

THE LONE STAR MESSENGER

Newsletter of the Texas State Court
Catholic Daughters of the Americas
September 2010 Edition



MESSAGE FROM THE STATE REGENT

My Dear CDA Sisters,

Summer is gone, although the heat remains, but it is back to school and back to CDA! Our Officers' Training is winding down and will be complete by mid-September. It was a busy schedule, and I appreciate all of you taking time out of your busy schedules to come and find out what is new in CDA. Everyone was so hospitable across Texas which made our travels so much easier.

The National Convention in Buffalo, NY, was awesome! It was great to visit with so many of the ladies, old friends and new, from all across America! We were briefed on the new Tools of the Trade, 2nd Edition, and many of you there brought it home with you. It is very user-friendly. I strongly suggest that each court purchase at least one to have on hand. When you do get it, toss the "guts" out of the old one or recycle.

In addition to traveling to New York, I also had the opportunity to travel to the state of Guanajuato, Mexico, on a missionary trip to deliver wheelchairs. My gosh! What an awesome experience! I was able to visit for 3 days; I saw and learned so much. What a great mission—delivering wheelchairs to children in need who would otherwise have no way of moving about. The American Wheelchair Organization is a non-profit organization that helps organizations raise monies and then delivers wheelchairs to various countries, adults, veterans, and children. Prior to traveling to Mexico, the group had been in Haiti and then Israel. I was privileged to be a part of the Guanajuato Mission at the CRIT center. CRIT centers are rehabilitation centers for children with spinal injuries such as muscular dystrophy, spina bifida and cerebral palsy. The equipment there is state of the art. Even though there is no public healthcare system in Mexico, parents/patients are expected to pay at least something to give them a sense of ownership and responsibility. CRIT stands for "Centro de Rehabilitacion Infantil Teleton." (English—Teleton Children's Rehabilitation Center) Similar to our MDA Telethon, Mexico holds its Teleton in December. Monies raised here assist the many centers all over Mexico.

The day started with touring the center and ended with the wheelchair distribution. What a difference "wheels" can make when one is immobile. All day Tuesday was spent traveling around the state of Guanajuato with a research team on home visits. The purpose of the home visits was to see how the wheelchairs (some delivered last year) have impacted the lives of the children and families. As impoverished as some of the areas were, the families were always very gracious to welcome us into their homes. Most were without electricity and no running water.

Trips like these always remind me how fortunate I am to have what I have. There are times that I think I "need" something, but it is more of a "want" or luxury, than need. So next time I think I "need" something, I will stop and reevaluate if I really need that or is it something I want just because.

There is quite a bit of information in the newsletter with many activities going on in the State of Texas, so read on and get involved, and I hope to see many of you at the Habitat Build over the next few months! I wish you all a very happy fall and I hope the cool weather arrives soon!

Sheila Martinka

Texas State Officers 2009-2011

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Catholic Daughters of the Americas Texas State Court

Mission Statement

Catholic Daughters of the Americas strive 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.

State Mission Statement

The members of the Texas State Court love Christ and His Church and are dedicated to leading others to Christ and to His service through the Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

Goals

- To continue to offer opportunities for spiritual growth for all Catholic women through The Catholic Daughters of the Americas through prayer services and retreats
- To introduce women's health issues and the importance to take care of ourselves and each other physically, mentally, and spiritually
- To assist/comfort our CDA sisters in their times of need, sickness, sorrow, and share in the laughter of their joy and happiness
- To encourage courts to seek out a variety of activities so that some will include family involvement and spark interest for ALL generations of Catholic Daughters
- To continue to increase in membership by retaining our current members and seek areas for new courts including the areas of campus courts
- To have the courage to recognize the leadership abilities in others and ourselves
- To work with our brother Knights of Columbus on a combined state project
- To initiate the process for a 3rd Habitat Build in Texas

Activities

- Offer the services of our State Spiritual Enhancement Chairman, State Chaplain, and JCDA State Chaplain for multi-district retreats and/or spiritual talks
- Introduce a new state chairman ship—State Activities Chairman to help members coordinate events in their areas to promote health and family involvement
- Introduce a new state chairmanship—State Chairman for Campus Courts to assist those DDs with campus courts and encourage involvement and interaction with local CDA courts and the campus courts
- Continue to offer court incentives for increasing membership
- Continue to recognize those members with the St. Bernadine of Siena Award for Court Development
- Continue to provide support through our CDA Out Reach Program for courts who are struggling and to offer structure for newly instituted courts
- Provide leadership workshops to develop and encourage our future CDA leaders
- Begin a 3rd Habitat Build in Texas during this term
- Know that we are women of God and show our charity through our actions and our words as we are called to... *“Do Whatever He Tells You” John 2:5*

THE LONE STAR MESSENGER is a quarterly publication of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas Texas State Court.

It is published in September, December, March, and June.

It is also posted on our website. www.texasda.org

With each issue, several newsletters are returned as undeliverable.

Please keep us up to date regarding your address.

Courts or individuals may purchase a subscription to the newsletter for **\$10** annually.

Teresa Maltbia, State Newsletter Editor

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State Chaplain's Message

My Dear Catholic Daughters,

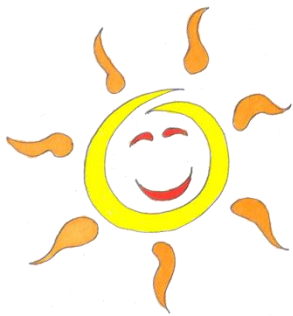
I enjoyed seeing so many of you at the convention in Buffalo, New York. I was optimistic and packed a light jacket anticipating much cooler weather in Buffalo. Wow, was I wrong! When I arrived on July 6th, it was 102 degrees. Texas temperatures are hot, but at least we have sufficient cooling systems to provide some comfort.

The Texas delegation stood out as an example for other states attending the convention. I was proud to be a Texan. I am equally proud of the National Regent from Texas, our own Libby Ramirez. She did a great job presiding over the convention, and the "Revised Tools of the Trade" is a hallmark accomplishment of her term. Now having an insider's view of the workings of the CDA national board and office, I better appreciate the endless hours these dedicated women spend on the road, waiting in airports and on the phone keeping our Order operating smoothly.

Summer vacation is about over and soon it will be time to "gear-up" for another CDA year. National, state, and local projects offer many opportunities for courts to help our brothers and sisters around the world. CDA actively supported the United States Military during World Wars I and II and continues to do so today. Dealing with parishioners who return from the battlefield, I realize the traumatic effect war has on individuals. Pray for our troops. Send cards, letters, and care packages. Let them know they are not forgotten.

Texas is a star in the CDA crown. Keep it shining brightly. Courts throughout the state are doing wonderful work. There is no limit to what we can accomplish "United in Charity."

Enjoy the summer and return in September renewed in spirit and filled with enthusiasm
God bless you,



Reverend Donald R. Ruppert
State Chaplain

As a Catholic Daughter, does your light shine?

"You are the light of the world...Let your light shine before everyone that they may see your good works, and glorify your Creator which is in Heaven."

Matthew 5:14, 16



*Texas National Director
Duchess Collins*



Dear Catholic Daughters of Texas

I take this opportunity to say “Thank You” to every member for your dedication, continued support and encouragement shown to me and to all the officers of the Texas State Court during the past two years as your National Director.

Through your continuous efforts and dedication towards the goals of our Order, our success is due to the strong principles we have for one another and for the Catholic Daughters.

It has been an honor serving with each of you, and a very special thanks to all our wonderful husbands. Without their support our accomplishments would be few.

As Catholic Daughters, we must continue to strive for excellence. Our visibility confirms our support to our priests, church and principles of our Order. We must continue to pray for vocations, the right to life and peace around the world.

Keep a positive attitude and follow God’s command to “Love One Another”. Jn.15;17

Peace, Love and Joy
be with you and your families.....

**Duchess Collins, National Director
2006 - 2010**



Court Development

Carolyn Malik, First Vice State Regent

State Court Development/Membership Chairman

As summer is coming to an end, and a new CDA year is about to begin; the new slate of officers is getting in full swing. I hope that you are conducting your planning meetings with your court officers, your chairmen, and your membership. Regents, be sure to appoint a membership chairman to work on your membership drive. Don't forget that the State of Texas is again conducting a membership contest for this term with winners to be announced at the State convention to be held in Houston in the spring of 2011. Even though you have a membership chairman, recruiting new members is the responsibility of all the members in the court. Don't forget to ask your neighbors, the clerk at the grocery store, the lady you meet at the post office or wherever you go to join. Sometimes for someone to join, all it takes is a personal invitation from you to show her that you care enough to ask her. We need more angels to do God's work here on earth.

On another note, everyone can work on court development as well. Look around your area and see if there is a parish that does not have CDA. Ask the local pastor for permission to conduct pulpit talks and a sign-up Sunday. If you get any new leads, please contact me, and I will be happy to send you the necessary information and a priest's packet. Some of the district deputies in the State are working hard to open new courts in their areas. Keep up the good work and pray that all will have an open mind about CDA. We need to share with everyone the great sisterhood that we have in the Catholic Daughters of the Americas. My contact information is 361-594-3170 home; 830-857-2112 cell; e-mail cdacarol@sbcglobal.net. Thank you for your efforts and God bless.

Quarterly Prayer Intentions

The following are the prayer intentions for the new quarter. Please share them with your courts. The intentions can be remembered in many ways such as in the opening or closing prayer of your meetings, at corporate communions, by your prayer ministry, and hopefully by each individual member in her daily prayers. Jesus tells us in Matthew 21:22 "Whatever you ask for in prayer with faith, you will receive."



Let us place our trust in Him as we lift up the following intentions:

- That the Church will continue to acknowledge, value, and celebrate the contributions of women to the Body of Christ and to the life of faith.
- That CDA court members will pray and listen to God together as they plan their projects and charitable works for the incoming term, and that members will dedicate themselves with joy and enthusiasm to the completion of those works.



**If you are an outgoing court regent, please pass this newsletter on to the new court regent in addition to any other mail you have received since going out of office. It is important for the present regent to receive all information for the court. Please make sure that your officers' list was sent in to State and National.*

Leadership - Officer Training 2010! **Peggy Rosales, Second Vice State Regent**

I hope everyone has had a restful summer! By dusk on September 18, 2010, the state will have completed Officer Training 2010! We have enjoyed meeting the new local court officers and knowing that each officer has the tools to do her job. Don't forget to order the new "Tools of the Trade, 2nd Edition – they can be ordered from the national office after September 1, 2010. Regents, please share the section about local courts with your other officers. Remember to Communicate, Educate and Share!

A BIG THANK YOU to all the District Deputies and the local courts who gave so graciously of their time for planning and having the multi-districts come together for officer training.

Those who were able to attend the National Convention and had the pleasure of attending the Leadership workshop – got some great tips from Helene Shepard, National Director now our National Secretary-Treasurer! She was quite entertaining, and I thought we were going to have to give her some oxygen because of her enthusiasm!

Some ideas to share:

- * Communicate clearly, passionately - passion is contagious
 - * Integrity – well controlled emotions – centered and approachable by followers
 - * Dedication – spend the time or energy necessary – inspire by example
 - * Magnanimity – giving credit where due – ensures credit for success is spread widely
 - * Humility – no one is better or worse than other members – elevate everyone
 - * Openness – listen to new ideas – suspend judgment – builds respect and trust between leaders and followers
 - * Creativity – think differently; get outside the box – ask “What if...”
 - * Fairness – deal consistently and justly – check all the facts; hear everyone before passing judgment
 - * Assertiveness – is not the same as aggressiveness – state what one expects clearly
 - * Sense of Humor – vital to relieve tension and boredom – fosters good camaraderie
- From “The Top 10 Leadership Qualities” by David Hakala.*
Leadership – Leaders can be found and nurtured!

With Pen in Hand... **Eve Trevino, State Secretary**

It has been a pleasure seeing so many of you at the CDA Officers' Training workshops across the state of Texas. It's always a joy to spend some time together with our CDA Sisters. Keep up your good work and thank you for saying, “Yes,” to serving the Lord.

Thank you to the many courts that sent in May's State Dues and Assessments in a timely manner. There are just a few courts that have not paid. Please send in your court check as soon as possible because the billing for October's State Dues is around the corner.

Regents, when you receive the state dues invoice, please pass it to the treasurer for payment. Remember that it does not take a court vote to pay your National and State Dues. State Dues are made payable to Texas CDA Court and mailed to Eve Trevino, State Secretary, 1102 Delta Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78412.

If you have any questions, please email me at evetrevino@yahoo.com or call me at 361-994-8553. Enjoy the end of summer and GOD BLESS.

Dollars and Cents **Carolyn Rapsilver, State Treasurer**



Greetings from Sealy! Officer Training Workshops are just about over, and it's been a whirlwind of a ride. I've seen a lot of the great State of Texas and have met so many new CDA sisters! Everyone has been so welcoming and supportive, and I appreciate that so much!

Just a friendly reminder, please forward checks and court forms to the State Secretary, Eve Trevino, instead of the State Treasurer. It makes the processing time on the State level much more efficient. Thanks!!

**Memorial Scholarship
One Card at a Time
Peggy Rosales, Chairman**



A big thank you to all the courts that contribute to the Memorial Scholarship; with your help we were able to award over \$29,000.00 this past spring. I received over 160 applications – wow! It is wonderful to see our youth write such wonderful essays and being involved in their schools and church. Essays are 50% of the score; involvement in school is 25%, and church involvement is 25%.

The new application and theme will be out in the fall Regents' Packet. Please be sure and review all the rules and remember the deadline of January 31, 2011. All applications must be postmarked on or before January 31, 2011! There is a new rule that a court must have contributed a minimum of \$50 in the year of April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011.

Remember to pass on all monies collected for the enrollment. So if the court is selling them for \$3.00 each – pass on the \$3.00 to the state Memorial Scholarship; but the suggested minimum donation is \$2.50 for each enrollment, but more is also accepted.

If you have a young female relative going to a college in Texas; check with Carolyn Malik or me for a Campus Court for them to join. It is just another way for them to stay involved with their faith and share with young women their age. We have 7 campus courts in Texas and always looking for new courts to be established.

The Memorial Scholarship Fund is one of the state's greatest projects in which every member has the chance to participate. One can ever have enough prayer, and remember, every event is an occasion for prayer, i.e. birthdays, graduations, promotions, new babies, new members, and even a court door prize!

**State Ways and Means Chairman
Cynthia Novak cynovak@verizon.net**

Time is winding down, and it is time to make the decision as to what your court will donate to the convention raffle. A suggestion is that several courts or districts may want to combine their efforts for a “bigger” prize. Small handmade or unique items make wonderful prizes. If you are at your wits end and don't have an idea, cash is always welcome. It will be used to purchase VISA gift cards. We are in need of 25 – 30 prizes. Tickets need to be printed in December. Let me know via e-mail at cynovak@verizon.net or phone 979-968-4072 (leave message if necessary). I'm looking forward to hearing from every court. With help from each and every one of you, we will have another successful fundraiser at the 2011 convention!

**Court Outreach
Carolyn Bachmann, State Chairman**

The lazy days of summer are drawing to a close and all the hot temperatures will soon be gone for another year. Not that any of us are sad to see them go!

As the new officers start their term and make plans for the next year, I would like to remind them to take a look at their court and see what improvements can be made. Most all courts are suffering from membership loss, no membership gain, and lack of member participation. These three things can destroy the court if they are not addressed. Do not be afraid to venture out into new areas and say good-bye to the areas that are no longer working. The Court Officers need to come up with new ideas that are positive, fun, and interesting. Invite the membership to share ideas and projects they would like to undertake. There is not one of us who would like to go back and live in the 1920's and give up all the modern luxuries of today. What worked in our courts 20, 30, 40 years ago may not and most likely will not work in our courts today. **Change is good.**

Catholic Daughters of the Americas that we all dearly love is slowly dying. It is the commitment of each of us as a member to do our part in making our court strong for years to come.

Spiritual Enhancement

Olga Samaniego, State Chairman

It's hard to believe that fall is almost here—summer has flown by!!! Now it is time to begin the work of another term. Remember to undertake that work ONLY after prayerful thought and planning. What is the Lord calling your court to do? How is He calling you and your sisters to do it? What resources is He giving you? What resources is He asking you to seek out? Ask for the direction and inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and remember that with God, nothing is impossible. If God calls you to a task, He will enable you to complete it. He will give you the strength, the energy, and the enthusiasm not only to do the task well but also to witness to Him and glorify His name while you do it. Most of all, remember that what you do is not as important as how you do it. Mother Teresa once said, "We cannot all do great things, but we can do small things with great love." It is with your love that you will witness the love of God for His people.



Thank you for the love and support my family and I have received during our recent loss. Your prayers and kind thoughts are much appreciated, and it gives me great comfort to know that I have such wonderful sisters in Christ. Thanks, as well, for your support in Buffalo. I have no idea yet what I will be called to do, but I know that it will be exciting. God be with us all as we begin our new endeavors, and may you know Christ's peace and joy now and always.

State Financial Review

Janis Wright, State Chairman

Hi, ladies! I hope you've had a great summer and are refreshed for the upcoming months of busy CDA work. Congratulations to the newly installed court officers! I know there have been many officers training workshops, and I hope you attended one. Officers are the backbone of the court, and proper training for your office will be very beneficial.

On June 5, the state officers and the state financial review committee met in Shiner. The review of the state books through May 31, 2010, was done, and the books were found to be in good order. We appreciate the time and effort the state officers put into accurate recordkeeping. Thanks to Gennie Loggins, Mary Rose Barta, and Judy Evanicky for their hard work at the review.

October is the month for the semi-annual financial review so it's time for District Deputies and court Regents to schedule with each other.

I hope your court has lots of exciting things planned for the upcoming year. Gosh, before you know it we'll be together in Houston for the convention. I'll keep you in my prayers and ask you to keep me in yours!

Is Your Scrapbook Shaping Up?

Lisa Jewell, State Scrapbook Chairman

Hello to all. This is a brief note from your State Scrapbook Chairman to remind you all that the State Convention is just around the corner...I don't know about you, but I need some pictures for the State Regent's scrapbook that I am responsible for putting together. Do you have 16 months worth of pictures for your scrapbook? I personally know that Sheila and our State Board have been busy around the state of Texas, and I know your courts have been busy, so please send me pictures and articles that you have that I can include in the State Regent's scrapbook.

So, get busy sending in and capturing those special moments and send them via USPS or e-mail to:

Lisa Jewell
State Scrapbook Chairman
1018 Cragmore
Seabrook, TX 77586
tors-mom@sbcglobal.net

National Projects Texas State Court Ginger Shea, Chairman

All new court officers should be settled in, taking their roles as officers seriously and raring to go. **Reality** ~ Now that we are back into our regular meetings, it is time for each court to re-think their contributions to our listed charities.



Expectations of the Catholic Daughters are very high and even though our state of the economy is not in the best shape, I know all of our courts will shine when it comes to helping people in need. There are many opportunities in our lives to serve God by caring for the needs of others. When we fail to respond to the needs of others we miss opportunities to minister to God. Therefore; like all good stewards of Jesus, let's dig just a little deeper into our budgets and make sure some little children do not go to bed hungry tonight, that they may have the medical care they need and that they know someone ~ somewhere cares about them. ***"Do Whatever He tells You..." John 2:5***

We as Catholic Daughters are truly blessed; we have so many talents and gifts, and we are giving and changing lives; it is our nature to help. To the courts that are not contributing to our National Charities, maybe now is the time to add that one charity to your list of your court's charities. To the courts that contribute to the National and State sponsored charities, *thank you*, ~ perhaps you may prayerfully add one more charity this year. Help to do something good for someone today, please, mail a cover sheet listing your desired charities and your court's one check for National and/or State Charities to *Eve Trevino, State Secretary, 1102 Delta, Corpus Christi, TX 78412.* If you need a new list of the National and State Charities, notify me and I will mail you a copy immediately. May God Bless and remember CDA Sisters ~ ***"The only ones among you who will be really happy are those who will have sought and found how to serve."*** ~ *Albert Schweitzer*

Public Relations

Terrie Vacek, State Chair, terriecda@cebridge.net

What a privilege it was to cover the National Convention for the state of Texas and also provide photos for SHARE Magazine! Please take the time to use the information on the Texas and National websites to gather information and submit an article in your Diocesan and area newspapers about CDA, your local court, and your 2010-2012 vision of unity and service.

It is critically important to create exposure for CDA by informing the public of WHO we are and most importantly, WHAT the Catholic Daughters DO. Our own state Chaplain, Reverend Donald Rupert gave the key note address at the National Convention with his outstanding recap of CDA history and the value of its membership to the church and society. His speech in its entirety may be found on the National website.

Boast that we are a large group of hard working and committed Christian women making a difference throughout our communities and the world with our spiritual, charitable, and educational projects found in the "Circle of Love" program. Exposure is vital to our growth. Local courts should make the move toward monthly CDA media reports using church bulletins, community fliers, local and diocesan newspapers, our state newsletter and/or Share Magazine.

As newly installed officers you now hold the bag of opportunity to brag about the Who, What, Where, When and Why of your local court events. A press release is a news story written in third person that seeks to demonstrate to an editor, columnist, or reporter the newsworthiness of a particular person, event, service project, or fundraiser. You may submit your releases either by mail, fax, or e-mail, depending on your target media. Please make sure it is easy to read and edit it carefully.

Feature Stories (post articles) of Special Events may be long and should contain a more descriptive portrayal of what actually happened. This type of article enables readers to experience the event from your perspective. Use direct quotes to personalize it and submit photos.

May God grant much favor over you and your service as you grow in service and spirituality.

Court Newsletter Contest
Alice Rodgers, State Court Newsletter Contest Chairman

Congratulations to all new and returning court officers! As we start our meetings this month the newsletter editors will begin their work. Shortly, you will be receiving the 2011 Newsletter Contest Guidelines in the Regent's Packet in September. When the Regents receive the guidelines there should be suggestions for the content as well as the "Local Court Cover Sheet." This sheet must accompany all newsletter entrants in the 2011 competition. Until then, remember that your newsletters are judged specifically on their content. What's important to cover would be local, state and national CDA news along with your court's activities. Regents please make sure your newsletter editors receive a copy of this packet. Always remember how important your newsletters are to the life of your court. Those unable to attend meetings look forward to receiving them and often it's the only connection to their CDA sisters. God bless and I look forward to your participation in the 2011 contest. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me: aliceCDAnewsletter@gmail.com, 15815 Heatherdale Dr., Houston, Tx. 77059, or 281.486.2001

Convention Corner
Carol Snowbarger 2011 State Convention Chairman
cjsnow@earthlink.net

With 8 months away the plans are going well. Things are starting to fall into place thanks to the awesome women working on the committees. This is a great show of the "Unity" we share. Please save the date, October 23, 2010 for our next meeting at the Westchase Marriott, 2900 Briarpark Drive, Houston, Texas, 77042. The meeting will start at 9:00am. All Chairmen are required to attend. If your Court/District would like to donate anything for the totes or table favors, or you have any questions, please do not contact the hotel. Contact me at: cjsnow@earthlink.net or call home: 281-494-1983. If you would like to help with the convention this is the meeting to attend. See you there!!

The Navigator
Teresa Maltbia, State Website Administrator
webadmin@texasda.org

Listed are a few reminders regarding submissions to the State CDA website or State Newsletter:

- All articles should be submitted in MS Word or Plain Text. Formatting is difficult when articles are submitted as embedded text. When you send submissions already formatted and embedded (inside) the email, they cannot be extracted - the images or the article
- All images should be sent as attached files (.BMP, .TIF, .JPG, .GIF, .PNG). Images cannot be copied from another source; (Facebook, MySpace, Snapfish, Flickr etc) because the image saved to those programs are at a lower resolution.
- Mailed entries will always be accepted and photos will be scanned then returned.

Also, because of limited space, not all articles/photos submitted will be published. Thank you Ladies, your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

"The internet does not have all the answers" - God

State Legislative Report
Peggy Supak, State Chairman fayetteatty@hotmail.com

Cardinal George Decries Court Decision Striking Down California Marriage Law

Cardinal Francis George, President of the USCCB, has decried the August 4 decision of a federal judge to overturn California voters' 2008 initiative that protected marriage as the union of one man and one woman. "Marriage between a man and a woman is the bedrock of any society. The misuse of law to change the nature of marriage undermines the common good," Cardinal George said. "It is tragic that a federal judge would overturn the clear and expressed will of the people in their support for the institution of marriage..."

Citizens of this nation have uniformly voted to uphold the understanding of marriage as a union of one man and one woman in every jurisdiction where the issue has been on the ballot. This California decision opens the door once again to attack those laws upholding the sanctity of marriage as between a man and a woman. We must be ready to defend Proposition 2 which passed in the State of Texas to maintain that marriage is the union of a man and a woman.

Pro-Life Chair Welcomes HHS Exclusion of Abortion from Federal Insurance Program, Calls For Permanent Law—full text at <http://usccb.org/comm/archives/2010/10-142.shtml>

Following public criticisms of new federally-funded health insurance plans that would have covered elective abortions in certain states, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued a statement that the agency will act to exclude abortion from this program. Cardinal Daniel DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Pro-Life Activities, welcomed the statement and called for a permanent law to exclude abortion from all programs under the new Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA). "This situation illustrates once again the need for Congress to enact legislation clearly stating once and for all that funds appropriated by PPACA will not pay for abortions or for insurance coverage that includes abortion," Cardinal DiNardo said. "The issue of government involvement in the taking of innocent human life should not remain subject to the changeable discretion of executive officials or depend on the continued vigilance of pro-life advocates."

We are asked to contact our legislators to request that he/she support legislation that would state that no funds appropriated by the PPACA be used to pay for abortions or insurance coverage including abortions.

Upcoming elections:

National, state and local elections are coming up in November. Catholic Daughters should learn as much as possible about each candidate and his/her stance on issues, especially those dealing with the defense of human life and dignity. REMEMBER we must not lobby for or against a candidate as a Catholic Daughter member. You may take actions you deem appropriate as a catholic woman, but must not in any way have it appear that the CDA approves or joins in such action. For the guideline to permissible political participation in a concise format go to the Guidelines for Advocacy and Political Participation at http://www.txcatholic.org/documents/guidelines_for_pastors.pdf. As Catholic voters we are to use our Catholic social teaching to examine candidate positions on such issues and should consider the candidates' integrity, philosophy and performance rather than his or her attachment to a political party.

Legislative Priorities in the 82nd Legislative Session

To find the list of legislative priorities as set out by the Texas Catholic Conference in the upcoming 82nd legislative session go to <http://www.txcatholic.org/legislative-agenda>.

Mother Theresa Wisdom

Her gift to us and her message to the world, serve the least of the poor with love and kindness.

*"Do not think that love, in order to be genuine, has to be extraordinary.
What we need is to love without getting tired."*

"Every time you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing."

"God doesn't require us to succeed; he only requires that you try."

CDA Texas Builds with Habitat for Humanity®
Christine Moore, State Habitat Chairman

The State Board is pleased to announce that Texas CDA is building another Habitat house! In partnership with Colorado County Habitat for Humanity, we will build a house in Eagle Lake for Linda and Martin Sanchez and their granddaughter Samantha, starting in October 2010.

Join us at 9:00 a.m. Saturday October 2nd for the ground blessing ceremony at 711 East A Street in Eagle Lake. We will raise our voices in song as we ask God's grace upon this house as well as the Sanchez and CDA families. We will then work together to raise the walls.

Our goal is to complete the house before the state convention in April, 2011. To accomplish this, we ask that each court consider helping in the following ways:

- Making a monetary donation of \$100
- Participating as construction volunteers
- Providing snacks and meals for a work day
- Soliciting Gift-In-Kind donations of materials and/or labor.



For more information about the project, contact me at 979-732-5677 or visit www.texasca.org

Campus Court Corner
Barbara Britton, State Chairman

My grand-daughter and I just returned from the National Convention in Buffalo, NY. What a memorable occasion, attending as delegates for our court, and soaking up everything a convention offers. It was Nea's first convention ever, and it was awesome. I mention this because she was able to experience the true sisterhood of the Catholic Daughters as a whole, not only on Local, State, and National level, but also sisters on International level.

I am thinking back to February when we had our first ever Campus Court retreat here in San Antonio. What a great time we had, learning, sharing, bonding, doing God's work. That's what we are all about. Our retreat theme was "Living a Life of Service." I re-read the part of Terri Vacek's P.R. release in which she explains that Olga Samaniego, our Spiritual Enhancement Chairman used a video clip from the Lion King. I recall that Olga used it to emphasize that when we, like Simba, really discover who we are, we realize that Our Father is always with us.

It seems lately all I hear about are "back to school sales." I know it is still July and still very hot, but "IT" is just around the corner. I am sending this to the Campus Court Advisors, Campus Court Regents, and Campus Court DD's. Please pass this newsletter on and would you please send me your updates. I would appreciate it.

Also, I want to include some food for thought, copied from a circulating e-mail from my daughter Nancy.

Dancing With God!!

When I meditated on the word Guidance, I kept seeing "dance" at the end of the word. I remember reading doing God's will is a lot like dancing. When two people try to lead, nothing feels right. The movement doesn't flow with the music, and everything is quite uncomfortable and jerky. When one person realizes that and lets the other lead, both bodies begin to flow with the music. One gives gentle cues perhaps with a nudge to the back or by pressing lightly in one direction or another. It's as if two become one body, moving beautifully. The dance takes surrender, willingness, and attentiveness from one person and gentle guidance and skill from the other. My eyes drew back to the word Guidance. When I saw "G" I thought of God, followed by "u" and "i" dance. God, you and I dance. As I lowered my head, I became willing to trust that I would get guidance about my life. After a period of trying to lead, I became willing to let God lead. Dance together with God, trusting God to lead and to guide you through each season of your life.

Looking forward to working with all of you during the next year.

Congratulations to the new officers and new advisors of the Campus Courts. Keep up the good work! Keep a positive attitude!!



Message

Service

Community

Youth/JCDA Reports
Terri Beltran, State CDA Youth/JCDA Chairman

Because of the dedication of our CDA and JCDA courts many organizations in this great state of Texas will benefit through the generous hours of sweat, love, kindness, generosity and money the youth are providing aid to those in great need. They have collected school supplies for children, teddy bears to help ease the pain of abused children, collected food to feed not only our neglected children but for their parents too. They have visited our elderly in the nursing homes, helped cook and serve meals to those beautiful souls who have lost their homes and jobs and are forced to live on the streets; they have given them hope for tomorrow by their generosity and kindness. They have mowed and cared for the lawns of those whose crippled hands can no longer care for their roses or their yards. They have baby sat children so their parents are able to attend the RCIA programs; they have worked with the vacation bible school, nurturing the minds of the children with the gospel of Jesus. They are collecting coke tabs for the Ronald McDonald house so that the children and their parents can have a place to stay while in treatment. What a beautiful testimony to our youth that there is hope for tomorrow that our Youth are thriving. This is the type of news that should make our media, the positive things our Youth are doing. It continues to amaze me the enthusiasm and the energy our JCDA members are dedicating to different projects.

In June the State JCDA hosted a Spiritual Retreat at Father John's Farm in Weimer. Approximately 125 youth and adults attended the event. The girls participated in different activities and worked on different projects. Olga Samaniego, State Spiritual Advisor gave an awesome talk on spirituality. We thank Father John Peters, State JCDA Chaplain for hosting the event and for providing the wonderful meal. We thank the courts who participated and everyone who gave of their time and energy in making the retreat a success.

We know it's early but we want every JCDA court to start thinking Convention. The JCDA State officers are working hard to make it the best one ever. They have wonderful ideas and will keep everyone informed as time goes on. We are so excited to report that the State Convention will be in Austin, TX, location will be announced at a later date. Mark your calendars for June 24-26, 2011. The theme is P.E.A.C.E., "People Experiencing the Awesomeness of Christ Everywhere". The La Grange Court will serve as the convention host. Start working on your convention fundraisers, we want everyone to attend.

In a few months, we will be holding our fall financial review. The forms may be downloaded at www.texasda.org.



Terri Beltran,
State JCDA Chairman
Phone: (979)543-7067 Mon-Fri 8-4
Cell (979) -578-3647
Email: tabeltran@ecisd.org



Message

Service

Community

Youth/JCDA Reports Terri Beltran, State CDA Youth/JCDA Chairman

Hello everyone! Not sure where time has gone, but it has. I remember when I was a little girl I thought tomorrow would never get here; now I wish tomorrow would take it's time. We have many blessings in life and the most precious one is our children. We have been honored with the greatest responsibility in caring for our children, to mold them and teach them in the ways of Jesus. As I read your Circle of Love Reports, it is very evident that you as Regents and Chairpersons care for the youth. They have logged many hours in their service to both the community and to their parishes. The youth have raised tons of money in their participation in the local relays for life. They have served and fed the hungry and the homeless, they have cleaned the houses where Jesus lives, they have educated children by being CCE assistants and by reading books to patients in the hospitals, and by raising money for fire victims, and the list goes on. Thank you wonderful LADIES for all you do for the youth in Texas. If God is for us...who can be against us...Rom. 8:31

I encourage everyone to send me their list of new Officers that were elected in May. Send us pictures of the installations for your courts. The installation of Officers may be done in two ways; either by celebrating Mass or by a Courtroom installation, both are perfect.

**Court Our Lady of the Mystical Rose
#2399 Corpus Christi
Jeanette Mendoza, Chairman
Instituted 02/07/2010, Elva Pena, DD**

Congratulations:

**Court St. Helen #2330 Pearland
Lori Main, Chairman Re- Institution
2/20/2010, Ann Strouhal, DD**



**Court #2380 Court Most Precious Blood
Corpus Christi
Juanita Pujol, Chairman
Re-Institution 3/6/2010, Elva Pena, DD**



DATES TO REMEMBER:

- May 22nd - JCDA State Commission Meeting - Hallettsville
- June - Installation of Local Court Officers
- June 26th - Spiritual Retreat - Weimar
- Come and See Day Jr. and Sr. High girls - Victoria, TX (forms on the Texas website)

Thank you, Chairmen for sending in the Financial Reviews!

Terri Beltran, State JCDA Chairman

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STATE NEWS



NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS

Send in your Officer List **now**, please! As of this date to print, Texas has 47 missing Officer List. Immediately after the May 2010 Elections, the Officer List should have been sent to the National office and to your State Regent. If you have not sent it in, you and your membership are missing out on valuable information!

Texas Pin Contest—thank you for all of the entries! The contest has been extended through Friday, October 1, 2010. Postmarked by that date or e-mailed to me. How creative are you?

Texas builds again! By now you should have received your packet from Christine Moore, State Habitat Chairman. The ground-blessing and wall raising will be held Saturday, October 2nd, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. in Eagle Lake. Make plans to attend. There is more information on the website at www.texascd.org. You can sign up to volunteer on line and download the order form for your t-shirt!

A reminder—there are a handful of courts that still have not paid dues from the **May 2010 billing**. Before you know it, it will be time to pay November dues, so avoid the rush and get the May dues paid up. All dues will need to be current in April 2011 so that you can be seated for the convention. Help us to help you have an enjoyable time—pay your dues on time!

Ladies, I want to take time to thank you for all of your prayers that I requested during the term for so many of my District Deputies, State Chairman and our State Secretary. Please continue to remember these women and their families in your prayers throughout the year:

Vernell Kasper, District Deputy 19 passed away in May after a long battle with Congestive Heart Failure.

Eve Trevino, State Secretary-on the loss of her mother and brother.

Donna Rea, State Education Chairman-on the loss of her father in June 2010.

Kathy Rosenhammer, DD #26-on the loss of her father in June 2010.

Norma Locker DD #10-on the loss of her sister in June 2010.

Cynthia Novak, State Ways and Means Chairman-on the loss of her mother in August 2010.

Mary Jane Albert, DD 54-on the loss of her father.

Olga Samaniego, Past State Regent/State Spirituality Chair-on the loss of her brother-in-law.

Terri Beltran, State Youth/JCDA Chairman-on the loss of her aunt.

FYI for us all: Common Senior Citizens Scams

Sweepstakes and Lottery Scams: Did you receive a letter in the mail stating you have won, but need to deposit a check to cover administrative fees. **BBB Advice:** Consumers are not required to send money for lottery or sweepstakes winnings

Medicare Scams: Callers claiming to be with Medicare asking for personal info such as Social Security, credit card or bank account number, stating an error needs to be fixed, you are eligible to receive

free products, or a new drug plan. **BBB Advice:** Medicare will never call and ask for personal financial information.

Distressed Loved Ones: Callers claim to be a stranded family member and ask to have money wired. **BBB Advice:** Never wire money to someone you do not know. Call other family members to verify the story.



NATIONAL NEWS



- Financial Reviews—Please schedule your court’s Financial Review for October. **Completed Forms** are due to the State and National Office by **November 1, 2010**.
- National CDA Sunday will be observed on Sunday, October 17, 2010. Make plans to attend Mass together for a corporate communion. Wear your robes and be seen! Hold a membership drive during this time as well.
- The 19th Annual Make a Difference Day is Saturday, October 23, 2010. Courts are urged to sponsor an event with the youth or your local JCDA court. Go out and make a difference by sharing the gifts God has bestowed on you with others!
- Also in October-November—WRAP Campaign 10/31-11/7.
- National now has their store on the web site-www.catholicdaughters.org. Check it out! In addition to ordering the New Tools of the Trade, you can view and order pins and other jewelry.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ **IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM NATIONAL** ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

The information below was sent out by the National Office in the September Newsletter, but bears repeating:

The IRS has published a list recently listing all CDA Courts who are in peril of losing their 501(c)3 non-profit tax exempt status. All CDA courts, (local, state and national) have a unique identification number (Employee Identification Number). This number should be kept in a **permanent file by the Regent and Treasurer**. The National Office has a listing of all numbers in case you have lost yours. The IRS needs to have the most recent address of the Regent of the Court that is assigned to that number. Please be sure to send in the proper paperwork if you are a new regent.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ **IMPORTANT NOTICE** ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
RE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CDA STATE AND NATIONAL

All checks are to be written to **Catholic Daughters of the Americas or CDA**. This includes any checks written for the Habitat Build and checks sent in for the Memorial Scholarship/Mass Enrollments!

Newly Elected 2010-2012 National Board

National Chaplain--Rev. I Edward Lamp
National Regent-Elect--Ann Nelson
Second Vice National Regent—Letty Calvetti

National Regent--Joanne Tomassi
First Vice National Regent—Shirley Seyfried
National Secretary-Treasurer—Helene Shepard

Newly Elected National Directors

Delma Araiza—AZ
 Arline Rich—CT
 Julia Dolan—PA

Maryann Grabasky—NC
 Emily Guilherme—CA
 Mary Ann Kizer—AR

Janet Martineau--MT
 Sherry Nilles--IA
 Olga Samaniego—TX



Texas State Calendar 2010 - 2011

September 11, 2010 – Officers’ Training Texarkana
September 12, 2010 – 35th Anniversary Court St. Elizabeth Seton, Garland
September 18, 2010 – Officers’ Training, El Paso
September 18, 2010 – Officers’ Training, Laredo
September 26, 2010 – Court Our Lady of the Lakes #2220-30th Anniversary
October 2, 2010 – Habitat for Humanity Ground Blessing and Wall Raising 9 a.m. Eagle Lake

check Habitat for Humanity Calendar for workdays every Friday & Saturday

October 8, 2010 – CDA State Board work day at Habitat Home, Eagle Lake
October 8-10th, 2010 – Board Mtg – Port Alto
October 23, 2010 – 2011 State Convention Meeting, Houston
November 1, 2010 – All Saints’ Day
November 25, 2010 – Thanksgiving Day
November 28, 2010 –First Sunday of the Advent Season
December 8, 2010 – Feast of the Immaculate Conception
December 25, 2010 – Christmas Day
January 1, 2011 – New Year’s Day
January 14th -16th, 2011 – Board Mtg/Convention Mtg—Houston
March 9, 2011 – Ash Wednesday
March 2011 – Board Mtg. /Financial Review—Houston
April 22, 2011 – Good Friday
April 24, 2011 – Easter Sunday
April 8-10th, 2011 – Tentative date State Board Meeting
April 28 – May 1, 2011 47th Biennial State Convention – Houston
May 13-15th, 2011 – K of C Convention – Dallas
June 3-4, 2011 – Change of power board mtg June 5, 2011 State Regent Reception-Shiner
June 11, 2011 – State Financial Review
June 24-26, 2011 – JCDA State Convention--Austin
August 12-14, 2011 – State Organizational Meeting – Houston

2010 National Convention Awards

Circle of Love Education Contest

The 2008-2010 Texas State Court was recognized for \$58,000.00 in Memorial Scholarships awards to over 60 graduating seniors.

National Education Contest

Art Division II, 2nd Place, Karley Kasmiersky, Ct. Chromcik #1440, Fayetteville
Computer Art Division I, 1st Place, Logan Rivera, Ct. St. Ann #369, Victoria
Music Division II, 1st Place, Allison Miller, Ct. Our Lady of the Lakes # 2220, Austin

2010 Fr. Leonard Bachmann Graduate Scholarship

\$3,000.00 - Christine Seyfried Armendarez, Immaculate Conception #2581, Denton
\$1,000.00 - Brian D Vandelist, Madisonville, TX.

Newsletter Contest

Category II, Division I, 1st Place, Ct. Christ the King #1750, Houston, Pat Koterak
Category III, Division I, 1st Place, Ct. St. Helen #2330, Pearland, Ginger Shea
Category III, Division II, 1st Place, Ct. St Paul #1604, Shiner, Marjorie Kresta

Second Place was awarded in Category II, Division I, Texas State Court
Congratulations Teresa Maltbia, Newsletter Editor, for all your hard work!

Texas 2008-2010 State Court & Members

received the following awards:

Project Handclasp Plaque

Appreciation of local courts support
to the U.S. People to People Project

Quality of Life

Mission of Mercy projects



Spiritual Enhancement

For thirteen (13) Multi District, JCDA and Campus Court Retreats with over 900 members attending

National Projects

\$4,508.00 from local courts and \$5,000.00 from the state court as donations to Haiti

Membership

Texas State Court, 1st Place, for the MOST NEW Courts (12 courts over the past two years)
Martinka accepted a check for \$100.00. Texas has a total of 231 Courts.

Local Courts - Membership Awards: Highest per cent increase in membership:

Up to 50 members

3rd Place @91.4% for \$10.00, Our Lady of the Mystical Rose #2399, Corpus Christi.

Over 101 members

2nd Place @ 19.7% for \$15.00, Our Lady of Mount Carmel #1993 Edinburg

3rd Place @19.6% for \$10.00, St. Matthew #2241, San Antonio

New Courts

1st Place with 95 new members, Court of the Holy Family#2597, Houston

Over 50% increase

Bishop Mariano S. Garriga #1935, Corpus Christi; Queen of the Rosary #2368, McAllen
Our Lady of the Mystical Rose #2399, Corpus Christi, Nuestra Senora De Guadalupe #2426, Alice
Our Lady of the Sea #2569, Port Isabel



NATIONAL CHARITIES AWARDS

Circle of Love Winners

April 2010

Category I (1 to 50 Members)

1st Place
2nd Place
3rd Place

Court St. Monica #1262
Court Blessed Mother Immaculada #2493
Court Our Lady of the Fields #2465

Olfen
Houston
Eagle Lake

Regent: Mary Lou Sublett
Regent: Ginger McKnight
Regent: Betsy Glaiser

Category II (51 to 100 Members)

1 st Place	Court San Roberto Bellarmine #2275	El Campo	Regent: Terri Beltran
2 nd Place	Court St. Genevieve #917	Falls City	Regent: Rosalie Titzman
3 rd Place	Court Our Lady of St. Hyacinth #2361	Deer Park	Regent: Phyllis Godby

Category III (101 to 200 Members)

1 st Place	Court Christ the King #1750	Houston	Regent: Patricia Koterias
2 nd Place	Court St. Rose #1597	Schulenburg	Regent: Cynthia Kosler
3 rd Place	Court Ave Maria #2001	Houston	Regent: Charlotte Wade

Category IV (201 Plus Members)

1 st Place	Court St. Paul #1604	Shiner	Regent: Marjorie Kresta
2 nd Place	Court Holy Rosary #1476	Rosenberg	Regent: Norma Locker
3 rd Place	Court St. Michael #559	Weimar	Regent: Carolyn Balcar



Texas State Education Contest Winners 2010



Art:

Division I

1 st Place	Nathan N.	Our Lady of the Lakes #2220	Austin
2 nd Place	Cecilia F.	Mother of Grace #1906	Pasadena
3 rd Place	Daniel Q.	Isabella the Catholic #683	Laredo

Division II

1 st Place	Karley K.	Court Chromcik #1440	Fayetteville
2 nd Place	Klarissa F.	St. Elizabeth #1616	Sealy
3 rd Place	Blake H.	Sacred Heart #797	Hallettsville

Division III

1 st Place	Lucia R.	Father Pete Roebrocks #2140	Gonzales
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Poetry:

Division I

1 st Place	Cole Brothers	Ct. of Annunciation #1962	La Grange
2 nd Place	Jensen S.	Our Lady of Guadalupe #206	Yoakum
3 rd Place	Olivia J.	Ct. Salve Regina #2611	Denton

Division II

1 st Place	Bailey C.	Ct. St. Michael #559	Weimar
2 nd Place	Rebekah O.	Mary St. John #2197	Baytown
3 rd Place	Jordan C.	St. Matthew #2241	San Antonio

Division III

1 st Place	Morgan M.	Sacred Heart #797	Hallettsville
2 nd Place	Shelly K.	St. Paul #1604	Shiner
3 rd Place	Brittany F.	Queen of the Holy Rosary #2282	Hostyn

Division IV

1 st Place	Ginger S.	Ct. St Helen #2330	Pearland
2 nd Place	Nancy P.	Our Lady of Good Council #309	Wichita Falls



Essay:

Division I

1 st Place	Hailey S.	Sacred Heart #797	Hallettsville
2 nd Place	Vance A.	Ct. St. Michael #559	Wiemar
3 rd Place	Jose H.	Maria Galante #115	Austin

Division II

1 st Place	Stephanie J.	Our Lady of the Gulf #2267	Port Lavaca
2 nd Place	Charlie O.	St. Michael's #347	Cuero
3 rd Place	Avery B.	Queen of the Holy Rosary #2282	Hostyn

Division III

1 st Place	Samantha S.	Our Lady of Perpetual Help #296	Windthorst
2 nd Place	Seth H.	St. Ann #269	Victoria
3 rd Place	Kourtney K.	St. Paul #1604	Shiner



Computer Art:

Division I

1 st Place	Logan R.	St. Ann #369	Victoria
2 nd Place	Jorge de L.	Our Lady of the Lakes #2220	Austin
3 rd Place	Ryan H.	Sacred Heart #797	Hallettsville

Division II

1 st Place	Hanna A.	St. Ann #369	Victoria
2 nd Place	Sarah M.	Holy Rosary #1476	Rosenberg
3 rd Place	Emma G.	Ct. of Annuniaton #1962	La Grange



Music:

Division II

1 st Place	Allison M.	Our Lady of the Lakes #2220	Austin
2 nd Place	Gabriel G.	Ct. of Annunciation #1962	La Grange



Photography:

Division II

1 st Place	Dylan P.	St. Ann #369	Victoria
2 nd Place	Bonnie W.	Ct. St. Michael #559	Weimar
3 rd Place	Hunter U.	Ct. St. Cecilia #1396	Orange

Division III

1 st Place	Samantha S.	Our Lady of Perpetual Help #296	Windthorst
2 nd Place	Kristen J.	St. Ann #369	Victoria
3 rd Place	Chase F.	Queen of the Holy Rosary #2282	Hostyn

53rd Biennial National Convention Report
Public Relations

Terrie Vacek, State Chair, terriecda@cebridge.net

The 53rd Biennial National Convention of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA) was held July 12-18, 2010, Adams Mark Hotel, Buffalo, New York. The 2008-2010 theme selected by National Regent Libby Ramirez, Victoria, "For In Him, We Live and Move and Have Our Being" Acts 17:28, was reflected throughout her two year term and throughout all Convention activities.

Representatives from CDA National presented seven incredible seminars; Spirituality, State Procedures, Local Procedures, Membership/JCDA/Campus Courts, Leadership, Legislation, and Project Handclasp along with members from the U.S. Navy. National Clergy Consultant, Reverend Donald Rupert, in his Spirituality seminar reminded delegates that they are a valuable part in God's puzzle. Prior opening the convention National Regent Libby Ramirez, Victoria led a moving Living Rosary with National and State leadership along with sixteen state chaplains.

Reverend Donald Rupert, National Clergy Consultant, East Bernard, TX, toting his walking stick marked with tape at 11 inches, presented with humor and dignity a recap of CDA history emphasizing that Catholic daughters are a volunteer organization that produces results. He said, "Let's tell the nation who we are, let's show them who we are". Fr. Don's keynote address in its entirety may be found on the National website, www.catholicdaughters.org.

The newly elected 2010-2012 National Officers are: Joanne Tomassi, National Regent, FL; Anne Nelson, National Regent Elect, PA; Shirley Seyfried, First Vice National Regent, MN; Letty Calvetti, Second Vice National Regent, PA; Helene Shepard, National Secretary-Treasurer, NY.

Newly elected 2010-2012 National Directors are: Delma Ariza, AZ; Maryann Grabasky, NC; Maryonn Kizer, AR; Olga Samaniego, TX. Julia Dolen, PA; Janet Martineau, MT; Sherry Niles, IA; Emily Guilherme, CA; Vicki Boeckman, MN. The newly elected 2012 Nomination Committee members are; Irene Gramza, Daphne Bernstien, Linda Louise LaCasse, Della Santos, Joyce Stein, Linda Colletti, Beverly Plouhar, Nancy Bombenek, Mary Joslin, Penny Martin, Belinda Swager, Elizabeth Williams, Irene Duda, Peg Cuckin, Vickie Feist, Carolyn Malik, and Brooke Conger.

Texas Leadership rallied for Olga Samaniego and Carolyn Malik during the Campaign Night festivities. Our sincere sympathy is extended to Amy Rueda and Olga & Sam Samaniego who returned to El Paso following the sudden death of Olga's brother-in-law, Jerry Foster. Please keep the family in your prayers.

The first National Walk/Run for Love was a success with about 120 Catholic Daughters (28 Texans) along with Libby's son-in-law and grandson gathered for a sunrise one/two mile charitable walk in Marine Naval Park on Lake Erie totaling \$16,800.00 in donations! Funds will go to the Disaster Relief Fund, Habitat for Humanity, Holy Cross Ministries, Smile Train, SOAR, and various National Charities according to the directive of the donors. State Regent Sheila Martinka crossed the finish line second! Congratulations to all.

The awesome Mass for Vocations honored with sincere gratitude the many men and women in various vocations. State Regent Sheila Martinka walked with the Medical Field Flag and National Regent Libby Ramirez carried the CDA Flag. Other flags included, Single Life, Police, Fire fighters, Marriage, Clergy, Religious, Armed Forces and others. Rev. Michael Schommer, Past National Clergy Consultant, ND, stated in his homily, "Because of the heinous act of abortion, the gifts and the mission of each life was not brought to fulfillment. God gave you a gift and intended it to be used for others through you. Open and share your gifts".

Texas Night was enjoyed by all at the Pearl Street Brewery. The food was outstanding as well as the laughter and fellowship!

Celebrant Rev. Donald Rupert in his homily at the very moving Memorial/Patriotic Mass emphasized that "Remembrance brings the deceased to the present. Life stories are the sharing of their value to our family, church and country". Candles were brought in procession representing the following; Deceased National Officers and Directors, Deceased State Officers, Deceased Members, Deceased Spouses of all CDA Members, and Deceased Children and Grandchildren of all CDA Members. In the Communion Meditation Libby Ramirez, National Regent, said, "Life is unending because love is undying and the boundaries of this mortal life are but a horizon and a horizon is but the limit of our sight.

One resolution was presented and approved. With a voting strength of 683 following much discussion (6 hrs. over two days), all but two National Bylaw committee proposed Amendments were adopted as amended. A large block of changes were the movement to the New Procedural Handbook incorporating the changes to the Tools of the Trade new edition.

Five hundred tools of the trade booklets & CD's were sold out. All courts wanting the new edition will be required to order from National in September.

Broadway Fun Night was a blast! CDA members and guest dressed up in their favorite Broadway costumes. Sister Act, Phantom, OZ, High School Musical, Grease, Cats, Chorus Line, and Wizard were only a few of the wide variety of themes that decorated the banquet tables and dance floor.

The state of Nebraska provided a humorous skit inviting CDA members to the 2012 National Convention. The final credential report showed 990 in attendance at the 2010 Buffalo National Convention.

Libby Ramirez was presented her two year term 'Memory Book' by Public Relations State Chair, Terrie Vacek of Immaculate Heart of Mary #1884, Conroe. Terrie also served as volunteer Photographer for the National Board and SHARE magazine.

Most Reverend Edward M. Grosz, Auxiliary Bishop Buffalo Diocese was the celebrant for the Instillation Mass at Saint Louis, the oldest Catholic Church in western New York with co-Celebrants, Most Reverend David Fellhauer, Bishop Victoria Diocese and National Chaplain; Reverend Donald Rupert, National Clergy Consultant, East Bernard; and sixteen State Chaplains from across the United States. Reverend Edward Lamp, FL was installed as the 2010-2012 National Chaplain.

National Officers and Directors were installed in a beautiful Red Rose Ceremony. Libby Ramirez received the Immediate Past National Regents pin and white rose with expressions of deep gratitude by Joanne Tomassi.

Catholic Daughters, guests and clergy enjoyed a magnificent banquet meal and 'lemonade' toast to Libby Ramirez. Libby thanked all Catholic Daughters saying, "you are what we are and without you, we are nothing, thank you".

Sharing a special message to banquet guests were Bishop Grosz; Penny Martin, NY State Regent; Patty Johnson, National Council of Catholic Women; Karen Hurly, President World Union of Catholic Women; Bishop David Fellhauer; and Helen Johnson, CDA Woman of the Year. In her remarks, Helen stated that "Catholic Daughter leadership should stimulate leadership and increased membership across the country".

A roar of approval came when it was explained that instead of having the traditional gift for all those attending the banquet, \$8,040.00 will be donated to Habitat International / Haiti.

From 2008-2010 the National Board on behalf of all Catholic Daughters donated \$206,000.00 to National Projects and Charities. For more information and images from the convention, visit www.texascd.org.