



THE CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY

May 2014

308 South Scott Street, P.O. Box 1286, South Bend, In 46624 (574) 288-6028 (fax) 288-4282 (e-mail) officer@christchildsb.org

Mission Statement

The South Bend Chapter of The Christ Child Society is a not-for-profit organization of volunteers dedicated to the personal service and clothing of all needy children and infants in the love and spirit of the Christ Child.

What Does National Do for Us? - Judy Kuzmich President

Many members are not aware of what our National Office of Christ Child Society does for each individual chapter. Since membership renewal letters have gone out with the National dues included with our Chapter membership, I thought I should shed some light on what they do for all Christ Child chapters.

National is run by a Board of Directors comprised of 12 volunteers who not only donate their time and talent, but also the majority of their business expenses. The budget for the National Office is presented, discussed and approved by the chapters at the annual business meeting. The National Office is a lean operation with two staff members, a bookkeeping service and a small office. The staff is part-time without medical, dental or retirement benefits. The National Office prepares newsletters to enhance national awareness, pays for brochures to be used in layettes, pays part of the cost for every conference/convention, works on developing programs and best practices, and spends a lot of its time talking to chapters to provide necessary guidance and to ensure quality control is maintained. To do all of that on \$32 assessment (\$12 for dues and \$20 for chapter support) per member is a very tight budget.

NCCS serves and supports all 43 chapters across the country so that the chapters can more effectively serve the children in need in their communities. They work to ensure that the high quality standards established by our founder, Mary Virginia Merrick, over 125 years ago are maintained and that our chapters remain mission-focused and dedicated to serving children in need for love of the Christ Child. They assist the chapters with program creation and evaluation, provide consultative support to chapters on financial, legal and governance issues, work on expansion opportunities and assist with new chapter formation.

Hopefully this will shed a little on where your \$32 given yearly to the National Office of The Christ Child helps benefit each chapter across the USA. We may not always see the work they are doing for us, but they do help each chapter continue to do the work that our founder Mary Virginia Merrick started so long ago.

Executive Board

- President: Judy Kuzmich
- President Elect: Peg Riggs
- Vice President (Fundraising): Judy Burmeister
- Vice President (Membership): Anne Choinacky
- Vice President (Clothing): Sue Walsh
- Recording Secretary: Jean Fuehrmeyer
- Corresponding Secretary: Marie Burt
- Treasurer: Pat Hillebrand

CALENDAR

- May 7,14,21,28 Restock/ Inventory Center 9:00 AM
- May 14..... New Member Coffee Center 9:30 AM
- May 15..... Membership Renewal Deadline
- May 19..... Board Meeting Center 9:00 AM
- May 21..... In Memoriam Mass St. Patrick's 12:15 PM



Happy faces at the spring luncheon meeting: Beth Barrett, Sue Seall, Linda Brammer and Donna Kyle.

From the President Judy Kuzmich

*Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap
but by the seeds that you plant.*

Happy May Day. The snow is gone (hopefully) and we welcome the spring flowers, the birds who have been on vacation to warmer climates and the green, green grass of home. All you snow birds should be back in Indiana by now and are looking forward to spring planting and enjoying times outside.

A big thank you to Carol Holt and Sheila Emge for chairing the March luncheon and Mass with our Bishop Rhoades. Mass with the Sisters of the Holy Cross was very special and the luncheon at Gillespie was enjoyed by all. Each table had a vase of spring flowers which was a welcome sight after this long winter. Thanks to Kathleen Lawton and her daughter Kathy for making each table so welcoming. It was a great chance to socialize with some of our members who are not at the Center each week.

Our New Member Coffee is May 14th at the Center, and you still have time to invite a friend you think would enjoy being a Christ Child member. Kristy Botich will send them an invite with details if you contact her at 291-7523 or wbotich@sbcglobal.net. Our renewal letters have been mailed and our members have answered the call of sending in the amount that includes our responsibility to National Christ Child. Please read the separate article on National Christ Child and how we work together to help all chapters.

Electronic Newsletters

It is membership renewal time and the form you received asked if you would like to receive your monthly newsletter by email or U.S. Post Office delivery. If you have more than one mailing address, please consider receiving your newsletter by email. Each month our treasury is charged between \$12 and \$15 for newsletters that are returned and cannot be forwarded to another address. If we could print fewer letters for mailing and not pay postage for mail returned, it would save our treasury from \$25 to \$50 each month.

Please give it some thought when renewing your membership and check "receive by email." This would cut our annual costs enough to clothe many children.

Notre Dame Project This Month

Volunteers are needed for a Notre Dame project, a two-day commitment at the Notre Dame bookstore that earns our Christ Child \$500. This year it's scheduled on Thursday, May 15, and Friday, May 16.

Volunteers work three-hour shifts handing out surveys to Notre Dame graduates who must complete a future plans survey in order to get tickets and cap and gown for graduation. Christ Child volunteers direct the graduates to the surveys, to the area they where they can complete and turn them in, then to the line for their tickets and cap and gown. No heavy labor! It is a very easy way to work with a buddy or two or three and earn money for Christ Child. Shifts available on Thursday are 1-4 and 4-7 and on Friday 9:30-12, 12-2:30, and 2:30-5.

Volunteers should email or call Peg Riggs at pegriggs1yahoo.com or 271-9971 to sign up for a shift.



May

- 1 Mary Behrens
- 1 Mary Liddell
- 2 Anne Black
- 2 Joanne Kurapka
- 3 Eileen Balestri
- 4 Nancy Brothers
- 4 Mary Jane Trant
- 4 Patricia Richard
- 7 Jean Granfield
- 7 Joanne Gans
- 8 Joan Jaworski
- 8 Janet Eggleston
- 11 Katherine Fulnecky
- 12 Marlene Howland
- 14 Gratia Eades
- 14 Mary Andrzejewski
- 17 Kay Houser
- 18 Catherine Smith
- 18 Janet Matthys
- 20 Jo Ann Romeo-Barcome
- 21 Alice Cleppe
- 21 Jean Vavul
- 21 Michelle Mikula
- 21 Mary Anne Retseck
- 22 Polly DeCicco
- 23 Patricia Nahas
- 23 Angie Faccenda
- 25 Carol Greider
- 25 Claire Hayes
- 25 Mary Kay Bean
- 27 Mary Ellen Brennan
- 28 Diane Quinn
- 29 Julie Considine
- 29 Joanne Van Avermaete
- 30 Maureen Korros

Book Club

The Postmistress

by Sarah Blake

May 21

Mary Ann McTigue (259-9390)

Deadline for next newsletter
May 19

Ann Korb (277-6443) ack339@aol.com

Gifts and Memorials

The beautiful Gold Christ Child Remembrance Card is a convenient way to send donations in any amount to the Christ Child Society, as an In Memoriam or in recognition of a special occasion or accomplishment. A donation can be made in memory of deceased friends or relatives who will also be remembered in a perpetual monthly Mass. The card also makes it possible to celebrate happy occasions such as birthdays and anniversaries in the same way. When requesting a Remembrance Card, members are asked to print legibly since the names will be printed in each newsletter with the donor's name in parentheses. Extra cards are available in the office or from Joan Hardig (277-7787)

In Memoriam:

Thomas Lew Burkhart (Winnie VandenBossche)
 Dorothy Chartier (William/Marian Bickel)
 Greg Conery (Joe/Marie Burt)
 Bernard P. Czerwinski (Marijo Martinec, Otto/Marlene Martinec)
 Carolyn (Snookie) Ehlert (Ed/Joan Hardig)
 Jean Fairbanks (Tom/Mary Wisniewski)
 Joseph Garrett (Bill Killilea)
 Geneva M. Haskell (Loretta Chillag)
 Sandy Hilbish (Marcia/Tom Blum)
 Anne Jordanich (Tom/Judy Burmeister, Joe/Pat Corcoran)
 Noel Kindt (James/Nancy Yohe)
 Donald Lohr (Winnie VandenBossche, JoAnn Axelberg, Dr. John/Marilyn Toepp)
 Carole McComas (Barbara/Al Szewczyk, Anthony/Leone Michel)
 Rosemary Sheehan (Kathryn Screes, Rosemary Herzog)
 Karen Smith's brother (Marcia/Tom Blum)
 Audrey Stebbins (Julie W. Considine)
 Frank Stumpf (Barbara Dillon)
 Peter Veldman (Esther Cyr, Laurance/Julann Bauer, Carol Bauer, Nancy/Jack Pycik)
 Kenny Zuehl (Winnie VandenBossche)

Special Occasion:

Joann Bauer – Happy Birthday (Laurence/Julann Bauer)
 Marguerite Koch – 92nd Birthday (Elizabeth E. Goeller)
 Rev. Jarrod Waugh CSC and Rev. Neil Wack CSC – Thank you for your priesthood (Esther Cyr)
 Dot Wiekamp – 100th Birthday (Jerry/ Judy Kearns)
 Suzanne Wiwi – For complete recovery (Dr/Mrs John Toepp)

Clothe-A-Child Donors

(March 16, 2014-April 21, 2014)

Marc and Linda Brammer

Gary and Louise Corpora In Honor of John and Kathy Seidl

Mother's Day/Father's Day:

Jim and Betsy Cooke in Memory of Dorothy Miller
 Patrick and Bette O'Malley in Memory of Catherine Sullivan
 Patrick and Bette O'Malley in Memory of Helen O'Malley
 Patrick and Bette O'Malley in Memory of William Sullivan
 Patrick and Bette O'Malley in Memory of Patrick O'Malley
 James and Jean Wenke in Memory of Wilma Schermerhorn
 Jim and Jan Williams in Memory of Mary Ann Williams

New Member Coffee

May 14, 9:30 AM, Bethany Room, Center

History of national and local Christ Child societies
 Tour of the Center
 Meet current members
 Opportunities for volunteers
 Coffee, pastries

Contact Kristy Botich, 291-7523, or wbotich@abcgloral.net for personal invitations to perspective members

Thank You to Layettes of Hope

"I just saw the layettes that were delivered earlier today! Thank you so much! The counselors and clients were commenting on how cute they are. Thank you so much! I hope you and your volunteers know how much these 'gifts' mean to a young mom who is just being told she is pregnant. The joy and appreciation we see in their faces and (those of) the new dads is really awesome! Thank you for helping us help new moms and dads fall in love with their babies!

Ellen Sommer
 Women's Care Center

WANTED

A member or members interested in assisting in distributing newsletters. No experience necessary; on-the-job training available. Labels, newsletters and supplies delivered to you. Time commitment is three hours a month, excepting July and December. Work can be done in your home. Compensation is the joy in knowing you are responsible for sending out newsletters to more than 200 members and donors. Please contact Peg Riggs 271-9971 or pegriggs1@yahoo.com if interested.



At the spring luncheon Kay Houser and Anne Choinacky show the membership items that are included in a layette: receiving blankets, onesies, socks, bottles, "Goodnight Moon" and other articles of clothing for the new baby.

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY
P.O. Box 1286
South Bend, Indiana 46624



NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SOUTH BEND, IN
Permit No. 239

Return Service Requested

Happy Mother's Day Happy Father's Day

Do you want a special way to honor your parent or a special person in your life, living or deceased? A donation to the Christ Child Society of South Bend would help provide a layette for a newborn baby or help clothe a young child. A note will be sent to the recipient acknowledging your gift.*

(Her/His) Name _____ In Memory of _____

Address _____ In Honor of _____

City/State/Zip _____

Given by: _____

Please send your check in any amount to:

Happy Mother's/Father's Day

Christ Child Society, P.O. Box 1286, South Bend, IN 46624

*Check here if you want the special person notified of your gift. _____