

April 10, 2023
Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA)
Court Blessed Mother Teresa #2550

Regent Paula Foret called the meeting to order at OLPH's Parish Life Center at 5:44 pm. There was a quorum of officers and members present. The CDA Opening Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance were recited. Member Sarah Gaspard provided refreshments.

Sandra Viator was installed as a new member of the Court, presented with a CDA pin, and graciously welcomed.

Recording Secretary Bonnie Viator handed out copies of the March Minutes which were read silently by the members, at which time Bonnie noted a correction on Page 2 of the Minutes. It was motioned by Kathy and seconded by Rosa to approve the Minutes as corrected. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

With the absence of Treasurer Barbara Babineaux, Regent Paula called on Financial Secretary Shelly Hollier to present the Treasurer's Report. Shelly reported the last bank statement balance ending March 31st was \$10,511.30 and a balance of \$10,102.30 in the Court's checkbook as of March 31st, 2023. Six deposits totaled \$10,189.00; 2 disbursements totaled \$400; 2 outstanding checks. Motion was made by Betty, seconded by Rosa to accept the Treasurer's Report and was approved.

Two items of correspondence were passed around: thank you card from member Denise G. for sympathy card received for her mother's passing, and La. CDA Convention Philanthropy letter requesting donations.

Regent Paula reported the State officers have announced that The Missionaries of Charity at St. Agnes Church in Baton Rouge, La., was chosen as the **CDA State Philanthropy Project** recipient for this year's State Convention to be held in May. St. Agnes provides for the homeless--helping with shelter, meals, etc., in conjunction with the Diocese there helping to find permanent employment and housing. They are seeking certain donated items as well as monetary donations. The Missionaries of Charity was founded by Mother Teresa's organization. The matter was tabled to "New Business."

Committee Reports:

Prayer Petitions List - Chair Kathy Cox circulated an updated List, having made additions and deletions. Regent Paula advised members to get with Kathy after the meeting with any new changes. Discussion followed.

Rosary - There were no rosaries recited since last month's meeting.

Rosary at the Grotto - On April 1st members Mary R., Bonnie V., Paula F., Fay Ferry, Kathy C. and Janie S. recited the Rosary for Pro-Life. The Grotto was cleaned and fresh flowers were placed in vases on the altar. Possibly some plants such as Easter lilies will be added to the planter next month.

Empathy - Chairperson Betty Rogers advised that she sent 3 "Birthday" cards and 4 more "Thank You" cards with respect to the Shrimp Boil fundraiser.

Spirituality - Kathy C. presented a big batch of baby blankets that she made for the Unexpected Pregnancy Center. She also presented her first "prayer blanket" that she made, having stitched a purple cross on it representing our CDA Court. Fr. Savoie blessed the blanket for Kathy. She advised that she was in an accident on the 4-lane recently in a construction site in which she had the blessed "prayer" blanket in her car at the time; she was not hurt and her car had some damage to it. (She was not at fault.) She requested that the "prayer" blanket be given to someone in the room at the meeting. She recited an Easter Prayer over the blanket, after which all members at the meeting agreed to present the blanket to new member Sandra Viator.

Old Unfinished Business:

Financial Secretary Shelly Hollier passed out a "Shrimp Boil 2023 Fundraiser Report" that she composed showing the profit made by the Court. Discussion was had concerning our 2024 fundraiser, advising that the government will do away with plastic bags being used by retail and grocery stores. Motion was made by Denise G. to buy a case of 1,000 bags @ \$35.99 from Amazon and seconded by Betty R. Motion passed by unanimous vote. Jeri M. ordered the case of bags online during the meeting.

Success of the St. Joseph's Altar in the vestibule of the church was discussed. Members attending the altar reported all good comments from parishioners. Donations of \$197 was collected at the time of the St. Joseph's Altar and deposited into the Court's checking account. Discussion ensued with reference to what organization is in more need of the money. Motion was made by Kathy and seconded by Rosa to donate \$197 to the Iberia Homeless Shelter; approved by unanimous vote.

Regent Paula advised that last month via a phone call the Diocese was seeking monetary donations from CDA Courts to help with their 2nd Annual Young Ladies Discernment Retreat to be held on April 14th in Lafayette. Due to time restrictions, the phone committee contacted members for a vote-- "yea" or "nay" to donate \$100 to help feed the ladies attending the retreat. And Treasurer Barbara advised that the Court had enough funds in its account to donate \$100. Vote was unanimous and approved by the Court.

New Business:

Regent Paula reminded members that the semi-annual Financial Review has been set for Monday, April 17 at 6 PM at the Life Center. She noted she already had Mary and Denise G. volunteered last month but 3 volunteers are needed. Rosa volunteered to attend.

Going back to the **2023 CDA State Philanthropy Project** to be held in May, the recipient for this project is The Missionaries of Charity at St. Agnes near Baton Rouge. Motion was made by Mary to donate \$50, seconded by Rosa; motion passed by unanimous vote.

State CDA Convention to be held in May 4-6: Paula and Bonnie advised that they may not be able to attend. Paula stated if anyone else was interested in going to the convention to please let her know.

Angel of Charity form was submitted as requested for the State Convention: \$5,489 was the Court's total.

OLPH's debt reduction: Discussion for 2023 donation. Motion was made by Mary and seconded by Kathy to donate \$1,000 this year toward OLPH's debt reduction. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

KC's National Guard Family Fund Day: To be held on April 23 (Sunday). Shelly requested donations of small cakes once again this year for their Cake Walk, to be delivered to the National Guard Armory by 10 AM.

CDA possible Project for May: Discussion. By unanimous vote, purchase of "Mary" prayer cards to be handed out to all mothers at the Mother's Day weekend masses.

The next CDA meeting will be held on May 8th.

Closing Prayer was recited. The meeting was then adjourned.


Recording Secretary, Bonnie D. Viator