

In 1956, St. Bernard's Rosary Society became affiliated with the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women which is a branch of the National Council of Catholic Women. The first Convention of this Council was held in Sioux City on September 20, 1956 and was attended by representatives from Blencoe. Mrs. John Ryan, as President of the Rosary Society was the first parish representative, being succeeded by Mrs. Ignac Pekarek.

The present officers and committee chairmen are as follows:

Parish Representative Mrs. James Marley
 Organization and Development Mrs. Milo Stanislav
 Spiritual Development Mrs. D. S. Marley
 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine Mrs. M. W. Marley
 Cooperation with Catholic Charities Mrs. Warren Uhl
 Youth Mrs. John Ryan
 Public Relations Mrs. Frank Heisterkamp

Rosary Society Officers-Blencoe

1940 President Mrs. Ford Bigelow
 Vice-President Miss Mary Marley
 Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Anthony Pokorny
 1941 President Mrs. Ford Bigelow
 Vice-President Mrs. Joseph Stanislav
 Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Wilbur Nielsen
 1942 President Mrs. Ford Bigelow
 Vice-President Miss Mary Kelsey
 Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Clayton Moats
 1943 President Mrs. Joseph Stanislav
 Vice-President Miss Mary Kelsey
 Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Frank Heisterkamp
 1944 President Miss Mary Kelsey
 Vice-President Mrs. Frank Heisterkamp
 Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Dominic Marley
 1945 President Mrs. M. W. Marley
 Vice-President Mrs. Frank A. Stanislav
 Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. L. M. Paseka
 1946 President Mrs. Ford Bigelow
 Vice-President Mrs. M. W. Marley
 Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Florence Comfort
 1947 President Mrs. Frank Heisterkamp
 Vice-President Mrs. M. W. Marley
 Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Florence Comfort
 1948 President Mrs. James Paseka
 Vice-President Mrs. Frank Heisterkamp
 Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Frank Stanislav
 1949 President Mrs. Leo Marley
 Vice-President Mrs. James Marley
 Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Frank Heisterkamp
 1950 President Mrs. Leo Marley
 Vice-President Mrs. James Marley
 Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Frank Heisterkamp
 1951 President Mrs. John J. Stanislav
 Vice-President Mrs. James Marley
 Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Frank Heisterkamp
 1952 President Mrs. D. S. Marley
 Vice-President Mrs. D. S. Marley
 Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. John J. Stanislav
 1953 President Mrs. Frank Heisterkamp
 Vice-President Mrs. D. S. Marley
 Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Frank Heisterkamp
 1954 President Mrs. John Stanislav, Jr.
 Vice-President Mrs. Leo Marley
 Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Warren Uhl
 1955 President Mrs. John Ryan
 Vice-President Mrs. Frank Heisterkamp
 Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Joe Stanislav
 1956 President Mrs. Kenneth Perry
 Vice-President Mrs. John Ryan
 Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Milo Stanislav
 1957 President Mrs. Leo Framke
 Vice-President Mrs. Gertrude Pekarek
 Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Lillian Marley
 Mrs. Vivian Fahey

1958 President Mrs. Adeline Uhl
 Vice-President Mrs. Arlene Jirovsky
 Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Patty Heisterkamp
 1959 President Mrs. Helen Framke
 Vice-President Mrs. Bette Marley
 Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Maurine Hubert
 1960 President Mrs. Mary Stanislav
 Vice-President Mrs. Bonnie Kelley
 Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. JoAnn Hodgson

Societies for Men

Parish records show that a Holy Name Society was organized in both the Onawa and Blencoe parishes in 1917 during the pastorate of Father Edmund Casey. It was short lived because it lacked an adequate meeting place and also perhaps because transportation was difficult in those days for the small number who then were members of these struggling parishes. The fact that they were scattered in more than one half of the county likewise added to its difficulty. However, this organization did promote, during its short existence, the monthly reception of Holy Communion of the men of the parishes, an idea recommended by the late St. Pius X, who promoted the frequent reception of the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.

The next formal organization of the men of the parish took place during the pastorate of Father P. P. Gearen in 1938. He organized a *Men's Club* during that year which undertook for a project the excavation of a space under the Church which was to be a meeting room for them and for other parish activities. The "do it yourself project" was well done and served as a meeting place for the men as well as a place for catechetical instructions for the children and meetings for the ladies of the Rosary Society. The men enjoyed a number of gatherings here which were advertised as "smokers" and which did much to promote parish cooperation. The club became inactive during World War II due to other patriotic interests and also because of the curtailment of the fuel necessary to heat the Parish Hall.

This *Men's Club* was reactivated in 1946—after the war—during the pastorate of Father B. V. Greteman. Dr. P. L. Wolpert was elected President; Dan Benjamin, Vice President, and P. J. Morrow, Secretary-Treasurer. The club members, along with the men from the Blencoe parish sponsored a number of Bingo parties at Thanksgiving time with turkeys, geese and ducks as prizes, and with the proceeds from these gatherings purchased a 16mm. sound movie projector which is used by the various parish organizations of both churches as well as for catechetical instructions for the children of the parishes. This club is also responsible for sponsoring the daily Rosary in October which is led by the men of the Parish and which was begun in 1949. In 1947 they also undertook the responsibility of assisting the pastor in the collection of funds for a new church in Onawa.