

DATES & DEALS

January 2010

FEBRUARY MEETING

DATE: February 4, 2010, Thursday

PLACE: St. Michaels Parish
142nd and Nall
Leawood, KS

TIME: Mass is at 10 am with the General Meeting and installation of Officers
Rosary will be said for deceased member 15 minutes before Mass

Your check is your reservation. Reservations are important so that the caterer will be able to accurately plan our meal. The board has decided that due to the increased number of ladies who come to the General Meetings without reservations, there will be an additional charge of \$5.00 at the door.

Please have your check for \$12.00 made payable to The Ladies of Charity in no later than Wednesday, January 27, 2010.

MAIL CHECK TO: Elsie Forlenza
10750 South Oakcrest Lane
Olathe, Kansas 66061

HOSTESSES: Debbie Kitchin, Patty Brady, Elinor Bax

SPECIAL REQUEST FOR VILLA ST. FRANCIS: Money to buy flowers for the chapel

COMING EVENTS FOR 2010

January 28th, Thursday, Board Meeting, 9:15 am Annual Reports & Annual Financial Reports due.

February 4th, Thursday, Mass and Installation of Officers and Luncheon, 10:00 am, St. Michael's. Leawood

February 25th, Thursday, Joint Board Meeting for Retiring and New Board Members

March 3rd Wednesday, Day of Prayer, 9: am, St. Thomas More, lead by Father Don Farnan

March 25th, Thursday, Board Meeting 9:15 am

April 8th, Thursday, General Meeting and Luncheon, Church of the Nativity, Leawood

April 22nd, Thursday, Board Meeting, 9:15 am

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Ladies,

THANKS TO ALL WHO MADE OUR 2009 LADIES OF CHARITY BOUTIQUE A GREAT SUCCESS. OUR DEEPEST GRATITUDE GOES TO THE FOLLOWING TWO OUTSTANDING LADIES WHO ORGANIZED A GREAT GROUP OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND A LEGION OF WORKERS: JOYCE MURPHY AND CATHERINE DAUGHERTY AS WELL AS OUR PAST PRESIDENT PATTI BRADY, WHO TOOK ON TWO MAJOR COMMITTEES THIS YEAR. Of course thanks to all who made donations of time, talent & treasure, who attended the gala Reception and/or Luncheons, who modeled, who were vendors, and especially all who came and shopped. So many people each year contribute in their own special way to the success of Boutique and we thank you all.

THE END RESULT IS THAT WE WERE ABLE TO GIVE OUT \$15,000 TO EACH OF OUR BENEFICIARIES AT OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON THIS YEAR IN ADDITION TO THE \$10,000 CHECKS THAT WE HAD GIVEN EARLIER THIS FALL TO SETON, VILLA & DUCHESNE. EVERY LADY OF CHARITY CAN BE PROUD THAT WE WERE ABLE AGAIN THIS YEAR TO SUPPORT THESE WONDERFUL INSTITUTIONS WITH DONATIONS TOTALING \$75,000.

I would be remiss if I did not thank all those who planned, helped with, decorated and sold Christmas gifts at the beautiful CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON AT LEAWOOD SOUTH COUNTRY CLUB this year: Lois Hoefler, Patti Brady, Pam Franchett, Elsie Forlenza, Suzan Cramer, Joyce Murphy, Chris Klein and all other Ladies involved. We were able to show the 50th Anniversary CD and the CD that John Caulfield (husband of our member Laura) had compiled for us of photos he had taken at the 2008 Boutique & the 2009 Garden Party & Childres Fashion Show held last June. We are grateful to John who has also given us a CD of this year's Boutique photos as well as photos for our Historian & Publicity Committees to use.

We have also received a recent donation from the John J. Sullivan, Jr. Foundation in the amount of \$1,000. We are thankful to John Houlehan and Mark Henke, Co-Administrators of this fund for choosing to recognize us again for our work for & with the poor here in the Metropolitan Area. I know many of you know of or might be friends with or maybe even are related to the Houlehan & Henke families so please let them know of our appreciation of their support of our work.

Please note the change of date of our ANNUAL DAY OF PRAYER TO WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3, 2010 as there was a major conflict that involved many of our members with the original date announced at the Christmas Luncheon. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend this wonderful spiritual event that will be led by Father Don Farnan & is to be held at St. Thomas More Parish, where he is the Pastor. Fr. Don is delightful and very insightful & has always been helpful to the Ladies & Junior Ladies groups & is well known in the community for his shepherding of the Upper Room in the inner city of KCMO. My family & I have been lucky to know him for quite some time & if you haven't already meet him you will enjoy him, I'm sure.

Personally I must thank you all for the outpouring of love, care and concern for myself and my family over the past few weeks since my cancer diagnosis. I can even count the number of cards, e-mails, gifts of prayer, food, well wishes, offers of help etc, etc that have been given to all of us. Your continuing support means so much and is deeply appreciated. I am recovering from my mastectomy and now am facing a full year of cancer treatments starting after I am healed from the surgery. So as my term as your President winds down I will bring treatment in a month or so. Please keep up the prayers as my family & I face this challenge. I will always be grateful to all of you for your concern for me.

May God bless you and your families in the coming New Year 2010!

Ewen Sterner Brooks
President

LADIES OF CHARITY DAY OF PRAYER

WEDNESDAY MARCH 3, 2010

ST THOMAS MORE PARISH, 118TH & HOLMES ROAD, KC, MO

REVEREND DON FARNAN IS OUR SPIRITUAL

STARTING AT 9:00 AM WITH COFFEE AND ROLLS

FOLLOWED BY MASS

LUNCHEON WILL BE SERVED

THE COST WILL BE \$35.00. YOUR CHECK IS YOUR RESERVATION

PLEASE SEND CHECKS TO:

TERESA O'MALLEY

OR

VIRGINIA SCHMELT

2314 WEST 95TH

1905 WEST 139TH ST

2314 WEST 95TH

1905 WEST 139TH ST

LEAWOOD, KS 66206

LEAWOOD, KS 66224

913-648-0101

913-851-8892

THANKS TO BOTH OF THESE LADIES FOR ARRANGING THIS DAY FOR US

NEW DATE DUE TO CONFLICT WITH ORIGINAL DATE

HISTORY BOOK

Ladies of Charity have been busy this year and I am still collecting pictures and articles about our events. Please send me anything you have that you would like included in the History Book. I appreciate everyone's help.

Mary North

LITERACY ENRICHMENT

We are seeking volunteers (*Literacy Ladies*) for St. Agnes School.

Goal: to promote library, literacy, language, and learning skills.

There would be opportunities to:

...work in the library

...help in a classroom with PreK–2nd Gr. (sight words & reading)

...listen to children read

...help one-on-one in the Learning Center in reading or math

(PreK–3rd Grade)

We hope to start by February. For more information, or

to volunteer, please call me at 913-341-3546. oxlerm@yahoo.com

Marianne Oxler

MEMBERSHIP

We honored ladies who have been members for 35 years at our beautiful Christmas luncheon at Leawood South Country Club.

Congratulations to Pat Bourk, Lou Heilman, Kath Scaglia, Edie Scavuzzo, Terri Quinn, and Evelyn Foley for their 35 years of service. There are 125 women in our organization who have worked for the poor for more than 35 years. What a tribute to the Ladies of Charity and the very worthwhile service that we help provide to those in need.

Sandy Jungk

PROJECT MARY

Just a reminder to collect unopened toiletries and cosmetics from you travels or department store deals. These items can not be purchased with Food Stamps. Please bring your donations to any Board or General Membership meeting. I will collect these and then send them along to women's shelters.

P.S. Tooth brushes and tooth paste are also needed.

**Thank you,
Mary Neville**

VOLUNTEERS

Our Annual Volunteer Hours report will soon be due to National. If you have not had an opportunity to fill out and return your Volunteer form, please do so as soon as you read this request. These hours are important to our local organization as well as National when requesting funding or underwriting programs to help the poor. We have had a busy year with many opportunities for your volunteer work and we would like to count those hours. As of December 15, 80 forms have been returned representing 17,840 volunteer hours. We would like to add yours to the total. Please return the form, or if it has been misplaced, just send in your hours served to: Carol Martinosky, 12341 Beverly, Overland Park, KS 66209. Thank you for all that you do for the poor and may God continue to bless you in the coming year.

**Carol Martinsky
Volunteer Services Committee**

WORKSHOP

To all who helped with workshop throughout the year, THANK YOU for helping the poor. It was a busy year as usual. Our little dollhouse cottage brought in \$220.00 and was won by Marianne Oxler's granddaughter. The silent auction Santas brought in \$409.00. Our booth receipts were over \$4000.00, plus \$717.50 at the Christmas luncheon.

Maryann and I felt it was a good year overall. Thanks to all the workshop ladies who worked so hard. We are leaving "Workshop" in the hands of two talented women, Debi James and Chris Klein.

If anyone needs to get rid of extra wood dollhouse furniture or accessories, let us know. We have been given a big fabulous Victorian dollhouse, plus some furniture for use next year. I hope to show you a picture of it at our next luncheon.

Again, thanks to all who made, donated or purchased our items. We hope this money will make Christmas a little brighter for the poor.

Thank you so much,
Suzan Cramer & Maryann Lumianski

LCUSA

FYI to All Ladies of Charity from the our National President, Albe McGurk:

An article about the our very own Kansas City Association 2009 LOC Christmas Boutique to check out on the Nat'l LCUSA website plus an especially good Advent Reflection. Enjoy.

You can find the Boutique article and pictures on the LCUSA web site under NEWS. The web site is aic.ladiesofcharity.us

SISTER MODERATOR

The Word of God is come – not always a comfortable word. Because, you see, God's word in our lives is always unfinished. Advent has come and gone. The Word of God has leapt from God's almighty throne. But what of those wonderful advent promises:

A Child is born to us, the Prince of Peace!
He shall decide aright for the land's afflicted.
Here is my servant who will establish justice on the earth.

It seems that God trusts *us* to continue speaking that unfinished word. What a challenge! How tempting it is to just look the other way. When our Sisters faced dangerous times In Peru, the people said to them: "Will you drop the hot potato? Or will you stand with us?"

What about us? God's people need us to bring God's hope into the needy places. Yes, the Word of God is come. But, come to stir up fire!!! – the fire of love, which moves hearts beyond fear and into love.

Our God, we receive your word. An unfinished word. A hot potato. And we are grateful. With whole-hearted trust in your divine Providence we go forth to speak your word in a new year whose every moment sings with your wonderful Word.

This poem by an unknown author says it better:

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among sisters and brothers,
To make music in the heart.

Sister Charlotte White, SCL

DUCHESNE CLINIC

Duchesne Clinic staff and volunteers have certainly been busy this year! We are seeing an 82% patient retention rate and nearly 300 new patients in 2009. While our staff works hard to provide quality dependable medical care for the uninsured poor in our community, we also celebrate and honor the work of the Ladies of Charity. Thank you for all you do throughout the year to support the mission of Duchesne Clinic. It's not easy doing what you do, but it is appreciated.

I joined Duchesne Clinic just three months ago and want to personally thank the Ladies who went out of their way to help me in this transition. My thanks to Gwen, Lou, Anita, Anita, Kathy, Mary, LaNora and many others who graciously helped whenever I called, and occasionally called me, just to help me get on track.

**Christmas blessings to you all,
Karole Bradford, Development Director
Duchesne Clinic**

SETON CENTER

The Ladies of Charity are such a significant part of our daily life and work at Seton Center. Each day, in so many ways, the active presence of Ladies is felt. The Bag Ladies come each Monday to sort all the clothing for the thrift store. LoC volunteers are faithful in their work in the food pantry and thrift store on their designated days, stocking shelves and packing bags for neighbors. So many other Ladies assist with mailings or prepare the clothing and give-away rooms and pack gift and food boxes for our Christmas Sharing distribution. Still other Ladies of Charity (and their husbands) pick up food from area bakeries each week to help feed our neighbors in need. On a weekly basis, we are blessed to see many of you in our halls. We appreciate you and your many efforts on our behalf.

We are grateful for the very generous financial support of Ladies of Charity. Your hard work throughout the year translates into dollars that truly make a difference in the lives of those we serve. (The \$15,000 that you recently gave us is very much needed at this time of year.)

We appreciate, too, the many efforts of Ladies of Charity to raise awareness and support of our Christmas Sharing program through an annual party for old and new friends of Seton Center. This event is a critical to the success of the Christmas Sharing program and helps acquaint new contacts with our mission. This year, we expect to provide four days of food for 438 families, including gifts for the children.

In this holy season, I ask that you please keep the needs of Seton Center in your hearts and prayers. In these troubled economic times, we are continually challenged to raise funds to meet the ever-growing needs of those who turn to us for assistance.

Best wishes to you and yours for a blessed Christmas and a grace-filled New Year!

With warm regards,
Sister Loretto Marie Colwell SCL

VILLA ST. FRANCIS

My dearest Ladies of Charity,

Needless to say it is a very busy time of the year. Like everyone, we have been decorating for Christmas and I would say it looks very festive around here.

Words are not adequate to thank you for the \$15,000.00 check you gave us at the Christmas Luncheon. We really appreciate all you do for us. How generous, thoughtful and kind of you and I know you labor long and hard to raise all the monies you share with others. Also, thank you for the quarters. It amounted to \$114.10. Again thank you, thank you.

The needs for the Villa at this time would be money to buy flowers for the chapel. The residents love the real flowers and so does the Lord Jesus and his mother along with St. Joseph and the Sacred Heart. All are my buddies.

To one and all a very Holy, Blessed and peaceful Christmas and may 2010 be the best ever for you and your dear ones.

**Gratefully in Christ,
Sr. Mary Kenneth, SCL**