



“THE VOICE OF CDA”

Spirit of North Dakota

State Regent—Kathy Kennedy

As I write this, it is six weeks since National CDA Convention in Billings, Montana, and eight weeks away from our Fall Workshop in Harvey on October 25. I want to extend an invitation to any Catholic Daughter who wants to attend the workshop. It is not only for local court officers, as is sometimes the notion. We will be presenting information for the general membership and are hoping to make it worth your while to come. For more information on the workshop, contact your local Regent.

Even though the National Convention is over, it is not forgotten. It was busy, informative, fun and well attended. North Dakota was represented by 27 delegates. When alternates, chaplains, husbands and others were added in, the total ND representation came to 42! I thought that was impressive. It was good



to see our National Board in action and get to know them a little. Our new National Regent, Shirley Seyfried, is from Minnesota and will do a fine job...just as Anne Nelson, the Immediate Past National Regent did.

During this time between convention and workshop, I have had a little time to more carefully look over correspondence that came in during the summer. I appreciate so many courts getting their financial reviews completed and mailed to me without having to be reminded. Looking at the financial reviews, however, raised

some concerns. I noticed that some courts listed current funds of \$5,000 to as much as \$11,000. When I looked at their total amount paid out by check for Religious, Charitable, and Educational purposes the totals were in the \$500 - \$900 range. I find it admirable that courts are able to raise those large amounts of money, but why are those funds being held on to so tightly? Please remember that Catholic Daughters is all about Unity and CHARITY.

It was truly touching to see how grateful the representatives from various national projects and charities were when our donations were presented to them. Your donations to these projects and charities really do make a difference in people's lives. And I know that you all donate to charities and worthwhile organizations around the state and in your community. So again, please remember the purpose of Catholic

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Mark your calendar!

**Fall Workshop
Oct. 25, 2014
in Harvey!**

State Chaplain—Fr. Franklin Miller



Dear Catholic Daughters,

Attending the 55th Biennial National Convention was a magnificent opportunity to experience “Unity and Charity” in action. The theme of the convention was “I am the vine, you are the branches” (John 15:5). The Catholic Daughters, Bishop Michael Warfel, state chaplains and the guests present, substantiated the fact that the good work of the Lord continues in our day through the selfless service of many associated with the Catholic Daughters. An example of dedicated service was the State Court of Montana and the local courts which provided us with a warm welcome and “Big Sky Country” hospitality.

The Lord promised, “for where two or three are gathered in my

name, there I am in the midst of them” (Mt. 18:20). It was evident at the convention of the Lord’s presence as the Catholic Daughters from around the country met to worship, pray and discuss important matters for the welfare of the organization. God’s blessings were experienced in the proceedings of the convention, listening to the keynote speakers and the presentations of donations to various National Projects and Charities.

One of the keynote speakers, Teresa Tomeo, said that “it is no coincidence that the current attacks on the Church are centered on women’s issues, because Satan knows that if he can get to us, he can get to everyone”. She quoted the prophet Jeremiah; “you will seek me and you will find me when you seek me with your heart” (Jer. 29:13). Please consider as part of your day-to-day activities a profound and significant

prayer life, especially daily Mass and the rosary. We see the “evil one’s” increasing action in the lives of so many persons who have little or no knowledge of God’s love.

Catholic Daughters and all Christians are called to “attach” themselves to Christ in an extraordinary way so as to be a “branch” to those in need; be it our families, the parish family or God’s universal family. As Joanne Tomassi, Past National Regent, said at the convention; “I now work for an organization where the bottom line is salvation and service”. Past National Chaplain Rev. Stephen Gosnell said upon the Crowning of the Blessed Mother at the convention, “never be afraid to be generous with Christ”.

May the peace of the Lord always be with you.

Editor’s Corner—Colleen Wipf & Mary Kennedy

Hello fellow C.D.A. members,

This is just a quick note from your C.D.A. state newsletter editors. We are working on correcting addresses so that everyone is able to receive and enjoy the newsletter.

If anyone has a change of address please make sure to get it to your financial secretary. The Financial Secretary’s responsibility is to send it to the Bonita Erickson (1420 11th St., Langdon, ND 58249 or email to ericfami-

ly2004@yahoo.com. If you know of someone who is not receiving the newsletter please let us know.

If you have an email address and you want to receive the newsletter via email notify us and we’ll get it switched. By viewing it in your email you will get to see the newsletter in color and receive it a few days earlier. Another advantage to the newsletter via email is that you receive it even if you move or go to warmer climates in the winter. Also, it saves the state court some money not

having to deal with postage and printing costs.

Thank you,

Colleen Wipf, Editor
codewipf@gondtc.com

Mary Kennedy, Assistant Editor
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National Supervisor—Vickie Feist



As I sit to pen this article (OK really I am typing it on the computer but, that just doesn't sound as authorish, right?), it occurs to me that by the time this is actually published and you read it the assignments for the state supervisors will be made. At this time I don't know when I will be informed of the states I will supervise. Two years ago I was notified in September that I would be your supervisor and I have truly loved and enjoyed sharing this time with your incredible state board and having the opportunity to meet

many of you wonderful ladies! You have so generously welcomed me and have been so kind to me. Whether I am privileged with serving your state as a national supervisor for the next two years or not, THANK YOU for the past two beautiful years!

This week I was a witness—thanks to the availability of live streaming via computer—of my niece making her first vows with the Sisters of Life in New York. I have witnessed ordinations to the diaconate and to the priesthood but this is the first time I have witnessed a new sister taking her vows in religious life. I was just breathless watching Mikki—now Sr. Mary Pieta, as she vowed to give her life in obe-

dient submission and JOYFULLY serve those in need of her wherever she was directed to go.

What a reminder of what we all are asked to do in our own vocations. It really can cause one to evaluate how we serve. In my marriage, in my family life, in my community, and in CDA—do I SERVE JOYFULLY? Do I focus on how when I serve my husband or children, friends or CDA, I am serving Jesus in them? Do I show a loving care and gentleness every time I serve?

In honesty, the answer for me is no—sometimes I serve begrudgingly and sometimes I act crabby or frustrated or as if I am on automatic pilot rather than being

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First Vice State Regent—Laurel Ann Dukart



At the 55th National Convention, the Bylaws Committee presented 32 proposed amendments to the bylaws. Of these, 26 passed, two failed, and four were withdrawn. 27 resolutions were submitted to the Resolutions Committee. Of these, five passed, two failed, and 20 were not discussed (as they were specific to Local Courts). More on these can be found on the National CDA website - and will also be covered at State Workshop in October. A bylaw is a 'rule' that governs the internal affairs of the organization -

bylaws must be followed.

A resolution is a 'suggestion' that was discussed and passed at a convention - each Court may decide whether they want to follow any given resolution. One of the bylaw amendments submitted by the National Bylaw Committee and passed concerns Local Courts.

Article XII Local

Courts Sec. 7. Duties of Local Court Officers

A. The Regent Shall:

10. Insure that the following documents are provided to the District Deputy/State Supervisor: a.) All minutes of the Court meetings. b.) All Treasurer's reports c.) Annual Court budget d.)

Semi-annual financial reviews e.) Court program book (list of officers) f.) Court newsletters (if Court has one) g.) Court standing rules h.) Other correspondence as requested

Rationale: This will help the District Deputy/State Representative be aware of what is happening in the Courts under her jurisdiction and be better available to provide assistance with issues that may arise in the Court. *ND has State Representatives, not District Deputies.

Each Local Court should have a set of bylaws; updates are sent out by National. Please take the time to look through and follow their guidance.

Second Vice State Regent—Mary Baer



Another National Convention has come and gone. There is nothing like a CDA convention to renew the spirit. One of my favorite things about conventions is the realization that there are hundreds (over 800 this year) of us gathered in the same place, for the same reason, and we all share the same beliefs. I truly enjoyed the liturgies – it is so enlightening to participate in a celebration where everyone fully participates.

The remainder of my article is going to be some miscellaneous thoughts and ideas from the con-

vention that I would like to share with all of you. I would like to start with some of Fr. Jim Sichko's words of wisdom. CDA is open to all catholic women and catholic women need to be a part of CDA no matter what part of their life they are in. Plant the seed to evangelize. Remember that Jesus is in all of your activities. The Lord will never abandon his people. Women of faith need to TRUST. Some good thoughts from Teresa Tomeo follow next. God has so much of the real stuff to give us – we do not have to cling to the imitation stuff. God qualifies the called – not the qualified are called. When we are whom we are called to be, we will set the world ablaze. When you put the

faith back together you get America back together. Never forget the impact you make on others.

A few ideas that caught my attention are: (1) Adopt a legislative member; send a note at the beginning of the year to say that you are praying for them and then by chance try to see them at the end of the session. (2) Put in your standing rules that meeting minutes will be sent out before the meeting so they do not need to read at the meeting. (3) Courts should have a PR chairman.

Our new National Regent Shirley Seyfried from Minnesota has chosen the theme for her administration for the next two years to be "Whatever you do for the least of My brethren you do for me." She has also selected

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State Treasurer—Debra Johnson



Welcome members, as we embark on another great year of CDA accomplishments!

Your new officers have been busy planning

the next year or two for you. May it be spiritually enriching as well as being Christ's light to others in everything we do. July was highlighted by 4th of July celebrations with family and friends and the National Convention with many North Dakota ladies attending from all over the state. As a first time attendee it was a little overwhelming. You can't help but come back a changed person after all the great speakers and ceremo-

nies for spiritual enrichment. Father John Hardin stated, "there is no power so great as when a woman falls in love with Christ." This is how I see all CDA women-lets spread the word to all Catholic women in our churches and lives.

Membership on a national level increased by over 9,000 new members in the last two years. Wow! Lets not be the best-kept secret in North Dakota any longer. Be proud of who you are and what you do in each court across our state. St. Catherine of Siena once said, "When we are whom we are called to be we will set the world on fire." I am blessed to be a Catholic Daughter and so enjoyed spending time with others who attended the convention

from our state. There was a lot of 'business' with many changes being made, to be a voting member and to be a part of that process was exciting. Thank you for letting me be a part of it. July also brought sadness as our long time Chaplain of Court St. Ann #261 and priest in the Fargo Diocese, Father Peter Hughes passed away. He will be missed greatly, may he peacefully rest in the light of Christ.

I will leave you with this: Blessing involves saying and doing. God blesses us by speaking his word into our lives and by doing things to help us. We bless God by praising and serving him. May this year be a blessing for each of you.

State Secretary—Bonita Erickson



The National Catholic Daughter Convention held in July 2014 at Billings, Montana was awesome. It was really something to be in the midst of so many women of faith united in our CDA love. Breathless!

A spirituality workshop was held before the convention even started. It was presented by Father Jim Sichko. Some background information about Father Jim Sichko. He is the pastor of St Mark's parish in Richmond, KY. He is 46 years old, the youngest of 5 children and he was ordained in 1998. He holds degrees in both vocal performance and theology. Father Jim travels throughout the United States conducting numerous retreats and days of recollection. He is known for his charismatic story telling. Father Jim weaves everyday life experiences with the messages which lie within the gospel.

Needless to say he was wonderful and entertaining!!!! I want to share these highlights from the Spirituality workshop with you.

◆ God speaks to us in everyday life. God works in **every** experience in our lives.

◆ Catholic Daughters have to be open to **ALL** Catholic women, not only those who think like I do.

◆ We should think of this at our court meetings. **Where is Jesus? Is He in the midst of our meetings?**

◆ **WE** are called to bring **WHO** we are to others. We are service people.

◆ You have to follow your heart. **CDA ---You have to BE IT!!! You have to LIVE IT!!! You have to Be IN THE MIDST of it!!** You plant the seed.

◆ **Change** is bound to happen. **Growth** is awesome. We get what we put into it. The Lord will not abandon His people. So we are **down CDA members, down CDA attendance** at meetings. That just means we have more ministry for us to do. WE have to minister the ministry of encouragement.

◆ We need to get to know God by spending time in prayer and to have a relationship with Him. We have to grow in our relationship with Him. We have to grow in conversation with HIM and obey the Word of God. God's promise was to give us what we need not what we want Him to give us. **WE** won't be disappointed if we put our expectations on God not on people. Do we believe in what we **pray**? Prayers will help if you believe what you pray. **Catholic Daughters** are women of faith. We have to try and trust. We can surrender but not give up. Surrendering comes from understanding that God is in charge. We have to let go and let God. Just do the best you can do. **TRY-TRY-TRY.**

◆ **CDA – LIVE IT!!! BELIEVE IT!!**

◆ Barbara Cook

◆ Lindsey Taylor

◆ Ruth Haas

◆ Marilyn Lacher

◆ **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

◆ **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.**

◆ **Barbara Cook**

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◆ **Barbara Cook**

Court Highlights



Photos from the 55th Biennial
National CDA Convention
Billings, Montana July 2014



Court Highlights



Margarete Senger

July 12, 1935–June 6, 2014

Margarete Senger, 78, Linton, ND, passed away June 6, 2014 peacefully in her home, surrounded by family after a four month battle with cancer. Services were held at 10 a.m. Wed., June 11, 2014 at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Linton, ND with Rev. David Richter officiating. Burial was held in the church cemetery.

Margarete was born July 12, 1935, in Selesia, Germany, to John and Maria (Fesser) Morcinek. There she lived until she was nine years old. Her biggest memory of the war is of the time her mother, four siblings, and grandmother, plus a neighbor lady and her mother, left by wagon and oxen to evade the Russian Army. They headed west for two days, but the two grandma's refused to go on, and they turned back, only to be met by German soldiers who moved the family out by train, to Bavaria, West Germany.

After meeting the love of her life, Margarete married Raymond Senger, on May 26, 1955, at the Air Force Chapel in Germany. Together they established their home, farming east of Linton, where they raised five children. They moved into town in 1990.

Margarete belonged to Catholic Daughters of America, the Legion Auxiliary, Senior Citizens, Homemakers, and bridge clubs. She was also song leader in the church choir. She was a great hostess, who enjoyed having her family over and fixing large holiday meals. Margarete also loved to knit and crochet. She took pride in making blankets for her grandchildren and other family members.

Editors note: Margarete served on the CDA State Board.



Court St. Cecelia #362 newly installed officers

L to R: Kathy Wagner, Financial Secretary; Sandy Leingang, Vice Regent; Lynn Crouse, Treasurer; Jo Greff, Secretary and Bonnie Quast, Regent.

Court St. Cecelia celebrated their 95th anniversary in May. At that time, they received 11 new members and held election of officers. They were installed Sept. 8 at Christ the King

National Supervisor Cont. from pg. 3

attentive to those in front of me. I wish that wasn't the case, but it is. Watching Sr. Mary Pieta, it set a deep reminder in my soul that I need to be more aware, more mindful, and attend to my emotions so that I do, in my vocation as wife and mother as well as a friend and member of my extended family, community, and CDA SERVE JOYFULLY!
God Love You All
Vickie

In Loving Remembrance

Mary Deichert
Sara Banval
Beatrice Ness
Margarete Senger

Spirit of North Dakota

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Current Resident Or



State Regent cont. from pg. 1

Daughters. It's nice to make money for a good reason, but then don't forget to give it.

I have been questioned as to why courts have to send their financial reviews to the national office. As a 501(c) 3, tax exempt organization, Catholic Daughters is mandated to send in reports to the federal government proving that we truly are a charitable organization. All that we do at a local or state level affects this.

I place these thoughts in your minds, knowing that all of you are striving to make Catholic Daughters the best organization and that you will do the right thing when and where there is a need.

Next deadline for “The Voice of CDA”

Dec. 1, 2014

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Second Vice State Regent cont. from pg. 4

three goals for her term.

(1) Each court should do one new program or project each year. (She would love for you to write up your new project and send it to her.) (2) Would like to increase our membership up to over 100,000. (3) Increase our spirituality. (Be sure to pray for the success of our projects and for God's guidance.

I hope I didn't jump around too much in the article – I just wanted to share some of my favorite

thoughts from the convention with all of you. I truly hope you have a great year in CDA. Best of luck to all the new and returning officers: remember God qualifies the called. Be sure to contact the State Board if there is anything we can do to help you and your court. I would like to close with two more thoughts from the convention. Be like an eagle and soar above pettiness.

Stay true to your own mission.