

DATES & DEALS

MARCH 2010

APRIL MEETING

DATE: Thursday, April 8, 2010

PLACE: Nativity Church
3800 West 119th St.
Leawood, KS 66209

TIME: Mass is at 10 am. with General Meeting to follow.
Rosary for the deceased will said 15 minutes before Mass.

This Meeting is for the Reception of New Members.

Your check is your reservation. Reservations are important so the caterer will be able to accurately plan our meal. The board has decided that due to the increases number of ladies who come to General meeting without reservations, there will be an additional charge of \$5 at the door.

Please have your check for \$12.00 made payable to The Ladies of Charity, in no later than Wednesday, March 31st, 2010.

Mail check to: Pam Franchett
22241 Moonlight Rd
Spring Hill, KS 66030

HOSTESSES: Sandra Berland, Lou Heilman, Lois Hoefler

SPECIAL REQUEST DUCHESNE CLINIC: Tylenol, antacids, Claritin, hydrocortisone cream, anti-fungal cream, Band-Aids, Ace Wraps, sterile, gauze pads, Lysol spray, sanitizing wipes, paper towels, tissues.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO GWEN BROOKS AND HER BOARD FOR A WONDERFULLY SUCCESSFUL YEAR, I have a tough act to follow. Gwen was a very strong and productive leader even as she was dealing with her own health battles. She will remain in our prayers as she continues in her treatment and recovery. I would also like to thank the new and returning board members who so graciously said yes when ask to serve. It will take each and every one of us to continue the wonderful work of the Ladies of Charity of Metropolitan Kansas City. We are all followers of St Vincent and St. Louise in serving the poor and needy of

our city. I am very humbled and honored to serve as your president. Hopefully this will be a busy and productive year for all of us but especially for the people and agencies we serve.

I would like to thank Teresa O'Malley and Virginia Schmelt for planning the Day of Prayer on March 3rd. It was a lovely day. Another up coming event is our evening at the Designer Show House. It is on April 28th and is sure to be a special evening. Laura Caulfield and Evie Moberg and their committee have been

LaNora Hughes

Charter Discernment Committee

There has been some progress on Senate Bill 838 on changes to Charter Schools. The Senate Education Committee is not allowing additional Charter Schools to open. President Obama and Secretary Ann Duncan are strong supporters of charter schools. Tax payers in Missouri need to tell their legislators, that in light of tight state budgets, this money could continue to support quality education in Missouri. We need people to contact members of the senate education committee to voice your opinion and urge them to vote it out of committee. Contact Dr. Stephen Aspleaf, Principal of Seton High School if you can help or need additional information. Please pass this request along to others.

Plans are being made for Seton's fundraiser "Like a Child". The committee is looking for a new location. I will keep you informed as plans are finalized.

Seton is in need of additional funds as donations from organizations have slowed. Please help if you can.

Catherine Daugherty
Seton Center Liaison to Ladies of Charity

Friendship Ministry

Ladies of Charity celebrated Mardi Gras which means "Fat Tuesday," the day before Ash Wednesday at Grand Court. This is the third year Grand Court has opened its door to the resident Ladies of Charity and friends. About 60 of our Ladies attended with eighteen Ladies of Charity in residence. Special thanks to the Ladies of Charity for the goodies that came from their kitchens: Virginia Bagby, Rita Bodine, Patti Brady, Charleen Brain, Catherine Daugherty, Alice Purcell Egelhoff, Elsie Forlenza, Iva Hamilton, Lou Heilman, Lois Hoefer, Sandy Mayer, Rita Rost, Charlotte Sweeney, Maryhelen Van Dyke, and Joan Ward. Our Mardi Gras feast concluded with music provided by Mary Wilson and Chris Farnan Sesti.

Katie Gierster

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to these new members since the first of the year: Marilyn Fuller, Michele Schloegel, Sue Von Geysso, Susan Waldeck, and JoAnne Wheat. We will have Reception of New Members during the mass at the April 8th general meeting that include these new members plus those members who were not able to participate last October. Invitations will be sent very soon that includes RSVP. If you have never been received or did not receive an invitation, please contact me at 913-491-4475 as soon as possible.

A new member orientation will follow the latter part of April.

By the way, a great way to introduce friends to Ladies of Charity is an informal "Coffee" at one of our member's home. We are planning several this year so let us know if you and your prospective member(s) wish to attend.

SANDY BERLAND

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 Nevill

The Ladies of Charity Evening at the Designers Show House

Ladies of Charity Designers Showhouse Party

Wednesday, April 28th

5833 Ward Parkway

Ladies . . . Mark your calendars for Wednesday, April 28th to see this year's exciting showhouse! It's a 3 story brick Colonial Revival built in 1922 and located on the northeast corner of 59th & Ward Parkway.

This spacious home, accented by beautiful grounds and a carriage house, features an all-new kitchen, butler pantry, and master bath. You'll love touring the house, but you'll also enjoy a large assortment of delicious appetizers, desserts, and beverages in our party tent!

The KCSA Boutique will be open for some great shopping, and you'll be able to purchase LOC raffle tickets for a lovely Jim Shore statue of St. Francis as well.

The fun begins at 6:00 pm. Parking will be on the side streets. Please invite your family, friends, and business associates for this fun-filled evening!

Tickets are \$30 each. Make your checks payable to "Ladies of Charity" and send to Bette Monson, 12221 Reinhardt Lane, Leawood KS 66209.

Ernie Moberg & Laura Caulfield, Showhouse Co-Chairs

DESIGNER SHOWHOUSE

FOOD OR \$ DONATIONS NEEDED FOR THE "AFTER PARTY"

- **FOOD DONATION:**
 - Can you please help us?
 - Finger food sized items; something that our guests can easily pick up with their fingers.
 - Good items are vegetable trays, bite sized cheese cubes, finger food sized appetizers, already made sandwiches on dollar rolls, pre-cut brownies
 - PLEASE BRING ITEMS ON A DISPOSAL TRAY, ALL READY TO SERVE.
 - We ask that you do not bring dips, cakes, popcorn type items – anything that has to be cut, assembled or spooned out or anything that needs to be heated.
- **CASH DONATION.** If you don't want to cook, a donation of \$10 would be most appreciated and will be used to purchase an appetizer tray.
- **WHO TO CONTACT.** If you can help with a food or cash donation, please call or email me: Ann Klein (913.338.3001) (annkleinkc@aol.com).

THANKS SO MUCH FOR ALL THAT YOU DO FOR THE LADIES OF CHARITY.
WE COULDN'T DO SUCH EXCELLENT EVENTS WITHOUT YOU.

Gala-Boutique

Committees for this year's event are already working. Mary Ann Westhoff, Sina Beil, Marilyn Hail and Mary North are the Chairs. Cruising and Boutique are combining. Thursday night a spectacular sit down dinner will be served. There will be a silent auction and raffle and music. Boutique will follow the same schedule as in past years. All of us are excited about the new format and another successful year.

Mary North

LCUSA

Many of you know that along with the LCUSA dues statement sent to all the associations was a request for a donation to cover our yearly AIC assessment. We have not asked the associations for this in the past but we receive a statement from the international office each year. We have never been able to pay our full assessment because we have not had the funds to do so as our operating funds are very limited. In past years, AIC assessed LCUSA one dollar per dues paying member. Last year at the international meetings in Mexico City they raised the dues to 2 euro per dues paying member. It was very humbling to see the associations of the poorer countries who had paid their full assessment. At today's exchange rates 2 euro is equivalent to \$2.75. Even with the \$2.00 contribution from members we still have a shortfall to make up.

AIC has many projects that they fund in areas that are unbelievably destitute. They receive grants for many of these projects but their operating funds are very low. Laurence de La Brosse, the international president, attended the national assembly in Pittsburgh and spoke of the many projects that AIC undertakes. AIC has just two paid employees and the remainder of the work for the whole international community is done by volunteers. I thank you in advance for the help you give as we seek to shoulder our share of the cost of serving the poor around the world.

**Albe McGurk, President
LCUSA**

SHOEBOX SHOWER 2010

Please join the Diocesan Council Catholic Women Lenten Project for domestic Violence Victims, Women and Children. Fill a 'shoebox' with items you would need if you had to leave your home in FEAR and HASTE! Suggested items: toothpaste, tooth, brush, shampoo, comb, brush toiletries, knee socks, large T-shirts, children, baby's needs such as a new teddy bear, book, crayons, color book. Please wrap as a gift. Mark for woman, boy, girl or baby. The boxes will be distributed to these four shelters: Rose Brooks Center, Hope House, New House and Synergy Services. Please bring to the March 2th Board Meeting. The Final Collection Date is April 7, 2010. As a Lenten Project, it was great last year and know it will be again for 2010.

**Eloise Kipp
DCCW Chairperson**

VOLUNTEERS

Since volunteer hours are very important to the Association, it is not too early to start keeping track of your hours. This will help at the end of the year when your tabulation of hours is due.

LAURA CORLEY

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

COMMITTEE

Cristo Rey of Kansas City invites you to bring friends and enjoy lunch while you meet our students and staff. You will learn more facts about Cristo Rey and see how their innovative education model is impacting students and the

Kansas City community. School tours are included. The dates are March 18th, April 20th and May 19th at 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm. The school is located at 211 W. Linwood Blvd. Kansas City, MO 64111

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MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Mary Ellen Beck	Rosemary Cunningham	Dorothy Evans
Annabell Jones	Helen Keller	Dorothy McCormick
Lucille McKay	Mary Jane Tighe	Rosemary Weilert
Donald Brain, husband of Charleen	Lewis Brennan, husband of Katie	
Larry Koppers, husband of Ann	Dennis Putthoff, husband of Louise	
Brain J. Raleigh, husband of Betty	Robert Schmiedeler, husband of Melanie	
Donald Sobek, husband of Ruth Marie	Paul Strahler, husband of Margaret	
John J. Robertson, grandson of Betty Conway	Joseph Sullivan, son of Peggy Sullivan	

SETON CENTER

When you bless your food before your meals today, I know you are grateful that you are not one of the 37 million Americans – 1 in 8 – who sought emergency food assistance last year. Seton Center has seen a significant increase in the number of individuals and families seeking food over the past year. Despite very generous donations of food from local churches and cash donations from many, we must still buy food – nearly \$1,000 every 10 days – to help feed our neighbors in need. Many of those now coming for food are *new faces*. Reduced hours or lost jobs have meant the difference between feeding their families and struggling to provide food for them. We are blessed to be the conduit that moves your generous donations.

Dr. Stephen Aspleaf, principal of Seton High School, is working with a committee to transition Seton High to a charter high school. Preliminary plans call for the school to double in size to 90 students, with four full-time teachers and a para teacher providing educational coursework to meet a rigorous curriculum that exceeds the state graduation requirements. The school is currently operating under Genesis School's charter but hopes to obtain its own charter by 2011. Please keep the school in your prayers as we work to implement these important changes.

Volunteers are truly the heart and hands of Seton Center. We cannot function without the efforts of so many dedicated volunteers. Ladies of Charity are in our midst each day in the food pantry, thrift store or sorting room, or behind the scenes planning and staging events which benefit Seton Center's work. We are truly grateful to you.

Seton Center would welcome cash donations or can goods in support of the food pantry. We thank you for your friendship and generous hearts.

May you be blessed!

Sister Loretto Marie Colwell SCL
Executive Director/CEO

VILLA ST. FRANCIS

Plans are in the works to brighten up the Villa with spring flowers. If you would like to volunteer to help in the gardens please contact, Ruthanna at 913-829-5201. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Sister Kenneth is planning a tea for the Ladies of Charity in May. Details will be in the next Dates and Deals.

**My love and prayers,
Sr. Mary Kenneth, SCL**

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DUCHESNE CLINIC

By the time a patient comes to Duchesne Clinic, they are often very sick, with complex medical conditions that are poorly controlled and that require significant resources to get under control. In 2009, Duchesne Clinic saw over 1700 patients, nearly 400 of which were new to the clinic, provided almost 11,500 patient encounters, and helped our patients access specialty care, well-woman care, labs and x-rays, and over 3000 medications worth almost \$1,300,000.

I want to thank the Ladies of Charity for the work you do as a group as well as the work you do as individuals. Your support as donors, volunteers and (especially) cheerleaders is so important to our clinic staff. When we see so much sickness and need, it is good to know that we have the Ladies of Charity walking in faith with us.

**God bless,
Karole Bradford
Development Director**

SISTER MODERATOR

I marvel at what Vincent and Louise accomplished in 17th century Europe. Before the days of social services, social security, or safety nets, they made a difference for galley convicts, orphans, prisoners, the sick, the elderly, the hungry and homeless, those dying of incurable diseases, the uneducated poor, and so many more who were in need. They lived out Jesus' prophecy: "Anyone who has faith in me will do the works that I do, and will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father." John 14:12.

That's for the saints, right? Not me! Don't we all protest? We come from a long line of people who try to wiggle away from God's call: Moses: "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and lead the Israelites out of Egypt?" Gideon: "Please, my lord, how can I do this? My family is the poorest in town and I am the most insignificant in my family." Jeremiah: "Ah, Lord God! I know not how to speak; I am too young." The only prophet who simply said, "Here I am, Lord!" was Samuel, and the Bible is quick to point out that he didn't know any better: "At that time Samuel didn't know the Lord." But God calls us anyway, even though we know that another could do the job better. If only God would listen to our wisdom.

Maybe, just maybe, God needs each of us because of who we are – because of our imperfections. A story: Alexander Fleming was a famous Scottish bacteriologist. Working in his antiquated lab he had a problem with dust falling on his petri dishes. He noticed that bacteria did not grow around some of the dust particles. From this observation he went on to win Nobel prize.

Years later, Fleming was touring state-of-the-art lab with clean, negative air flow, masks, sterile conditions and no dust. Everything was so perfect. A lab worker who was showing him around said to him, "Think what you could have discovered if you had had a facility like this." Said Fleming, "I never would have discovered penicillin."

May God bless and use our imperfect selves! And may we remember the words of the ancient Greek philosophers:

There is not a short life or a long life.

There is only the life that you have,

And the life you have is the life you are given, the life you work with.

It has its own shape, describes its own arc, and is perfect.

Sister Charlotte White, SCL

COMING EVENTS FOR 2010

Please mark your calendars

April 8th Mass, General Meeting & Luncheon-10am-Nativity Church, Leawood, KS

April 28th Designer Showhouse-6pm to 8pm

June 3rd Mass, General Meeting/ Dinner at 5:30pm

November 4th-6th Annual Boutique – Ritz Charles