



The Layette

August, 2015
Volume 14, Issue 2

Christ Child Society of Texas, Capital Area, Inc.

A GOOD WAY TO SHARE THE NEWS OF CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY



In the words of Mary Virginia Merrick,
“Nothing is ever too much to do for a child.”

The President's Corner by Barbara Forby

I am in the second year of my two-year term as President. I am looking forward to this year because we are hoping to find a new home. It will be exciting to see everything come together and, more importantly, have something to call our own.

We were fortunate to be able to move our supplies into Rose Zavala's house in December while we were in transition. We would all like to extend a big THANK YOU to Rose and Art for allowing us to use their rental house. The building committee decided it was time to give them their house back, so in May, we moved into two units at Uncle Bob's Storage until we find our permanent home. Thank you to everyone who helped with the move - it went very smoothly. Thank you, Julie, for organizing the storage areas – our supplies were put in place in no time.

Good news – The CCS Board voted to move to Annunciation's property in Georgetown. We are looking into purchasing a double wide trailer to house our items and to have a place for the Bag Ladies and Bag Ladies Too to work. We will not have our summer layette assembly but we will have a pot luck and meeting so we can still get together.

EFL was a wonderful success this year!!!! What an evening it was and, as always, everything came together very nicely. Thank you, Wendy, for again organizing the event so everything ran smoothly and thank you to everyone who helped make the evening a success. It was so nice to see all the planning for the evening come together and to see everyone having a great time!!!! It was also fun to see everyone who dressed as their favorite actresses or actors and to see all the women in their beautiful evening gowns. If you would like to join this fun group and help plan for next year's EFL, please let us know. We appreciate all members who volunteer - whether it is to serve on a committee or help the day of EFL.

In the next few months, the Building Committee will be working to complete the steps required to purchase a home. I will keep you informed of any news and information.

Thanks to all you wonderful women and your families for all you do to help this wonderful organization. I am excited to see what this year has in store for us.

THANK YOU ALL!!!!

Let's all remember why we volunteer in this organization. “It's for the Children.” With your help we can accomplish anything.

President's Corner

CCS Welcomes New Members

Prospective Member Dinner:

We had a wonderful turn out for our Prospective Member Dinner on February 3rd. Thirteen prospective members and 26 current members were in attendance. After a fabulous dinner of lasagna, garbage bag salad and dessert, guests were able to learn more about CCS. There were short presentations about our many projects and fundraisers, and displays were also set up to help prospective members understand our work and the volunteer opportunities available to members. The evening was such a success that we inducted 16 new members in April and many of them have already joined committees.

With the addition of the new members, Texas Capital Area Chapter now has 77 members. If you know someone who would like to join our chapter, she can join any time of the year. If you have questions, contact Pam. Thank you for all you do for the love of the Christ Child.

I challenge every member to spread the word of CCS and help grow our membership to 100 this year!

Pam Finley pfinley2CCS@gmail.com or 512-246-8262

Induction:

On Saturday, April 18th, CCS inducted 16 new members for 2015 at the Community Rooms in Georgetown. Following a brunch served by the Gavel Club, **Dolores Barrios, Annette Castillo, Judith Fothergill, Maria Frausto, Jackline Infinger Lisa McGraw, Silveria Meeker, Hope Martinez-Carter and Carmen Rodriguez**, were inducted by President, Barbara Forby. Each new member was given her CCS pin and then new officers, **Meg Beasley and Liz Velasquez** took the oath of office. After the induction, long-time Christ Child Society member and past president of the Dayton Chapter of CCS, Jan Huelskamp, gave an inspirational talk, "What CCS Means to Me!"

New members not in attendance were **Cristine Alcantar, Milagros Arce, Joan Archer, Pat Hatton, Orla Jones, Jacqueline Lambert and Terry Myers**.

Orientation:

On Thursday evening, May 28, several of our newest members met with the Welcome Committee for an evening of fun and fellowship. Since we are currently 'homeless' we were hosted by **Janie Castillo** in her wonderful Baby Stitches workshop. Barbara Forby, Sarah Brunet, Pam Finley, Ardeth Hadley and Sue Ridlehuber served a meal of pizza, salad and dessert to seven of our newly inducted members. After a couple of ice-breaker games we learned about the history of Christ Child Society and our founder, Mary Virginia Merrick, as well as the history of our local chapter. New members were also given a quick summary of our projects and were encouraged to



Jan Huelskamp speaks at Induction

volunteer for at least one committee. At the end of the evening, **Milagro Arce** and her granddaughter, **Annette Castillo**, **Judy Fothergill**, **Jackline Infinger**, **Terry Myers**, **Maria Frausto** and **Orla Jones** made a simple craft to take home with them to promote the upcoming craft sales.



Judy Fothergill (second from right) wins the game

Schlotzsky's Socials are a Huge Success!

Christ Child Society partnered with Schlotzsky's La Frontera for 2 Socials where members and their friends and families could socialize and earn some money for our chapter. CCS receives 20% of the total receipts collected at all registers the day of the Social.

The April Social earned \$450.38 and \$254.20 in June, for a total of \$704.58. At each social members and friends could also participate in a drawing for donated door-prizes. The April door prize winners were Lutmilla Noel and Jason Higgins, and Marsha Benda was the June winner.

Thanks to all those members who came to these socials. We look forward to many more successful events at Schlotzsky's. Make plans to join the fun at our next Social on **September 24** and bring your friends and family. We all have to eat, right?

Ardeth Hadley lahad38@gmail.com

Go Fund Me

Please share the GoFundMe website <http://www.gofundme.com/ccstxcapitalarea> with your friends and family. The video and our plans for a future building are on the website. Donations through this site will continue to help us reach our goal of a permanent building.

Bereavement Committee

The Bereavement Committee has been very busy this year. It was decided to make “Bereavement Remembrance Ornaments” available to any mother who experiences a miscarriage. The idea was presented to the members at the General Meeting following the March Layette Assembly and was accepted wholeheartedly after the presentation!

Recipients can display the ornaments year round or put them on their Christmas tree as a reminder of the child who is not with them. Three different handmade ornaments and a bereavement angel card in a gift box will be presented to each recipient. Ten ornaments have been distributed since March.

The Angel Gown Bereavement Set will be given to families when there is a burial. Nine large and nine small gowns have been distributed since January.



Mary Beth Dennehy, mbdennehy@gmail.com and Lois Feist, lpfeist@gmail.com

Congratulations



CCS would like to applaud our own Janie Castillo for recently publishing a book on the history of St. William Catholic Church. Her book, *A Story of Faith and Family*, covers the entire history of St. William from its beginning, in the 1910's, when members met at the homes of local families who worked at the Round Rock White Lime Company, and includes the four church buildings that have been constructed since 1940 to the most recent imposing edifice. Janie has been a lifelong member of St. William and is also a member of the founding family of St. William. This year marks the 75th anniversary of the church. All proceeds for Janie's book go to Our Lady of Guadalupe Society's ministry. Congratulations, Janie. We are proud of you!

Hygiene Committee

The Hygiene Project had a very, very, busy spring! We prepared by speaking to any group that would have us. We told the Christ Child story and then requested their help with hygiene donations, diaper drives, baby blankets or financial support. Asking works!

We worked with Stony Point Serteens, Cedar Ridge Serteens, Round Rock Zoi Serteens, St. John Vianney confirmation class, The Worship Place in Sun City, Prayer Shawl Ministry- Lago Vista, Sew Much Fun, Ridgeview Middle School Junior Honor Society, St. William's Mom's Club, Board of Directors Networking Group in Georgetown and Chonita's knitting retreat.

We also had **tremendous response from generous members** who continue to buy toothpaste, hairbrushes and toiletry items as well as ask their dentists, friends and neighbors for donations. Remember, asking others to join our work can be quite a blessing for them. The Worship Place Craft Group has taken us on as a continuing recipient of their handmade items.

We were able to deliver **603 hygiene bags to elementary age students** this last school year and **340 backpacks for the teen homeless students**. The generous response allowed us to improve what we put in the bags. Everyone receives full-size toothpaste, the younger girls receive hairbrushes instead of combs and the older girls receive feminine hygiene supplies.

Ongoing needs: travel-size toiletries, full-size toothpaste, floss, full-size soap, and 250 backpacks for next spring's delivery.

Thank you to everyone who helped assemble the bags, brought their husbands or kids to help lift, fill the cars, count the inventory, package the toothbrushes, sort the soaps, sewed the cute bags, or prayed for the children we serve!

Joan Watkins, jwatk@aol.com and Mary Q Smith, mqsmith@suddenlink.net



Mary Q & Beth load Hygiene boxes



*Backpacks piled high for drop off at FIT
(Families In Transition)*

'Tis the Season for Crafting Fun

Christ Child Society's second largest fundraiser is fast approaching. This year, we are participating in three Craft sales:

St William in *Round Rock* on **November 7, 2015**

St Mary, Our Lady of the Lake in *Lago Vista* on **November 14, 2015**

The "Craft Crew" met in April and began preparing for this crafting season. We drafted plans that we hope will make things easier and help us to keep track of donations from our members and CCS friends. For example, we would like to have no more than 10 of any one item. Each donor should turn in a list of the items and how many of each are donated. Crafters are welcome to price their creations. Please contact Sue Ridlehuber (512-255-7390) if you have any questions or donations. Please turn in all craft sale items by **October 24**, which is the Fall Layette Assembly & General Meeting.

As always, we realize that our success depends on the hard work and generosity of our members. All crafting supplies are donated so that we can keep our 'overhead' low (as in zero!) But if you also have supplies that you don't know what to do with, please pass them along and someone else can probably use them...we have some clever and creative folks in our group! In addition, if you have a free Saturday with nothing to do, come to one of our craft work-days. They're lots of fun; we visit with friends, create cute stuff and maybe even have a snack or two! The next workday is **Saturday, August 29** at the Georgetown Community rooms in the Lake Aire Shopping Center on Williams Drive. And put the dates for our sale(s) on your calendar, because we can always use more help to set-up, sell and pack/load the remaining items. Remember, any crafts left after the November sales, will be available to CCS members at the Christmas party for half-price - yet another good reason to come to the Christmas party on December 8th!

We look forward to seeing what marvelous things you have created for our Craft Sales and I know you will be amazed at the talent exhibited by this special group of ladies.

Sue Ridlehuber, sue.ridlehuber@sbcglobal.net or 512-255-7390

Don't forget our Coins-for Kids!



If you don't have a 'bank' yet, you can pick one up at the next Assembly. And if you have coins, you can bring them that day.

Evening for the Ladies, 2015

The 6th Annual EFL was held on Wednesday, May 13th, in St. William's Parish Hall. The event was sold out and was a huge success, raising \$45,905.80. Thanks to all who donated their time, talents, auction items and, of course, their hard-earned money.

Hollywood Night with the Stars was the theme for this year's for theme for this year's event. Upon entering our special guests were greeted by 'paparazzi' and then walked the red carpet. Terry Myers did a fabulous job as emcee for the evening, which began with appetizers, wine and margaritas. After Fr. Dean Wilhelm, our Spiritual Advisor, blessed the food, the Knights of Columbus served a delicious meal of gravy-smothered chicken, green beans almondine and seasoned rice. VIP-sized pieces of Virginia Pargmann's delicious cake were on the tables tempting many hungry guests to eat dessert before the main course. As guests enjoyed their meal, "Frank Sinatra" and "Marilyn Monroe" arrived. They sang their hearts out and involved the audience throughout the evening. Our cook for the past six years, Mike Goertz, was called to the stage for a special thank you: Marilyn Monroe sang *Happy Birthday, Mr. President*, leaving lipstick on his cheek, which was later wiped off by his wife, Patti. The audience also watched the new CCS video from the GoFundMe page, which presented an overview of our many service projects and our special needs, including a new home.



The attire for the evening was "Your Favorite Celebrity" and a costume contest was held. The five categories were: Best Celebrity Look Alike, Best Dress, Best Accessories, Best Hair, and Best Shoes. Contestants for each category were chosen by judges and the winner for each category was determined by the loudest applause. The winners received special frames made to resemble awards. The entertainers also led a drawing for the winners of the Ticket Toss and quilt raffle. As each winning ticket was drawn, those holding tickets for the remaining items waited in suspense and the beautiful quilt, acquired by Pam Finley, was the desire of all. The Ticket Toss was very impressive, netting **\$2,680**, while the silent auction raised **\$1,341**. Janie Castillo, Kathy & Laura Denchek and Susan Horvath donated the materials and their time and talent to make a beautiful quilt for the raffle which netted **\$720**. Some of our guests received door prizes and all of our guests were invited to join CCS.

Thank you to the EFL committee for planning the event, to everyone who helped set up and clean up and to everyone who attended the event. Special thanks to Mike Goertz for the wonderful food and the Knights of Columbus who helped cook and serve the food and acted as bartenders. Thank you to Virginia Pargmann for the yummy cake.

If you are interested in joining the EFL committee and helping to plan EFL 2016, please contact me and look for more updates to the calendar for upcoming meetings. We always need more help.

Wendy Bierschenk, wembier@hotmail.com, (512) 775-9744

EFL Donors/Sponsors

Christ Child Society would like to express our sincere thanks to our EFL Sponsors, Donors and Business Supporters and recognize them for their generosity. All other individuals, both CCS members and non-members, will be recognized in our February, 2016 issue.

\$10,000 Matching Challenge

Anonymous Donor

\$5,000 Matching Challenge

Anonymous Donor

\$4,500

Anonymous Donor

Helping the Homeless Sponsor

(\$1,500)

In Honor of Dorothy Onofrio Lippincott's 91st birthday

Elementary Student Outreach Sponsor

(\$1,000)

Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Bierschenk; Mr. & Mrs. James Christopher Cook;
Anonymous Donor

Angel Gown Sponsor

(\$500)

Mr. & Mrs. L. Schuckman; 4B Mobile Detail Service;
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Infinger; Mr. & Mrs. James Goertz;
Tom and Sarah Brunet; Anonymous Donor

Donors

(\$100 - \$499)

Dr. Chris Cornman; Handlos Chiropractic; Daniel and Lucy Davila;
Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Felux; Anonymous Donors (4)

Business Donors

*Bless This Nest; Double Dave's on 183 N & Anderson Mill Rd;
Dovetail Ink; Freddy's at 620 & I 35; Friend of the Bride;
The Jelly Queens; Kaleidoscope Toys; My Party Palace;
Pamela's Beauty Secrets; Reelz School of Film;
Round Rock Express; and Texadelphia at Lakeline*

2015 Christ Child Society Calendar

August	8–Sat 29 - Sat	Potluck/General Assembly Craft workday	9:00 am 9 am -noon	Community Rooms Community Rooms
September	9 – Wed 14 – Mon 24 – Thurs 26 – Sat	BOD meeting Layette committee Schlotzsky's Social Craft Workday	6:30 pm 6:30 pm All Day 9 am - noon	TBD Julie's House La Frontera location Sue's house
October	6 – Mon 24 – Sat 31 – Sat	Layette Committee Layette Assembly/General Mtg Craft pricing	6:30 pm 9:00 am 9 am - noon	Chonita's house Community Rooms Sue's house
November	7 – Sat 11 – Wed 14 – Sat	St William Craft Fair BOD meeting St Mary Holiday Sale	9:00 – 4:00 6:30 pm 10:00 – 3:00	St William Pavillion TBD Lago Vista
December	8- Tues	Christmas Social	6:30 pm	Community Rooms

Note: 'Community Rooms' are located in the Lake Aire Shopping Center on Williams Drive in Georgetown

Baby Stitches – on Vacation, will resume on

August 26 Wednesday Sewing Group 9 – 11 am Janie Castillo's house

Sew Much Fun – on Vacation, will resume on

September 4 1st Friday Sewing Group 9:30 – 1:00 St Mary's in Lago Vista

The following groups are on hold and will resume when we have a permanent location:

Bag Ladies
Bag Ladies Too
Yarnaholics