your tour guide will take you around our Over-the-Rhine entertainment district to soak up the history of the region, while visiting a couple of parks, museums and historic churches along the way.

We are looking forward to renewing old friendships and beginning new ones, as we welcome all of you to our fine city. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Nancy Pelzel at: [nancypelzel@aol.com](mailto:nancypelzel@aol.com) or at 513-385-3120.

Treu Kolping!

Nancy Pelzel  
2022 National Kolping Convention Committee Chair



# San Francisco 2022 Installation Luncheon

What a great day it was, spending a beautiful Saturday afternoon together at Nick's restaurant in Pacifica and celebrating our members. Over 50 members and guests gathered, excited to be together, as many of us hadn't seen one another in over 2 years. There were "thank you's" to go around: Sylvia Hildebrandt of Chrissa Imports donated all the wine; Deacon Bill McLoughlin extended a heartfelt blessing to start the luncheon; and Piet Zuger treated us by inviting fellow Swiss, Andy Egger, to join him in a Swiss/German drinking song – who knew we had such talent!



San Francisco Kolping President, Lisa Brinkmann, gave an update on what Kolping San Francisco has been doing these past two years, including repairing the ceiling, floors and lighting in the Hall after the roof leak, donating close to \$80,000 to local Catholic schools in our lower-income neighborhoods, and just trying to keep our members connected during Covid.

We were happy to be able to honor our Distinguished members for 2020 and 2022. Gunther Ehrich (2020 awardee) will be traveling to the Kolping Convention in Cincinnati to receive his

award. Raymond Rolfes, our 2022 awardee, passed away before learning of this honor. However, Susie Ruecker, his long-time partner, and Raymond's daughter, Katrina Morgan were at the luncheon and will be accepting the award in Cincinnati.



## *Klub Ninety*



While putting together information for this year's Installation Luncheon, Lisa realized we had a large number of members in their 90s and was very inspired to see how age hasn't slowed them down (much.) As a way of honoring these individuals, we decided to acknowledge this special group with a KLUB NINETY mug for that morning coffee or tea.

Members initiated into this special "Klub" are Jean Nelson, Peggy Mylett, Inge Stottmeister, Ursula Younger, Milly Gaehwiler, Hildegard and Heinz Beering, Gunther Ehrich, Mimi Springer, Louise Tschudi, Rosemarie Azinheira, Gerhard Holder, Dolly Gruebl, Eleonore Redmond, and Gerry DeRyan. One member was overheard saying, "Geez, I have to wait another two years to get mine!" No worries, we'll have one for you!





# Brooklyn Reports

We had a nice early spring day on Sunday, March 27 when we welcomed a group of thirty people to our Annual Meeting at the Kolping Center. As folks arrived, they were directed to and asked to sign the get well and thinking-of- you cards we prepared for people who were not able to be at the meeting. We also had a donation box for the St. Matthias Food Pantry, as well as a can for donations to the International Kolping's Ukrainian Refugee Fund.

We got started off with a prayer, then enjoyed lunch together, a hearty cold cut buffet with salads and homemade butternut squash soup (prepared and served by Christopher Gerage). When the dishes were cleared, we assembled everyone for a group photo. The photo went so well, we determined that we need to do this more often.

We moved onto the main business of the day, the Annual Meeting. We proceeded through the various reports on the events of 2021, the status of our Kolping Center and a review of our finances for the members.

A few awards were presented, pleasant highlights of the day. We presented Anne Novotny with her 25 year membership pin, and announced that Elfriede Loeschinger (who was not present) reached 50 years of membership and is due for a gold pin. We finally presented Inge Jellen with her 2020 Distinguished Service Award plaque, which was delayed and postponed due to the pandemic and other circumstances.

Bill then talked about our member of over sixty years, Albert Tscherne. While organizing our archives, Bill learned that Albert was our Corresponding Secretary back in the 1950's and early '60's, in the pre-email days when everything was typed, printed, envelopes stuffed and mailed to members. Sometimes this was done every two or three weeks, and other times meetings and events came up on short notice and it was done a few times a week to keep everyone informed – a lot of labor! Bill added that Albert has always been supportive and helpful, and he is also a great guy that everyone likes and respects.

He then read a letter to Albert from the National Secretary informing him that he is the recipient of our 2022 Distinguished Service Award! This recognition is long overdue. The award ceremony will be part of the 43rd National Kolping Convention in Cincinnati, to be held September 9-11.

When the official portion of the meeting was closed, we adjourned to dessert, coffee, tea and each other's company.

Very special mention goes to our Junior Kolping members who were on hand (Aniken, Phoenix and Zoey Josten, Ayden and Lia Meyer and Gio Stahl) – and had a lot of fun together. They were so well behaved!

Thank you to everyone for attending. Special thanks go to Chris Gerage for supervising the food aspects, to Jessica Meyer for taking photos, to Sonia Juran Kulesza who set us up for the group photo, and to everyone who pitched in for the clean-up.

-Treu Kolping, Bill Conte



*Bill presents Anne Novotny with her well-deserved 25 year pin.*



*Inge Jellen receives her 2020 Distinguished Service Award Plaque.*



*Bill congratulates Albert on being our 2022 Distinguished Service Award recipient.*



Signing cards to some members who were unable to attend.



Chris Gerage in action behind the buffet, serving us.



Junior Kolping members lined up at the bar: Anakin Josten, Zoey Josten, Gio Stahl, Lia Meyer, Ayden Meyer and Phoenix Josten.



Meeting under way. Recording Secretary Valerie Meyer and President Bill Conte



Scott Stahl and Gillian Guile.



Ayden, Phoenix and Lia chillin'.



Standing: Jessica Meyer, Chris & Pat Gerage, Theresa Wiederhold, Scott Stahl, Gillian Guille, Jonathan, Evelyn Infante, Jeff Blatz, Michelle Blatz, Laura Murphy, Valerie Meyer, John Murphy, Sean Josten, Sonia Juran Kulesza and Gary Meyer. Seated: John Jellen, Rose Rom, Alice Kokasch, Bill Conte, Anne Novotny, Inge Jellen, Albert Tscherne. On the floor: Aniken Josten, Phoenix Josten, Gio Stahl, Lia Meyer, Ayden Meyer and Zoey Josten.





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## International Kolping



### **Ukraine aid: Donations help people to survive**

The European Kolping community has reacted to the terrible war in Ukraine with an overwhelming willingness to help and donate. In Ukraine itself, KOLPING immediately converted its facilities into emergency shelters after the outbreak of the war.



### **Drought in Eastern Africa: Every euro is needed**

Eastern Africa is currently experiencing one of the worst droughts since the 1980s. For the third time in a row, the rainy season has failed there. The effects of the war in Ukraine are making the situation even worse.



### **Brazil: Making children strong**

The pandemic was and still is a big challenge and a major change also in the lives of the children and teenagers. With a lot of creativity and commitment, KOLPING Brazil has managed to stay in contact with the children during the lockdown and to support especially children from disadvantaged and poor families.