



CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

The Angelus

Pennsylvania State Court

Peggy Witas, Pennsylvania State Regent

Volume VII - Issue 1

Taste and See the Goodness of the Lord

Summer 2017

State Officers 2015-17

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Message from Peggy Witas, State Regent

Greetings PA Catholic Daughters,

I am humbled to be elected as your new State Regent. The theme I have chosen is, "*Taste and See the Goodness of the Lord.*" As with food, some salty, some bitter, some sweet, so are the challenges and rewards of being a member of the CDA. Sometimes, things are going well and the taste is sweet; other times when we struggle to get members and are challenged by court issues, the taste is bitter. Sometimes, when we get energized by speakers or new members, we get a little taste of salt for flavor. Although my theme is "taste and see," I will, in the future, address other senses that we should use to enable our PA CDA to be re-energized and get new members as well as new courts, senior courts, campus courts and JCDA courts.

If I, or any of the newly-elected state officers, as well as the district deputies, can be of assistance to your courts, please let me know. We are here to serve you.

Peggy Witas, State Regent Elect



In Unity  and Charity

It was certainly an honor to serve you, the Pennsylvania membership, as your head honcho these past four years. I enjoyed working for you, and I thank you for your support.

During my term of office, we had instituted one Campus Court, and we came close to starting a JCDA court. We will keep working on this. Many courts started an honor guard for deceased members and distinguished themselves with a CDA sash. I am sorry to say that four courts disbanded over this time. I encourage all courts to actively strive to get members.



Thank you for all your invitations to special events. I have enjoyed travelling across the state, sharing in your special occasions and meeting many new members.

"May God Always Hold You in the Palm of His Hand."

Peggy Guckin, Immediate Past State Regent and National Director

CDA Mission Statement

Catholic Daughters of the Americas strives to embrace the principle of faith working through love in the promotion of justice, equality and the advancement of human rights and human dignity for all.

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Newsletter Schedule Quarterly Publications

Fall: September-November
Winter: December-February
Spring: March-May
Summer: June-August

Submission Deadlines

Fall: August 1
Winter: November 1
Spring: February 1
Summer: May 1

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State Parliamentarian, District Deputy Our Lady of the Alleghenies #1755, Hollidaysburg Honored on Patricia M. Gildea Day!



Photo by Al Levine

To honor Pat Gildea on her 90th birthday, the Hollidaysburg Borough Council proclaimed May 13 as Patricia M. Gildea Day in recognition of her service to the borough and to Blair County. Councilmember Joe Dodson read the proclamation at a surprise party for Gildea on May 13 at The Casino at Lakemont Park, Altoona.

—Altoona Mirror, May 17, 2017

Lottery Calendars

I would like to thank all the courts, members, family and friends who have purchased a 2017–2018 Lottery Calendar. There are still calendars available. If you are interested, contact me or any State Officer. Remember, the sale of these calendars helps to keep our dues down.

—Peggy Guckin, phone: 215-570-3574

Announcement From SOAR – Save Our Aging Religious

The Board of Directors of SOAR has recently announced a new award for volunteer service which will be presented at the annual dinner for SOAR in New York City on September 28, 2017. Congratulations to Helene Shepard who will be the inaugural recipient of the Dorothy Day Service Award.



CDA Philadelphia Diocese honors Colette McCaffrey as newly-elected State Treasurer
Peggy Guckin, Colette, Marlene Duley



Court Chatter

ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN DIOCESE

Court St. Joan of Arc #716, Cresson, Celebrates 95 years

National First Vice Regent Sherry Nilles, joins Peggy Guckin, National Director and State Regent, Shirley Hall, First Vice State Regent-Elect and Margaret Giordano, Second Vice State Regent; Mary Jo Fitzsimmons, Regent; Dot DeAngelo, Vice Regent; Patrica Nagy, Recording Secretary; Monna George, Treasurer; Father Arnone; Father Robine; Monsignor Pryzbocki; Charter Members: Barb Stack; Renee Pettenati; Catherine Iappalucci; Carol Luther; Helen Wright; Ethel Smilnak; banner bearer, Lillian Repko; Sandy Inzana, District Deputy. Members in attendance are from Courts Our Lady #647, Ebensburg #680, Our Lady of Victory #722, Our Lady of the Alleghenies #1755 and Blessed Madonna #2521.



Court St. Rita #523, Tyrone, Orientation Session at May Meeting



Members of Court St. Rita #523, Tyrone, enjoyed an Orientation Session as part of their May meeting. Approximately 40 members attended this much-advertised event and are either fairly new to the court or are members wanting a refresher as to the workings of CDA. Presenters for this "session" were Janet Oesterling, State Membership Chair; Pat Gildea, State Parliamentarian; Shirley Hall, 2nd Vice State Regent and Susan Sharer, of the State Membership Team. Court members were very appreciative of the information presented to them and hoped that all courts would have this opportunity to "refresh."

Court Chatter contd.

ERIE DIOCESE

Presentation of Court Columbia #2, Meadville "Catholic Daughter of the Year" Award

Pat Say has been our Cheer Chairman for 36 years. She sends messages of cheer, hope, love and prayers to our members and their families. Our thanks and congratulations to Pat for a job well done!



Left to right: Phyllis Vrobel, Regent, Pat Say, Recipient and Mary Ann Cochran, Vice Regent

GREENSBURG DIOCESE

Court Lambing #314, Scottsdale Celebrates 100th Anniversary



Dolores Glowacki, Regent, receives 100th Anniversary Plaque on behalf of the National Board, from Sherry Nilles, 1st Vice National Regent and Pennsylvania National Representative.

HARRISBURG DIOCESE

Court Our Lady of Victory #588, Mt. Carmel

Students from Our Lady of Lourdes Regional School participated in the Art Division of the 2017 Education Contest, sponsored by the Catholic Daughters of the Americas', PA Court Our Lady of Victory #588. The theme of the Art Contest was "Whatsoever you do for the least of my brethren, you do for me." —Matthew 25:40



Front row, left to right: Division 2 (8th grade): Sarah Strouse, 3rd place; Robert Scalia, 2nd place; Mariah Sullivan, 1st place; Division 1 (5th grade): Liela Bellis, 3rd place; Paityn Moyer, 2nd place; Bryn Strausser, 1st place; Back row, left to right: Deacon Martin McCarthy, Principal; Mary Catherine Wydra, Court Treasurer and Education Contest Chairperson; Matthew Leavens, Art teacher and Mary J. Snyder, Court Regent



Winners of Division 3 (10th & 11th grades): Carly Jurasich, 3rd place; Giavanna Candelora, 2nd place; Sierra Coleman, 1st place
Back row (as identified above): Deacon McCarthy, Mary Wydra, Matthew Leavens, Mary Snyder

Seniors from Mount Carmel High School participated in the Essay Division of the CDA Education Contest. The theme for the essay portion of the contest was "Helping the Needy Where I Live."



Left to right: Kathy Schauer, English department Chair; Sara Parker, 1st place; Marissa Kleman, 2nd place; Mary J. Snyder, Court Regent and Mary Catherine Wydra, Court Treasurer and Education Contest Chairperson. Not photographed: Sierra Gratti, 3rd place winner

Message from State Chaplain

Dear Catholic Daughters and Friends,

On Sunday, June 18th, we will celebrate The Solemnity of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ—many of us know this feast by its traditional name: Corpus Christi. As we prepare to celebrate this most magnificent feast of our faith, I thought it would be appropriate to share with you some circumstances of an extraordinary occurrence that took place in the 1990s in South America.

On Sunday, August 18, 1996, in Saint Mary's Church, in the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina, the parish priest was informed by a parishioner of a sacred Host that had been anonymously discarded in the back of the church by a communicant.

Father Alexandro retrieved the sacred Host and (is the practice in circumstances such as this) placed the Eucharist in a container of water and placed it in the tabernacle. His intention was to dissolve the Eucharist and place the remnants in the ground. However, a week after placing the Host in the water, Father Alexandro was amazed to find that the Host had not dissolved at all, but rather had turned to—what seemed to be—a bloody substance.

Father Alexandro immediately informed an auxiliary bishop of the diocese of this event; the bishop instructed the priest to have the substance professionally photographed and further instructed the priest that he should tell no one about these circumstances.

The photos revealed that the Host had become a fragment of bloody flesh and had grown significantly in size from the original shape of the sacred Host.

For several years, the Host was quietly reserved in the tabernacle of the parish church, with instructions from the bishop that no one was to be told of these circumstances. After several years, the Host did not deteriorate, nor change its appearance or shape.

Three years after the original discovery of the Host, the auxiliary bishop initially involved in the case had now been named the Archbishop of Buenos Aires, and now, Archbishop Bergoglio (who was elected Pope Francis in March 2013) wanted the substance to be professionally examined.

On October 5, 1999, the renowned Argentinian doctor, Dr. Richard Castanon, was permitted to take a small piece of the substance to New York City for examination. Dr. Frederick Zugabe of New York (at the time, one of the most respected cardiologists in New York) was invited to examine the substance. After his examination, Dr. Zugabe stated that the substance was real flesh and blood containing human DNA. The doctor went on to explain that the substance was a piece of a heart muscle that is found in the left ventricle—it is a piece of the heart muscle that gives the heart its beat and the body its life. Dr. Zugabe went on to state that the substance was infiltrated with white blood cells; the presence of the white blood cells, the doctor stated, indicated two facts: firstly, that the heart was alive at the time the sample was taken; and secondly, the person from whom the sample was taken was beaten severely around the chest.

The two men who had accompanied the sample from Argentina knew where the sample came from; and they were stunned and speechless as they heard Dr. Zugabe's analysis, since they knew that Dr. Zugabe was not informed of the origin of the sample. The two men asked the doctor: how long would the white blood cells have stayed alive if this sample was preserved in water? The doctor assured them the white blood cells would have only lived a few minutes in water.

When they informed Dr. Zugabe that the specimen had been kept in water for over three years, the doctor was at a complete loss of words to explain it. Then the two men explained to the doctor that the specimen was actually taken from a consecrated Host that had turned to the bloody substance three years before it was brought to New York City. Dr. Zugabe assured them he was at a loss to explain this; the doctor assured them that there is no way to explain the substance scientifically!

After the results from the New York examination were conveyed back to Buenos Aires, one of the doctors in Argentina, who had heard some details of another Eucharistic Miracle, sought to compare the results of the "Buenos Aires Eucharistic miracle" with information from another Eucharistic Miracle that took place 1200 years before in Lanciano, Italy. When information from the "Buenos Aires Miracle" was compared with information from the "Lanciano Miracle," some amazing details were discovered: The two different specimens—separated by seven hundred years and thousands of miles—seemed to be taken from the same person! Both samples contained the same blood type: "AB+"; both samples are characteristic of a man who was born and lived in the Middle East; and

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Jan Davidsz. de Heem - 1606-1684

Eucharist in Fruit Wreath

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State Convention '17



State Officers taking a break before Convention



Opening Mass—Celebrants Fr. Frank Kawacki, Pastor Our Lady of Mt. Carmel & Chaplain #588; Fr. Timothy O'Sullivan, State Chaplain and Fr. D. Timothy Grimme, Immed. Past State Chaplain with Officers Margaret Giordano, Peg Witas, Rose Holschlag, Peggy Guckin, Shirley Hall, Sr. Mary Paul, NJ State Treasurer and Lisa McCann



Banner



Color Guard



Pat Gildea



K of C Honor Guard



State Choir



Woman of the Year - Congratulations, Letty Calvetti!



*Presentation to Rosemarie Faller, State Organist, for over 20 years
Margaret, Shirley, Peggy, Peg Rosemarie, Lisa*



Convention Roast: Peggy, Shirley, Margaret, Peg, Lisa



Rose Holschlag, National Representative



State Officers, District Deputies and State Chairmen

Highlights of the 52nd Biennial Pennsylvania State Convention

THE BEST State CONVENTION Ever!

My Dear Members,

WOW! Thank you to all who participated in our 52nd Biennial State Convention! Our Opening Mass was on Friday, April 28th at St. Joseph Church. Con-celebrants were: Fr. Timothy O'Sullivan, State Chaplain, Fr. D. Timothy Grimme, Immediate Past State Chaplain and Rev. Francis J. Karwacki, Pastor and Chaplain of Court Our Lady of Victory #588. Dinner followed with entertainment by the singing group, "Lift Up Your Spirits," of which several members are CDA from Court #588. The State Officers then honored Rosemarie Fallor for her time and talents as State Organist for over twenty years. We then heard from Sr. Mary Paul, DM our keynote speaker. Sister spoke about Benjie, a dog which the sisters of the convent took in.

Saturday morning, we had an early Mass, con-celebrated by Fr. O'Sullivan and Fr. Grimme. After breakfast, we had opening ceremonies—the Color Guard led the way to open our 52nd Biennial State Convention; escorted in were past state officers, then current state officers, and Rose Holschlag, National Representative for this Convention. I opened with a prayer, and Johanna Leonard led us in *The Star Spangled Banner* and our *Opening Ode*. After introducing the head table, I had the pleasure of introducing Laraine McGinnis, Past State Regent and Letty Calvetti, Past State Regent and Past 2nd Vice National Regent. I thanked them for their continued giving of time and talents to CDA. Rose Holschlag gave a welcome to the Convention body.

Mary Catherine Wydra, Nominating Chair, reported on the slate of officers for the term 2017-2019: Peggy Witas, State Regent; open slate: 1st Vice; Margaret Giordano - 2nd Vice; Lisa McCann, State Secretary and Colette McCaffrey, State Treasurer. Shirley Hall was nominated from the floor for the office of 1st Vice State Regent. There were no other nominations for state officers and a voice vote was taken.

We had a Memorial Service remembering all our members who were deceased in the last two years.

On Saturday evening, the members enjoyed a cook-out and were entertained by Mike the One-Man Band. I was truly surprised when Shirley needed to talk to me and insisted on doing it up on the dais where it turned out they were going to roast me. One of the highlights was the presentation by state officers who gave me a Past State Regent ring. I will be acknowledging the members and the courts who presented. I can't thank you enough for your kindness to me.

The following names were elected on Sunday for the 2019 Nominating Committee: Lynn Kelly, Philadelphia,

Chairman; Theresa Shields, New Kensington; Kathleen Peeler, Mt. Carmel; Sue Kelly, Meadville; Christina Seese, Turtle Creek. Alternates: Lisa Gehret, Tyrone; Sandy Inzana, Ebensburg and Mary Ann Voystock, Philadelphia.

Following a continental breakfast, the State Officers and National Director, Rose, had a crowning ceremony for the Blessed Mother; we entered the convention room while the choir sang. We followed up with a Robe Ceremony where we passed our robes to the incoming officers. I felt it was very impressive and sentimental. Various reports were given during the Convention, and we had a presentation from Pat Gildea, Parliamentarian, who also invigorated us with two of her warm-ups. We heard messages from Past State Regents, Letty Calvetti

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Harrisburg Delegation



Philadelphia Delegation



Pittsburgh Delegation; sitting: Rich and Peg Witas; Peg's mother, Mercedes Rafferty, and Laraine McGinnis, Past State Regent



2019 Nominating Committee: Alternates: Mary Ann Voystock, Philadelphia; Sandy Inzana, Ebensburg; (Pam Callahan, Bellefonte); Lisa Gehret, Tyrone; Christina Seese, Turtle Creek; Sue Kelly, Meadville; Kathleen Peeler, Mt. Carmel; Theresa Shields, New Kensington; Lynn Kelly, Philadelphia, Nominating Chairman

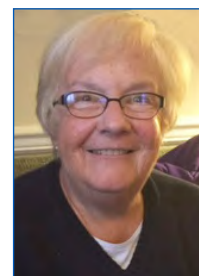


New State Officers: Lisa McCann, State Secretary-Elect; Rose Holschlag, Peggy Witas, State Regent-Elect; Shirley Hall, 1st Vice State Regent-Elect; Margaret Giordano, 2nd Vice State Regent-Elect; Colette McCaffrey, State Treasurer-Elect

Excerpts from a Communication Workshop presented at State Convention 2017

- 1) Why did we become Catholic Daughters? Someone, somewhere, **COMMUNICATED** to us an idea/thought that was of interest to us.
- 2) Once we became a member, **COMMUNICATION** continued (and still does today) as we learn of the workings of our Court and of changes that take place within the State and National CDA.
- 3) What forms of **COMMUNICATION** do we use?—speaking face to face, telephone, email, texting and, yes, even Facebook.
- 4) In joining Catholic Daughters, we were asked for our NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE # and possibly an email address. Courts will then use these means to **COMMUNICATE** with us:
 - ◆ To request your help in a court event
 - ◆ To let you know if someone needs prayers, etc.
 - ◆ To pass along info from last meeting
 - ◆ To inquire why we haven't seen you in a while
- 5) If you are an officer, the same is true for **COMMUNICATING** with your members.
- 6) What happens when we use one of the above-mentioned means of **COMMUNICATING** and you **DON'T** reply to us? Now, a **busy person**, trying to get in touch with us, has to keep trying.
- 7) When we are asked to **COMMUNICATE** to certain requests, do we follow the instructions?
 - ◆ Financial Review
 - ◆ Court Officer Lists
 - ◆ Anniversaries – RSVP
 - ◆ Diocesan Meetings
 - ◆ Conventions
- 8) Perhaps it may be time to transform your **COMMUNICATION SKILLS!!!** It is a lifeline for what we do as Catholic Daughters. A simple reply of **"thank you," "OK"** will at least acknowledge that you have heard from the sender.

— Shirley Hall, 1st Vice State Regent-Elect



Replying to a Communication

How can we get you to Answer?
Do it right away, don't wait....



More Convention '17 Highlights

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and Laraine McGinnis. Shirley Hall gave us a message from Margaret Novak, Immediate Past State Regent, who is recuperating from her illnesses. Please keep her in your prayers. Rose Holschlag presented her message on behalf of National.

I announced the District Deputies and State Chairman, thanking them for all they have done.

State Chairmen gave their reports on the Circle of Love. Shirley Hall gave out membership awards to courts that had taken in the most members in the last two years,



Officers and Members at Mass



Crowning Our Blessed Mother



Peg Witas, State Regent-Elect, coming into Installation Banquet

Peg Witas, Regent Elect, gave a message; her theme for the next two years is "Taste and See the Goodness of the Lord."

Margaret Giordano gave the Registration Report: Courts 37, National Representative 1, State Officers 5, Past State Regents 2, Delegates 99, Alternates and Members 16, guests - priests - 2, for a total of 125 attendees. We had a closing prayer, and sang the *Closing Ode* and retired the flags.

Installation Mass was celebrated by Fr. Grimme at St. Joseph Church. Afterwards, at the banquet, I announced the Woman of the Year; the State Officers were proud to present this award to Letty Calvetti. Finally, I called on each of the newly-elected officers to say a few words.

On Monday, there was a Patriotic Mass for God and Country and for all to return home safely. After breakfast, there was a mini-workshop presented by Shirley, Margaret and Peg on communication, financial review and team building, respectively.

I would like to thank Fr. O'Sullivan for his support and guidance and for celebrating our Friday and Saturday Masses, Fr. Grimme for celebrating our monthly Spiritual Intentions Masses and Convention Masses, Sherry Nilles for her support, my fellow state officers Peg, Shirley, Margaret and Lisa—you are the best. I would also like to thank Pat Gildea and Rose Holschlag for their guidance and help in making the Convention run smoothly, and you, the members, who came to the Convention. Thanks, too, anyone who helped make this the best-ever State Convention. Special thanks to all the courts who took an ad for our Convention program and/or a donation for our tombola table.

I wish the new board—Peg, Shirley, Margaret, Lisa and the newbie Colette—much happiness as you *Serve the Lord with Gladness*.

Don't forget to share the information you have learned with your court members.

I will miss the board, but please know that I am available if you need me. Keep me in your prayers as I continue my journey as National Director, *Serving the Lord with Gladness*.

—Peggy Guckin, Immediate Past State Regent 2013 – 2017



Lynne Kelly, Regent #2222, escorts Colette McCaffrey, State Treasurer-Elect



Opening Ceremonies - Pennsylvania 52nd Biennial State Convention



Lisa McCann, State Secretary-Elect, is escorted by Christina Seese, Regent #759



Pat Gildea #1755 escorts long-time friend Shirley Hall, First Vice State Regent-Elect



Nicole Kreider, daughter & officer #1023, escorting her mother, Margaret Giordano, Second Vice State Regent-Elect



This is one thing we do best!



Fun Night! Dancing with Mike

COURT DONATIONS



I remain amazed at the power of our Unity and Charity. It is an honor to be part of this team that records and submits your donations across the world. In my last four years as your State Treasurer, I have processed thousands of dollars of courts' and individual's donations. Also in the past four years, I have been surprised that our bank has accepted some checks in the manner in which they were made payable. In my new position as your State Secretary, I will now be the first officer to receive all your checks for most every purpose.

Checks will be returned to court regents that are written payable to anything BUT – CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS or simply CDA. We have received checks written payable to CDA National Projects, CDA General Fund, State Court and, the most incorrect, a state officer's name. The same holds true when sending payment to the National Office for your semi-annual dues. **All checks are to be made payable to: CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS.** Our bank accounts read this way and no other. Use the memo line on your checks for a brief explanation for the purpose of the check.

The Donation Form

As you know, with the change of State Officers, the donation form is changed to reflect my address as the new State Secretary. You will find the new form on the State website. The second **major change** to the Donation Form is that only **one check** is to be sent from your court. When sending your donations, indicate next to each and every individual charity the amount of the donation. Add up all the donations and put the total amount in the space provided—ONE CHECK.

Finally, we all receive the *SHARE* magazine that contains solicitations from many of the various honorable National Charities and Projects. Please instruct your members, if they are so inclined to make personal donations, it is best to send their donations through your court, then via your court check, to the State Court, using the State Donation Form. Only in this way can we track, record and make sure your court is properly given the credit due. We are not advised from the National Office or the individual Charity or Project of your donation. Please feel free to contact me if there are any questions. My contact information is available on the first page of this *Angelus* issue.

—Lisa McCann, State Secretary-Elect

Circle of Love – Special Projects

Family – Sarah Mastrull

I am pleased to report that for 2017, Court Monessen #776 had a most outstanding project. They held a Pro-Life Baby Shower and invited members of their parish. Attendees were asked to bring a baby item to donate to Catholic Charities. An adoption and foster care caseworker from Catholic Charities was the guest speaker and told many stories of how Catholic Charities can help with the adoption process and explained that the mission of Catholic Charities is “to serve all, regardless of religious affiliation, at their time of great need.” The church hall was decorated for the shower and a “Baby Price is Right” game was played. Court Monessen #776 reports that the representative from Catholic Charities was overwhelmed with all the items donated and extremely grateful to the CDA.

Education – Tina Dambach

Number one was Court Ryan #911 which combined with members of St. Joseph Parish in Jim Thorpe to set up an evangelization table to hand out educational materials on social issues and church doctrine. Rosaries and Miraculous Medals and information on the devotions were also handed out. There was a large response and the ladies could answer many questions. This activity was so successful that it was repeated later at another parish.

Spiritual Enhancement – Sr. Mary Paul, DM

Nursing Home Spiritual Enhancement Project, Court Mystical Rose #2628—The goal for this project was to bring the Catholic residents of a local nursing home into the activities of the parish. This was accomplished by visiting the nursing home and gathering the Catholic residents, and any others interested in joining us, into a group and leading the rosary with them and visiting the group for a short while after the rosary. Shortly after we started the Rosary Ministry, we realized the residents were only attending Mass and receiving Communion once a month. We approached our pastor and arranged to have Catholic Daughters lead a Eucharistic Prayer Service on the weeks when the Mass was not offered to them. They are now able to receive Communion once a week. Both activities have elevated awareness in our Court and in our parish of the needs of people in nursing homes. It also inspired some of our parishioners to join our activities at the nursing home. The residents are most appreciative of our ministering to them.

Quality of Life – Mary Catherine Wydra

Court Reverend Patrick McArdle #448 of Bellefonte sponsors a local Girl Scout troop and participated in a “buddy bench” project. The benches are installed on school playgrounds. Any child being bullied, a new student who has no friends or just a sad child can go sit on the bench. When noticed by other students, they are encouraged to go and sit with them and become their friend or “buddy.” Feedback from the first “buddy bench” school said that several children have made friends by sitting on the bench.

Legislation – Colette McCaffrey

Court Westinghouse #759 participated in a peaceful Pro-Life Rally to support their pro-life congressman, while citizens opposed to this congressman were there in protest of his non support of Planned Parenthood funding.

Youth – Dolores Croyle

The Youth/JCDA Special Project was “Trunk and Treat,” sponsored by Court Monessen #776. This was a community event for Halloween. Their members wore Emoji Smile faces and they hung their CDA banner on the trunk of the car. In the trunk, they had bottled water labeled from Catholic Daughters of the Americas with their web address, “Be Happy” stickers and treats that they handed out to the children. The children loved having their picture taken with the Emoji Smile and came back several times. All court members were involved by actively participating that night, providing treats or water or providing donations.

Leadership – Letty Calvetti

No special project.



Message from State Treasurer

I am still feeling the afterglow of the 52nd Biennial State Convention in Danville, Pennsylvania! It was an outstanding Convention and a joy to spend the weekend with my sister Catholic Daughters from across the State. I am always amazed at the many charitable projects our Pennsylvania Courts are involved in. We truly are women of faith making a difference in the lives of many people.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the membership for having confidence in me and for voting for me to be your next State Treasurer. I promise to serve the Catholic Daughters to the best of my ability and, with the help of Our Blessed Mother, to always keep our motto of Unity and Charity at the forefront.

I would like to congratulate all of our newly-elected State Officers: Peggy Witas, Shirley Hall, Margaret Giordano and Lisa McCann. A special thank you to our outgoing State Regent Peggy Guckin. Peggy has worked tirelessly, and her love for Catholic Daughters always shines bright.

As Lisa passes the torch to me, I look forward to my many duties as State Treasurer, but I especially look forward to signing checks for the State Calendar winners. It's always nice to be the bearer of good news and to have the pleasure of congratulating the many winners in the state of Pennsylvania.

As we enter summer, here's wishing you a happy, healthy one and hoping you take time to enjoy the gift of family and friends. Life goes by too quickly. Put the brakes on and have some fun with those you love! May God bless you. In Unity and Charity,

—Colette McCaffrey, State Treasurer-Elect



Serve the Lord with Joy

Congratulations to the new state officers in Pennsylvania.

It is with great joy that we welcome our new officers and give them our help and loyalty as they start their new journey in Catholic Daughters. At the Mass of Installation, we promised to do all we could to help them in their new office. This promise was not given without some thought and preparation. Resumes were read. Questions were asked of the candidates. Discussions with the candidates were an important part in our decision making. But, with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the best candidates for office won the vote.

Continue to work together. Be willing to accept some new ideas for programs. Offer your help when needed. Welcome the new officers into your court meetings, at celebrations and other special events. As you welcome them, do so with joy, following the theme of National Regent Helene Shepard.

Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus for all God's people.

—Sherry Nilles, National Representative for Pennsylvania
First Vice National Regent

Pray for Peace

My Dear Catholic Daughter Sisters,



Now that winter has passed, and we have had some time to regain perspective, we are enjoying spring, and I see much new life all around me. It is gradually getting warmer and more colorful as summer is approaching. This beauty is exciting for so many of us, but it also sometimes reminds those who have dealt with loss and depression of

what they long for and miss. Let us especially keep those folks in our prayers as we continue to focus on the positive.

What a wonderful 2017 State Convention we recently had in Danville, PA, in my home Diocese of Harrisburg! I appreciate each and every one who volunteered their time and services to make all go so seemingly smooth. It was especially exciting for me to meet and greet so many of you at registration and meals. Our works of Unity and Charity were so apparent throughout the convention, and we had so much fun, too! Thank you for supporting me as I move to the new office as 2nd Vice State Regent. Thank you for making me feel rejuvenated to continue our work as CDA members. I hope all of you feel that way, too. I hope you took note that I say "our" work because we are a team, and we must work together!

This past May 13th, we celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the apparition of Our Lady of Fatima to the three shepherd children in Portugal. I fondly remember attending Our Lady of Fatima Church in the Philly area when I was a little girl and stayed with my Godparents and cousins for a week the summer after my First Holy Communion. I had

News from National

Dear Pennsylvania Catholic Daughters,

Again, our Lord has blessed us with a beautiful spring, laden with much greenery and flowers. Along with this time comes the centennial celebration of the apparition of our Blessed Lady to the three little children at Fatima. We all need to trust and adhere to our Mother's request to them and pray the rosary daily for conversion, penitence and prayer! Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us.

I would like to again thank all of you for the work you did to make your State Convention a most memorable and awesome event. Blessings on you who were able to attend; I'm hoping you are sharing with your fellow sisters the great information garnered there along with the many blessings. Thank you too for being so kind and welcoming to me and to each other. It was a wonderful weekend. Let us not forget the beautiful theme, "Making CDA Greater Through 'Unity and Charity' with Mary," and continue it throughout the coming years. God Bless You All!

—Rose Holschlag, National Director



no idea then of the impact Our Lady of Fatima had on the world. She said in 1917, "I am the Angel of Peace," "I am the Lady of the Rosary." She urged us then to "say the Rosary every day, to bring peace to the world and an end to the war." 100 years later we are still called to do the same as our world is still troubled. (<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com>)

When I lived at my previous residence, I began a new practice each day as I walked my dog, Ginger. As we walked down to the Conestoga River, I prayed the rosary. I prayed first



The Virgin of the Rosary
Bartolome Esteban Murillo - 1617-1682
Reprinted with permission, RestoredTraditions.com

for peace in our hearts, minds and souls, then for peace in our homes and families. Next, I prayed for peace in our neighborhoods and communities, in our cities, counties and states, in our regions, our countries, and in the whole world. After all, if we each felt peace inside ourselves, the effect would ripple out to all on earth. Let us continue the culture of prayer in our daily lives. Let us continue to pray for one another, for all whom we know, and all whom we don't know. May we feel peace in our hearts, minds, and souls and help all the world feel that peace, too.

With Love and Prayers and In Unity and Charity,

—Margaret T. Giordano, Second Vice State Regent-Elect

Timothy Cardinal Dolan receives Honorary Degree from St. Francis University, Loretto

Cardinal Dolan celebrated Mass in honor of his friends, Lou and Pat DiCerbo, on March 30, 2017. A dinner followed where Mr. & Mrs DiCerbo were honored with the University's Annual Assisi Award for their dedication to service within the Catholic Franciscan tradition.

Three of our state officers and officers and members of our Campus Court Our Lady of Loretto #2702 were honored to attend the beautiful Mass with Timothy Cardinal Dolan in honor of his friends, Lou and Pat DiCerbo.

—Peggy Guckin, National Director and Immediate Past State Regent



Left to right: Pattie Fromknecht, D.D.; Pat Gildea, D.D.; Margaret Giordano, State Secretary; Shirley Hall, Second Vice State Regent; Peggy Guckin, National Director & State Regent; two girls in front: Katelyn Flynn and Renee Surma; five girls in second row: Kaitlyn Williams, Vice Regent; Anna Macko, Recording Secretary; Rebecca Dickinson, Nicole Corral, Angela Balog, Advisor



Catholic Daughters of the Americas Pennsylvania State Court

52nd Biennial State Convention
Making CDA Greater Through
"Unity and Charity" with Mary

Newsletter Contest 2017 Winners

CATEGORY 1 DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE Court Ave Maria #650
SECOND PLACE Court Brownsville #1141

CATEGORY 1 DIVISION II

FIRST PLACE Court Allegheny #664
SECOND PLACE Court St. Francis de Sales #2617
THIRD PLACE Court St. Dominic #2222

CATEGORY II DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE Court Rev. Patrick McArdle #448
—Gloria J. Kissel, State Newsletter Chair

57th Biennial National Convention!

Save the Date! The 57th Biennial National Convention of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas will be held in **Sioux Falls, South Dakota, July 18-21, 2018**. Be sure to put the dates on your calendar and start raising funds so you can join your CDA sisters from far and near at this wonderful gathering!

Message from State Chaplain

continued from page 5

it was discovered that both samples had the same DNA composition!

How can this be explained? Only through a faith in a God who wishes to make us aware that He is truly present in the mystery of the Holy Eucharist!

You may never have heard of the Eucharistic Miracle of Buenos Aires, but for the people who were involved in this investigation, and for the people of Buenos Aires privileged to venerate this miracle, it has been a wonderful opportunity of grace.

A miracle is an extraordinary event, unexplainable by science, that manifests the presence of God. Catholics might be tempted to think that Eucharistic miracles are confined to Buenos Aires, Argentina or Lanciano, Italy, or some of the other many places around the globe that are centers of Eucharistic pilgrimages, but a Eucharistic Miracle occurs at every Mass we attend!

May we allow His Eucharistic presence in our lives to transform our lives—because that is the real purpose of every miracle the Lord gives to His people!

May the Lord continue to bless all our efforts offered in His name, and may His Mother, Mary Immaculate, Patroness of our nation, watch over us and intercede for us! Mary Immaculate, pray for us!

—Rev. Timothy F. O'Sullivan
Immediate Past State Chaplain of CDA



Mom's Favorite Flower



As we were unloading the car, I noticed that the patch of flowers in the front of the house had expanded. I remembered when we first planted a few sprigs of it. It was Mom's pride and joy. Each year, we watched those beginner shoots spread, and now they cover the whole area on the side of the

walkway before the front door.

This little, but mighty plant seems to speak to me. It tells the story of our CDA Convention. A stem arose from each root source, and on each stem were tiny, white lily bells. The icon of this image recalls the many courts which were represented by the stems. The members of each court are represented by the tiny, white flowers on the court's stem. In grand array, this patch told of our CDA sisterhood and gave witness to our "Unity." The sweet aroma which arose from these "Lilies of the Valley" sang the song of our CDA "Charity." The rain and sun and fertile earth represent our CDA sisters who have gone before us, support us and enable us to thrive today.

The memory, then, of our 52nd Biennial State Convention will ever be a bouquet of flowers placed before the Shrine of Mary, Our Mother.

—Sr. Mary Paul, DM, Spiritual Enhancement, State Chair

2017 PA State Education Contest Winners

Tina Dambach, State Education Chairman

Art Division 1

First Place	Christina Andreano	Easton #358, Easton
Second Place	Hannah Marie Golub	Sharon #507, Sharon
Third Place	Kyle Yangula	Rev. Patrick Mc Ardle #448, Bellefont

Art Division 2

First Place	Angelina Benamati	St. Thomas #1483, Franklin
Second Place	Mariah Sullivan	Our Lady of Victory #588, Mount Carmel
Third Place	Jackie Li	Blessed Madonna #2521, State College

Art Division 3

First Place	Annamarie Boyer	Easton #358, Easton
Second Place	Debby Berardi	Sharon #507, Sharon
Third Place	Sierra Coleman	Our Lady of Victory #588, Mount Carmel

Poetry Division 1

First Place	Hannah Teahan	Washington #1651, Washington
Second Place	Aiden Kucowski	St. Dominic #2222, Philadelphia
Third Place	Jacob Nobili Palm	Monesson #776, Monesson

Poetry Division 2

First Place	Santino Multari	Sharon #507, Sharon
Second Place	Jaden Quinn	Prince Gallitzin #2625, Altoona
Third Place	Natalie Janidlo	St. Thomas #1483, Franklin

Poetry Division 3

First Place	Leah Brown	Easton #358, Easton
Second Place	Caelin Grambau	Queen of Peace #1023, Lancaster
Third Place	Genevieve Sicree	Blessed Madonna #2521, State College

Poetry Division 4

First Place	Sr. Mary Paul Giordano, DM	Queen of Peace #1023, Lancaster
Second Place	Patricia A. Godla	Monesson #776, Monesson
Third Place	Antoinette M. DeAngelis	Sharon #507, Sharon

Essay Division 1

First Place	Max Clement	Blessed Madonna #2521, State College
Second Place	Ellie Puskarich	Washington #1651, Washington
Third Place	Caroline Golden	Joan of Arc #716, Cresson

Essay Division 2

First Place	Maria Matesich	Sharon #507, Sharon
Second Place	Peyton Dally	Easton #358, Easton
Third Place	Madelyn Myers	Prince Gallitzin #2625, Altoona

Essay Division 3

First Place	Nolan Turco	Patricia #998, Kittanning
Second Place	Gabriella Hong	Queen of Peace #1023, Lancaster
Third Place	Maxine Malvar	Sharon #507, Sharon

Computer Art Division 1

First Place	Luke Hinojosa	Queen of Peace #1023, Lancaster
Second Place	Callista Judy	St. Thomas #1483, Franklin
Third Place	Andrew Hegwood	Sharon #507, Sharon

Computer Art Division 2

First Place	Alex Kavanagh	Sharon #507, Sharon
Second Place	Brendan Boylan	Patricia #998, Kittanning
Third Place	Michael Burns	Queen of Peace #1023, Lancaster

Computer Art Division 3

First Place	Christopher Fekete	Easton #358, Easton
Second Place	Liam Wanner	Sharon #507, Sharon

Music Division 2

First Place	Lizbeth Stephan	Queen of Peace #1023, Lancaster
Second Place	Ava Coates	Sharon #507, Sharon

Photography Division 2

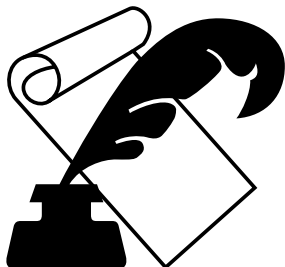
First Place	Aidan Grambau	Queen of Peace #1023, Lancaster
Second Place	Kiersten Dees	Mystical Rose #2628, Philadelphia
Third Place	Marcus Lucas	Prince Gallitzin #2625, Altoona

Photography Division 3

First Place	Jacob Babcanec	Sharon #507, Sharon
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Photography Division 4

First Place	Denise Russick	Patricia #998, Kittanning
Second Place	Marianne Warner	St. Thomas #1483, Franklin
Third Place	Christina Bell	St. Theresa #562, Blairsville



REMINDERS:

STATE DUES and FINANCIAL REVIEWS for the period of March 2017 are to be sent to Margaret Giordano, 2nd Vice State Regent. Remember, it does not require a vote of your court to pay your dues. Dues should be paid when invoices are received. Your Fall dues and Financial Review will go to Lisa McCann, State Secretary. Any forms regarding membership are sent to the REGENT and the State Secretary.

REGENTS: Please give your officers the information on your NEWLY-Elected Officers for 2017 – 2019. Information can be found in this newsletter on page 1.

The Following Courts Received Membership Recognition for Taking in Five or More Members for the Two-Year Period, March 2015 – March 2017

Conception #35	St. Victoria #646
St. Marys #95	Our Lady #647
St. Veronica #111	Westinghouse #759
St. Bernard #339	Patricia #998
Easton #358	Queen of Peace #1023
Butler #443	St. Thomas #1483
Rev. Patrick McArdle #448	Dolores de Mater #1675
St. Rita – Tyrone #523	Our Lady of the Alleghenies #1775
St. Theresa #562	St. Dominic #2222
Our Lady of Victory #588	



—Janet Oesterling, State Membership

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
Pennsylvania State Court
Spiritual Intention

The Mass is offered at Saint Therese of the Child Jesus,
Altoona, PA at 10:30 A.M. on the third Sunday of the month.
Proceeds benefit the Pontifical North American College in
Rome helping the Seminarians who are studying there.

For: _____

From: _____

Intention: _____

100th Anniversary

Lambing #314

95th Anniversary

Joan of Arc #716

Requested by: CDA PA State Officers and Members

45th Anniversary

Shirley Boldin

Rose Granite

Janet Oesterling

40th Anniversary

Florence Stringer

35th Anniversary

Molly Danko

Gwen Hull

15th Anniversary

Jane Fisher

Nancy Taylor

10th Anniversary

Lorraine Fello

5th Anniversary

Angela Basalla

Sharyn Pavone

Donna Toldi

Requested by: Mary Ann Zimmerman,
Rev. Patrick McArdle #448

Happy Anniversary

Marialice and Frank Sagan

Requested by: Peggy Guckin

Jeremy and Valerie Hatfield

Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano

Happy Anniversary of Ordination

Father Maurer

Requested by: Peggy Guckin

Happy 99th Birthday

Anna Rush

Requested by: Opal Kunz, Court Isabella #959

State Spiritual Intention Report

This report shows the many people whom we have included in our Spiritual Intentions, March-May 2017. Donations are forwarded to the National office to benefit the North American Pontifical College in Rome and are much appreciated by the seminarians there. Please consider using our Intention cards in the future. **Send Spiritual Intentions to Margaret Giordano, Second Vice State Regent. Her address is on the front page of this newsletter. Thank you!**

Happy 60th Birthday

Karen Zeiset

Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano

Happy 40th Birthday

Valerie Hatfield, daughter

Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano

Happy Birthday

Sr. Mary Paul Giordano, DM

Theresa Ann Hauck

Nicole Kreider

Mary Tercha

Valerie Hatfield

Robin Burgoon

Requested by: Court Queen of Peace #1023

Sr. Mary Paul Giordano, DM

Theresa Ann Hauck

Adam Christian, nephew

Danielle Christian, niece

Nicole Kreider, daughter

Sandy Sultzbach, mother-in-law

Jada Hoskins, granddaughter

Charlotte DiCola

Tom Hauck, brother-in-law

Jeremy Hatfield, Jr.

Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano

Susan Moné

Carol Bogacz

Sherry Nilles

Mary Impellizeri

Requested by: Peggy Guckin

Easter Blessings

Queen of Peace Members and Families

Requested by: Court Queen of Peace #1023

All my family and friends

Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Dombrosky

Mr. John McCann

Requested by: Lisa McCann

CDA National Officers, Directors and Office Workers

Requested by: CDA PA State Officers and Members

Congratulations on Birth of Baby Alicia Marie

Robin Burgoon

Requested by: Court Queen of Peace #1023

Wishes for a Successful State Convention

All PA Catholic Daughters

Requested by: Court Queen of Peace #1023

"FOR LIFE"

**In gratitude of those who stood with me during
the 40 Days for Life Lenten Campaign**

**Johanna Leonard, Donna Egan, Mary Kay Edgar,
and Richard Daily**

Requested by: Lisa McCann

**Thank you for your outstanding Pro-Life work
and your spiritual guidance for CDA**

Timothy Cardinal Dolan

Requested by: CDA PA State Officers and Members

Thank you for all you do in "Unity and Charity"

Joe and Pattie Fromknecht

Requested by: CDA PA State Officers

Thanks for your years as State Regent

Peggy Guckin

Requested by: Deanna Lee Teixeira,

Court St. Francis de Sales #2617

**Thank You for Your Years of Service to God
and His Community through CDA and Beyond**

Peggy Guckin

Peg Rafferty-Witas

Shirley Hall

Margaret Giordano

Lisa McCann

Requested by: Fromknecht Family

Thank You for Your Support and Advice at State Convention

Rose Holschlag

Requested by: CDA PA State Officers and Members

In Appreciation for Support & Participation at Convention

Attendees of our 52nd Biennial State Convention

Requested by: CDA PA State Officers

Outgoing State Regent

Peggy Guckin

Requested by: Laraine McGinnis

Unity and Charity

All Catholic Daughters

Requested by: Fromknecht Family

Special Intention

Patrick Weakland

Requested by: Nancy M, Anna, Our Lady of Victory #722

**Get Well ♦ Long Life ♦ Good Health ♦ Healing
Complete Recovery ♦ Successful Surgery**

Jean Muckowski

Kathy McDade, Regent,

Court Immaculate Conception Clarion #2454

Margaret Novak, Immediate Past State Regent

Requested by: CDA PA State Officers and Members

Louise Kolonay

Kathleen O'Rourke

Tony Sabol

Requested by: Cynthia Keefe, Education Chairman,

Court Our Lady of Victory #722

Alice Bock

Agnes Sterbenac

Requested by: Opal Kunz, Court Isabella #959

State Treasurer Lisa A. McCann

Requested by: CDA PA State Officers and Members

Karen Zeiset, friend and co-worker

Charlotte DiCola

Peg Rafferty Witas

Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano

Mary Price, mother of member Cathy Haefner

Rita Smith-Wade-El, Immediate Past Regent

Requested by: Court Queen of Peace #1023

Paul and Janet Oesterling

Margaret Novak

Requested by: Fromknecht Family

Margi Oler

Requested by: Lisa McCann

In Memory † With Sympathy † Rest in Peace

Betsy Brun

Barbara Beaver

Grace Pounder

Leonard C. Francis, Jr.

Requested by: Deanna Lee Teixeira, Ct. St. Francis de Sales #2617

Mary Painter, Past Regent

Requested by: Court Queen of Peace #1023

Connie Kunizel (loss of father)

Anna Rush (loss of son)

Requested by: Opal Kunz, Court Isabella #959

**Margaret Stein Rocco, Past Regent and founder of two
Philadelphia Courts**

Requested by: Court St. Theresa #562

John Mangin, brother of member Eleanor Bury-Ruffalo

Requested by: Court Washington #1651

Dolores Moser, Cousin

Dick Gammache

Matthew Brodbeck, student, 19

Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano

Joseph Guckin

John Sandstrom, wife of Margaret,

Connecticut State Secretary

Andrew Guckin

Requested by: Peggy Guckin

Antoinette Bruni - member's mother-in-law

Vittorio Pugliano - 40 Days for Life co-worker's father

Eileen Difilzen

Requested by: Eileen A. Myer, Court St. Dominic #2222

Lisa McCann

Barbara Champion, mother of National Director Susan Hicks

Inez Garcia, grandmother of Martha Hamboussi,

(National Headquarters)

Sister Marguerite Kropinak, CSJ, sister of Dolores Croyle

Requested by: CDA PA State Officers and Members

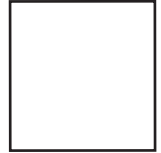
Douglas Fulton, nephew of Pat Jacobs

Requested by: Court Queen of Peace #1023

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
Peggy Guckin, State Regent
203 Harmony Ct.
Bensalem, PA 19020



Return Service Requested



Dads are Essential in Restoring a Culture of Life

By Paul Stark

Abortion isn't only a women's issue. Here are three ways that fatherhood and abortion intersect.

(1) The importance of supportive fathers. According to the Guttmacher Institute, half of women having abortions say (as a reason) that they do not want to be a single parent or they are having trouble with their partner. A 2009 study published in the *International Journal of Mental Health & Addiction* found that

pregnant women who felt they lacked support from the child's father were more likely to choose abortion.

A 2004 study in *Medical Science Monitor* found that 64 percent of American women having abortions said they felt pressured by others to abort. A wealth of other evidence confirms that fathers often play a central role in determining pregnancy outcomes.

Men who help conceive a baby must support (emotionally, economically, or in whatever other ways) both mother and child. When they don't, abortion is more likely—and women and children pay a price, whether abortion is chosen or not.

(2) The effect of abortion on fathers. Abortion can detrimentally affect men just as it can women. Fathers may experience grief, guilt, anger, depression and other psychological consequences following abortion. Books like *Men and Abortion: A Path to Healing*; *Redeeming a Father's Heart: Fatherhood Aborted*; and *Men and Abortion: Losses, Lessons and Love* have explored this issue.

A number of ministries and websites (including www.fatherhoodforever.org, www.menandabortion.net and



Photo by Torri Jackson

www.menandabortion.info) seek to provide healing for men who have lost children to abortion.

(3) Defending the unborn. Pro-choice advocates sometimes say that only women may speak about abortion, and many men are silent or have their opinions disregarded. But the case against abortion is sound irrespective of the gender (or any other characteristic) of an individual making it.

Many, many women, after all, make the very same pro-life case. Men have an obligation to graciously speak the truth and to defend the lives of those who cannot defend themselves—the little girls and boys who have not yet been born.

Dads play an essential role in the lives of their children. They are also essential to restoring a culture of life in which all human beings, especially the youngest and most vulnerable, are respected and protected.

—National Right to Life News Today, March 8, 2017

**Happy Father's Day—
especially to all our CDA fathers!**