



February 2022

**Dear Kolping Members and Friends,**

Greetings, hope everyone is doing well. As the scene above illustrates, it's the time of year when snow may still come our way, but with any luck it won't stick around too long. Won't be long before crocus will be pushing up out of the ground!

Shortly after our Christmas Party, Covid staged a return. The Omicron variant spread quickly, affecting normal life once again. Taking an optimistic - but cautious – approach, we've set some dates for Kolping activities for the remainder of 2022.

Once again, it's time for our **Annual Meeting**, scheduled on **Sunday, March 27 at 1PM at the Center**. Dues notices, included in this mailing, are payable at the meeting or by mail. The meeting begins with a cold buffet luncheon. **We will be taking a group photo**, to be included in the 2022 Kolping Convention Journal, so please plan to attend and be a part of the fun!

We also ask everyone to open your hearts and support **the Kolping National Lenten Project** with an annual donation. We are again supporting Kolping Kenya by donating the funds to donate goats to the Kolping Families there. This provides both vocational training and food products. Remember-participation is the goal, modest donations are fine. **Here's how National President Lisa Brinkmann put it in the February Kolping Banner:** *Our goodwill towards our Kolping brothers and sisters in Kenya through our Lenten project continues to demonstrate our belief in the power of education and work. The many goats we have helped distribute through our donations have given the Kolping members hope and a new vision for their future.* **An envelope is tucked into the February Kolping Banner for this purpose, and we hope everyone puts it to good use.**

A final note. We have resurrected the custom of social Friday evenings, centered around the bar at the Kolping Center. The next date is **Friday, March 11**, doors open at 5PM. It is designed for members and their guests, no entry donation is required. Soft drinks will be provided, but not alcoholic beverages, **so please BYOB**. We always put out some appetizers and sweets, and everyone is encouraged to bring items to add to the table – a family affair! It's a great chance to socialize and make new friends. **Very best wishes to all, Bill Conte, President**

**Kolping Calendar:**

**Social Night at the Kolping Center, Friday 3/11/22.** Doors open at 5PM. This is an informal event for all members and their guests. Soft drinks are provided, but not alcoholic beverages, so remember to **BYOB**. We will also provide some munchies and snacks and sweets, but feel free to bring something you like to add to the buffet table.

**Board of Directors Meeting, Tuesday 3/15/22** at 6:30PM in the Kolping Center.

**Annual Meeting & Luncheon, Sunday 3/27/22** at 1PM at the Kolping Center. We hope you attend! We will enjoy a cold buffet together, then proceed with the meeting. **Reminder: we will be taking a group photo of the Brooklyn Family** to publish in the official journal for September's National Convention and you will want to be included!

**Social Night at the Kolping Center, Friday 4/8/22.** Doors open at 5PM, please remember to BYOB.

**Kolping Family Christmas Party, Saturday 12/10/22.** The details have not been worked out, but please save the date!

**Kolping News:**

**Condolences.** We are sorry to report the passing of another long-time member. **Anton Hoeffler** died on Thursday, January 13 after a long illness. He was a native of Langenton, Gottschee, and he lived in Glendale for many years. A family man, he was the father of Marguerite, Ronald and Tom, and grandfather of four. He will be greatly missed by his many nieces and nephews. He was also survived by three brothers. Although we have not seen Anton in recent years, his passing leaves yet another hole in our Brooklyn Kolping Family. Our sincere condolences are sent to his wife, Elizabeth, and the other family members.

**Welcome to our newest member!** We welcomed **Fred Haller** into our Kolping Family in December. If the name sounds familiar it might be because his dad was a longtime member, plus he is the part of the Glendale law firm Haller & Haller. Fred is also very active in the local Kiwanis Club. We look forward to Fred enjoying a long association with the Brooklyn Kolping Family!

**Congratulations to the Heller Family.** **Christopher Heller**, grandson of our late members late Arlene & Frank Heller Jr, and son of Cliff Heller was ordained a Deacon in November. He studied at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers and is set to be ordained into the priesthood on June 23. There is no doubt his grandparents, along with great grandparents Lisa & Frank Heller Sr, and his great Aunt Evelyn Blatz are all smiling down on him.

**Social Night at Kolping, Friday 11/26.** Despite it being the day after Thanksgiving, we had a nice get together with 15 adults and three children. It was a family affair with donations of snacks and desserts comprising a small buffet. Kolping provided soft drinks, and folks brought along their favorite adult beverage. A few adults started an Uno game, and eventually the kids joined

in the fun! Games seem to be a natural for these social evenings, so look for more in the future. We had a birthday in the house, so things ended on a celebratory note with the singing of Happy Birthday! **Please plan to come and add to the fun at the next social evening on Friday, 3/11!**

**Our Christmas Luncheon** on Saturday 12/4 was a fun time! Projecting smaller numbers due to the pandemic. and working around a few issues at the Center, our Board struggled to come up with an alternative Christmas get-together. Our active members really wanted a gathering to exchange Christmas cheer. With great hope, we set up a luncheon at a familiar spot, Gottscheer Hall in Ridgewood. Come the day, we welcomed 35 adults and kids. The private dining room was filled to capacity, making it a real 'family' style gathering. The holiday linens and table centerpieces designed by Jessica and Valerie Meyer were the crowning touch. The food was outstanding, and our server (Trina) did a great job in a crowded space. We enjoyed a Christmas program and sing-along which led up to a visit from Santa Claus. Santa brought a gift for every child, plus some adults! Santa was in excellent spirits and gave many hugs before he had to depart to visit other kids at their parties. Thanks to all who came out and made this such a fun party.

**Mail.** The Society received Christmas Greetings from: the National Office, National Vice President Walter Amrein, National Secretary Helene Schrand, National Trustee Lucille Colletti; and the Detroit, San Francisco, and St. Louis Kolping families. We also received a warm note from Father Chris.

*-Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Glad to see you are keeping the Brooklyn Kolping spirit alive! Wish we lived nearby. Rosemarie Gnam & (husband) Ian*

*-Wishing you all the wonder and magic of the Holiday Season. Wishing everyone a blessed and beautiful Christmas and good health and comfort in the New Year. Karl Werkmann*

*-And so the good news was told to the Shepherds, the miracle of Jesus' birth. Blessings of hope and peace, with fond regards to all the Kolping Sisters and Brothers. Sister Elizabeth Gnam*

*-To the Kolping Society Officers and Family Members, Hope you have a Merry Christmas. Josephine Ristagno*

*-To the Brooklyn Kolping Family, Your kind expression of sympathy was deeply appreciated and is gratefully acknowledged by the family of Anton Hoeffler.*

**House Issues.** We've had to make repairs at the Kolping Center in recent months. Our aging heat/AC unit for the main ballroom was not working, but was able to be repaired. We were not so lucky with the second unit for the rear of the building – we installed a new system in November. Our latest problem is the rear wall of the building. There seems to be wall damage and the siding keeps coming loose. The current siding must be removed, any underlying wall damage repaired, then new siding installed. These expenses come at a time with little income due to the pandemic. Thanks to Chris Gerage for lining up contractors and getting estimates. **Donations to offset these unexpected expenses would be welcome and especially helpful to the Society.**

**Upcoming Events at Gottscheer Hall.** Our friends at the Gottscheer KUV remind everyone that the **120<sup>th</sup> Bauernball** is set for **Sunday, March 13 at 1PM at Gottscheer Hall. Featuring** music by Die Spitzbuam and a roast pork dinner, for a donation of \$65 per person. The KUV is also planning a **Brunch with the Easter Bunny on Sunday, April 11**, which promises to be a fun time for children of all ages. **For information and reservations call Gillian at 917-710-3924.**

**Happy Birthday Wishes!** We have three **birthdays in February:** *Evelyn Infante, Christopher Meyer and Alfred Wittreich.* Congratulations in **March** to *Allison Hart, Monica Meyer, Laura Murphy, Karl Werkmann and Steven Wiederhold.* In **April** we will send our best to *Fred Augstein, Fred Haller, John Murphy, Anne Novotny, Scott Stahl and Albert Tscherne.* Those with their special day in **May** are *Ann Conte, Gordon Heiser, Sonia Juran Kulesza, and Theresa Wiederhold.* Finally...in **June** we will salute *Michelle Blatz, Pat Gerage, John Jellen, Margarete Knapp, Herbert Roethel, Reinhard Schmuck, and Ivette Stahl.* **Sending warm birthday greetings to each and every one of you!**

**Good and Welfare:** Please remember anyone who is sick, homebound, or just needs a prayer. *Ernie Lauth* is back at home, healed up from a fractured hip. Also remember *Rosemarie Elgass*, **and anyone we are not aware needs our prayers.**

**In Memoriam:** Please take a moment to reflect and remember our deceased Kolping Family members. **Passed in February:** *Max Buchte (1970), Anna Fleisch (1969), Hildegard Gartner (1978), Edward Hopeck (2011), Mary Kuhn (2005), Josef Loeschinger (2012), Anton Oettinger (1989), Lena Tiedeken (1986), Bernhard Tiedeken (1989).* **March:** *Edward Blatz (1980), John Braumgeither (1976), Olga Freund (2008), Eleanor Gartner (2021), Richard Greimer (1986), Reinhardt Greismer (1986), Monsignor Joseph Konrad (2006), William Markaut (1950), Pauline Vogt (1999).* **April:** *Evelyn Heller Blatz (2020), Rita Briskelli (2010), Elizabeth Bugert (1956), John Bittel (1986), Winfried Blatz (2005), Terry Brandel (2003), William Conte Sr (2007), Frieda Diener (2010), Eleanor Gartner (2021), Anna Hertling (1957), Paula Hartmann (1986), Arlene Heller (2020), Frank House (1940), Franz Kokasch (2021), Irene Lauth (2021), August Mueller (1980), Gus Mueller (1986), Elizabeth Oetting (1952), Frank Pfitzer (1975), Katherine Pfitzer (1996), Joe Sellerberg (1985), Thea Schick (1991), Arthur Vogt (2005).* **May:** *Ed Farkas (2004), Frank Heller Jr (2019), Peter Hertling (1962), John Huxis (1943), Wilhelmina Krauskaupf (1953), Otto Roessler (1998), Janet Blatz Schields (1987), John Schober (1958), Jean Seidl (2018), Joseph Seufert (1956), Fanny Vogel (2005), John Weindler (2007), Marie Werkmann (2021).* **June:** *Eddie Blatz (2011), Eugene Blatz (1973), Arthur Blenkle (2014), Evelyn Bove (2005), Wilma Buchte (1975), Otto Burger (1991), John Burk (1963), Alfred Cerne (2013), Felix Christ (1976), Franz Huber (1995), Vincent Lieber (1975), Martha Olbrich (1971), Elizabeth Reilly (2000), August Ruhs (1974), Leo Trabold (1993).*

