



December 2025

Volume X, Number 12



Note from the Editor

As we prepare for the season of Advent and to celebrate the birth of Christ with our families, let us take the time to be thankful for our many blessings and the amazing people in our lives - friends, family members, and the members of our Kolping Family. How fortunate we are!

There are many Kolping Christmas events in December (see them listed on the right, with more details on pp. 4, 6, 8 & 9).

HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS!!!

Treu Kolping! Nancy Pelzel

Important Phone Numbers

President — John Mueller, 513-376-3672
Vice President — Tom Beiting, 513-325-7342
Praeses — Fr. Dan Kroger, OFM, 513-374-0623
Society Bookkeeper — Jim Schnieder, 513-310-1256
House & Grounds — Walt Gerbus, 513-543-9877
Membership (New Members) — Wendy Moeller, 513-543-8651
Membership (Current) — Karen Wienkamp, 513-503-4638
Sick Committee — Open

Sub Group Presidents:

Bourbon Club — Neil Geoppinger, 513-638-0339
Genealogy Group — Tom Montgomery, 513-969-5383
Sängerchor — Janet Curley, 513-522-7544
Schützen Club — Don Trautmann, 513-325-7869
Seniors — Tom Musbach, 513-793-1148
Soccer Club — Walter Dewar, 513-312-8551
The Journeymen Group — Lydia Sinclair, 859-221-8839

Kolping Center Kolping Haus/Klubhaus Rentals
Nick Caserta, 513-713-7318

December Events

December 7, 11:00 A.M.	Christmas Mass & Luncheon
December 10, 11:30 A.M.	Seniors Christmas
December 13, 10:00 A.M.	Breakfast w/Santa
December 14, 3:00 P.M.	Children's Christmas Party
December 19, 7:00 P.M.	Schützen Club
December 21, 2:00 P.M.	Genealogy Meeting

January Events

No General Meeting	
January 14, 11:30 A.M.	Seniors Meeting
January 16, 7:00 P.M.	Schützen Club
January 18, 2:00 P.M.	Genealogy Meeting
January 23, 7:00 P.M.	Bourbon Club
January 31, 5:00 P.M.	Stube Nacht

Kolping Membership Dues

Just an FYI that all dues notices have been mailed and your renewal is due December 31, 2025. I will still mail out membership cards after the dues payment is received, but we will no longer include a pocket calendar. The calendar information is on the monthly *Bulletin* and it is subject to change.

Thank you so much for being a member of Kolping!

Karen Schnetzer Wienkamp,
Membership Secretary
Ph: 513-503-4638



Congratulations to all our members celebrating birthdays in the month of December!



First Name	Last Name	Birthday
William	Huntsinger	Dec 1
Garry	Sprowls	Dec 1
Marilee	Uhlhorn	Dec 1
Aaron	Callahan	Dec 2
Jerome P.	Gonnella	Dec 3
Branden	Schmurr	Dec 3
Gretchen	Smith	Dec 4
Larry	Valerius	Dec 4
Rick	Schlake	Dec 5
Fred	Schmits	Dec 5
Susan	Griffin	Dec 6
Barbara	Hermeling	Dec 6
Lois	Kunze	Dec 6
Emily	Merz-Krans	Dec 6
Matthew	Brunsmann	Dec 7
Richard	Tabler	Dec 7
Alex	Klosterman	Dec 8
Joe	Hammons	Dec 9
Riley	Kane	Dec 9
John	Roman	Dec 9
Gina	Baldauf	Dec 10
Charles	Kowzan	Dec 10
Joseph	Abt	Dec 11
John	O'Neil	Dec 11
Karen	Murnan	Dec 12
Elizabeth	Kunze	Dec 13
Carl	Schlake	Dec 13
Dr. Albert	Drees	Dec 14
Karl	Holstein	Dec 14
John	Weissmann, Jr.	Dec 14

First Name	Last Name	Birthday
Janet	Talkers Kuhl	Dec 15
Diana	Grinkemeyer	Dec 17
Jacob (Jay)	Stupprich, Jr.	Dec 17
Stephen	Wendt	Dec 17
Marian	Koester	Dec 18
Carolyn	Ramsey	Dec 18
Werner	Wilke	Dec 18
Tony	Dechering	Dec 20
Kenneth	Dunning	Dec 20
Lisa	Ruff	Dec 20
Rick	Hill	Dec 22
Howard H.	Hughes, Sr.	Dec 22
Ben	Callahan	Dec 23
Robert	Sommer	Dec 23
Courtney	Bockrath	Dec 24
Irene	Hasenfratz	Dec 24
Bernard H.	Kroger	Dec 24
Charles	Lintz, III	Dec 25
Timothy	Riley	Dec 25
Steven	Isfort	Dec 26
Jerad	Laine	Dec 28
George	Willenbrink	Dec 28
Joe	Baldauf	Dec 29
Michael	Hasenfratz	Dec 29
Samantha	Brock	Dec 30
Bill	Kemper	Dec 30
Ralph	Vosseberg	Dec 30
Fr. Dan	Kroger, OFM	Dec 31
Elizabeth	Neumann	Dec 31

Recording Secretary Still Needed

The Kolping Society is still seeking a volunteer to serve as Recording Secretary. As shared last month, Jennifer Ruwe will complete her term at the end of this year and is eager to mentor her successor to ensure a smooth and easy transition.

This position offers a meaningful way to get more involved, contribute to the success of our Society, and gain insight into its leadership and operations. If you've been thinking about taking a more active role, this is a great opportunity to do so!

If you're interested or would like more information, please reach out to any Board Member.

A Letter from the President

Dear Kolping Family,

As we enter this special time of year, I want to wish each of you and your families a very warm and heartfelt Merry Christmas. I hope the season brings peace, joy, and meaningful moments with the people you love. It's always a blessing to share this time with our Kolping family as well, so I encourage you to join us for our upcoming Christmas Mass and Luncheon on December 7th at 11 AM.

I'm also very happy to welcome our newly elected Board members, along with our incoming President-Elect, Trey Seibel, and Vice President-Elect, Chuck Klosterman. I am truly grateful for their willingness to step forward and serve. Their energy, ideas, and commitment will help guide our Society into its next chapter, and I look forward to supporting them throughout this transition.

To our current Board, I want to personally say "Thank You!". Your support, dedication, and countless volunteer hours over the past two years have meant so much to me. Working alongside you has been a privilege, and I am deeply appreciative of all you have done to strengthen our Society.

At our Luncheon on December 7th, we will also take time to honor someone very special to us: Jim Schnieder. Jim joined the Cincinnati Kolping Society in 1993 and took on our finances in 1997. Even after briefly stepping away, he returned to ensure our finances remained accurate and transparent—an unmistakable sign of his commitment to our Society.

Since 1997, Jim has been an unwavering source of stability, honesty, and care in guiding our finances. At times, his work required difficult conversations and tough decisions, but they were always rooted in protecting the financial integrity and future of our organization. His commitment has shaped a legacy defined by trust, genuine friendship, and faithful service to our Society.

I sincerely hope you will join us for Mass and stay for the luncheon afterward as we recognize Jim's tremendous contributions. He deserves all of our heartfelt appreciation and our best wishes for happiness in his well-earned retirement.

As Trey and Chuck prepare to step into their new leadership roles, I feel confident and hopeful about what lies ahead. Together, with the involvement and support of our members, we will continue building a Society that is vibrant, welcoming, and strong for future generations. Wishing you and your loved ones a blessed Christmas and a joyful New Year.

John Mueller, President
Cincinnati Kolping Society

Kolping Society Elections 2025

Congratulations to our new President, Vice President and Board of Directors members who were elected at the November 7th General Meeting! They are as follows:

President, Trey Seibel

Vice President, Chuck Klosterman

Kolping Board

Rick Hill

Riley Kane

Nancy Pelzel

Ralph Vosseberg

Bob Yuellig

**The 1st Alternate for the Board
is Chris Petersman.**

We thank all of you for volunteering to serve our Kolping Family and we wish you much success for your two-year term!

We would also like to thank the outgoing President, Vice President, and Board members for serving the last two years:

John Mueller, President; Tom Beiting, Vice President; Board Members Walt Dewar, Mary Pat Findley, Jennifer Ruwe, Trey Seibel, and Ron Von Den Benken.

We at Cincinnati Kolping appreciate your dedication and hard work. You have made a difference!



**New Kolping Board Members
L to R: 1st Alernate Christ Petersman,
Ralph Vosseberg, Nancy Pelzel, Bob Yuellig,
President Trey Seibel,
Vice President Chuck Klosterman,
Riley Kane, Rick Hill.**

The König and Königin Corner

Thanksgiving gives us time to reflect on what we are truly grateful for. Please take time to share your thoughts and prayers with family and friends. Love is not truly experienced until it is shared.

With that being said, THANK YOU to all the members of our Royal Court and everyone who attended the Kings Party and especially everyone who was part of making the day great. It was a magical evening!! We hope everyone had a great time!! We love you all!



Kolping had a new event this year that celebrated St. Martin's Day. It was such a good event!! It was well attended and lots of family fun... and there were horses!!! If you did not make it this year, please put this on the calendar for next year.



This past week we had the opportunity to attend the Weinlesefest dance at Schwaben... It was quickly reinforced that Neil is a MUCH better dancer than I am!! The Royal Ball will be on Saturday, March 21. Please save the date!! More information coming soon.

Thank you to the Kolping Society. We are honored to represent such a fantastic group of people.

Treu Kolping!!

König Neil & Königin Kelly

Kolping Mass and Christmas Luncheon



Please celebrate the Christmas season with us at Kolping Mass on Sunday, December 7, 2025 at 11:00 A.M. A luncheon will immediately follow.

**Reservations must be made by
December 4, 2025
by contacting Tom Beiting at:
513-325-7342 or
Tom.beiting@gmail.com**

As we have been doing for the last several years, we will be collecting pantry and personal care items for the Mt. Healthy Alliance. This important organization provides aid to thousands of people in the 45231 area who qualify for assistance. Unfortunately, recent government activities have significantly increased the need for their services.

This year, the Alliance specifically needs: toilet paper, personal care items such as shampoo and soap, and as always, food donations. Additionally, cash contributions are very much appreciated, as they allow the Alliance to shop for items that are most needed.

Please bring your generous donations to the Kolping Christmas Mass. Your support can make a significant difference in the lives of those in need within our community.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

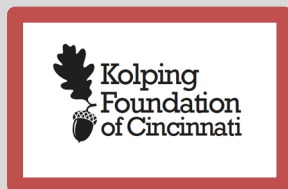
Sick & Shut-Ins

Linda Knizner

Harry Voet

Please take time out of your busy schedule for these folks and send a card or give them a call.

If you want to be taken off the Sick List or want to add someone on, please contact Nancy Pelzel at: 513-385-3120 or nancypelzel@aol.com.



2025 November Donations:

Anonymous (2)

Mrs. Rachel Hickenbottom

Celebration of Life Bar Tips

Klubhaus Bar Tips

Memorial Mass Collection

In memory of Karl Von Den Benken:

Margaret Kohne

Madonna Kohne

Audrea Howard

Wilma Phillip

J. D. Morin

Dan and Gina Prickel

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Kuechly

Fr. David Hiller Fund Report

Dear Kolping Members,

The Father David Hiller Fund received the following donations:

In Memory of Maria Seubert

Der Deutsche Bubenverein

In Memory of Regina Schnetzer

Clara Ostendorf

Dilip and Janet Tripathy

Steven Schaefer

Fr. David Hiller Fund Report (cont'd.)

We are grateful for the many donations that have been sent from our subgroups, in celebration of members' events and in memory of our Kolping members and will use them to continue the work of Blessed Fr. Kolping. We also received donations from the bar tips from events at the Klubhaus and Pavilion.

Once again, the Father David Hiller Fund will offer two (2) \$3000 grants for children of active Kolping parents who will be attending Catholic high schools in the Tri-State area. At least one parent must be a member for at least three years. Grants are available for children who will be freshmen at a Catholic high school in the school year 2026 - 2027. These grants will be renewable for each successive school year provided certain conditions are met.

This year, the Father David Hiller Fund invites students to apply for the scholarship by submitting a 500-word essay explaining why they wish to attend a Catholic high school. We encourage you to reflect on how a Catholic education will support your spiritual growth, academic journey and personal development. This is an opportunity to share your thoughts on how faith, community and service will shape your high school experience and prepare you for the future.

Current grant recipients are also required to update their information in order to continue receiving their renewable grants. Applications and program description will be available in the Hiller fund mail slot in the Kolping copier room or at:

www.Kolpingcincinnati.com under the Father David Scholarship link on the left side of the home page. New applications and current scholarship renewal information should be sent to Father David Hiller Fund, 10235 Mill Rd., Cincinnati Ohio 45231.

The FDHF Board will read the essays and determine the two winners. Names will be removed from the essays to ensure impartiality from the judges. Deadline is February 16, 2026. A complete description of the program is available on the Kolping website as well. Additional questions should be sent to Paul Ahrnsen at:

513-542-8554 or pahrnsen@fuse.net.

Sincerely,
Paul A. Ahrnsen,
FDHF Chairman

Bourbon Club News

We still LOVE Bourbon and sharing our love of Bourbon. However, there is no Bourbon Club meeting in November and information about our Christmas party in December will be sent to the Bourbon Club mailing list. This will be an off-site party. Please email kolpingsocietybc@gmail.com to be added to our mailing list.

We will resume regular meetings in January and in February, we are planning an exciting Bourbon event on Feb 6 & 7... Geistertreffen!!!

Mark your calendars for this event!! More info is coming soon!!

Cooks Needed for Tuesday Workers

Doris Wilke and Janet Talkers Kuhl retired from cooking meals for the Tuesday Workers in November. Even though they are irreplaceable, we are looking for a team of two or more people to cook for the Tuesday Workers on the fourth Tuesday of each month for around 35-40 workers. If you are interested, please contact Rick Janzen at 513-200-8769.

Thank you, Doris and Janet, for your many years of dedicated service!

Kolping Genealogy

Now just what do we have here? *Latin* baptismal records here in Cincinnati?

On Sunday, December 19 at 2:00 pm, Mr. Charles Lintz (retired NARA employee) will be reviewing the many sources here in our area and at our fingertips: *Local Church Records!*

Topics will include a look into *Find My Past* records and indexes to many local Kentucky Church records in addition to those found on this side of the Ohio in both Hamilton and Butler counties.

Live at the Clubhouse and here's the Zoom link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84365945511?pwd=g0xYZgtQsP4mqEo6b2aYLCiZfcphGB.1>

Dr. Tom Montgomery, montgota@gmail.com, 513-969-5383.

St. Nikolaus Fest

Celebrate the 2025 Advent Season at the St. Nikolaus Festival on Sunday, December 7th from 1:00 to 4:00 P.M. at the German Heritage Museum, 4764 West Fork Road, Cincinnati, OH 45247.

You can enjoy apple cider, juice, Stollen and cookies, provided free of charge by the German-American Citizens League.

FREE photos with St. Nikolaus and child-friendly Krampus.

Kolping Seniors

The Seniors' 2025 Christmas Party will be held on December 10, 2025 at 11:30 am in Hall 2 at Kolping. Dues for 2026 will be collected at this meeting. Also, remember the needy served by the Mt. Healthy Food Alliance. Bring some nonperishable items such as canned goods or personal care items for our collection. Come join in the joy of the season and the celebration of Christ's birth.

Tom Musbach

St. Martin's Day Celebration

The first St. Martin's Day Celebration took place at the Kolping Pavilion on November 15th, and had a great turnout for a first-time event. Children were given lanterns with a light and battery and everyone walked on the trail in the Kolping woods following "St. Martin on a horse. Afterwards, Glühwein and other refreshments were served. St. Martin's Day honors St. Martin of Tours, a Roman soldier known for his acts of kindness and charity, and the day is celebrated in Germany. The event was organized by Brad and Rick Loesing.



Soccer Club News

We enjoyed a very successful fall season – strong performances across the board, several championship wins, and plenty of community energy. As we look ahead to spring, we're planning for growth, more great competition, and a full calendar of family-friendly events.

Fall Season Highlights:

- 13 Tournament champions – outstanding effort from teams at every level.
- 15 Runners-up – deep tournament runs and plenty of competitive matches.
- 5 League champions – congratulations to our league title winners for their consistent excellence.

Looking Ahead to Spring:

We expect about 37 teams to participate in the spring season. With returning talent and several promising new rosters, we're aiming for another successful season focused on development, sportsmanship, and fun.

Upcoming Events – Save the Dates:

- December 13, 2025 – Brunch with Santa
Family-friendly holiday brunch; perfect for players and families to celebrate the season.
- February 21, 2026 – Annual Dance
Our biggest social event of the year – music, refreshments, and community celebration.
- March 27-29, 2026 – Spring Tournament
Three days of competition – mark your calendars if your team will participate or you want to volunteer.
- April 4, 2026 – Easter Egg Hunt
A fun community event for kids and families; crafts, games, and (of course) eggs.

How You Can Help/Get Involved:

- Register: Encourage families to sign up early so we can finalize schedules.
- Volunteer: We always need help with event setup, concessions, and hospitality.
- Spread the word: Share event posts and invite friends – community support makes these events great.

For details, registration links, or volunteer sign-ups, please contact:

Walt Dewar, walt.kolpingsoccer@gmail.com
www.kolpingssc.com

Walt Dewar, President
513-312-8551



Schützen Club Corner

Next Shooting Date: December 19, 2025

Place: Kolping Clubhouse / 100 Hall

Practice, Make-up and Shoot-ahead Shooting:

7:00 – 7:30 PM

Competition Shooting: 7:30 PM

NOVEMBER SHOOTING RESULTS:

Individual high score was a 69 and Ron Von Den Benken won in a shoot-off. Congratulations, Ron!

High team was Team Trautmann with a score of 330.

Top 5 teams through November 2025:

1st Place: Team Trautmann – 1299 Points

2nd Place: Team Murray – 1287 Points

3rd Place: Team Lunnemann, Jr. – 1270 Points

4th Place: Team Fehrenbach – 1266 Points

5th Place: Team Kemper – 1256 Points

TEAM ASSIGNMENTS FOR DECEMBER

Targets: Team Murray – **Food: Provided** by Schützen Club – **Tickets:** Team DeFranco/Klosterman

If your team signed up for Tickets, Food or Targets and can't make it, please let me know so I can get another team to fill in. A very BIG thank you to Team Callahan, who at the last minute stepped up to sell Split-the-Pot tickets this month.

Respectfully,

Don Trautmann, President
Xavieron31@gmail.com
(513) 325-7869



BREAKFAST

@ ^{The} Pub

With Santa

Join us for a heartwarming morning filled with joy, laughter, and holiday cheer! Bring the kids, enjoy some arts & crafts and eat breakfast with Santa!

This winter we will also be helping Santa collect non-perishable food items to donate to a local food bank. Sign up below!



**SATURDAY, 13 DECEMBER
2025 | AT 10AM**

**\$15 Pre-Sale or
\$20 at the door**

**Sign up via Venmo:
@Bonnie-Ward-81**



Kolping Society's Children's Christmas Party

December 14, 2025

Doors open at 2:30

Party from 3 - 5 pm



Call Amy Ahrnsen at 513 542-8554 for reservations before **December 8th.**

Leave your name, phone number and number of children or grandchildren attending. Enjoy a day of entertainment and crafts with the children and grandchildren!

All Kolping members' children and grandchildren are invited.

Please bring items to decorate the Gingerbread houses and please let Amy know what you would like to bring. (ex., marshmallows, pretzels, etc.)

Back by Popular Demand!

Adult Competition!

You **Must** register when making reservations for your children and grandchildren.

Competitors may only use the standard house structure and decorations that are available to all participants.

Prizes to be awarded.

Please donate your new and gently used coats, hats, gloves and mittens to St. Vincent DePaul. There will be bins available.



KOLPING CINCINNATI PRESENTS



STUBE NACHT

A PLACE WHERE FOOD & FUN COME TOGETHER!



SAVE THE DATE!!

Bringing fun, energy and gemütlichkeit to the Kolping Stube Nacht!

SATURDAY

31

January

**5:00 To
10:00 PM**



**COLD BEER - LIVE GERMAN MUSIC -
TRADITIONAL FOOD - FRIENDS & FAMILY**

It is time to gather together with friends and family for a fun event
celebrating German food, beer, and music!

JOIN US AT THE KOLPING HAUS

10235 MILL ROAD - CINCINNATI, OHIO - 45231

Preliminary 2026 Calendar of Events

<p>JANUARY NO GENERAL MEETING IN JANUARY 31 Stube Nacht</p> <p>FEBRUARY 2 Board Meeting 6 General Meeting 20 Fish Fry 21 Valentine's Dance 27 Fish Fry</p> <p>MARCH 2 Board Meeting 6 Fish Fry 6 General Meeting 12 Schützenfest Planning Meeting 13 Fish Fry 20 Fish Fry 21 Schützen Royal Ball 27 Fish Fry 27-29 Kolping Memorial Tournament 29 St. Joseph's Day Mass/Awards Bqt. 30 Board Meeting (April)</p> <p>APRIL NO GENERAL MEETING IN APRIL 4 Easter Egg Hunt 19 Sängchor Spring Konzert 27 Board Meeting (May)</p> <p>MAY 1 General Meeting 15 Schützen End Party 27 Groovin' in the Grove</p> <p>JUNE 1 Board Meeting 5 General Meeting 7 Anniversary Mass</p>	<p>JUNE 19-21 Schützenfest 24 Groovin' in the Grove 29 Board Meeting (July)</p> <p>JULY NO GENERAL MEETING IN JULY 12 Appreciation Party 17 Captains' Meeting Schützen Club 22 Groovin' in the GrovE</p> <p>AUGUST 3 Board Meeting 7 General Meeting 21 First Schützen Nacht 26 Groovin' in the Grove 31 Board Meeting (September)</p> <p>SEPTEMBER NO GENERAL MEETING IN SEPT. 18-20 1931 Invitational Tournament 18-20 National Kolping Convention 23 Groovin' in the Grove 28 Board Meeting (October)</p> <p>OCTOBER 2 General Meeting</p> <p>NOVEMBER 1 Memorial Mass/Goettafest 2 Board Meeting 6 General Meeting/Elections 14 St. Martin's Day Celebration 29 Sängchor Weihnachts Konzert 30 Board Meeting (December)</p> <p>DECEMBER 6 Christmas Mass and Party 13 Children's Christmas Party</p>
<p>MEETINGS:</p> <p>Board of Directors Monday prior to the first Friday of the month – 7:00 pm</p> <p>Women's Klub First Thursday – 6:30 pm</p> <p>General Membership First Friday – 7:30 pm</p> <p>Senior Citizens Second Wednesday – 11:30 am</p> <p>Bier Choir 2nd & 4th Thursday – 7:00 pm</p> <p>Schützen Club Third Friday – 7:30 pm</p> <p>Genealogy Group Third Sunday – 2:00 pm</p> <p>Sängchor Every Tuesday – 7:30 pm</p> <p>Soccer Club Fourth Wednesday – 8:00 pm</p> <p>Bourbon Club Fourth Friday – 7:00 pm</p>	<p>KOLPING MISSION STATEMENT</p> <p>We, the members of the Catholic Kolping Society of America, led by the vision of our founder, Blessed Adolph Kolping, promote the development of the individual and the family by fostering a sense of belonging and friendship through our holistic programs of spiritual, educational, charitable, and social activities.</p>