January

Join Us At Our Annual Kolping Family Ski Trip

Please save the date—the weekend of March 9-11, and join us for our annual Kolping Ski Trip to Mount Snow, Vermont. We will once again be staying at the Mountaineer Inn in West Dover. The trip includes two nights lodging, a buffet breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, a wine, cheese and hot cider “happy hour” on Saturday, and also a group dinner Saturday evening. For more details, see the flyer in this Bulletin.

January

1 The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God
On this holy day of obligation, we are reminded of the role that the Blessed Virgin played in the plan of our salvation.

7 The Feast of the Epiphany
Celebrates the three wise men’s visit to baby Jesus and also remembers his baptism.

9 Full Board Meeting
Kolping House 88th Street

25 February Bulletin
Last day to submit material

February

6 Executive Board Meeting
Kolping House 88th Street

14 Ash Wednesday
The first day of Lent, the season of preparation for the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday.

March

4 Annual Elections & General Meeting
Kolping House 88th Street

9-11 Kolping Ski Trip
Join us for our annual excursion to Mount Snow!

20 Full Board Meeting
Kolping House 88th Street

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.
Milestones & Passages

Everyone could use the power of prayer now and again. If you or anyone you know is in need of prayer, please let us know and we will be happy to include them within the “in our prayers” list. Please contact Joan Smyth Dengler (914-432-2535) or email kolpingny@gmail.com when you know of a member who is ill, in the hospital, or has passed away. We want to be sure to remember them.

Muriel Bell passed away in early December and all of our prayers and sympathy are with Muriel and Jerry Fullam, Christine, Danielle and Matthew Kern, Dan Benge, Lisa Giaquinto for the loss of their mother/grandmother. So many of us will remember Muriel attending our dinners and events at KOH. She will be greatly missed.

It is with great sadness that we advise that our long time member Jean Mary St. Germain passed away on December 7th in NYC. Jean was a Kolping member for over 40 years and a Trustee at St. Joseph’s Church. All our prayers are with her family and friends.

Please pray for Robert Berge, husband of Rita, as he recovers from a stroke.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THOSE BORN IN JANUARY:

SPECIAL DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:
Very Special Happy 16th birthday wishes to Isabella Lovasz.

If you know someone celebrating a milestone birthday or anniversary, please let us know so we can include it in the Bulletin. Please email either me at editor@kolpingny.org or Joan Smyth Dengler at kolpingny@gmail.com.

THANK YOU!
A heartfelt thank you to those members who donated to the Advent Project—Ferdinand Zipprich, Katherine & Walter Weigand, Frances, Schulte, Albert Sartorious, Tania and Robert Hersam, Ann and Bob Hemsing, Barbara Grimm, Gail and Matthew Gleason, and Kathryn Dengler.

THE TRAIN OF LIFE
Submitted by Katherine and Walter Weigand

Life is like a journey on a train. There are various stations, with changes of routes and even accidents.

At birth, we boarded this train. We met our parents, and we believed that they would always travel by our side. However, at some station, our parents would step down from the train, leaving us alone for the remaining journey.

As time goes by, other people board the train and become significant passengers; our siblings, children, friends, acquaintances, and the loves of our lives.

Many will step down and leave a permanent vacuum. Others will go so unnoticed that we won’t realize that they vacated their seats!

This train ride will be full of joy, sorrow, fantasies, expectations, hellos, goodbyes, and farewells. Success in life consists of having a good relationship with all passengers on this train, requiring that we give the best of ourselves.

The mystery to everyone is: we do not know at which station we ourselves will step down, so we try and live in the best way—we love, forgive, and offer the best of who we are.

Reap success! Give lots of love! And be happy! But most importantly, be thankful for the journey.
THE GERMAN LANGUAGE LEARNING CLUB

The spring semester will run from January 30 through May 15, 2018. But everyone may join during the semester on a pro-rated basis. It will run Tuesdays for 15 weeks (30 hours) honoring holiday dates. Classes are held at the Kolping house located at 165 East 88th Street.

Children’s classes will follow the Board of Ed school schedule, and are for toddlers to teens. Children’s classes meet 4-5PM, 5-6PM and 6-7PM depending on the age. Adult sessions take place 6:30-8:30 are for Intermediate (those who have some knowledge and experience with German) which caters to specific needs in grammar, and conversation. Advanced class is for those who like to keep up their knowledge and improve upon it, with grammar review. Other levels upon request.

We offer a relaxed and pressureless atmosphere with no exams, etc. All classes cater only to the needs of its participants and offer outside help when one cannot attend every session. See our website for further information: www.germanlearn.com

GERMAN SOCIETY OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

A Social Services Organization Founded in 1784

In the field of non-profit social services, The German Society for the City of New York has, for 233 years, been unparalleled in supporting and providing for German-Americans in the New York City metropolitan area. Services include assistance with German pension applications and support, Proof-of-Life documentation, referrals to professionals (attorneys, translators and others), probate matters (wills, estates, inheritance issues), tenant/landlord advice and support, liaison with facilities including nursing homes and hospital social work departments, the German Consulate and German government agencies. We hold quarterly members’ luncheons, including delicious German food, music, dancing, and German conversation with new and old friends.

Office hours are Monday through Thursday from 10am to 4pm. Please call for information, or if you’d like an appointment. 6 East 87th Street, 4th Floor (between Madison and Fifth Avenues), New York, NY 10128. Tel (212) 360-6022.

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!
Use it as a source to get Kolping updates throughout the month or a place to share photos with your Kolping friends.

RECEIVE YOUR BULLETIN VIA EMAIL!
Call or email Jan Kessler (914.462.7649) or jkessny@aol.com if you would like to receive your copy by email. You can also visit our website www.kolpingny.org and find copies of the monthly bulletins, list of upcoming events and so much other information that you may find helpful.

GERMAN MASS
St. Joseph’s in Yorkville, 404 E. 87th St.

Every first Sunday of the month, the Holy sacrifice of the Mass is celebrated in German at 10am. Confessions in German before Mass. For information please call Julia Winter (347-852-3184). For information regarding counseling and sacraments in German, please contact Rev. James Boniface Ramsey, Pastor (212-289-6030).

OUR HOLY FATHER’S JANUARY 2018 INTENTION
EVANGELIZATION: RELIGIOUS MINORITIES IN ASIA.
That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practice their faith in full freedom.
Kolping Christmas/St. Nikolaus Party

submitted by Joan Smyth Dengler; photos submitted by John Noonan, Jan Kessler, and Joan Smyth Dengler

We began the day with Mass celebrated by Fr. Bretone. Don Simons & Larry Kunz provided music for our worship. Immediately following, President Katrina Dengler and Fr. Bretone inducted the new members—George, Allison & Victoria Ulrich, Gail & Matt Gleason, Barbara & Frank Lodesto, Roger Schmitt, Herman & Abbie Guy and Mason and our good friend Natasha Borodin.

A full house enjoyed the delicious buffet prepared by Wolfgang Hahn and Geovanni—thank you to all the Kolping House staff including Rodrigo and Maximo for decorating and setting up all the beautiful Christmas decorations. We're grateful to John Noonan for staffing the door. Thank you Donna Richardson, Chris Ulrich, Lisa Carruthers, and Joan Dengler for serving us. Thank you to the Portilla children for collecting the meal tickets.

Katrina Dengler presented certificates and pins to all the following for reaching their milestone memberships: 50 year Awards were presented to Luitgard and Detmar Nieshalla and Robert Hersam. 25 year milestone membership awards went to Greg Fucheck, Rosemarie Best, Richie Povilonis, Peter Bruegger and Michelle Cervello.

Anita Buchholz recently retired from her position at Kolping House and she was presented with gifts and thanked for her 33 years of service. Gail Gleason is now our Kolping House bookkeeper and she was officially welcomed aboard.

Jan Kessler retires from her position as secretary on 12/31 and Joan Smyth Dengler was introduced as the newly appointed Society Secretary. The members in attendance heartily thanked Jan for her many contributions.

The 2017 Person of the Year was announced and we congratulate Peter Carruthers. Peter has served on the board (currently as Recording Secretary), he instituted the credit card payment service at 88th Street and handled all the financials for the NY Kolping Convention last year, planned a bike tour for our visitors and worked up the bus schedules for the convention.

As always, St. Nick had many helpers. We thank Donna Richardson who did all the shopping and wrapping; Bob and Ann Hemsing for transporting the contents of Santa’s sack to NYC, and Jerry Ladenhauf, Thomas Bruegger and Therese Portilla who distributed the gifts to the good Kolping children in attendance.

Jennifer Ahrens Scheuermann ordered all the tempting German baked goods for our members to bring home or use as gifts. Those Brandy Beans and Chocolate Santas are very popular! Teddy Dengler XI helped with all the sales of the goodies and shared his musical talents on the piano with some well-loved Christmas standards for the crowd to enjoy.

The National Raffle Winners were drawn and names were announced by National Administrator Pat Farkas.

St. Nikolaus was delighted to meet all the children there—Aramis Nieshalla, Gerard, Joseph and Catherine Portilla, Vinny and Mikey Cervello, Mason Guy, James Dengler, Michael Maloney, Marie, Audrey and Grace Reyes, Elli Giannakopoulou, Isabelle D’Souza and Hugo Dalton. He hopes they will be good all year and come back in 2018!
October 31st marked the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther’s (1483-1546) break with the traditional Catholic Church and what he felt were their abusive practices. After the fall of the Roman Empire (461) the various province came countries. Since “All Roads Lead to Rome”, the spiritual power remained in the Pope. Power unchecked leads to corruption, however, some that hail exist in the church: sale of indulgences, nepotism (putting relatives in church or civil offices), etc.

Posting the abuses was a sign that reforms were in order and the doors of Wittenberg Cathedral was the site. A long chain of events evolve splitting Europe and surrounding countries into two camps— Lutheran and Catholic. In time, the Catholic Church adopted Luther’s suggestions: services in the vernacular, civic prosecution for clerical crimes, etc.

The New York Post Travel section (10/30/17) devoted an entire page to the Lutheran experience in Germany and best travel plans. Closer to home we have the “New Light” Lutheran Church on Worth Street in lower Manhattan. It has 2 Sunday services—one in English and the other in Chinese.

TOUR THE GERMANY OF LUTHER’S REFORMATION 500 YEARS LATER
By James Nevius (New York Post, 10/30/17)

On Oct. 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed his now world-famous 95 theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany.

Luther’s complaints about the Roman Catholic practice of selling indulgences (the forgiving of sins) launched the Protestant Reformation, forever altering the cultural, political, religious and artistic landscape of Europe and the world.

As we approach the five-hundredth anniversary of this earth-shaking event, there’s no better place to explore Luther and the Reformation than his native Germany.

Start by hopping a plane to Berlin (from $1100 roundtrip out of JFK). This once-divided city, formerly a symbol of the Third Reich and the Communist bloc, has become the new Germany’s vibrant capital, with nightlife, museums, and fine restaurants of every stripe. Make your head-quarters in the historic city center — rooms at the NH Collection Berlin Mitte Mitte am Checkpoint Charlie start at just $120 a night — and head for the Deutsches Historisches Museum where “The Lutheran Effect: Protestantism — 500 Years in the World” runs through Nov. 5.

The exhibition chronicles the Reformation’s expansion from Germany to the rest of Europe and, eventually the world. While you are there, ground yourself in general German history by taking a stroll through the permanent collection. Note, however, that the Luther exhibit is being held at Martin-Gropius-Bau [Niederkirchnerstraße 7] and not at the main museum complex, which is 1½ miles away.

To really experience Luther, however, you need to see Wittenberg, the birthplace of the Reformation, 70 miles to the southwest. One such way to do this is on a full-day tour from Berlin, like the 9-hour excursion from Original Berlin Walks ($60 per person), which includes roundtrip transportation to Wittenberg and a full day’s guided sightseeing. However, towns like Wittenberg reward a slower pace, so those with more time should head south on Deutschebahn, Germany’s railway ($25 per person), from Berlin’s main station to Wittenberg’s Altstadt station, which brings you closest to the sites you’ll want to see. As you plan your travel, keep in mind that the official name of the city is now Lutherstadt Wittenberg (“Luther’s City of Wittenberg”), so be sure to use that when searching for train times.

Walk through the Luthergarten (where 500 trees have been planted to commemorate the anniversary) and start your visit at the Schlosskirche (“castle church”) where Martin Luther nailed up his 95 theses five centuries ago. (Or, maybe, he didn’t. Scholars disagree on what precisely happened on Oct. 31, 1517, but no matter). There’s certainly no disputing the fact that this medieval building is Luther’s burial place and is the church most closely connected to him. There are even weekly English-language church services where you can sing Lutheran hymns in the very places he wrote and sang them himself.

Also visit the Stadtkirche St. Marien (“St. Mary’s Church”), which is a UNESCO World Heritage site and the oldest church in the city. Luther preached here many times and the interiors feature artwork by his good friend Lucas Cranach, the Elder, another Wittenberg resident. You’ll also want to stop at Luther’s house, which is preserved with artifacts from Luther’s life along with other important Cranach paintings. Nearby is the home of Philipp Melanchthon, a professor at Wittenberg University, who was the most important humanist proponent of the Reformation. (A two-day, combined $12 ticket for both houses can be purchased at either site.)

There are many places to stay in Wittenberg, but history buffs should choose the Hotel Alte Canzley, a modern hotel housed in a building dating back to 1391 (from $115).

While Wittenberg is the town most steeped in Lutheran history, there are plenty of other places to explore his influence and the story of the Reformation. From Wittenberg it is just an hour’s train ride to Leipzig in the modern state of Saxony. One of Europe’s great cities for music (home at various times, to Wagner, Bach and Mendelssohn), Leipzig also played an important role in the Reformation — and Luther’s final schism from the Catholic church — which is detailed in the exhibition “Leipzig in Dispute” at the town’s history museum (Stadtgeschichtliches Museum Leipzig) located at the old market square. Among the artifacts on view are a silver chalice that Luther owned and his wife Katharina’s wedding ring. And forty minutes northwest of Leipzig is Torgau, the town known both as the “wet nurse” and the political center of the Reformation, this is where Luther and his associates worked out the details of their new church. It was here that the first German-language baptism of the new faith took place in 1519, and in October 1544, Martin Luther dedicated the first Protestant-designed church in Hertenfels Castle. This is also the place where Luther’s wife died; the house where she passed away is now open as a museum and she is buried in the Marienkirche.

After passing back through Leipzig, head another hour south on the train to Dresden, one of Saxony’s most charming towns. Though devastated by the Allied bombings in 1945 and the subsequent decades behind the Iron Curtain, the city has rebounded in recent years. The main church, the Frauenkirche, once lay in ruins, but through generous donations from Protestants around the world, it was completely rebuilt as a monument both to Dresden’s resilience and to Luther’s ideals. A handsome statue of the preacher stands in the main town square just in front of the church.

Other highlights of Dresden include the Zwinger museum — filled with wonderful paintings by Lucas Cranach and Raphael’s famous Sistine Madonna — and the Dresden State Art Collections, which include the famous Green Vault filled with incredible objects acquired by the Saxon Electors of the Holy Roman Empire. There’s a museum, the Frauenkirche, once lay in ruins, but through generous donations from Protestants around the world, it was completely rebuilt as a monument both to Dresden’s resilience and to Luther’s ideals. A handsome statue of the preacher stands in the main town square just in front of the church.

Another great place to connect to the Reformation might be worth your while. From Frankfurt, you can take the train to Bretten ($24) to visit Melanchthon’s birthplace, which has become a museum and shrine dedicated to this teacher’s role in the Reformation. If you find yourself in Mannheim, which is just a quick train ride south from Frankfurt, be sure to check out the exhibition on the papacy (“Die Päpste”) at the fantastic Reiss-Engelhorn Museum through Nov. 26. The show not only traces the history of Catholicism, but gives visitors the opportunity to explore the religious history of Europe that led to Martin Luther and the Reformation.
ATTENTION: ALL MEMBERS
DEFENSIVE DRIVING CLASS
Point & Insurance Reduction Program
January 11, 2018

Join us at the Kolping House on East 88th Street for a program that reduces up to 4 points on your driving record and for 3 years gives a reduction on the base rate of your liability, no-fault and collision premiums. The course begins with registration at 3:30 pm. The class is expected to end at about 9:30 pm with a 1/2 hour dinner break.

HIGHLIGHTS
* Reduce insurance cost
* Reduce points on driving record
* Applies to all vehicles principally operated by the motorist who completes the course

SPACE IS LIMITED to 20 people, so please sign up as soon as possible to save your space. The cost is only $40 per person. and includes a light dinner.

If you or a member of your family or circle of friends could benefit from this course, please send in the coupon below and enclose your check for $40 made out to the Catholic Kolping Society. This is the time for people who took the course in December 2014 to renew.

PLEASE SIGN ME UP FOR THE POINT & INSURANCE REDUCTION PROGRAM BEING HELD ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2018 AT THE KOLPING HOUSE, 165 EAST 88TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10128-2241

Send this form and your check to: Joan Dengler, The Catholic Kolping Society of NY, 165 East 88th Street, New York, NY 10128.

Name: ____________________________________________________________
Address:  ____________________________________________________________
Telephone: ____________________________________________________________
Email: ____________________________________________________________

Enclosed is my check in the amount of $40 made out to The Catholic Kolping Society.
KOLPING SKI TRIP
Friday-Sunday, March 9-11, 2018
Mountaineer Inn at Mount Snow, Vermont

LODGING
Triple $435
Double $340
Single $240

Children 12 and under are $55 in room with adult. They do not count towards the adult count, so the child under 12 and one adult is the single price plus child. Children 13 or older must pay adult rates.

SKIING

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Group discounts are available on rentals and lessons. Contact Joan Dengler at joanandted@gmail.com for specific configurations.

Mail checks payable to Kolping to Joan Dengler at 7 Ganung Drive, Ossining, NY 10562

Your reservation at the Mountaineer will include two hearty country breakfasts, wine, cider and cheese reception, Saturday evening gourmet dinner, tax and gratuity.