

Kolping Banner

Official Publication of the Catholic Kolping Society of America | Vol. 98-No. 1 | October 2022

Thank you, Carol Ideler!

It's with extreme gratitude that we recognize Carol Ideler for her unflinching dedication to National Kolping as our Convention Recording Secretary and wish her the best in her well-deserved retirement from this role.

Little did Carol realize when Bill Mahenholz asked her to type up the minutes to the 1976 Kolping Convention meeting in Brooklyn, that she would be managing this job for the next 44 years!

Many of us may not realize the amount of time, energy and diligence it takes to publish and distribute meeting minutes. Capturing the discussions, issues and decisions of a convention requires not just sitting through a day or two of meetings, but



the unique skill and talent to understand the issues, convert long discussions into succinct sentences and organize it all into a document that all can review. Carol proved to be a pro.

But it's even more than that.... "Back in the day" minutes had to be typed on typewriters, proofread by officers, edited, finalized,

copied ...and then mailed to all members. Don't forget, those were the days we were using tools like carbon paper, white-out and mimeograph machines. Just imagine all the envelopes typed out by hand "back in the days" before computers, Word, Avery apps and email!

The president of one of my former companies (now a retired venture capital angel investor) once said, "the smartest person in a room is the one who can take good meeting minutes." She must have met Carol!

Thank you, Carol, for filling this important position for so many years.

**Please Remember
To Pray For All Our
Dear Departed
Members**

**Who Have Gone
To Their Eternal Rest**

CINCINNATI

*Rudy Eismann
Martha Engler
Margaret Gerdes
Edmund Kuderer*

NEW YORK

Tom Waitkins

ST. LOUIS

William Werton

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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, Helene Schrand
Secretary, Barbara Hessler
Treasurer, Ted Wilke
Trustees Lucille Colletti
Henry Faulk
Marilee Uhlhorn
Monika Weiss
Wolfgang Weiss

Kolping Family Locations:

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

Cincinnati Kolping Family, 10235 Mill Road, Cincinnati, OH, 45231-1924, 513-851-7951

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

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

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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 ...

Fun, welcoming and most importantly, productive – those are the words that come to mind to describe this year's Kolping convention. It's not often that you leave a day-long meeting feeling good about the proposals recommended, discussions had and decisions made to move ideas forward.

It was really good to see so many familiar faces again.

Everyone was happy to see one another – and see if we still recognized each other! The venue was great – right on the river where you could walk easily, catch a shuttle or just watch the football game at the stadium on the other side. Finally, many of our members who attended the convention for the first time commented on how friendly all our Kolping members were – they felt welcomed.

From the productive standpoint, I believe a lot was accomplished:

1. Lenten project – we approved continuing our relationship with Kolping Kenya, supporting their recommendation to shift from just purchasing goats to providing a holistic package, including water tanks and stackable gardens to ensure the longevity of the program.
2. Scholarship program – we will continue to offer scholarships to college, trade- and high school students.
3. Loan program – a committee was formed to explore the viability of offering short-term loans to local Kolping families for projects relating to meeting halls, buildings and other capital expenses.
4. Junior Kolping Meet-up – a committee will reach out to our scholarship applicants to gauge their interest in meeting other young potential Kolping members and explore ideas on how we can keep our youth engaged.
5. Social Media – a committee is charged to recommend how and which social media might benefit communications about Kolping both on the national and local levels.
6. 2024 Convention – a task force was formed to determine where, when and how we can have a 2024 convention, hosted at the National level.

In addition, the audit committee reviewed and confirmed that our financial books are in order and well maintained. Finally, we voted on officers and directors for the next two years. These are as follows:

National Officers

National Praeses	Fr. Richard Bretone	National Trustee	Henry Faulk
National President	Lisa Brinkmann	National Trustee	Marilee Uhlhorn
National Vice President	Helene Schrand	National Trustee	Lucille Colletti
National Secretary	Barbara Hessler	National Trustee	Monika Weiss
National Treasurer	Ted Wilke	National Trustee	Wolfgang Weiss
National Administrator	Patricia Farkas		

Chicago Kolping surprised us all with a commemorative beer stein, celebrating their 150th anniversary. Jon Kroll and Mark Stemper handed one out to each Kolping family – prost!

I'd like to thank Pat Farkas for her "behind the scenes" efforts. Due to health reasons, she was unable to attend, but missed by all. Also, a big thank you to Carol Ideler for all her years as Convention Recording Secretary and to Barbara Hessler, for picking up the responsibility. We will be busy over the next month or so, reporting back to our local families, kicking off committee meetings and keeping the focus on growing our Kolping families.

If anyone is interested in participating on one of the committees, please let us know. We would like to hear from all members!

Thanks to all for making this convention a success.

Lisa Brinkmann

A Praeses Proclaims...



NATIONAL CONVENTION

By Fr. Dan Kroger, OFM
Praeses of the Cincinnati Kolping Family

The forty-third Kolping National Convention wrapped up yesterday, September 11, 2022. It was a great affair with delegates from the various families here in the United States. Originally scheduled for 2019 in Cincinnati, it had to be postponed two years due to the Covid-19 epidemic. Congratulations and thanks are certainly due to the planners and to those who worked so diligently and sacrificed so much to make this year's convention successful and enjoyable.

God truly blessed us all with good weather and good attendance. We

were able to pray together at the Masses and in less formal settings. We shared ideas and experiences, but also food and drink as we renewed relationships and caught up with one another and made new acquaintances. We awarded so many for their part in serving the national family at the awards banquet. Congratulations and thanks were certainly expressed.

The delegates, under the leadership of Lisa Brinkman and the National Board, gave a green light to recommendations that were proposed, explained, discussed,

and approved for implementation, with the understanding that further refinement might be made as necessary. We now have the direction needed for the next couple years. I must say that for such a large group, the delegates' meeting was truly efficient. My impression is that the U.S. Kolping movement is alive and well.

May the Lord continue to give us the grace we need. Treu Kolping!

WARM HEART MINISTRIES

"INASMUCH AS YOU HAVE DONE IT UNTO ONE THE LEAST OF THESE MY BROTHERS, YOU HAVE DONE IT UNTO ME..." MATTHEW 25:40



July 26, 2022

WARM HEART MINISTRIES

Dear Kelvin,

I write to express my excitement and thankfulness on behalf of many children in Malawi for the soccer balls and jerseys you donated to me through Rick.

Many schools will be happy to use and develop their soccer skills.

Thank you very much and may God bless you always.

Sincerely,
Fr. Philip Mbeta



The St. Louis Kolping Kicks Soccer Club sent five boxes of jerseys to this group.

Harry Steiger, St. Louis Kolping President

A 2022 National Kolping Convention Retrospective

Well, it finally happened – the Cincinnati Kolping Society hosted the 2020/2022 National Kolping Convention on the weekend of September 9 – 11, 2022, and we welcomed our fellow Kolping brothers and sisters with a special brand of Midwestern hospitality. From the opening reception at the Embassy Suites Hotel on Friday evening to the riverboat lunch cruise on Sunday afternoon, everyone had lots of opportunities to get to know one another on a personal basis and to compare notes on our individual Kolping Families. On a personal note, I felt truly blessed to be a part of an organization that has such amazing, caring people coming from all parts of the country.

I will leave the details of the working part of the convention to Lisa Brinkmann, but after the delegates' meeting and the non-delegates' tour on Saturday, the pièce de résistance was the banquet that evening. After a delicious dinner prepared by John Knizner and his crew was served by many volunteers, our emcee, Tom Musbach, introduced Fr. Dan Kroger, the Cincinnati Praeses, who started us out with a prayer. Fr. Dan

was followed by Anna Stukenborg, President of Cincinnati Kolping, and Lisa Brinkmann, National Kolping President.

The Distinguished Service Awards were then given out by Lisa. Since the 2020 DSA recipients did not get to receive their awards at a national convention, they were announced first. The 2020 recipients were: Inge Jellen from Brooklyn; Jonathan Groll from Chicago; Robert Bauer, Tom Musbach, & Ted Wilke from Cincinnati; Herbert Seubert from Detroit; Raymond Scott from Los Angeles; Al Ahrens, Frank Kurcz & Lou Colletti from New York; Eleanor Leifholtz from Philadelphia; and Gunther Ehrich from San Francisco.

The 2022 DSA recipients then received their awards: Albert Tcherne from Brooklyn; George VanDurme from Chicago; Rita Musbach, Sylvia Ostendorf Smith & Pat Whalen from Cincinnati; Joan Enright from Detroit; Veronika Kessler from Los Angeles; Josef Szoldatits, John Weigand & Alfred Vogl from New York; and Raymond Rolfes (posthumously) from San Francisco. When reading the

accomplishments of each of these individuals, I was truly impressed with the hard work and the giving nature of all of these amazing Kolping members.

Next was the presentation of the membership trophy, which was won by Chicago Kolping. The award was accepted by Jonathan Groll, its president. A closing prayer was then said by Fr. Richard Bretone, the National Praeses, followed by everyone singing the Kolping Song. We were entertained the rest of the evening by the fantastic Sound Body Jazz Orchestra.

On Sunday morning, we began the day by attending Mass together at the historic Mother of God Church in Covington, Kentucky, con-celebrated by Fr. Dan Kroger, Cincinnati Praeses; Fr. Richard Bretone, National Praeses; Fr. Mike Reilly, Philadelphia Praeses; and Deacon Bill McLoughlin, San Francisco Praeses. I must admit that it gave me chills watching each of the Kolping families with their Kolping flags march down the center aisle of the church at the beginning of Mass. Mass was followed by a riverboat lunch cruise on the *Belle of Cincinnati*.



2020 DSA Recipients

2020 Distinguished Service Award Recipients

L to R: Gunther Ehrich, San Francisco; Jonathan Groll, Chicago; Eleanor Leifholtz, Philadelphia; Lou Colletti, New York; Ted Wilke, Cincinnati; Tom Musbach, Cincinnati.



Mother of God Church (2)

Photo of convention participants in front of Mother of God Church, Covington, Kentucky

(Kolping Convention Retrospective continued)

I would like to thank all of the many volunteers who helped to bring this convention to fruition, especially my committee members: Bob Findley, Ted Klosterman, Lisa Moore, Tom and Rita Musbach, Tracy Salemme, Helene Schrand, Harry and Dianne Schwietering, Anna Stukenborg, Marilee Uhlhorn, and Bob Yuellig. And of course, a big thank you to all of the many terrific participants in the convention.

Treu Kolping,
Nancy Pelzel



2022 DSA Recipients

2022 Distinguished Service Award Recipients

L to R: Veronika Kessling, Los Angeles; Joan Enright, Detroit; Bill Conte accepting for Albert Tscherne, Brooklyn; George VanDurme, Chicago; Tom Musbach accepting for Rita Musbach, Cincinnati; Sylvia Ostendorf Smith, Cincinnati; Katrina Morgan and Susie Ruecker accepting for Raymond Rolfes, San Francisco; Gerhard Schmitt accepting for Josef Szoldatits, John Weigand and Alfred Vogl, New York.

National Endowment Fund

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

There were no donations for this time period.

Kolping Society National Endowment Fund

c/o Lisa Brinkmann

311 Greene Street
Mill Valley, CA 94941-4132

International Kolping

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.

A good example is the Kolping Family Imaculada Conceição from São Paulo: Instead of running weekly group meetings, they offered virtual meetings and various projects for children and teenagers between the age of 6 and 14: There were reading workshops and picture and poem interpretations. Guessing games were fun and playfully boosted vocabulary and creative thinking. To strengthen the community spirit and prevent loneliness, the youngsters wrote motivating messages to each other. Drama groups were already working online on the next play, which will be rehearsed on-site soon. Online dance classes and flute lessons instead of choral singing were also part of the multifaceted programme.



When finally, get-togethers were possible again, there was at first a party with cake. Everyone was happy to finally be together again. The youngsters were excited about the large variety of activities: they dealt with recycling and environmental protection, learned about native plants and produced natural insect repellent spray from citronella and eucalyptus. Thanks to the support they received from Kolping, the children managed to get through this difficult time.

Thank You

Hello to all of my fellow Kolping brothers and sisters,

I hope you all had uneventful trips home after such a great convention. I know it's taken me the greater part of this week to get back into the swing of things. It's funny, too, how quickly the day to day takes over.

I wanted to make sure I thanked you all for your participation and support of this convention. While it was a long time in the making, it was doubly important that we all were able to show up and demonstrate our commitment to a National organization. I am really happy that we were able to move through so many big topics and decide to move forward with them. It was nice to know that committees comprising of members from all of our Kolping groups were formed to explore the viability of our proposals. Again, for this I send a huge thanks.

I know Helene and Barbara will provide excellent meeting minutes, but just to recap and keep the momentum going, I thought I just highlighted our agreements and decisions:

1. Lenten Project - we will move forward with Kenya, requesting an emphasis on a holistic roll out - goats, water and stackable gardens.
2. Scholarship Program - we will continue this program and welcome anyone who might want to participate on the committee.
3. Loan Program - a committee was assembled to explore the viability, requirements and guideline. Committee members are Ted Wilke, Peter Caruthers and Maria Steigerwald. Others are welcome.
4. Junior Kolping Meet-up - a committee was assembled to draft

a roll-out plan to assess interest of our younger members, forum and content. Committee members are Monika Weiss, Lu Colletti, Anna Stukenborg and (we think) Jon Kroll or John Stevie (Jon/John please let us know if we can confirm this).

5. Social Media - Lisa and Lou Colletti will be heading this committee to explore how National can best use social media.

We also realized that none of our local Kolping families are able to put on the next convention in 2024 and established a 2024 Convention taskforce to determine where, how and when this can be done on a National level. Committee members are Marilee Uhlhorn, Veronika Kessler, Doris Wilke, Natalya Borodin and Lisa . Paul

I've set up a site using the app, Cluster, for anyone who would like to upload pictures. I've tested it with some from my album. You can also download pictures you may want to share. The site is: <https://cluster.co/invited/>

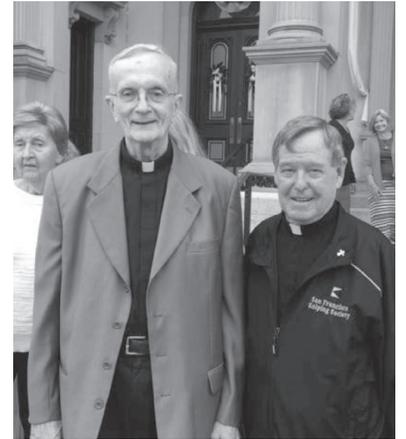


Kolping has a Zoom account for meetings, so as we begin to schedule the committee meetings, I will give members access. It would be great if committees can announce when they are meeting, just in case someone would like to join. In that spirit, I will set up the first meeting for each committee in October (stay tuned for a follow up email), to kick things off.

Thanks again for everything and I wish you success at your local families.

Lisa







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International Kolping *(continued)*



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. The desk officer for Africa at KOLPING INTERNATIONAL, Mr Volker Greulich, reports.

Exchange of Kolping Societies in Asia

Numerous mothers in South Africa have experienced domestic violence, they care for their children alone and live in poverty. KOLPING gives them mental strength, confidence and helps them with their occupational training.

In the suburbs of Cape Town, KOLPING helps young mothers in need by providing intensive support. Often the women are single parents and overburdened. Without a school certificate or training, they feel left alone and without prospects. Moreover, many are traumatised by experiences of violence, and they have no one to support them.

This is where KOLPING can help by providing space for discussions in small groups, psychological and social support. This helps the women to



regain their self-esteem. They gain new hope and start to believe in themselves and their abilities. As a result, they also manage to make concrete plans for their future. For many mothers, the programme is a turning point in their lives: "For the first time, someone has taken an interest in me," reports 20-year-old Leigh from Burgersdorp. She is now self-confident and full of energy. "KOLPING helped me to accept myself and now I want to be a role model for my children."