



## CDA Happenings

Volume 24, Issue 11  
December 1, 2017

### *Greeting from our Regent*



They're everywhere – huge 12-foot Santas and snowmen and reindeers. Lights and red bows all over. But it amazes me that there are so few of the most important lawn decoration. A nativity. One of my favorite things from the time I moved here until not too many years ago was to pass the Gauque's farmhouse on Route 94 and see the bigger than life size nativity on the front lawn. For me, it just brought home what it was all about. The reason for the season as we now say. And years later I found a Christmas star, the kind you see in the sky over the shepherds as they follow it to the manger. We hung it on the side of my house at the very top and could see it coming down the street at night – leading us home like that first star many years ago. As soon as I turned down the street and saw it I instantly thought of the whole Christmas story and what that star did, every time.

Don't get me wrong, I love Santa and lights and trees and gifts everywhere. But I really love my little nativity under the tree, surrounded by it all. And I love the advent wreath on Sunday mornings and the Christmas eve masses with that little drummer boy leading the most important baby of all time up the aisle.

So while we're enjoying all the festivities and decorations and gifts that make this time of year so exciting, I think it's important that we each take time to find an event, an item, a celebration that keeps us grounded in what this season really is about and what it means and why we celebrate it. We each need our own nativity – on the lawn, under the tree, on the stage or altar. And we need to look at it and think about it every day so we don't get lost in the commercialized version of a very spiritual holiday.

Wishing you all a very happy, holy Christmas full of the love and hope it is meant to bring.

Your Regent,  
Gail



[catholicdaughters.org](http://catholicdaughters.org)

*"Unity and Charity"*

### **National Happenings**

#### Tools of the Trade

The Catholic Daughter web site provides all the resources all courts, National, State, and Local, need to conduct business and function according to our by-laws. The Tools of Trade are now available on-line for any member to find information for elections, meetings, special events, prayer services, how to conduct installation of officers, ceremonies, protocol, parliamentary procedures, Eucharistic liturgies, and much more. At [www.catholicdaughters.org](http://www.catholicdaughters.org) it is available under "Resources" so that any question(s) you may have can be answered.

#### Retention of Records

In the life of a court there are many records generated for and by each court officer. For Regent there are reports from The Circle of Love, Federal Tax ID numbers, correspondence; for Vice-Regent the records of paraphernalia; for Recording Secretary the meeting minutes, for Financial Secretary all membership records; and for Treasurer all bank records. Each item has a designated amount of years that it must be retained by law. This information is also available on the CDA web site under CDA Resources. As the election of a new slate of Local Court officers will be held in May of 2018, anyone interested in being an officer may learn what some of her responsibilities would be.

#### National CDA Convention

The 57th Biennial National Convention will be held before you know it. From July 17th to the 22nd delegates from every court will convene in Sioux Falls, SD to  
(con't on p.2)

#### **Chaplain**

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c/o St. Mary's Church  
2 Fr. Tierney Circle  
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#### **District Deputy**

Kay Valenzano  
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New Windsor, NY 12553  
Ct. Patricia #195

## Mark Your Calendar!



### COURT FUNCTIONS

**Court Meeting**  
**Santa & Mrs. Claus are**  
**Coming**  
**December 13 @ 7:00**  
**Brown Bag Auction**



**Feast of the**  
**Immaculate Conception**  
**December 8**

### Christmas



**December 25**

**January 1, 2018**

**Feast of Mary, Mother of God**  
*Court Anniversary*



## National Happenings

### National CDA Convention

participate in the running of CDA and the election of officers who will guide us for two years. Start preparing now to join members from the Americas for this busy, important, and fun convocation.

## State Happenings

[cdanys.org](http://cdanys.org)

### New York State Court Web Site

Have you ever visited the NYS web site? For a while it was “under construction”. I encourage you to revisit it now! It has so much information that wasn’t available on-line before. Now everyone has access to the “*Rising Dawn*,” in which all the articles written by every state officer and state Circle of Love chairmen are there for you to read, no subscription necessary.



### New York State CDA Scholarships

Our own court member, Karen Sheboy, is the chairman for the CDA state scholarships. Karen is asking for our help to spread word that New York has 3 - \$1000 scholarships to award to deserving graduating seniors. The first requirement is that the student intends to continue their education at an accredited 2 or 4 year college or nursing school. There are other requirements as well and all of them can be obtained from our Court’s Education chairmen.

### 2018 Education Contest

Joanne Marino, the State Chairman for Education has given direction on the many resources available to put the word out to our young students regarding the education contest. She encourages us to reach out to school Principles, parishes in the area that do not have a CDA court, and Catholic Schools. Post ads in libraries, grocery stores, and tutoring centers. This requires a lot of work by our court Education chairmen and they might need our help to reach out to places and people that we know. All these things, the Scholarship and Education contest are programs in which we can all help to make them successful.

### Circle of Love

### Quality of Life & Family

The local fire house is not running their toy drive this year and John Flores of the *Washingtonville Country Kids Food Pantry* is stepping up and stepping in. He is collecting NEW, UNWRAPPED toys for children ages 2-10 years old and gift cards for older children up to 18 years of age (perhaps Walmart, Target, gaming stores, teen type clothing stores, I-tunes, movie theaters) so they can buy things they want or need. He will be collecting at the field across from Betty’s Country Kitchen on December 2nd from 3-9 pm or you can drop your donations off at Brookside Auto, Betty’s Country Kitchen or the Hook and Ladder Saloon from now until December 20th. You can also bring your donations to our meeting and John will take them to the food pantry. Jane Hosford will have a sign-up sheet for anyone who would like to help John set-up and distribute the gifts. The Court is also asked to bake some Christmas cookies and help serve hot cocoa and apple cider for that day.



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## Safe Homes Christmas

Don't forget to bring your toiletry and gift items for the bags for Safe Homes to our December meeting. Linda Jurain and Grace Alcaro will organize a date and time in December when the bags will be assembled and delivered to Safe Homes.

**Remember**—there is still time to adopt a family on your own or with a friend by calling Safe Homes, telling them you are from CDA. They will give you a family and list of requested items. It is a great project to do with a friend and be a “Secret Santa” to help a family and brighten their Christmas.

## How to Write a Court Check

It has been brought to the attention of Gail Erickson by Karen Rave, Treasurer, that checks to the court are not being written correctly. In order for you to justify your checkbook and have your checks cashed in a timely fashion, you should only use the following format on the “Pay to the Order of” line:

**Ct. St. Ann, Mother of Mary #2419**



## Thanksgiving at Safe Homes

Because of your generosity, \$385 was given to Safe Homes in Newburgh in the form of gift cards from Walmart, Stop & Shop, and Shoprite. All of this was greatly appreciated and was distributed to the 20 designated families for Thanksgiving. More information regarding this program can be obtained on the website: [www.safehomesorangecounty.org/holidays](http://www.safehomesorangecounty.org/holidays). If you would like to do something on your own, donations must be dropped off no later than 11:00 am on Friday, December 15.

## Leadership

Please keep up donations of food, gift cards or money for the *Backpack Program*. You can sponsor a child for the year if you like. Along with the previous donation sights, Stop & Shop now has a bin in the store for non-perishable food so you can just “shop & drop” your items right there.

## Revelations (not the Biblical kind)

It's time to sign up for a new Mystery Member! At our December meeting the person who has been leaving you little gifts, cards and surprises throughout the year will be **revealed** to you, ending this year's game. But it begins again in January—if you still want to participate. Just fill out the form below—or pick one up at the December meeting— and get it to Margaret Healey **no later than** December 21st.

*Mystery Member*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Birthday \_\_\_\_\_ Favorite Color \_\_\_\_\_

Please List below information that tells a little about yourself, i.e.family members, décor preference, hobbies, interests, movies, treats, etc.

Mail no later than Dec. 21st to: Margaret Healey  
250 County Route 17  
Pine Bush, NY 12566

## Keep in Y our Prayers

Please keep in your prayers Carmen Bruckner's daughter, Christine McCartney, Marie Temple's nephew, Jamie Erwin; Linda Jurain; Carol Lacata of Ct. Margaret Mary; Helene Shepard; Mary Spear's sister-in-law, Margaret Duane; Gerry Sherman's daughter, Ann; Carol McCue's husband, Brian; Margaret Healey; Janet Allen and Lynn Eismont's mother, Barbara.



## Habitat for Humanity

Another Habitat build under our (tool) belts. Several of our members attended a Build on November 18th before coming to Mass and our Anniversary Dinner. They became the “cleaning crew” to help get some of the homes ready for their new families to move into.



## December Birthdays

Gail Erickson 12/2  
Ann Strommer 12/6  
Hanora Belluco 12/10  
Barbara Studdert 12/10  
Mary Ann Hogan 12/31



Hol-

ly

## January Birthdays

Elaine Marchisi 1/5  
Nora McCaffrey 1/6  
Grace Alcaro 1/11  
Karen Smolar 1/14  
Florence Nasso 1/15  
Karen Flannery 1/16  
Thelma Fetchik 1/19  
Donna Leaden 1/20  
Nanette Murray 1/20  
Theresa Fee 1/22



Snowdrop

## Volunteers for December Meeting

Set-up & Clean-up: Roseann Horgan & Bernie Mullady  
Greeter: Linda Jurain  
Attendance & 50/50: Claire Evans  
Refreshments: Jeri Madsen  
Allison Laquidarn  
Gail Erickson  
Milk: Roseann Horgan

## Court Finances

Checking Balance: \$3,940.42  
Convention Fund: \$2,928.03



November 50/50 Winner  
Erika Payal



## Santa & Mrs. Claus are Coming to Town

Special guests will be joining us at the December meeting and helping out with our brown bag auction. Santa & Mrs. Claus are fitting us into their busy schedule to bring Christmas cheer to us once again. Bring a gift valued @ ~\$5 in a “brown” bag to be raffled off.



## Ongoing Happenings

- ▶ Collect **boxtops** for Education to benefit St. Mary’s Little Lambs Preschool and register shopping cards on line.
- ▶ Recycle empty **cans and bottles** and bring to meeting. Funds are used in our convention fund to help offset costs.
- ▶ Bring **Food Pantry donations** to the meeting: This month’s collection is canned tuna, canned chicken, peanut butter, jelly, and/or any non-perishable food item on sale.
- ▶ Bring items for the **Food for Kids** backpacks and place them in the bins outside the St. Joseph’s Room.

## Tapestry

The tapestry is an ongoing court project patterned after one created by Helene Shepard, National Regent. The intention is for it to be displayed at meetings and special events. The message on your square can be of peace, joy, faith or whatever you choose. So far there are 24 signed messages. We have over 120 members so let’s get everyone to sign a block. Choose a color and write away. Thank you for your support. Marilyn Martin

**Quote: “I don’t like to think before I speak—I like to be just a surprised as everyone else about what I say.”**  
Irish Craic & Humor

## 22nd Court Anniversary

On Nov. 18th our Court celebrated this milestone at the 5:30pm Mass followed by a dinner in Fr. Tetreau Hall. Over 50 members and guests joined in the event arranged by Nanette Murray and Janet Heidemann. Regent Gail Erickson presented Fr. Maurer with the Courts' contribution for the new building that is now under way. 10 and 20 year pins were presented to members present. If you were not present to receive your pin, contact Gail to make arrangements to do so.



## November Birthday Members



Margaret Healey, Maggie Flannery, & Ginny McCormack

## Bountiful Baskets



Due to the renovations and building going on at the main Church building over the next year or so, Fr. Tetreau Hall will be unavailable for use for any large function. Although this should not affect our monthly meetings, it was a problem for Bountiful Baskets, which can't take place there this coming April 2018. An angel has stepped in and arranged for us to use the Knights of Columbus Hall in Washingtonville from Wednesday night through Friday night—April 25th through 27th. When God closes a door, He open a window, so the saying goes.

### *Ct. Madonna #114—Tricky Tray*

Members of Ct. Madonna have always been some of our biggest supporters and will be holding their annual Tricky Tray on Sunday, January 14, 2018 in St. Mary's Hall, Ball Street, Port Jervis. The doors open at 12 noon and drawing will begin at 2pm. Tickets are 25 for \$1.00.

### *Ground Breaking News*

The official ground breaking for the addition to St. Mary's Main Church building took place on Sunday, November 19 at 1pm, after which all who attended were treated to refreshments in Fr. Tetreau Hall. Pictured with Fr. Maurer are several parishioners who so generously donated toward the new annex.



### *Recipe of the Month* *Good Old-Fashioned Eggnog Punch*

#### Ingredients:

- 1 liter Bourbon
- 1 quart Milk
- 1 quart Heavy Cream
- 2 dozen eggs
- 1 1/2 cups Sugar
- Nutmeg for garnish



#### Instructions:

Separate eggs and beat yolks until creamy  
Whip sugar into the yolks.  
Beat whites until they stand in peaks,  
adding 1/2 cup additional sugar, if desired.  
Beat yolks and Bourbon together.  
Fold in whites.  
Beat cream until they stand in peaks.  
Fold cream and milk into egg mixture.  
Add nutmeg to taste.

Garnish each cup with nutmeg.

**Enjoy**

**Makes approximately 24 servings**



Ct. St. Ann, Mother of Mary  
c/o Gail Erickson  
122 Twin Arch Rd.  
Washingtonville, NY 10992

### ***Mission Statement***

*“Catholic Daughters of the Americas strives to embrace the principle of faith working through love in the promotion of justice, equality, and the advancement of human rights and human dignity for all”*

### ***Blessed Mother Mary Patroness***



### ***Right to Life March***

January 19th is the date that people of conscience from all over the U.S. will converge on Washington, DC to raise their voices for the Rights of the Unborn who cannot speak for themselves. If you are not able to go, make time to pray the Rosary that justice for the innocents be legislated into law.





# **The Power of Prayer**





[www.catholiddaughters.org](http://www.catholiddaughters.org)

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## **Court Finances**

*Figures as of October 19, 2016*

Checking Balance: \$4,655.67

Convention Fund: \$3,524.85

Building Fund: \$2,501.39







## **Court Happenings**

### ***Revelations (not the Biblical Kind)***

It is time to find out who your Mystery Member is who has been leaving you little gifts, cards, and surprises throughout the year. She will reveal herself at the December meeting and conclude this year's game.

But it begins again in January—if you still want to play and join in the fun. Just fill out the form below—or pick one up at the December meeting—and get it to Margaret Healey **no later than** December 21st to participate in next year's game. Margaret's address is on the form.

