



Sisters in SERVICE

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2012

COURT SANTA SOPHIA #2520 · SPRING VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

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CDA 54th Biennial National Convention

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas 54th Biennial National Convention was held July 18-22 in Omaha, NE. Court Santa Sophia was represented by two delegates: Regent, Diana Garra and Recording Secretary, Claire Lake; and two alternates: Pam Kay and Melissa Hiatt.

Our representatives attended Circle of Love workshops on spirituality, legislation and leadership. Masses were held daily before meetings. Business meetings comprised of powerful and entertaining keynote speakers, election of the national board, voting on resolutions and bylaws, and presentations of awards and charitable contributions.

The convention also mixed business with pleasure. There were moments of "down-time" where convention-goers were able to enjoy Omaha on foot. Ct. Santa Sophia attended the California State Dinner on one of the evenings; Claire Lake attended "Nebraska Fun Night" hosted by the Nebraska State Court which consisted of a show and dinner.



Top to Bottom: Delegates, Claire Lake and Diana Garra; Cards are raised to count votes; Installation Mass at St. Cecilia Cathedral in Omaha, NE.

Attending a convention will reignite your passion for CDA. It is a time to meet women just like us, make decisions on CDA's future, and to share and create ideas on how we can make a difference in our community at large.

REGENT'S LETTER



My introduction as the new Catholic Daughters Regent for Court Santa Sophia came from an excellent role model, past Regent Melissa Hiatt. In handing over the gavel, she laid a solid foundation for success. I am also very blessed to have

the previous slate of officers remain in their positions and bringing their wonderful expertise: Vice Regent, Melinda Bauers, Financial Secretary, Rebecca Kelly, Treasurer, Carol Williams, and, Recording Secretary, Claire Lake.

In my first role as Regent I was

very fortunate to be able to attend the Catholic Daughters 54th Biennial National Convention in Omaha, Nebraska this past July. The convention was an exciting time to be a delegate to vote on new legislation, listen to spiritual speakers, attend

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motivational workshops, listen to presentations from the Circle of Love Chairwomen and the giving of awards and over \$343,000 charitable contributions. The most memorable was the Spirituality Workshop with Father Edward Lamp, the National Chaplain for the Catholic Daughters. He reinforced the concept that the Catholic Daughters are not an organization of do-gooders but are women who do good because of our faith in God. We participated in many spiritual activities one of which I have already incorporated into our August meeting. You Are Sent is a prayer before a major project or a new term using Blessed oil to anoint our foreheads, ears, hands, and feet to dedicate the work of our court to the Lord. Another highlight was the installation of the new slate of CDA National Officers at St. Cecilia's Cathedral celebrated by Archbishop George Lucas. Attending the convention was

an inspirational and rewarding privilege not to be missed.

Court Immaculata #1854 at St. Mary Magdalene Church hosted our own impressive court installation. Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Court #2218 with California State Regent Daphne Bernestine presiding, held a comprehensive training a few weeks later.

Expressed at the National Convention, the two-fold purpose of the Catholic Daughters is spirituality and service, in effect putting faith into action. I look forward to following these principals with everyone's prayers, support, suggestions, ideas and service activities that will make for a spiritually rewarding and blessed two years.

In Unity and Charity,
Diana Garra

Quilting for a Cause: Empowering Women Through Project Handclasp

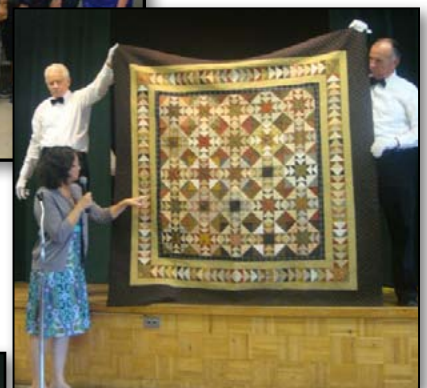
The second annual Mystery Quilt workshop was deemed a success! Sixteen women of various quilting experience gathered on August 4 for a marathon 12 hour session of sewing, eating, laughing and camaraderie. Members of Court Santa Sophia provided breakfast, lunch, afternoon snack and dinner. The food was delicious and plentiful. The Court made a profit of \$1000 with part of the proceeds to be donated to Project Handclasp, empowering women unit.

The day began with prayer and Pam Kay, leader of the workshop, released clues and instructions throughout the course of the event as participants were ready for them. It truly was a mystery, and those who tried to guess what the pattern was failed. At the end of it all, the mystery was revealed and tired sewers packed up their equipment and went home. The quilt top was not completed in class, but students were instructed to go home and finish the assembly and return for a mystery quilt "reveal" on Saturday, September 29 at 6:00 p.m. for light snacks, a quilt movie and sharing of their completed quilts.



Above: Workshop participants and their instructor, Pam Kay.

Right: We were treated to a wonderful trunk show by Catherine Hughes of San Marcos, who is part owner of the quilt shop Grand Country Quilts.



Above: White-gloved Knights assist with displaying quilts.

Right: The mystery is revealed! Participants will complete a quilt similar to the one shown here



Ct. Santa Sophia Receives Top Awards at the State and National Levels!



We did it again! Court Santa Sophia was recognized in the State for our efforts with the Circle of Love projects for Quality of Life, Leadership and Youth. The State's 1st place entries were submitted to National where we were again awarded in Quality of Life and Leadership.

These awards are dedicated to our members who work hard to be "Gods hands and feet." Our court is truly blessed to have wonderful members!

California Courts interested in having JCDA must submit a resolution and convention action at the 2013 California State Convention to bring the program back to California.

State Treasurer, Angel Leuschen, resigned due to health problems. **Sharon Baker** has accepted the office of State Treasurer for the remainder of her term.

2013 CDA Contest and Scholarship guidelines have been released. Local Court entries should be submitted at the State level.

Dues will increase at the national level from \$10 per member to \$15 per member. This will take into effect at the billing cycle ending on March 31, 2013.

CDA has disbursed \$343,534.72 to National Projects and Charities from 2010-2012. Your donations have made a difference for each of the projects in the Circle of Love program.

CDA Puts the "Pick" in Picnic

AUGUST 25 - The Santa Sophia Academy held its annual "Summer Night Picnic" after the Saturday Vigil. Court Santa Sophia was back with our "Plum Tree" game. The game is played by picking "plums" off a tree, which are actually Tootsie Rolls wrapped in purple tissue paper. Some wrappers have numbers on the inside which coincide with a prize that was on the table. Chances were sold at three picks for a \$1 or one for 50¢. Prizes ranged from toys to cupcakes.

It soon became a popular spot for kids to win quick prizes or take away their candy for a consolation prize. Volunteers agree that it was fun to watch the game as it was to play.

Thank you to those who donated prizes, made cupcakes and volunteered at the booth!

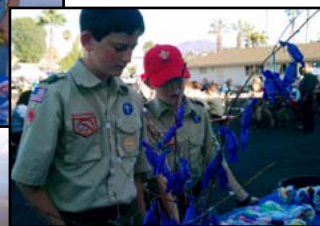
Right: Claire Lake and Melinda Bauers add more "plums" to the tree.



Left: Marie Mixon and Georgene Kruzel with (an enthusiastic) Mya Hiatt.



Right: Scouts strategize their picks.



Court Santa Sophia is on Facebook! If you have a Facebook account, you can "Like Us" by searching for "Court Santa Sophia #2520."

Our Apologies!
We regret that we excluded Vice Regent, Melinda Bauers from the list of officers installed on June 2012 in our last newsletter.

VOTE - IT'S YOUR PRIVILEGE

The nineteenth amendment was passed in 1920 which stated, "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." Women have since been able to make their voice heard at the polls every election season.

It is our duty as U.S. Citizens and Catholic Daughters to be active and informed when it comes to our rights and the decisions made by our country. Below are online resources to help you learn about the Catholic Church and the Catholic Daughters' position on the issues we face this election season.

Diocese of San Diego Catholic Voter Education Aid from the Office for Social Ministry: <http://www.osmelink.org/vote.htm>

USCCB - Forming Consciences For Faithful Citizenship:
<http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship/>

Catholic Daughters Operation Morning Star:
http://www.catholicdaughters.org/morningstar/ms_alerts.shtml

Please remember that when you write your representatives or participate in political discussions, you must present yourself as an individual constituent and not as a representative for the Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

9/15 4pm-8pm
KofC 90th Anniversary
Open House at the
Columbus Club

9/27 - 7pm
General Meeting in the
Verhoeven Room

OCTOBER

10/21
National CDA Day

10/25 - 7pm
General Meeting in the
Verhoeven Room



*Please continue to pray for
the health of Rebecca Kelly's
husband, Bill and Lou
Turner's husband, Joe.*



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Mission Statement

Catholic Daughters of the Americas strives to embrace the principal of faith through love in the promotion of justice, equality and the advancement of human rights and human dignity for all.

Visit Court Santa Sophia's website at:

www.catholicdaughters.com

or the CDA National website at:

www.catholicdaughters.org

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