



LADIES OF CHARITY NEWSLETTER

May 2010—July 2010

Officers 2009—2010

President
Sally Masters

Vice President
Lanie Cummings

Treasurer
Jean Kearney

Recording
Secretary
Kathleen Keane

Corresponding
Secretary
Marlene Gramata



God of all life and love, I offer You thanks for the gift of this group. Help us to work together for harmony in our relationships.

Give us the grace to accept each other's faults and weaknesses. Protect us from harsh words and hurt feelings. Lead us to encourage each other's strengths and gifts.

May we always forgive each other's failings, let us rejoice in one another's successes.

Watch over the Ladies of Charity, dear Lord; Bless us with good health and happiness, and give us hearts full of love, patience, kindness for one another, now and always.

Amen

President's Message

Dear Ladies of Charity,

As I begin this letter I'm surprised that this will be my last one as your President. The time has gone by so quickly and I have truly enjoyed serving you. I've made new friends and enjoyed the company of many of our Ladies who were strangers to me. This organization continues to do good work and it would not be possible without such dedicated women. It has been my pleasure to serve you.

- We had a wonderful **Morning of Reflection** with about sixty three of our Ladies in attendance. The brunch was excellent as usual and the talk, *The Vincentian Working in the World Today* by Sister Nora Gatto was inspiring and practical.
- We enjoyed a lovely social get together on March 28. Fourteen attended our Lunch at Lampy's Restaurant where we had marvelous food and service. We then went to the play *The Odd Couple*. Everyone enjoyed this comedy as the actors were very entertaining
- Our Nearly New Shop received donations from BonTon on May 25 and we decided to have a Bag Sale to clear out our winter clothes. It was not a big success in terms of money but we moved a lot of clothes. We have been keeping close watch over our daily income as our Budget will be voted on in May. We are not doing as well as we would like but we are not too far off from last year. With that in mind, I would ask that you use the price list when selling items to customers. A few dollars make a big difference when we're buying children's clothes. Regarding the Shop—PLEASE be careful when putting out clothes—some very disgusting underwear was found on our rack as one of our Ladies was straightening the shelves. We cannot be sure where they came from but.....we need to be watchful.
- We will be getting clothes from **Fabulous Finds** in the month of May. They will be picked up on Mondays so anyone with some extra time please come and help. It will be greatly appreciated.
- I received literature from the National Ladies of Charity regarding our Assembly in Nashville, TN, September 16-19. This is always an inspiring time to reflect on how we are making a difference. There are always many things to learn about other Ladies projects and how they are helping the underprivileged. I have all the information and will be glad to talk to anyone interested in going.
- *Remember our May meeting where we will be voting on the Budget, By-Laws and new Officers; our June dinner with the Installation of Officers and the June 11 Fashion Show.*

As I close this letter I am asking for your continued prayers for our next set of Officers. They have all answered the call to assist in running this organization and I ask you to help by volunteering when asked. It has been a wonderful experience for me.

Please pray for our Ladies who are suffering. They need our prayers and support as they face life's difficulties.

Have a wonderful summer. Hope to see you at our many activities coming up.

God's Blessings,
Sally Masters

PROGRAMS

Elaine Colangelo & Suzanne Johnson

MAY

Business Meeting

Monday, May 10, 7 p.m.

Election of Officers, Budget Vote

Wine and Cheese Party

dePaul Room, Lourdes Hospital

JUNE

Annual Dinner, Holiday Inn Arena

Monday, June 7

6 p.m. Cocktails

6:45 p.m. Dinner

Installation of Officers

Presentation of Awards

Friday, June 11

DRESS FOR LESS

Noon—Lunch

1 p.m.—Fashion Show & Dessert

Oak Street Senior Center

BEREAVEMENT

Deanna Becchetti

We offer our prayers and sympathy to the family and friends of the following deceased:

Barbara Demer

Mother of Carol Robbins-Harding

Louis Lee

Husband of Mary Pat Lee

*Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his mercy endures forever.*

Psalm 118:1

FUNDRAISING

Sally Paniccia

The Fundraising Committee thanks everyone who participated in our yearly lottery. We had close to 100% participation this year! We especially thank the ladies who sold extra tickets and the generous ladies who sent in extra money in the form of donations.

The lucky members listed below, both active and associate, have already received \$50 checks and by the end of April more of you will get that welcome envelope from our treasurer.

We plan on making about \$3,000 with this venture.

Thanks again to all!

Congratulations to our winners to date.

Liz Morello

Kathleen Matthews

Maryle Carns

Arleen Wintergrass

Norma Starner

Ellen Zemanick

REMINDER

Barb Caveny, our Yearbook Chair, sent out a mailing last month with two forms that need your attention. One form is the **Yearbook Information** that needs to be filled out and returned. This contains the information to keep our yearbook up to date. The other is the **Shop Sign Up** sheet. As an Active Member, it is our responsibility to be scheduled to work in the shop. We are always thankful for our members who stop in and help out when they are able but we need a schedule to keep the shop going.

Thank You!

BUSINESS MEETING, MAY 10, 7 p.m.

Please plan on attending this important meeting. The evening will begin with a wine and cheese party. We will be electing new Officers, voting on the budget as well as several changes in our By-Laws. (A listing of the proposed changes in the By-Laws is enclosed in this Newsletter.)

Hope to see you there!

From Sister Mary Anne

In our Vincentian Family we have been hearing much about Systemic Change. The term may mystify us but quite simply it means a process that promotes structural change of a whole system which, hopefully, will radically change the life of the underprivileged. Let me offer an example: In Madagascar a poor African country, the AIC (Ladies of Charity) recognizing that malnutrition is a major problem in their country began distributing food to children on a regular basis. Yet, despite their efforts, the situation did not change so they decided that they needed to assess their work and set up a new strategy.

They met with the children and their mothers and found that for the most part these women were what we call single parents. Some were widows, others separated from or abandoned by their husbands. So the AIC set some goals that in addition to the nutrition program they would begin outreach to the mothers through literacy efforts, handicraft workshops, and occupational training all intended to develop self esteem and leadership among the women.

It was evident that men were key players in as much as they often resorted to violence toward women and offered a poor example of the stability needed to create real families. Unfortunately many male children perpetuated this situation. AIC embarked on a responsible fatherhood campaign publishing and distributing a manifesto on its importance and establishing a project called Women and Men. All of this has proven important in bringing about a change of mentality in Madagascar.

All these efforts have been recognized by UNICEF which lists AIC Madagascar as a priority “partner” and invites AIC volunteers to report their successes at international meetings. This gives you an idea of a well developed plan for systemic change in one country. It started locally and spread. If you want further examples of systemic change projects visit the website <http://famvin.org> and check the link for Systemic Change.



NEARLY NEW SHOP

Shop Managers

May	June	July
Betsy Carlin	Elaine Colangelo	Rosemarie Burke
Colleen Woodruff	Mary Surowka	Patricia Roche

Shop News & Reminders

Scheduling
Mary DeSantis

Dear Ladies,

By now you have received your LOC Nearly New Shop Sign-up Sheet for 2010—2011. Please prayerfully consider giving a little more time to working in the Shop. We are in desperate need of workers. We have had so many of our ladies who have family obligations that need attention or are no longer physically able to work. So much so that our daily Shop needs are not being met. Maybe some of our able-bodied associates would consider working in the Shop again?

God Bless those of you who have given so much of your time—even when I haven't begged!

Please contact me if you are inspired to give a little of your time for the mission we have been given.

625.4214 or medesantis@stny.rr.com

- **Fabulous Finds** will be donating clothing to the Shop during the month of May. We will need lots of extra hands on Mondays—come join the fun!
- Badly soiled underwear was recently put out on the shelf to be sold. PLEASE check clothes thoroughly, especially intimate apparel.
- Familiarize yourself with the new price list and try to adhere to it as much as possible. There will always be those items that need your best judgment—but the new prices enable us to continue our purpose and mission.
- REMEMBER—treat our clients with respect. If each and every person who enters the shop is a child of God, then by the grace of God, we need to treat them with honor and respect.

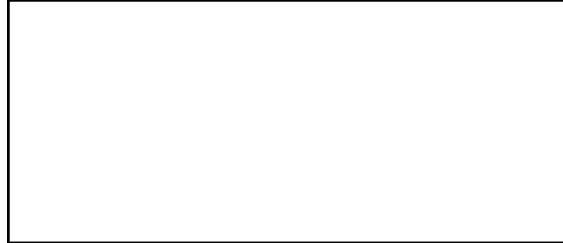


Ladies of Charity
100 Main Street
Binghamton, NY 13905

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U.S. POSTAGE
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BINGHAMTON, NY
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“TO SERVE RATHER THAN BE SERVED”

Change Service Requested



YEARBOOK

Please note the following changes:

New Address/Phone Number

Joan Buckman
1416 Western Avenue
Morgantown, WV 26505
304.598.2102

Please contact **Barb Caveny**,
our Yearbook Chair,
with changes in your contact
information.

722-9130 or
bhcaveny@stny.rr.com

Upcoming Event

Mark your calendars!
LCUSA National Assembly
Nashville, TN
September 16—19, 2010
Contact **Sally Masters** if you are
interested in attending.
748-0857 or
sallymast@verizon.net

Newsletter Coordinators

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Please feel free to contact us at
any time with your ideas, sug-
gestions or articles.



*“Work with humility,
simplicity,
and
charity.*

*Carry on the loving
work of
St. Vincent dePaul
and
St. Louise deMarillac.”*