

January 2026

Volume XI, Number 1

Note from the Editor

May Jesus our Savior bless your home at Christmas and give you immense joy and blessings always.

**Merry Christmas
and**



Treu Kolping! Nancy Pelzel

Important Phone Numbers

President — Trey Seibel, 513-616-4265
 Vice President — Chuck Klosterman, 513-405-7414

Praeses — Fr. Dan Kroger, OFM, 513-374-0623
 Society CFO — Clem Redder, 513-922-7179

Business Manager — Rick Loesing, 513-678-0539
 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, 513-405-

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

January Events

No General Meeting

January 14, 11:30 A.M.

January 16, 7:00 P.M.

January 18, 2:00 P.M.

January 23, 7:00 P.M.

January 31, 5:00 P.M.

Seniors Meeting

Schützen Club

Genealogy Meeting

Bourbon Club

Stube Nacht

February Events

February 6, 7:30 P.M.

February 7, 3:00 P.M.

February 11, 11:30 A.M.

February 15, 2:00 P.M.

February 20, 5:30 P.M.

February 20, 7:00 P.M.

February 21, 8:00 P.M.

February 27, 5:30 P.M.

February 27, 7:00 P.M.

General Meeting

Bourbon Fest 2026

Seniors Meeting

Genealogy Meeting

Fish Fry

Schützen Club

Valentine's Dance

Fish Fry

Bourbon Club

Kolping Membership Dues

Thank you to everyone who has paid his or her dues so far! This makes my job easier, especially as we head into the holidays. You can pay by check or online at: www.kolpingcincinnati.com

You can also set up Kolping as a vendor on your online bank billpay, and your bank will mail a check to Kolping. Quite a few Kolping members handle their annual dues that way. Just a reminder that if you are on a shooting team, you have to pay your Kolping dues by December 31, 2025 or you are not eligible to shoot in 2026. Thank you!

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



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



First Name	Last Name	Birthday
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Mike	Schwebler	Jan 1
MaryAnn	Wurzelbacher	Jan 1
Annette	Durham	Jan 2
Frank	Geiser	Jan 2
Chad	Smith	Jan 2
Jennifer	Baldwin	Jan 3
Jason	Faulk	Jan 3
Timothy	Findley	Jan 3
Michael	Seibel	Jan 3
Karin	Albrecht	Jan 5
Karl	Butschkau	Jan 5
David	Moeller	Jan 5
Theodor	Tegenkamp	Jan 5
Ray	Beiser, Jr.	Jan 6
Kim	Ernsting	Jan 6
Tom	Musbach	Jan 6
Tom	Bredestege	Jan 7
Steve	Kappen	Jan 8
Mike	Carroll	Jan 9
William	Goetz	Jan 9
Renata	Freese	Jan 10
Tom	Beiting	Jan 12
Cheryl	Bredestege	Jan 12
Jamie	Hoffmann	Jan 12
Gregory	Meyer	Jan 12
Timothy	Pohlman	Jan 12
Jim	Schroer	Jan 12
Wendel	Lachmann	Jan 13

First Name	Last Name	Birthday
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Thomas	Glover	Jan 14
Mary M.	Gonnella	Jan 14
Michael	Kappen	Jan 14
Ryan	Preston	Jan 15
Ingrid	Thompson	Jan 15
John	Schnieder	Jan 16
Tim	Burda	Jan 17
Theodor B.	Leuker	Jan 18
Peter	Beckmeyer	Jan 19
Paul	Blom	Jan 19
Joyce	Brown	Jan 20
Jane	Fitzpatrick	Jan 20
Steve	Drees	Jan 21
Michael	Szczepanski	Jan 22
David	Corbett	Jan 24
Eugene	Galbaugh	Jan 24
Clara	Hamen	Jan 25
Joseph	Kunze	Jan 25
Jim	Gieringer	Jan 28
Christine	Wendt	Jan 28
Steven	Bodnar	Jan 29
Eric	Gerbus	Jan 29
Barbara	Hessler	Jan 29
David	Schroeder	Jan 29
Joe	Wessels	Jan 29
Charles	Dietz	Jan 30
Rosalinda	Seubert	Jan 30
William	Adelmann	Jan 31

Thank You

On October 26th, we gathered for our Memorial Mass and Goetta Breakfast to honor and remember all members we have lost since last year. A heartfelt "Thank You" to the Geoppinger and Callahan families, as well as Fr. Dan Kroger, for planning and officiating such a beautiful Mass.

Special thanks to our dedicated cooking and kitchen crew – the Whalen, Vosseberg and Hessler families – whose hard work ensures a delicious meal year after year. This event would not be possible without the many volunteers who served food and coffee and helped with setting up and cleanup afterward.

A Letter from Our New President

To the Kolping Society:

I am very honored to serve you as President. I am hoping to guide our Board and the Society toward the return of the social club as it was originally intended by our founding fathers; a little less "corporate" and more "social". My family has been in this Society since its inception. Throughout my twenty-four years as a member, I've noticed that we are not capturing the younger generation into our ranks. One of my hopes is to work with the Board and the members to create a plan for adding to our membership in the future with a focus on this younger generation. Secondly, I'd like to ask that we all focus on building a future that we as members can be proud of. I'd like to see a return to Father Kolping's original vision of helping the less fortunate and becoming more involved in the community. I hope you all will work with me toward this vision.

I'd like to thank John Mueller and Tom Beiting for their hard work and ability to make difficult decisions for the business of the Society. They spent many hours making sure we will continue to remain solvent. They made decisions that many did not like, but they felt these actions were best for the Society. Their tireless work ethic was greatly appreciated by all.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Here's to the future!

True Kolping,

Trey Seibel, President

A Letter from Our New Vice President

All,

I hope you have a happy and wonderful new year in 2026!

As Vice President and Chairman of the Events Committee, I would like to say that this is YOUR club and as such, I would like to invite you all to participate in helping me grow the club and the events that we enjoy so much! If you are interested in serving on the Events Committee with me, where we can have fun, generate a sense of belonging and share in the Gemütlichkeit, please contact me at: 513-405-7414 or my email, klostermanc1@hotmail.com. I/we need your help in making the 2026 events a great success! It is true that more heads are better than one, so let's gather all your input and rock Kolping this year!!! We can stand tall and say, "WE GOT THIS!"

Thanks, Chuck Klosterman, Vice President

Stube Nacht 2026

The plans for Stube Nacht on January 31, 2026 are ramping up. We have plans in the works to offer Schnitzel dinners and a selection of homemade desserts, along with all the other great food and drink options. The Bergstrasse Boys will be back with live German music, and Instant Bingo will be debuting. We are still looking for donations for the basket raffle and volunteers to help the event run smooth. Please contact Wendy Moeller at:

wmoeller@compasspointplanning.com or 513-543-8651 if you can donate or volunteer for any of the following:

- **Donations for basket raffles** – We will welcome any donations, from full baskets, to elements that could include games, sports items, gift cards, alcohol, or anything else you can think of. Please note, that if you donate any alcohol, that you need to attach a receipt to show that the alcohol was purchased in Ohio. You can leave items at the Klubhaus during the weekday (9-4) or contact Wendy Moeller to make other arrangements. We need all donations by January 15 in order for Cathy Jung to organize all of the baskets.
- **Volunteers** – We can always use volunteers, especially to help relieve others so everyone can have some time to enjoy the event. If you have any interest in helping out, please contact Wendy. At this point, we can use help with wine and schnapps sales, assistance with the Kids Corner, appetizer sales, cleanup, and games.

Don't forget to RSVP ahead of time (see the flyer on p. 8) so we can have enough dinners and space for all!

Wendy Moeller, Chair

**Deadline for submitting articles
for the February
Cincinnati Kolping Bulletin
is Wednesday, January 28, 2026
at 5:00 P.M.**

**Please submit to Nancy Pelzel
at: nancypelzel@aol.com**

The König and Königin Corner

December has flown by and we are well into the 2nd half of our Royal Reign. So many things to be grateful for and so many people we have met.

The Liberty Home Edelweiss Dance was delightful and we were so happy to share the evening with royalty from Liberty Home and Germania!! Being a part of the events with the German Clubs around Greater Cincinnati has been my favorite part of the year.



We had such a good time at the Kolping Children's Christmas Party!!! Thank you to the Ahrnsens for leading such a fantastic event! The gingerbread houses were adorable and we had a special visit from Santa! So many family memories were being made that day.



The holiday season is often hectic and we lose track of what Christmas means. For us it means family and friends. It means remembering why we are celebrating this season.

For unto us a child is born, and unto us a son is given. Isaiah 9:6

As we close out the year, Neil and I would like to wish all the Kolping families good tidings and great joy. Please take a moment during the holidays to pray for our families and our nation.

Merry Christmas to all!!!

Love, Neil & Kelly

Report – the Children's Christmas Party

Dear Kolping Members,

We would like to thank everyone who attended this year's Children's Christmas Party. We had about 130 children and adults decorating "gingerbread" houses. Santa was there, as well as caricature artists and a balloon artist. Many thanks to the Ahrnsens, Hoffmans, Hulls, Klostermans, and Bob Bauer, who helped make sure the children had a great time.



Santa's busy.



Another creation by the Balloon Elf.



Caricature artist at work!



Deaths

Bernard G. (Bernie) Naegele, Kolping member for twenty-one years, passed away on December 10, 2025 at the age of 85. Bernie was a member of the Schützen Club. We extend our sympathies to Bernie's daughters, Michelle Harding and Lisa Harriman, along with his companion, Linda Haines, and the entire Naegele family.

May his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

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.



On behalf of the Mt. Healthy Alliance, I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for the incredible donations we collected at the December 7th Christmas Mass and Luncheon. I am delighted to share that we amassed an astonishing 350 pounds of food and personal items, along with a generous \$295 in cash donations.

Your overwhelming generosity and support for Mt. Healthy Alliance are deeply appreciated. These contributions will go a long way in helping those in need within the 45231 community.

Thanks!

Barb Hessler

Fr. David Hiller Fund Report

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 are happy to announce sales for our second Private Barrel! We have selected a Barrel Proof Larceny from the Heaven Hill Distillery. Our barrel has been pulled for bottling and we hope to have word on its arrival soon! Bottles are available to Kolping members at a price of \$90 per bottle. Please place your order now! Orders can be sent to:

Kolpingsocietybc@gmail.com. Don't miss your chance to purchase this one-of-a-kind opportunity!

GEISTERTREFFEN SATURDAY FEBRUARY 7 from 3-9

Get ready to sip, savor, and celebrate all things bourbon at Geistertreffen: Cincinnati Bourbon Fest 2026, which will be hosted by the Cincinnati Kolping Bourbon Club!

Geistertreffen is a meeting of spirits. What better way to celebrate spirits than with Bourbon!

The Cincinnati Bourbon Fest 2026 is a chance to get together with friends and family, have fun and enjoy some great Bourbon! Taste Bourbons from multiple distilleries and engage with distillery reps. Learn about their Bourbons and what they have in their hoppers! Our current list of confirmed vendors include: Penelope, Remus, Makers Mark, Jim Beam, Heaven Hill, Hard Truth, Dark Ages, Barrell Craft Spirits!!

General Admission tickets cost \$50 and include entry between 5:00 and 9:00 and 8 tickets for a ½ ounce pour from any of our vendors.

VIP tickets cost \$75 and include early entry at 3:00, a Kolping Bourbon Club Glencairn, 1 year membership into the Kolping Bourbon Club and 8 tickets good for a 1/2 oz. pour from any of our vendors. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres will be available to our VIP ticket holders during the VIP hours.

Tickets must be purchased through Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/geistertreffen-cincinnati-bourbon-fest-2026-tickets-1977734500129?aff=oddttdtcreator>

Food and additional drink tickets will be available for purchase at the event.

Kolping Seniors

We will meet on Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 11:30 A.M. in the Klubhaus. Let us welcome the New Year with smiles, laughs and friendship. Happy New Year!

Tom Musbach

Sängerchor News

The Sängerchor would like to thank all those who came out for our Weihnachts Konzert. It was a lot of work on the choir's part, but we hope everyone really enjoyed not only the concert with the Kinderchor taking part, but the Black Forest torte dessert from Servatii's, the basket raffle (We had 23 great gift baskets.), Split-the-pot (Winner Jerry Stegman won \$290.00.), and the JOY of celebrating the birth of our Lord in song! We would be remiss if we did not also thank the Tuesday Workers for their assistance with the stage setup. Those guys are the best! It takes many members of our Kolping Family working together to achieve something special. Thanks to all.

The following Saturday, December 6th, we sang in the Sisters' Chapel at the Holiday Under the Spires Fest in Oldenburg, Indiana. The acoustics are fabulous in this small church and we always sound like three times the people we have. It was a fun experience for all of the singers, who then enjoyed a family-style chicken dinner at the Brau Haus Restaurant afterwards.

Upcoming date reminders:

Tuesday, January 6, 2026 – Choir Holiday Party starting at 6:00 P.M. All current and former members are invited. Please RSVP by January 4th to Linda Geisselbrecht, text or call: 859-393-7641, or email: lgeisselbrecht1@gmail.com, and for more info.

Tuesday, January 13, 2026 – Rehearsals resume for the Spring Concert and San Antonio National Sängerfest at 7:30 P.M. New voices are always needed and we would love to have you join us in keeping our German culture in song alive and well in Cincinnati. Come and sing with us! Contact Director John Wegener, 859-240-9598, satbmusic12@gmail.com

Blessing to all for a joyful holiday season!

Janet Curley, Sängerchor President



Soccer Club News

The Kolping Soccer Club wishes everyone a **MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Walt Dewar, President
513-312-8551

Kolping Genealogy

On Sunday, January 18th at 2:00 P.M., you can learn about one of the most powerful software programs called Family Tree Maker 2024 (FTM 2024). FTM 2024 is a major new Family Tree Maker edition that takes this grand old brand to places its creators could only have dreamed of when it was first published back in 1989. It is the standard for detailed personal genealogy research (<https://www.mackiev.com/ftm>).

If you are new to family genealogy, you'll appreciate how this intuitive program lets you easily build your family tree with simple navigation, tree-building tools, and integrated web searching. If you are already an expert, you can dive into the more advanced features, options for managing data, and a wide variety of charts and reports.

MacKiev's FTM24's functions are divided into eight major "Workspaces", accessible from tabs across the top of the screen within the application: Plan, People, Places, Media, Sources, Publish, Web Search, and Connect. On Sunday, January 18th, Mr. David Lahrman and Dr. Tom Montgomery will be reviewing two of the eight menus in the new FTM 2024 software program. David will concentrate on *Sources* while Tom focuses on *Media*.

We will continue to focus on two of each of these menus every other month, having begun in November 2025 with People and Places, and in March 2026 we will review Web Search and Publishing.

The event will be held both live at the Kolping Klubhaus and online with Zoom. Here's the Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84365945511?pwd=g0xYZgtQsP4mqEo6b2aYLCiZfcphGB.1>

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



Schützen Club Corner

Next Shooting Date: January 16, 2026

Place: Kolping Clubhouse / 100 Hall
Practice, Make-up and Shoot-ahead Shooting:
7:00 – 7:30 PM
Competition Shooting: 7:30 PM

DECEMBER SHOOTING RESULTS:

High score was a 70 by Andrew Hessler. Congratulations, Andrew!

High teams were Teams Murray and Abt, each with a 321.

Top 5 shooters through December 2025:

1st Place: Paul Anhofer with 337 Points

2nd Place: Andrew Hessler with 335 Points

3rd Place: Hunter White with 332 Points

4th Place: Mark Faust with 331 Points

5th Place: Ed Geiser with 330 Points

TEAM ASSIGNMENTS FOR JANUARY

Targets: Team Stegman – **Food:** Provided by Team Wilke/Whalen – **Tickets:** Team Lambert

Sadly, last month we lost Schützen Club member Bernie Naegele from Team Westendorf. Bernie shot gun #1 for his team for many years. He enjoyed shooting with his team and friends every third Friday. At December shooting, team members from Team Westendorf took turns shooting gun #1 in memory of their friend, Bernie Naegele. Bernie, may you rest in peace.

Respectfully,

Don Trautmann, President
Xavierdon31@gmail.com
(513) 325-7869

KOLPING CINCINNATI PRESENTS

SATURDAY
31
January

5:00 To
10:00 PM

STUBE NACHT

FEATURING LIVE MUSIC FROM THE:
BERGSTRASSE BOYS!

ADMISSION

\$5 Per Person

\$10 Per Family

(Parents and School-Age Children)



TRADITIONAL FOOD AND DRINK

Come enjoy a schnitzel dinner and beer, along with other fun alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages

All food and drink purchases are optional!

Dinners are \$15 - Appetizers and Desserts will be available for purchase

GAMES AND RAFFLES

In between food and fun, you can participate in our annual basket raffle and games such as Instant Bingo!

KIDS CORNER

Kids are welcome and there will be a special kids corner with free hot dogs, pop, and a coloring contest with prizes



RSVPs are encouraged, but not required! RSVP by:

1. Scanning the QR code
2. Emailing a RSVP to stubenacht@gmail.com
3. Calling Tom Belting at 513-325-7342

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

10235 MILL ROAD - CINCINNATI, OHIO - 45231

Preliminary 2026 Calendar of Events

<p>JANUARY NO GENERAL MEETING IN JANUARY 5 Board Meeting 31 Stube Nacht</p> <p>FEBRUARY 2 Board Meeting 6 General Meeting 7 Bourbon Fest 2026 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</p>	<p>JUNE 7 Anniversary Mass 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>