



Sisters in SERVICE

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2012

COURT SANTA SOPHIA #2520 · SPRING VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

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Knights of Columbus Celebrates 90 Years in San Diego



Top L-R: Georgene Kruzal, Chris Murphy, Claire Lake, Carol Williams, Marie Mixon

On September 15th, the Knights of Columbus celebrated 90 years in San Diego. To commemorate the occasion, an open house was held at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Home Avenue. Bishop Brom was in attendance to give the blessing and celebrate with the Knights.

The Catholic Daughters played a huge role in making the event a memo-

rable one. Volunteers prepared food, arranged and decorated the hall, and served food during the open house.

We weren't without challenges as members were subject to preparing food in a tight kitchen and dealing with non-functional equipment. The availability of table linens were delayed which caused us to decorate the hall on a short time limit. But, we made the best of the situation as Catholic Daughters always do.

Our efforts didn't go unrecognized—we were complimented on how beautiful and festive the hall looked and what a wonderful job we did in preparing and presenting the food.

Many thanks to Chris Murphy, Carol Williams, Marie Mixon, Diana Garra, Georgene Kruzal, Claire Lake and Melissa Hiatt for all their help with the event!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Catholic Daughters of the Americas welcome **Cynthia Pais** and **Mary Wade** to Court Santa Sophia! Thank you for saying, "yes" to CDA. We look forward to your participation and camaraderie.

REGENT'S LETTER



These past few months have found our CDA hands utilizing the Nebraska State CDA's wonderful idea of "Pray It Forward". We started the Rosary dedicating it to the special people in our lives who were and still are in need of help

from Our Blessed Mother. Once the rosary was completed, we signed the included card and gave the rosary to the person that was in our prayers who would do the same for someone else. It was a very timely spiritual gift in that our rosaries were prayed for members' spouses who are ill and

hospitalized.

With so many people unemployed in our society, we focused our Make a Difference Day on the homeless. Our CDA member, Carolyn Palm, provided us with a nutritious and inspiring packet sample that included

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snack bars, raisins, mints, prayer card and a special Prayer for Employment backed by the Our Father. This powerful petition for employment is as follows:

You govern your creation, O God, and bring it to perfection by work of our hands. Hear the prayers of your people who ask for work that will enhance their human dignity and promote the up building of your kingdom. Enable them to provide for those confided to their care either by family ties or by charity we owe to one another for the betterment of human life. We ask this blessing in the name of Jesus who labored with his own hands while he lived on earth. Amen

The prepared packets were delivered to the homeless via a worthwhile organization that our Vice Regent, Melinda Bauers contacted, called H2H, Hunger 2 Help. This volunteer group goes to Balboa Park and provides

burritos to the homeless every Sunday morning. They serve around 350 homeless each week and were very grateful for our participation.

With the holidays fast approaching, let us keep the ill, the unemployed, the homeless and those most recently affected by Hurricane Sandy in our hearts and prayers.

We have an upcoming Christmas Dinner planned for the El Nido participants and their children on December 11th. This most worthwhile program helps women who are victims of domestic violence. Our next meeting will include an appetizer Christmas Party at the home of Pam Kay on December 12th.

May you and your family enjoy the holidays with a Holy Christmas Season.

In Unity and Charity,
Diana Garra

East Coast CDA Members Send Hurricane Sandy Updates on Facebook

The National CDA Facebook page was in a flurry with posts from members directly affected by hurricane Sandy. On November 1st, Mary Impellizeri from the National Office posted, "Anyone that can, please pass along the message that the National HQ is closed until Monday. We still have no way to get into Manahattan from our homes. I have little gas left in my car and the gas lines are long - LA and TX understand that! We are all safe and the building did not have water in it."

As the days went on, updates from members started to appear with requests for electricians and plumbers. Members requested updates on past National Regent, Grace diCairano who was displaced due to a tree that destroyed her home. Other members posted that they were hosting "refugees."

Even though the clean-up is now in full-effect, help is still needed. CDA courts can help by sending donations to the National Office for the Disaster Relief Fund.

STATE AND NATIONAL NEWS

California State Convention will be held May 23-26, 2013 at the Torrance Marriott in Torrance, California.

Past State Regent Emily Guilherme, has been elected to a second term on the National Board. She has also been assigned as the National Representative for California. Congratulations, Emily!

Local courts may enter the **Facebook contest** by creating a Facebook page and advertising it in the bulletin. Courts will have the chance to win \$100. Deadline is March 31, 2013.

Prices have been reduced on certain items and new products have been added to the National CDA store. Visit the CDA National online store to order.

Download the **Operation Morning Star** Newsletter to stay up to date on legislative issues. Visit www.catholicdaughters.org and click "O.M.S. Newsletter {latest issue date}" on the left navigation menu.

2012 Charitable Disbursement of Funds

Court Santa Sophia approved the following charitable disbursements at the September Meeting:

NATIONAL PROJECTS

- The Disaster Relief Fund \$20
- Habitat for Humanity \$20
- Holy Cross Family Rosary \$40
- Smile Train \$20
- SOAR! \$40

SPIRITUALITY

- Santa Sophia Parish \$200¹
- Preserving Our Legacy \$250²

QUALITY OF LIFE

- Mobile Ultrasound Unit \$284
- Madonna Manor \$100

LEGISLATION

- Morality in Media \$100

EDUCATION/YOUTH

- Nativity Prep Academy \$100

TOTAL \$1174

¹ Amount committed by our standing rules.

² Our remaining pledge balance for the POL fund as of June 2012 is \$500. We will have a remaining balance of \$250 for June 2013.

December Meeting

The December meeting will be held on **Wednesday, December 12 6:30pm** at the home of Pam Kay, 8939 Alpine Ave., La Mesa, CA 91941. Please bring a card with \$10 to donate to a charity and an appetizer to share. Carpooling is encouraged.

Member Tools Available Online

Curious about the Circle of Love or CDA procedures? Would you like to chair an upcoming event but don't know where to start? The CDA "**Tools of the Trade**," Court Santa Sophia's latest **Standing Rules** (approved as of 10/2012), and **project reports** are all available on our website at www.catholicdaughters.com under the "Resources" tab.

Contact Melissa Hiatt at melissahiatt@gmail.com to get the access code.



Mark your calendar! Nine Lessons in Carols - Sunday, December 16, 3:30 PM Santa Sophia Church

The annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols is a program of Christian worship celebrating the birth of Jesus. The story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus is told in nine short Bible readings from Genesis, the prophetic books and the Gospels, interspersed with the singing of Christmas carols, hymns and choir music.

The Nine Lessons, which are the same every year, will be read by representatives of Santa Sophia staff and representatives of their ministries. The singing is divided into "carols" which are sung by the Santa Sophia Singers, Liturgical Ensemble, Kids' Chorale and Academy Choir, and "hymns" sung by the Choir and congregation.

Guest organist Dr. Alison Luedecke and violinist Carlos Romero will participate in this service. A free-will offering will be collected to help defray costs.

Make this deeply moving event one of the high points of your Advent season and plan to attend the Turkey Dinner in Prendergast hall at 5:00 with desserts provided by Court Santa Sophia Catholic Daughters. Invite your family, friends and neighbors!



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Debbie Crutchfield was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Her father worked for General Dynamics' space program and moved the family between San Diego and Florida numerous times.

Debbie met her husband, Jack, when she was a senior in high school in Florida, and married him on August 10, 1974. During their first year of marriage, Jack joined the navy and was stationed in San Diego. Debbie joined him after finishing nursing school in 1976.

Over the course of her nursing career she has worked in pediatrics, orthopedics, general medical surgery, and eating disorders. From there she transitioned over to geriatric psyche, then to adult psyche. Currently Debbie is working as Director of nursing in geriatric psyche at UCSD.

Debbie joined Catholic Daughters as a Charter member because she was interested in getting involved with a group of women with the same beliefs and goals she had. She liked getting together and doing activities such as lunches for Habitat and working with the Catholic Charities' annual baby shower.

Debbie and Jack have 3 wonderful girls: Christine, Rebecca and Jennifer. They also have twin boy grandsons, Micah and Matthew who are now five years old.

If you have wondered why you haven't seen much of Debbie these past couple of years, it is because she is studying for her Master's degree in nursing with an emphasis in education. If all goes as expected, she will graduate in May of 2013 and we'll be seeing a whole lot more of her. Way to go Debbie!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

12/9 6:30am
Hunger2Help Distribution

12/11 5:30pm
El Nido Christmas Dinner

12/12 6:30pm
**Christmas Potluck and
General Meeting**
Kay Residence
8939 Alpine Ave., La Mesa

12/16 3:30pm
Nine Lessons in Carols
Drop off Cookies in the Kitchen

JANUARY

1/20 1:00pm
Membership Drive and Tea
De Moor Room



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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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