



June, 2021

Dear Kolping Members and Friends,

Finally...some good news! We are not totally out of the woods yet, but little by little we are gaining control over the covid pandemic which changed our lives quickly and completely. After fourteen months our Board of Directors reconvened, and we are getting back on track. We were overdue for a mailing to bring us all up to date.

Kolping News:

Condolences. Unfortunately, we have lost three members so far in 2021:

Eleanor Gartner passed away on March 14 age 86. Many of you will remember Eleanor was often keeping busy doing needlework while supporting our various events. Eleanor's roots to Kolping go way back when she and her late sister Jean spent many childhood hours doing activities at the Kolpinghaus on Weirfield Street. Her family had close ties with many who were active back then, especially the Wachter and Trabold families. Eleanor spent her last year in assisted living and did not get out much. While she did not contract covid 19, her family feels being cut off from family visits during the lockdown period hastened her passing.

Franz Kokasch, 91, passed on April 3. A member for over 35 years, Franz will be remembered as a great husband to Alice, father to Theresa and Cathy, and grandfather to Grace, Frankie, Sara and Isabella. He is also remembered by many as a longtime local barber, and for the German music he made with his buddies whenever they could get together. He never forgot where he came from (Burganland, Austria) and visited when he could. We enjoyed his support at our Kolping functions, and he was a fun guy to hang out with!

We lost **Irene Lauth**, 90, on April 15. Irene was also a Kolping member for over 35 years. She supported our Kolping efforts before joining, then reinforced that by being on our Board of Directors from the start for many years, rarely missing a Kolping function. Even while homebound in recent years, she would want to know what was going on at Kolping and was sad to hear about anyone who was sick or had passed away. She was always thinking and making suggestions of how Kolping might move ahead. Irene was a devoted wife, mother, aunt, Catholic, American and Kolping member.

Our condolences are also sent to Karl Werkmann and his family on the passing of his wife, **Marie**. Although not an official Kolping member, Mrs. Werkmann attended Kolping functions over the years and was a familiar face around the Kolping Center.

Our sympathy to all four families. May Eleanor, Franz, Irene, Marie and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

Post Covid Era: Our board of directors decided at our June meeting to take a conservative approach in getting back up to speed as restrictions are removed in case there is a resurgence this fall. As of this writing we are planning to resume our activities on **Saturday, December 4th** with the **Kolping Family Christmas Party**. Mark your calendar!

National Members: There was a small error on the annual financial report sent to you earlier this year. A corrected, revised copy is enclosed.

Congratulations To Father Chris on His New Assignment. Father Chris will be starting a new assignment as **Pastor of the Co-Cathedral of St. Joseph/St. Teresa of Avila**, 856 Pacific Street in Brooklyn on July 1. While this is sad news for his parishioners at Holy Child Jesus in Richmond Hill, it is an exciting and challenging assignment for Father Chris. Part of his new ministry will involve producing and celebrating the official live weekly diocesan Mass streamed from the Cathedral, accessible from this website: <https://stjosephs-brooklyn.org/> Kolping plans to support Fr. Chris by attending his induction mass, once the date is announced; we will email the information out to our member email list. Very best wishes to our Father Chris as he embarks on this new chapter!



Happy 90th Birthday! This is old news by now, but in case you did not hear our member **Anne Novotny** turned 90 on April 3! Still observing covid restrictions, there was an outdoor gathering of friends and family near her home. Signs were posted for passing motorists to honk their horns to say Happy Birthday-and they obliged! Anne's daughter, grandson & his wife, plus Anne's first great-grandchild all attended!

80th Birthday Greetings are also sent to member **Ann Conte**, who is now living in Florida. She turned 80 on May 28.

Every birthday marks another year and is cause for celebration! Since this *Newsletter* has not gone out recently, let's start with some belated birthday wishes. Back in **March** members *Allison Hart, Monica Meyer, Laura Murphy, Karl Werkmann* and *Stephen Wiederhold* celebrated their birthdays. **April** was birthday month for *Fred Augstein, John Murphy, Anne Novotny, Scott Stahl* and *Albert Tscherne*. In **May** our celebrants were *Ann Conte, Gordon Heiser, Sonia J. Kulesza* and *Theresa Wiederhold*. **June** greetings to *Michelle Blatz, Pat Gerage, John Jellen, Margarete Knapp, Herbert Roethel, Reinhard Schmuck* and *Ivette Stahl*. Looking ahead...In **July** we say Happy birthday to *Anton Hoefflerle, Sean Josten, Alice Kokasch, Waltraud Mayer, Valerie Meyer* and *Hubert Ruhs*. We only have one **August** birthday, *Dr. Tom Reilly*. To finish things up, in **September** we will congratulate *Rosemarie Elgass, Inge Jellen, Paula Josten* and *Elfiede Loeschinger*.

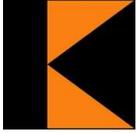
Good and Welfare: Please keep those who are homebound or maybe just need a prayer in yours, including (but not limited to): *Rosemarie Elgass, Anton Hoefflerle* and *Ernie Lauth*.

In Memoriam: Please take a moment and remember our deceased Kolping Family members. **Passed in 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)*. **July:** *Alfred Bayer (1979), Maria Gnam (1948), Ludwig Gruber (1980), Elizabeth (Betty) Oettinger (1996), Bernhardt Poschmann (2018), & Steve Wenzler (2020)*. **August:** *Irene Baunach (2019), M. Boeller (2000), Lisa Heller (1986), Margaret Guetterbock (2004), Martha Gnam (1995), Claire Heiser (2018), Paul Pfreunds Schuh (1995), Maria Schottenhammel (1995), Edward Sommer (2019) & Irma Trabold (1995)*. **September:** *Edward Braun (1970), Joseph Gruber (2002), August Hartmann (1956), Henry Hartmann Jr. (2004), Dorothy Hochreiter (2012), Emile Krauskaupf (1963), Theresa Purschki (1997), Michael Schneider (1970), Reinhardt Wilhelm (1972), Wolfgang Zeising (2009) & John Zernis (1977)*. **We are keeping their memories alive. May they all rest in peace.**

Kolping Updates: Although we have not been holding functions this past year, it still takes work to keep the Kolping Center running. Bills always must be paid. Work was done to update our public assembly plan as required by the Dept. of Buildings. There is still more to do: installing some fireproof doors and additional emergency lights and exit signs in various spots. Our legal issues: our not-for-profit corporation issues persist. We are working with renewed energy to resolve them. The Board voted to dedicate the new office space (*former meeting room*) in memory of two longtime members and former Presidents, **Evelyn Heller Blatz** and **Steve Wenzler**, at a future date. We voted to rotate our food pantry charity donations to a total of five local parishes once we get rolling again. We also voted to form an Entertainment steering committee to re-think our social functions; the goal is to have the Center open more often as a 'clubhouse' for members and guests. This will most likely include installation of a few big screen televisions to enjoy sports broadcasts and to show family photos at birthday or anniversary parties. Stay tuned!

Shout Out to our Officers/Board Members who donate their time! *Father Chris Heanue, Jeff Blatz, Bill Conte, Chris Gerage, Pat Gerage, Gillian Guile, Inge Jellen, John Jellen, Sonia Juran Kulesza, Alice Kokasch, Jessica Meyer, Valerie Meyer, Laura Murphy, Anne Novotny, Scott Stahl* and *Albert Tscherne*. **Thank you all!**

Don't forget...Brooklyn Kolping is on Social Media! There has not been much activity to report these past months, but bookmark these Kolping locations. **Webpage:** <http://www.kolping.org/brooklyn/>. **Facebook and Instagram:** Search under [Catholic Kolping Society of Brooklyn](#). Check it out!



EVENTS

Mark Your Calendar