

The Layette

A good way to share the news of the

Christ Child Society

July 2009

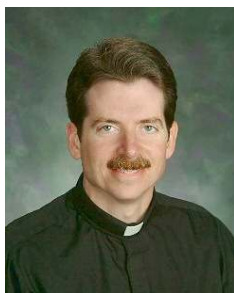
Volume 8 – Issue 3



Hello Christ Child Society Members,

I hope the summer is treating you well! We are celebrating our independence this month, **God bless the U.S.A.!**

It saddens me to say that in mid July we will lose our Spiritual Director, **Father Joel McNeil**. He is being transferred to Des Moines, Iowa. While we are thrilled this means he will reside closer to family, we will miss him terribly and are grateful for his support to the CCS since its inception. The farewell reception will be July 12, 3:00 PM at St. William Parish Hall. God bless you Father Joel!



Please read our Calendar (page 2) and **Jan Huelskamp's** article (page 5) to see the new member activities going on. I hope everyone is working on blankets and collecting items for our next layette assembly, which is Saturday, October 24, 2009.

Since it has been over a year since Lorraine and I took office, I want to apologize if either of us has overlooked anyone's hard work or forgotten to acknowledge appropriately. It's never been our intention to hurt feelings or overlook efforts. We would love to hear from you if we have. When we don't know we can't ask for forgiveness. We are human and try to make sure we thank each person who serves in the CCS, but sometimes we're forgetful.

An ex-member from a long time ago told me she left the Society because she did not feel her work was appreciated as much as some of the other members. I told her this is no reason to leave the society and reminded her, as I remind each of you now, we are not doing this for personal recognition but for **Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior!!** We do what we do for **Him** and **His** kingdom here on earth. If I never get a thank you here on earth it is fine with me, I want all my rewards to be in heaven because they will last for eternity. We all like to feel appreciated, and trust me, Lorraine and I do appreciate all that each of you do, but I wanted to take a moment to touch on this subject just in case there are any hurt feelings within the organization. We are one body and when one is hurt it hurts us all. We love each of you and are so grateful for your service!! If I can ever do anything for you, please let me know.

In Christ's Love,
Linda Allen, Co-President

Dear CCS Members,

Summer is here, school is out, vacations are beginning, the days are already warming up, and our Chapter continues to make a mark in our community. We are truly grateful for each of our members and all you are doing in our Chapter.

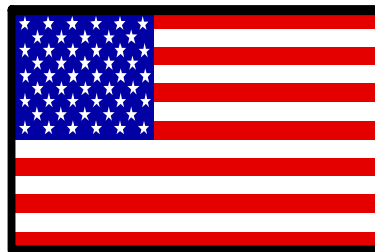
In May, we were selected by Berkman Elementary as the 2009 Partner of the Year, we received a grant from the Chapparral Women's Club and 2 of our members were named 2009 Mentor of the Year: **Ardeth Hadley** for Callison Elementary and **Bob Huelskamp** for Berkman Elementary (see page 3).

Just over a year ago, Linda and I were named as your Co-Presidents and it is an honor to serve our Lord and see the wonders of His goodness pour out in Round Rock, Texas and the surrounding area. Thank you all for your service to the Christ Child Society. You are making a difference and, as **Mary Virginia Merrick** would say, "one child at a time".

As I look back to my first article, our focus remains on continuing to build our committees. We still need your help in serving. Just say YES to one job and it will truly lighten the burden for others. In April, we installed two wonderful women to the board, **Julie Schultz** as 1st VP of Service and **Wendy Bierschenk** as 2nd VP Fundraising, and I'm sure they need your help. We have several new projects underway and our new members will be meeting during the summer months. I realize we all have many other commitments and changes are constant in our lives, but I've discovered that the hand of a friend truly makes a difference when we feel overwhelmed and weary. Wonderful friendships can be formed in serving together. Each of you has such wonderful talents to share whether it be a hand to sew or the hand to reach out to the weary. Also, I know that God is the one constant in my life...that does not change...so trust Him to place you where He needs you. Say, "YES, Lord, YES, Lord!"

As we go forward in these economic times, we recall the blessings we have and the wonderful country we live in and I give THANKS to our Lord for His blessings upon our Chapter.

Be JOYFULL in the Lord,
Lorraine Schuckman, Co-President



**I pledge allegiance
to the flag of the
United States of America
and to the Republic for which**

**it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible,
with liberty and justice for all.**

The Layette

Published Quarterly By
The Christ Child Society of Texas,
Capital Area, Inc.
a member chapter of
National Christ Child Society, Inc.
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Bethesda, Maryland 20814
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*"Nothing is ever too
much to do for
a child."*

Mary Virginia Merrick, Founder

Local Chapter Information

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Round Rock, Texas

1st Vice President/Service

Julie Schultz

2nd Vice President/Fundraising

Wendy Bierschenk

Recording Secretary

Pat Conger

Corresponding Secretary

Ardeth Hadley

Treasurer

Marsha Green

Parliamentarian

Virginia Pargmann

Historian

Open

Newsletter Publisher

Sue Greene

The Layette is available through
annual membership in the CCS.

Yearly dues are:

Active \$35.00; Contributing \$45.00.

The CCS of Texas, Capital Area, Inc.
is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Contact the local chapter
for more information.

Calendar

Tuesday, June 30

Making Hooded Towels Night
Home of Julie Schultz
1810 Overcup Dr, R Rock
RSVP 246-8934 or
amrschultz@yahoo.com
7: 00 PM

Saturday, July 4

Independence Day

Pray for Our Troops

and

Enjoy Your Freedom

Of all the gifts we could give to a
US soldier, prayer is the very
best one.

Tuesday, July 14

Service Meeting for New Members
Home of Julie Schultz
1810 Overcup Dr, R Rock
RSVP 246-8934 or
amrschultz@yahoo.com
7: 00 PM

Breaking News!

August 15-16!!

"Baby Shower" after all masses
St. William Catholic Church

**See back page of this newsletter for
important information!**

Saturday, August 15

Board Meeting
8:30-11:00 AM
St. Williams RE Bdg, Rm 11

Tuesday, August 18

Fundraising Meeting for
New Members
Home of Wendy Bierschenk
1808 Creek Ledge Pl., R Rock
RSVP 775-9744 or
wenbier@hotmail.com
7:00 PM

Saturday, Sep 19

Board Meeting
8:30-11:00 AM
St. Williams RE Bdg, Rm 11

September 25-26th

2009 NCCS Conference.
DoubleTree Hotel in Bethesda,
Maryland. Registration deadline,
July 15th, 2009. Visit
www.nationalchristchildsoc.org
for more information.

Saturday, Oct 17

Board Meeting
8:30-11:00 AM
St. Williams RE Bdg, Rm 11

Saturday, Oct 24

Layette Assembly & General
Meeting
St. Helen's in Georgetown
Assembly 8:00 AM – Noon
General Meeting 10:00 AM

Saturday, Nov 14

St. William Church Craft Fair
See back page for more info.

In Loving Memory

Eileen "Terri" Boyd



May 4, 1934 - April 17, 2009



View The Layette in patriotic
colors on our website...

www.christchildsofityoftexas.org

Mentor of the Year --



Bob Huelskamp!

CCS of TX Capital Area



Partner of the Year!

Above: Accepting the award Joan Paduano and Ofelia Melendez

Mentor of the Year --



Ardeth Hadley!

Round Rock ISD Recognizes Chapter and Members

Round Rock Independent School District (RRISD) recognizes our Chapter as the 2009 Partner of the Year for Berkman Elementary and two Christ Child Society (CCS) members are selected as Mentors of the Year: **Ardeth Hadley** for Callison Elementary School and **Bob Huelskamp** for Berkman Elementary. Trophies were presented at a region wide ceremony to RRISD volunteers for their contributions to the district during the 2008-2009 school years.

This is the second year Christ Child Society (CCS) members volunteer with the children of parents who attend evening English as a Second Language (ESL) classes at Berkman. Each month teams of two volunteers meet with the children on Mondays from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm teaching the children English, working on crafts, reading books, and learning skills the children will need when they begin school. Each child is given a copy of the monthly book to begin his/her own personal library. The ESL program runs the length of the school year with the exception of September, December, January, and May.

Participating this year in the Berkman evening project are **Mickey Rowland, Joan Paduano, Valerie Melendez, Margaret Escalante, Delia Amaya, Gloria Quezada, Christy Wynn, and Ofelia Melendez.**

When the student **Ardeth Hadley** mentored in the 2007-2008 school year moved to a new school, Callison Elementary, Ardeth decided to follow her mentee in the 2008-2009 school year for continuity. Mentors meet students one day a week during the student's 30 minute lunch period and have the option of working an additional 30 minutes after

lunch on academic needs as determined by the student's teacher. Ardeth states for the upcoming school year, she plans to continue mentoring the same student at Callison Elementary as well as returning to Berkman Elementary to mentor another new student.

Bob Huelskamp completes his second year of mentoring students at Berkman Elementary in which he worked with four different students. Two students moved to other schools and one will move to another school in the coming school year. He enjoys working with the students encouraging them to do well in education. Bob asks the students what they would like to do when they grow up while impressing upon each young man to go on to college. "I look forward to the next year [to mentor other students]," states Bob. In addition to his volunteer service at Berkman Elementary, Bob has also mentored students at Benold Middle School in Georgetown for the last seven years.

Other CCS members who mentor Berkman Elementary students are **Mickey Rowland and Jan Huelskamp.**

Submitted by Ofelia Melendez

This photo taken at the Partners in Education Breakfast.

Ofelia and Joan with their 'Partners'???



Jump on the "Red Wagon"

By Valerie Melendez



In October 2008, our chapter was awarded the Red Wagon Award at Nationals for Berkman Elementary service project. We have been blessed to have so many people contribute to the success of this project. And as we end the second year, we are reaching out to our chapter for assistance. We want you

to jump on the "Red Wagon" and be apart of the Berkman team for the upcoming 2009 - 2010 school year. Here are ways you can help:

- Be a mentor or an after school ESL mentor.
- Be a part of the planning team that puts together the syllabus for the school year. Every month each child is given a book provided by CCS to enhance his or her English skills. Each month has a different book. You can buy books (at least 12) to use for one month. Target has great deals where the books are only \$1.
- Send craft ideas to be incorporated into the syllabus.

We understand not everyone is available to attend the weekly activities at Berkman however if you are able to contribute in one or more of the activities listed above your efforts are greatly appreciated. So what are you waiting for? Be part of the team and jump on the "Red Wagon."

For more information, contact Joan Paduano (512) 639-3071 or Ofelia Melendez (512) 786-4705.



Founder's Day Mass

The annual Founders Day and Memorial Mass was held Tuesday, April 28th at St. Williams Catholic Church with our moderator, **Reverend Joel McNeil**, celebrating. The new members inducted:

Connie Balli	Kay Nelson
Kathy Culpepper	Rebecca Martinez
Rosemary Kennedy	Connie Pence
Betty Fishar	Heidi Shores
Karen Nagel	

The new officers inducted:
 1st Vice President of Service: **Julie Schultz**
 2nd Vice President of Fundraising: **Wendy Bierschenk**

After the Mass, all members and their families went to



for dinner and a social evening.

Submitted by
 Jan Huelskamp



Above: Members present pose with Rev. Joel McNeil in the stunning sanctuary of St. William Catholic Church, Round Rock



Right (l-r): Father Joel with newly inducted members present Connie Pence, Rebecca Martinez, and Karen Nagel.



Right (l-r): Father Joel with newly inducted officers: Julie Schultz (1st Vice Pres/Service) and Wendy Bierschenk (2nd VP/Fundraising)

Layette

The next Layette Assembly will be held Saturday, October 24, 2009, beginning 8:00 am at St. Helen's in Georgetown. Our goal is 200 layettes. Our most urgent needs are listed below:

- 180 bundles of diapers (1 dozen each)
- 75 Blue/Boy Sleepers
- 50 Neutral Sleepers
- 150 Wipes
- 150 Toys/Books
- 175 Handmade (knitted, crocheted, quilted) Blankets

Our plan is to make most of the hooded towels and washcloths we will need. Come to Julie Schultz' home on June 30th, 7 pm, to learn how.

Diane Pier
 Layette Chair

Treasurer

I recently completed the Treasurer's Report for fiscal year 7/1/2008 through 6/30/2009. We did extremely well. In fact, assuming we maintain our current fundraising efforts, I propose we increase our goal of 200 layettes per Assembly to 240. After all, our goal is not to accumulate cash, but to spend it!

Keep up the good work fellow members!

Marsha Green
 Treasurer



Happy B-day!



August

Mary Urbanowski	9 th
Iris Miller	13 th
Lisa Aronson	16 th

September

Valerie Melendez	6 th
Betty Fishar	21 st

O c t o b e r

Linda Allen	1 st
Rebecca Martinez	5 th
Karen Nagel	7 th
Ruth Hlas	8 th
Ardeth Hadley	11 th
Lorraine Schuckman	12 th
Margaret Escalante	14 th
Julie Evans	16 th
Kelley Pargmann	16 th
Nancy Dasso	20 th
Janie Castillo	23 rd
Sandra Larmeu	27 th
Kathy Culpepper	28 th

Service

Get To Know Julie Schultz

I am the new First Vice-President for Service for the Christ Child Society. I was born and grew up in Edinburg, Texas in the Rio Grande Valley. I graduated from Texas A&M University with a degree in Industrial Engineering in 1986. I worked as a programmer consultant and traveled all over the country for several years.

In 1990, while on one of my consultant jobs in Ingleside, Texas, I met Sam Schultz. He is originally from Sioux Falls, South Dakota and the eighth of nine children from a mid-west Catholic family. I went through the RCIA program at the Corpus Christi Cathedral prior to our marriage. We were married in September 1992 at the tiny Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church on North Beach in Corpus Christi – near the aquarium and USS Lexington.

We moved to Round Rock in 1996 when Sam transferred from the Aransas Pass Hospital to Round Rock Hospital to be the Controller. He is now the CFO for Georgetown Healthcare Foundation.

We have three children: Andy, a freshman at Round Rock High School with

basketball aspirations, he is already 5' 10" at 14 and lives and breathes basketball. Mike is in 8th grade at Walsh Middle School running cross country and track and hoping to play basketball if he can stay out of a cast this year. Rachel, our baby and only girl, will be in 5th grade at Old Town Elementary. She is our artsy-crafty girl – loves to draw, swim, and sing in the school choir.

I have been a stay-at-home mom for 14 years now. I volunteer at Old Town – working in the library, teaching Math Pentathlon games, and tutoring, I also teach a 3rd grade RE class at St. John Vianney Catholic Church.

I have been a member of the Christ Child Society for one year. I was invited to the new member tea by my special friend, Mickey Rowland. We met in the water aerobics classes at Clay Madsen Recreation Center.

As the new VP-Service, I look forward to serving the Christ Child Society in new ways. I hope we can continue to expand the ways our CCS serves the needs of children in our area in the spirit and vision of Mary Virginia Merrick.

Service

Incoming CCS members are asked to continue the Hygiene Packet project started by the 2007 CCS new members. Members collect and assemble packets containing travel size shampoos, conditioners, lotion, bars of soap, toothpaste and toothbrush, deodorants, combs or brushes. These packets are distributed by the school nurse at Berkman Elementary to fourth and fifth grade students when speaking with them about the importance of good hygiene.

The next assembly will be after school starts in September. Our goal is about 150 packets depending

upon the number of students in 5th and 4th grades. So far, we have the following donations:

69 homemade bags	39 conditioners
50 combs	66 shampoos
27 shower gels	57 girl deodorants
165 toothbrushes	62 boy deodorants
17 toothpastes	>250 soaps
91 lotions	

Please remember to save items from your summer travels!

Julie Schultz
1st Vice President/Service



WE THANK YOU!!!

Marie O'Neill, Georgetown, TX – 10 crocheted blankets
Kolache Group, Georgetown, TX – \$700
Msgr. Louis Pavilcek (St Helen's), Georgetown, TX – Use of Parish Hall
Chaparral Women's Club, Round Rock, TX – \$1.100 Grant
Pedernales Electric Cooperative /Stephen & Melissa Galban, Marble Falls, TX – monetary gift

Donations received in memory of **Terri Boyd**:

Earl & Jenell Joseph, Gilroy, CA
Eric & Ruth Werts, Vancouver, WA
Mary Allene Shelton, Georgetown, TX
Elba S. Ramos, Georgetown, TX
Dorothea King, Georgetown, TX
Cheryl White, Georgetown, TX
Tom & Linda Boyd, Torrington, CT
ING Americas - Life Applications Team (Sallie Graves), Atlanta, GA
Richard & Claudia Herlein, Vancouver, WA

Membership

The new members, and some of the board members, will have a series of meetings to better acquaint themselves with our organization and each other:

Tues., June 16th: Layettes and Bereavement at home of **Jan Huelskamp**
Tues., July 14th: Service at home of **Julie Schultz**
Tues., Aug. 18th: Fundraising at home of **Wendy Bierschenk**

Changes and additions to the roster:

Add: **Susan Longley**, 1108 Hillcrest Dr.,
Euleless, TX 76039
susanlongley@sbcglobal.net

Change: **Kay Nelson**, 759 Shard Ct.,
Fremont, CA 94539

Ada Grapes moves to contributing member.

Jan Huelskamp
Membership

Fundraising

Baby Shower

Christ Child Society will be having a parish baby shower at St. William Catholic Church on August 15th-16th to benefit our upcoming layette. Parishioners will drop-off donations after each mass. The event will be announced in the bulletin, and we are looking for volunteers to man the table after each of the following masses.

Saturday the 15th

8:30 a.m. – Spanish

5:00 p.m. – English

Sunday the 16th

7:30 a.m. - Spanish

11:30 a.m. - English

1:30 p.m. - Spanish

5:00 p.m. – English

7:00 p.m. - Spanish

Anyone able to volunteer after a mass please email or call **Wendy Bierschenk**, wembier@hotmail.com, 512-775-9744

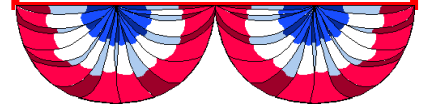
Calling all Crafters

Christ Child Society is planning to purchase a table at the St. William Craft Fair, the 2nd Saturday of November. All items sold should be handmade and proceeds will benefit the Christ Child Society. We are in need of volunteers the day of the event and donations of handcrafted items to sell. Donors are encouraged to use their creativity in crafting their items. Donations include but are not limited to blankets, clothing and jewelry. Call or email **Wendy Bierschenk** for more information or to volunteer for the craft fair.

Wendy Bierschenk
Second Vice President-Fundraising

Prayer

Lord, thank you for our dedicated soldiers. Bless them and bring them home safely. Lord, this is a great country. Thank you for putting us here. Help us to keep America strong. Bless the renewal of faith and religion in this country so that generations unborn may be born into homes where they will be introduced to the Bible, to God, to Jesus Christ, and to the Ten Commandments. Then America's foundation will be solid for millenniums to come. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.



Life is full of bitterness, but keep your
heart light and your mind cheerful.
Fight the good fight to the end.
--Mary Virginia Merrick

