



THE CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY

November 2012

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.

Let Love Shine Reflected in Dinner Auction

Let Love Shine. The title of the Christ Child Society's dinner auction reflected the evening of September 13th as nearly 300 people supported our mission. For the second year, the Gillespie Center was transformed into a glowing, warm and inviting site for delightful conversation, exciting silent auction items and amazing generosity. The dinner garnered nearly \$89,000, funds that will go directly to the purchase of new clothing.

Tom Liddell handled host duties and Chuck Freeby served as auctioneer again. The live auction offered men's and women's ND-UConn tickets, premier Colts tickets, a Mass in the Log Chapel presided over by Fr. Monk Malloy and more. The Children's Choir from St. Adalbert's School sang during dinner and reminded us of the heart of our mission.

Valley Screen Process accepted the second "Heart of a Child Award" in recognition of their many years of support for the Clothe a Child Campaign. Carol Bauer, whose late husband, Jerry, co-founded Valley Screen in 1967, has been a member of Christ Child since 1981 and their daughter, Karen Barnett is also a member. Carol and Karen co-own the company and Karen is the President and CEO. Valley Screen prints and die cuts thousands of paper dolls yearly. Accepting the award, Karen noted, "We are very proud to support the wonderful work of the Christ Child Society. Through the shining example of our parents, and all the members, we are happy to be able to continue our parents' life work. The [CCS] volunteers are truly angels and we hope to be able to continue to support them for many years to come." *Before dinner, members and guests visit and view some of the auction items.*

CoChairs Mary Liddell and Beth Barrett are grateful to all the volunteers, guests and bidders who contributed to the successful evening.

As the accompanying picture shows, a good time was had by all. If you would like to see more photos of the event, go to www.letloveshine.info.

Executive Board

President:

Kathy Seidl

President Elect:

Judy Kuzmich

Vice President (Fundraising):

Peg Riggs

Vice President (Membership):

Anne Watson

Vice President (Clothing):

Sue Walsh

Recording Secretary:

Mary Kay Bean

Corresponding Secretary:

Rose Wray

Treasurer:

Pat Hillebrand

CALENDAR

Nov 7,14,28 Center Open
for Clients 8:30 AM

Nov 12 Board Meeting
(date change) Center 9:00 AM

NOV 22 HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Nov 28 In Memoriam Mass
St. Patrick's 12:15 PM

Deadline for next newsletter

November 19

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



Before dinner, members and guests visit as they preview auction items.

From the President Kathy Seidl

November is the month to be especially thankful for everything in our lives. Enjoy your families, food, and football and remember to pray.

Special appreciation:

THANK YOU to Mary Kay Bean, Mary Beth McGrath and Norma Villanucci for planning such a wonderful Christ Child Birthday Celebration on October 25 at Windsor Park Conference Center. It was a delicious lunch and wonderful camaraderie amongst Christ Child friends.

THANK YOU to Barbara Dillon for attending the Birthday Celebration. Barbara is one of the original 16 founders of Christ Child South Bend.

THANK YOU to the Third, Fourth and Fifth grade Girl Scouts from Northpoint Elementary School in Granger. They made 1,300 beautiful and fun scarves for the coats for the children that we serve. They also helped at the Center on Sunday, October 14 in the clothing rooms along with their Moms. Deb Low had arranged for them to come and help and learn about what Christ Child does for the community.

THANK YOU to the Junior League of South Bend for their staging of "Kids in the Kitchen." This presentation was for our clients' children to join in for some fun while learning healthy eating and lifestyle habits. There was group exercise and how to shop healthy on a budget for the parents.

THANK YOU to all of the Christ Child Members and Volunteers who whole heartedly support in so many ways the mission of Mary Virginia Merrick. Support comes in many forms: volunteering at the Center, working on fundraisers, helping with mailings and the newsletter, financial support, etc.

THANK YOU to St Pius School. For the month of October they held a "shower" to benefit Christ Child, Hannah's House and Women's Care Center. People were extremely generous. Each donor bag dropped in a crib had multiple items in it. There were shopping bags of clothing - a mix of new (layettes and infants) and some used clothing as well as a large box of books. Gifts of time, treasure and talent combine for a great cause!

THANK YOU to the Anonymous Donor who mailed money to Christ Child. It was enclosed in a note that said "For God's Children." May God bless you every day of your life.

Thank you and wishing everyone a Blessed Thanksgiving holiday.



The Past Presidents' Coffee was held on October 18 at Marcia Auger's home. Pictured are (starting at top) are Norma Villanucci, Rose Acklin, Bette O'Malley, Marlene Nowak, Diane Quinn, Marilyn Toepp, Esther Cyr, Joan Hardig, Marcia Auger, Jane Horning, Marjorie Bycraft, Vicki Riel, Jean Mee, Lois Leliaert, Sue Uhran, Peg Claeys, Rosie Shafer and Marie Brady.

October Board Meeting

A wonderful day at the Center! Sunday, October 14 was the last Sunday the Center will be open this year. On that day 95 children and 36 families were served with special guests to help out. The Girl Scouts of St. Pius X brought with them 1,300 beautiful, colorful scarfs to add to our coats along with friendship pins that can either be shared or kept. The Junior League gave a presentation on healthy eating which both children and parents enjoyed. WNDU stopped by also. By the end of the day, four people asked for membership information.

The Nominating Committee for 2012-2013 has been approved by the board. They are Norma Villanucci, Sheila Emge, Katy Gregg, Andrea Incropera and Mary Beth McGrath.

The SB Realtors Association would like to contribute their Christmas party donations to the Christ Child.

The Spring Fling co-chairs are Pat Corcoran and Barb Fedder

A long range planning committee is being formed to look into a three-five year strategic plan to help us better understand our fundraising needs.

National Dues have been increased from \$7.00 to \$12.00

Kathy Seidl, president, would like to remind our members that the policy of the Christ Child Society is not to watch our clients' children for any reason as this may lead to safety and legal issues.

Book Club

Elegance...Hedgehog

By Muriel Barbery

November 28

Carol Holt (259-0461)



**Christ Child
Society**

**New
Guardian
Angel**

Trudy Rose

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 friend 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 Jane Horning (272-4160)

In Memoriam

Michael W. Albert (Dr/Mrs John B. Toepp)

Charles Auger (Evelyn Olson, Rose Acklin, Marjorie/John Bycraft)

Mary Battista (Carol Bauer, Kathleen/Michael Borkowski, Christ Child Society, Esther Cyr, Polly/Mike DeCicco, Kay/Roy Ellgass, Katie Screes, Jeannette Battista, Barbara Baumer, Kathryn Gavaghan, Betty Ann/Jim Gibbons, Mary/Ed Kubiak, James/Vickie Moriarity, Paul/Janet Smith)

Ronald Bilinski (Tim/Sara Conroy)

Dennis Freeman (Patti/Lowell Paschke)

Leah Garrison (Marcia/TomBlum)

Robert Graves (Marcia/Tom Blum)

Dee Hakanen (Deb/Mike Low)

Gerry Hesch (Virginia Hahn)

In Memoriam Member Mary Battista

Harriet Karp (Tee/Cal Miller)

Ron Kinder's Mother (Marcia/Tom Blum)

Ken Koehler's Mother (Marcia/Tom Blum)

Eileen Kolenski (Carol/Jim Holt)

Marvin Kwiecinski (EstherCyr)

Robert Loffredo (Maureen/Tom Cahir)

Herb Lorenzon (Helen Diltz)

John Lynch (Madeline Deyering)

Richard J. McDonald (Mary

Ann/Timothy J. Abeska,

Robert/Debra Andrews,

Gisela Crawford/Robert

Smith, Suzanne/Daniel

Elliott, Christopher/Donna

Gray, Joseph F. Kelly,

Anthony D. Kowals, Richard

C. Lang, Kathy/John Seidl,

Paul Sidorowicz, Sopko, Nussbaum, Inabnit & Kaczmarek)

Kazimiera Szumial (Linda Rakow)

Richard Van Nevel (Chesterton Middle School, Nicholas/

Sandra DeCicco, Joe/Roxie

Gross, Richard Kolbe, Wil-

liam/Helen Poure, Paul/

Sally Richardson, Catherine

Rochford, The Schmanske

Family, Strategic Data Ser-

vices Division, Theresa Van

Nevel, Carol/Jim Holt)

Eleanore Vanderhagen (Polly/

Mike DeCicco, Albin/Barbara

Szewczyk)

Lorraine L. Wensits (Trudy

Strantz)

Irene Wiskatoni (Kathleen Jaro-

szewski)

Sophie Zurawik (Joe/Marie Burt)

Special Occasion

Noreen Busch (Jim/Pat Short)

Lowell/Moody Butman - 50th

Wedding Anniversary (Tom/

Judy Burmeister)

Connor - Full Recovery (Ann/

Dave Jones)

Monabelle Diltz, - 90th Birthday

(Carol Bauer)

Theresa Healey -100 Birthday

(Virginia/Darrell Zellers)

Barbara Kiley - Get Well (Bar-

bara Dillon)

John Sentman (Joe/Marie Burt)



- 4 Kathleen Klawitter
- 5 Jeanne Desmond
- 6 Catherine Mahalick
- 9 Victoria Riel
- 10 Jane Reed
- 12 C. Diane McGaw
- 14 Mary Ann Derda
- 15 Sandra Krizmanich
- 15 Trudy Strantz
- 16 Joan Stanley
- 18 Anne Monserez
- 19 MarciaAuger
- 19 Linda Brammer
- 20 Catherine Bishop
- 20 Mary Weber
- 21 Mary Jane Danner
- 26 Lois Martin
- 27 Renee Hochstetter
- 28 Patricia Hillebrand
- 29 Sara Ann Zeisz
- 30 E. Elva Gable
- 30 Kate Murphy

It is always nice to be remembered on our birthday. If you prefer NOT to have your birthday listed please email Kathy Seidl at marian0103@comcast or call 291-6604. Otherwise, if we do not hear from you we will assume we have your approval. The year will NOT be listed.

National Convention

This year's Christ Child Convention was held in Detroit September 20-22 with 24 Christ Child chapters represented from around the United States. It was very informative and interesting to talk to the other members and see what the other chapters do in their cities. South Bend is the second largest Chapter in the Christ Child organization. The Christ Child Society is the second largest Catholic not-for-profit agency in the United States. (St Vincent de Paul is #1.)

National Christ Child has found it necessary to increase the national dues from \$7 to \$12 per member. The dues have not increased in 12 years. This increase is partially due to a decline in membership nationwide.

What does the National Christ Child do for each chapter?

1. We are able to use the Christ Child name.
2. We are able to attend conventions and conferences to meet with other chapters to share ideas and information to better serve our community.
3. We are able to use the Christ Child logo.
4. We have the National Christ Child history to experience and learn from.
5. National Christ Child is ALWAYS available to help with problems and solutions.
6. The National website provides a wealth of information to assist local organizations.

Please be supportive and pay your National Christ Child dues and Chapter Support when you receive your renewal.

Junior League Entertains Clients

The South Bend Junior League was at the Center October 14 for their staging of "Kids in the Kitchen." The presentation was for our clients' children to join in for some fun (Zumba and jump rope) while learning about healthy eating and lifestyle habits. There was group exercise and information on how to shop healthy on a budget for the parents. Children were able to try new fruits and vegetables as well as have a delicious healthy snack. Gabby Gonzalez and WNDU were there to film the Girl Scouts and Junior League at work. Christ Child was featured on the 6:00 PM news that night.

Thank you to Kayla Ernsberger, Laura Schaefer-Hyde, Jennifer Liddell, Mary Jo Malstaff and her daughter Kayleigh, Suzanne Mullen, Marcia Polaski and Jackie Potter for making this a fun event.

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P.O. Box 1286
South Bend, Indiana 46624



NON-PROFIT ORG.

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Return Service Requested

Gifts of Time, Treasure and Talent Combine for Great Cause!

There was lots of cause for celebration at our final distribution Sunday of Autumn. Third, Fourth and Fifth grade Girl Scouts from Northpoint Elementary School and St. Pius X Church in Granger “gifted” the coat room with over 1,300 warm fleece scarves. They, along with their moms, created the scarves during the past few months. This Girl Scout Service project began when Girl Scout Leader Kim Kirkpatrick attended the “Let Love Shine Dinner and Auction” two years ago!

Kim spoke with Sue Uhran and Deb Low at the event, talking about how Girl Scouts could help our cause. Later, a grant from an anonymous donor brought the necessary funds for purchase of the fleece and cutting tools. The result is evident in the stacks of colorfully embellished scarves for Christ Child Children, lining the shelves and baskets of the coat room.

Girls and moms were given a distribution center tour and a bit of our history by President Kathy Seidl. Afterwards, they helped our regular volunteers distribute clothing, followed by a cookie and punch reception. WNDU’s Gabby Gonzales was on hand to film a short story for the six o’clock news, interviewing two adorable Girl Scouts.

One of the goals of this partnership was to introduce Girl Scout moms to our organization in the hopes of recruit-

ing new members. This goal was accomplished when one mom, Dulcie Martin joined on the spot and another, Laura McGuire, M.D., took an application for herself and a friend. Be sure to welcome them when you have opportunity to meet these energetic new members.

Truly, the time-treasured Girl Scout song, “Make New Friends-but Keep the Old,” was seen in action at the Center.

