



Christ Child Society Newsletter

November 2010

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

Executive Board

President:

Linda Brammer

President Elect:

Norma Villanucci

Vice President (Fundraising):

Kay Houser

Vice President (Membership):

Ann Riley

Vice President (Clothing):

Norma Cherry

Recording Secretary:

Kelly Ghyselinc

Corresponding Secretary:

Madeline Gaughan

Treasurer:

Pat Hillebrand

Calendar

- Nov. 1Past Presidents' Meeting
10 AM
- Nov. 3.....10% Donation Night
Texas Roadhouse (See pp. 2,4)
- Nov. 3,10,17Clothing Center
Open 8:30 AM
- Nov. 15Board Meeting
Center, 9:30 AM
- Nov. 24In Memoriam Mass
St. Patrick's 12:15 PM
- Dec. 2.....Holiday Benefit Luncheon
Hilton Garden Inn 11:00 AM

Holiday Benefit Luncheon

December 2 - 11:00 am

Hilton Garden Inn's Gillespie Center

The Annual Holiday Benefit Luncheon, Fashion Show, Silent Auction and Raffle will be held Thursday, December 2, at the Hilton Garden Inn. Tickets will remain at \$45. Plan now to attend and invite your family, friends and neighbors so we can have a great attendance. Inspire Me, WearABouts and Hugs from Heaven (for the younger generation) will present the style show.

At the Gift Gathering Party on October 6 at the Center - a huge success - we received many beautiful, fun and useful items for the auction. We have many handmade items, seasonal decorations, fun baskets, gift certificates, and so much more for our auction items. Note: There will be a faster check out procedure this year. Thank you to all who brought in donations.

We have four great raffle baskets and a vast assortment of other item donations, some that we have put into fun and useful baskets. We also have a lot of handmade items.

Basket of Holiday Cheer

Assorted Holiday Cheer: Bourbon, Vodka, Wines, Mixers, etc.

The Wine Enthusiast - 5-pc Corkscrew Set and 4 wine glasses

Epic Wine Barrel Cork Cage

Accessory Items: Bottle Holiday Decorations (Jolly & Cheers), Lenox Holiday Wine Bag, Oz Clarke's Pocket Wine Guide 2010, Birchwood Chalet Snowflakes Towels (3)

Taste of Michiana

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center Show

Sorin's at The Morris Inn - Gift Certificate

South Bend Symphony Performance - "Home for the Holidays" (Two adult, two children)

Tippecanoe Place Restaurant - \$50 Gift Certificate

Served on a silver tray with Bailey's Irish Cream and Crystal Glasses

Sports and Spirits

Notre Dame's Men's Basketball Tickets - Two Tickets

Notre Dame's Women's Basketball Tickets - Two Tickets

Notre Dame Ice Hockey - Two Tickets

Legend's Restaurant - Gift Certificate

Kildare's - Gift Certificate

Accessory Items: Notre Dame Logo - Stadium Seat and Classic Fleece Throw and Guinness Beer

Quilt

"Solar Flare" by Karen Montgomery featuring Tonga Batiks 70" square VERY colorful. Beautiful!

We have received 32 underwriting donations to date. Please consider making an underwriting donation yourself. Either mail your check to the Center or give it to Sue Uhran or Kathy Seidl. We have many advertisers as well but need more. If you would like to advertise a business or know of one, please contact Pat Hillebrand (254-0626), Sue Uhran (271-0199) or Kathy Seidl (291-6604).

It isn't too late to still make a donation for the auction if you have not done so already. Some ideas: Plan a dinner party; Bake something special: pies, cakes or cookies; Painting or photography, calligraphy or woodworking or other talent.

We all have special talents. Several members have donated a "Theme Basket." Why not team up with another member to donate a basket. The possibilities are limitless. If you wish to donate an item, a talent or provide underwriting, please contact Kathy Seidl [291-6604 or 276-0908 (cell)] or Sue Uhran [271-0199 or 303-2597 (cell)].

With everyone's help we can make this benefit a wonderful success.

From the President Linda Brammer

It has been one busy month at the Center! Since the last newsletter was written, the Clothing Center has been open for distribution hours eight times. We have been open every Wednesday, plus two Sunday afternoons, and two Wednesday evenings. Since we opened in August, we have seen 868 families come through our doors who have received clothing for 2,311 children. It has been a lot work, but well worth the effort when one considers the financial stress these families endure, and how grateful they are for the assistance. In addition to the Center hours, volunteers have also participated in two Elkhart coat distribution events coordinated by Deb Low. Through these efforts 470 children from 224 families have received new coats. One woman sobbed as she received the jackets for her children saying, "No one has ever done something like this for me before." We were all in tears and so grateful to be the instruments used to show her the love of the Christ Child. This is what it's all about!

Many of the clients we've seen this year have been interested in the new scholarship we will award to one person who aspires to attend Ivy Tech. Many young women have requested the scholarship form, and so far one has completed the application. The deadline for applying is February 15, 2011. We are looking forward to helping a mother achieve her goal of a higher education.

A special "shout out" goes to Katy Cressy who has doubled down her efforts to replenish our used clothing inventory through her army called the "Motor Corps." She has encouraged her volunteers to initiate clothing drives at their designated schools and has added extra schools as well as day care centers. Katy also was able to secure an invitation to come to the Junior League annual thrift sale at closing time and collect the unsold children's clothing. She and another team of ladies hauled 10 bags of usable clothing to the Center for sorting and distribution. Well done, and thank you, Katy!

Texas Roadhouse Supports Christ Child

Throughout the month of November, Texas Roadhouse on South Michigan Street will support the Christ Child Society in many ways. On Wednesday, November 3, the Roadhouse will host a 10% night from 3 PM - 10 PM. Bring in the ad on page 4 of this newsletter or one you received in an e-mail and 10% of your bill will go to the Christ Child Society of South Bend.

For four weeks the Roadhouse will offer a free onion blossom appetizer to any customer who brings in gently used children's clothing. In addition, they will sell Christ Child's paper dolls during the entire month. The restaurant will offer support by advertising these events through their local e-mail mailing list (about 3,000 names), printing flyers for our membership and decorating their store with Christ Child paper dolls and posters about our organization and our events at their restaurant.

The Spotlight is on ...

Debbie Spillman

This is her second year on the job as our Community Volunteer Liaison, and she has really taken off! Debbie Spillman is on a mission to draw members of our community into the Christ Child Society, if only on a one time basis, to unload a truck or unpack jackets or work with clients. But many of the volunteers become regulars.

Debbie never misses a chance to speak up, although admittedly shy, about volunteer opportunities at the Center. She's always ready with her paper and pencil to take down a name and number and will follow through with an invitation to join in the work. Debbie has brought recruits from Saint Mary's College, Marian HS, Adams HS, Queen of Peace. She has just added St. Joe HS to the list of volunteers.....and just wait until you read about what she got started at Texas Roadhouse! Way to go, Debbie!

Book Club

The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo
by Steig Larson
November 17
Katie Screes (272-1770)

Deadline for next newsletter
November 15

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

Last Call!

Brighten the lives of needy children by participating in the Christ Child Society's Christmas Gift Giving Program, an ongoing tradition which began in 1951 and continues to bring joy to countless deserving families across our community.

We need volunteers and you can help. E-mail your preference by November 10 to pegriggs1@yahoo.com or call Peg Riggs (271-9971), 51069 Windridge Ct., Granger. Thank you for giving of yourself, your resources and your valuable time to bring the generous spirit of the Christ Child into the hearts of all His children.

Elkhart Project Marks Second Year of Service

A second year of service to our neighbors in need in Elkhart has been successfully accomplished thanks to the work of 37 Christ Child Society volunteers and our funding partners, The Order of Malta and St. Mary's Heritage Fund at The Diocese of Ft. Wayne South Bend.

From the packaging of coats on Wednesday afternoons long after clients left the distribution center, to hauling coats to a temporary storage facility, to actual delivery of coats to their recipients, volunteers worked tirelessly to get coats to children in need before the onset of cold weather.

Special thanks should be extended to Andrea Incropera and Jan Williams for their behind-the-scenes coat-ordering tasks and Karen Clifford for her excellent article in *Today's Catholic* which outlined the project's history and our hopes for the future

Four hundred seventy children from 224 families of St. Vincent's Parish and Beardsley Elementary School received a new warm winter jacket, mittens and hat.

The cost of the project was \$12,563.21 this year, against an approved budget line of \$15,000. Only \$563.21 of actual Christ Child funds were used to deliver this project because of \$12,000.00 in grant monies. The Order of Malta provided \$10,000 for the effort, while St. Mary's Heritage Funds allocated \$2,000 towards this important outreach.

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 Jane Horning (272-4160).

In Memoriam

Josephine Bamber (Maureen Conboy, Tom/Maureen Cahir)
 Betty Scharpf's Brother Jim (Ann/Dave Jones)
 Louis Dempsey (Theresa Van-Nevel)
 Cornelius Desmond (George/Mary Fitzpatrick, Catherine Koscielski, M/M Callix Miller, Maryann Tice, Margaret/Wally Moore, David/Margaret Hosinski, Karen/Darrell Barnett, Diane/Gerry Quinn, Anne/Tom Klimek, Carol Holt, M/M Kevin Zeisz, Irene McNulty, Frank/Andrea Incropera, George/Katy Cressy, Tom/Michelle Mikula, Tom/Pat Murray, Helen Diltz, Art/Mary Lou Houle, Dan/Beth Barrett, Ann/Hersh Riley, Marc/Linda Brammer, Pat/Karen Layng, Charles/Jan Stenftenagel, Tobey/Christopher Mikula, Dave Miller, Ron Miller, Henry Zuchs, Thomas/Angie Cimino, James S Montana, Jr, The Hambletons, Marjorie/John Bycraft, Louis/Jennifer Miller, Ann Korb, Alan/Linda Selner, Rose Acklin, John/Suzy Halloran, Barbara/Jerry Silbert, Dan/Kate O'Rourke, Robert/Ann H Stucker, Bob/Mary Moran, Michael/Julia Eidelman, John/Sharon Connelly Conklin, John/Donna Blatchford, Margaret O'Hara, Michael/Margaret Smith, Ruth Simmermeyer, Marie/Louis Berthold, Ann/David Lusardi, Marcia/Tom Blum, Rob/Linda Diltz, Timothy/Susan Liddell, Doria Koros)

In Memoriam

Husbands
 Ernest Butts
 Dr. Roland Chamblee Sr.

Dr. Roland Chamblee, Sr (Dr John/Marilyn Toepp, Madeline Deyerling, Richard/Vicki Riel, Christ Child Society, Katie Screens, Edward/Joan Hardig)
 Denise Hannan (Kathy Roberts)
 Joseph/Denise Hannan (Sheila Dwyer Gressinger)
 Shirley S Kelley (Sue/Ted Sarphie)
 Frances Lubbers (Betty Ann Gibbons, St. Joseph Academy Classmates)
 Anne McCollough (Joe/Marie Burt, Dottie Wallace)
 Steve McTigue (Charles/Dee Ann Mattes)
 Walter N Moore, Jr (Dr John/Marilyn Toepp)
 Richard Perkins (Margaret O'Hara)
 Joseph Przygocki (Jayne/John Dregits)
 William Reinke (Kay/Frank Catanzarite)
 Aurello Romeo (Joe/Marie Burt)
Special Occasion
 Marlene Blasko - Good Recovery (Elizabeth Goeller)
 Sharon Daly - Good Recovery (Bob/Toni Kowalski)
 In Thanksgiving (Janice/Jack Morrical, William Young, Kevin Williams, Tom Hondorp)
 Foster Martin - Speedy Recovery (Bill Killilea)
 Micki Remley - Get Well (Used Clothing Ladies)

FREE LUNCH! - Linda Brammer

No, not really. But I wanted to get your attention. No one likes to read an article about NCCS annual giving – but that is what this is about, only not like you've heard it before. Each year we print a newsletter article detailing how the funds from the campaign are used by National and how they depend on our support. Worthy as the reasons may be, those articles have not made a difference in the level of support from our chapter. I want to make this personal, because that's what it is. The Annual Campaign is a request made to each PERSON in the Christ Child Society in the United States. Here are some statistics: Last year our reported membership total was 540. The number of members who contributed to the National campaign was 47. That is a 9% participation level from our chapter.

NCCS Monetary Obligation

This is the reality of our situation. Because we are all members of our chapter, we are also each members of National and are obligated to support the NCCS in two ways: each member's dues of \$7.00, and each member's "annual giving donation" of \$20.00, for a total of \$27.00 per member. NCCS calculates our share of support according to the membership number we give to them times \$27.00. Last year our obligation was \$14,580. **Here's the good news - Each contribution received by NCCS from our members is deducted from our total.** At the end of the campaign, whatever remains of our obligation must be paid *out of our checking account*, money we've worked so hard to raise, money that could be used for other expenses. Last year 47 members contributed \$2,325; that's an average of \$49.00 apiece. (Some gave \$100, others gave \$27.) All of that was deducted from our obligation, leaving our chapter to pay the balance of \$12,255.00. And we did just that. We wrote one very large check.

Goal: \$0.00 Balance Due

We, as a chapter, are constantly looking for ways to raise money. Every bit helps us to meet our budget. That's why a closer look at this NCCS campaign is necessary, if not vital. If each member paid her dues and chapter share to NCCS, we wouldn't have to raise that \$12,255.00 to pay their share for them. Think of it this way: \$12,255.00 would pay for clothing bundles for 163 children! Our treasury funds should be used for that, not to pay our members' contribution to National. There are chapters in the US who have been so successful in member participation that their balance due was \$0.00!

Invitation A Bit Misleading

The Annual Giving Invitation which was mailed to you was a bit misleading. I know of a few ladies who looked at it and threw it away because the lowest level of giving listed was \$100. It should have listed an option to pay \$27.00, which is the minimum. Please reconsider your participation in this campaign. Please contribute your share of \$27.00, or more if you're able. (ALL of it comes off of our total, and will defray the cost of those unable to contribute.) Even if you threw your envelope away, it's not too late! NCCS will credit your contribution to our chapter with your address alone. We have additional envelopes available in the office at the Center, or if you wish, use this address: National Christ Child Society, 4340 East West Highway, Suite 202, Bethesda, MD, 20814.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

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

4

Christ Child Society • South Bend, IN

November, 2010

In November the place to be is
TEXAS ROADHOUSE
4635 S. MICHIGAN STREET, SOUTH BEND

Wednesday NOVEMBER 3 3 PM -10 PM

Texas Roadhouse is hosting a "10% Fundraiser" for Christ Child Society!
Bring in this ad and 10% of your food purchase will be given to
Christ Child Society of South Bend!

The ENTIRE MONTH of NOVEMBER
Anyone who brings in gently used children's clothing ...
Will receive a FREE Baby Blossom Appetizer!