



**Catholic Daughters  
of the Americas®**

**Montana**

**September 2022**



**Message from Montana  
State Regent Patty Kepp**

Welcome back ladies,

You know, CDA "CAN DO ANY  
THING"! Yes, all of us CAN DO

what we set our minds to do. All we need is one idea, two plus members and let it flow! Through our faith, through our unity and charity, through our companionship, we can do whatever we set our minds too.

Let's start this new CDA season with new and renewed friendships, ideas and camaraderie. And, let's begin with attending one of the Fall Spiritual Retreats your state board is presenting for it's members. Bring non-members with you, they may enjoy us so much they'll join your CDA court. We promise to make both September 24 in Wibaux and October 1 in Billings memorable. Please check out the flyer on page six of this newsletter for information. If you plan on attending one of the retreats or both, please let your court regent know so we may have a count for the host courts.

Montana CDA has many events happening from September 2022—June 2023. Please check out page three with some of the deadlines listed. The Education Contest and Newsletter Contest instructions will be distributed at the retreats, with deadlines to the state chairmen by March 1, 2023.

Also due February 1 is your application to run for a state officer position. Please, please consider running for a position. You don't know what you're missing until you've tried it! Page three has the name and address of the Nominating Committee chairman. Follow the instructions in the 2022 National By-laws.

We have fantastic news from the National Convention in Puerto Rico—per Jo Ann Harper, 1st Vice State Regent. The Education Contest won two national awards. First place award for Poetry, Division I and third place award for Poetry, Division IV (see page five to read the winning entries). And our Montana State Newsletter placed second in Category IV, Division I.

A huge THANK YOU to Jo Ann Harper, 1st Vice State Regent and Joannie Warnke, Vice Regent from Court St. Mary #645, Livingston! These two ladies traveled to Puerto Rico and spent many days seeing the sights, attending the convention and festivities and have plenty of information to share with all of us. THANK YOU!

Now that I have run out of room, I'd better sign off! God Bless you all and we will see you this year!

In Unity and Charity,  
**Patty Kepp, Montana State Regent**

*Member: Ct. Our Lady of Fatima, #1979—Hardin*



**Message from Immediate Past  
National Regent Sherry Nilles**

**Thank you Montana!  
Great Catholic Daughters  
Great State Officers  
Awesome State Convention**

To my dear Sisters in Christ in the great state of Montana. Thank you for hosting the 2014 National Convention! You were fantastic hostesses!

Thank you for accepting me as your state representative the past two years. It was my honor and joy to travel to Livingston for your state convention. Lee and I so very much enjoyed the wonderful hospitality from every person at the convention and all the activities planned. I will miss meeting with you!

The Fall Spiritual Reflection and Workshop with Bishop Jeffrey Fleming speaking will be filled with information as well as an inspiring day. I encourage every Catholic Daughter to attend.

I regret that I cannot attend!

May God continue to bless you always.

*Sherry Nilles*

*Immediate Past National Regent*

**Thank you Sherry!**



**Message from State Chaplain  
Father Greg Staudinger**

Well here we go again entering in the fall, just a month or so away.

The summer has been long and hot

for us. As we enter the fall the weather changes and it's a slow pace.

Our monthly meeting for our courts begin in September. We see who is available to talk to the court. The court officers meet to plan out the calendar for the year to keep the interest up of the members. We will be asked, to get new members for the local court. Of course, during the past year good court members have passed away. We still remember those who have passed in our prayers and masses. But it seems that life goes on and the windy fall changes into the dead and coldest of winter. We forget the heat of summer we experienced, that we complained about everyday during the hot, hot summer. We wish for the days of summer again, whatever the cold temperature is. Like my mom use to say, "People in hell want cold water too". We can never be satisfied, whatever the case may be.

Enjoy what we have and the year that is ahead of us. Read the newsletters that are mailed to you, from front to back, plan to attend the fall retreat/workshop wherever they may be. Like Father Ned Shinnick used to say, "we will have a cold cup of coffee and hard cookie waiting for you."

See you around during the year!

*Fr Greg Staudinger, State Chaplain*

**Montana State Officers**

**State Chaplain**

Rev. Fr. Greg Staudinger  
717 18th St West  
Billings, MT 59102  
406 489-6666  
[frgreg@stpiusxblngs.org](mailto:frgreg@stpiusxblngs.org)

**State Regent/  
Newsletter Editor**

Patty Kepp  
917 N Crow Ave  
Hardin, MT 59034  
406 665-5257  
[mtcda.patty@gmail.com](mailto:mtcda.patty@gmail.com)

**First Vice State Regent/  
State Website Editor**

Jo Ann Harper  
430 N C Street, #12  
Livingston, MT 59047  
406 223-9046  
[mtcda.joann@gmail.com](mailto:mtcda.joann@gmail.com)

**Second Vice State Regent**

Gale Kreitzberg  
2454 Southridge Dr  
Billings, MT 59102  
406 860-2669  
[gkreitzberg@hotmail.com](mailto:gkreitzberg@hotmail.com)

**State Secretary**

Peg Smith  
8725 Cutthroat Dr  
Billings, Mt 59106  
406 672-3006  
[pegsmith020@icloud.com](mailto:pegsmith020@icloud.com)

**State Treasurer**

Pamela Boner  
2133 Lake Hills Dr  
Billings, MT 59105  
406 939-1936  
[pamboner5@gmail.com](mailto:pamboner5@gmail.com)

**District Deputies**

Monica Gallegos-Laeupple  
PO Box 1958  
Havre, MT 59501  
406 945-0822  
[rent-home@live.com](mailto:rent-home@live.com)

Kelly M Ihde  
919 West Main Street  
Sidney, MT 59270  
406 489-1059  
[kelmarihde@yahoo.com](mailto:kelmarihde@yahoo.com)

**National Regent**

Emily Guilherme  
[emthanga1@aol.com](mailto:emthanga1@aol.com)





### Message from Jo Ann Harper Montana 1st Vice State Regent

Welcome to another year of Catholic Daughters. I am hopeful that all local Montana Courts are recruiting new members to give a little burst of energy to your meetings. Be sure to approach the ladies in your parish, you may be surprised and get a few new members.

Being one of only two members representing Montana at the National Convention in San Juan, Puerto Rico, I was honored to be your voice. Both of our proposed by-law changes were rejected by the By-Law Committee, but were brought to the membership once the chosen by-law discussions were completed. So happy to report that the by-law regarding the nominating committee was passed, and will be explained at our fall Spiritual Day/workshop. With San Juan being the fifth National Convention that I have attended, it was also the least attended by members for several reasons. It was, however, the most attended by spouses for many great reasons. Highlights of convention will be presented when we gather this fall. Let's start saving our penny's for the 60th Biennial Convention in July 2024 in New Orleans.

Your Montana State Board is hoping to make the fall Spiritual Day a meaningful and special experience for all. Please try to make time for yourself and for your state board. We really would appreciate your presence and participation. We grow stronger together.

Let's have a fantastic year together, under so much new leadership within our courts. Do not hesitate to contact the state board if you have questions or need our assistance. We are praying for each and every one of you, and ask for you to pray for us as well.

*Jo Ann Harper, Montana 1st Vice State Regent*

Member: Ct. St. Mary, #645—Livingston

### Montana State Projects: Florence Crittenton in Helena, Montana

#### Courageous Innovation

Florence Crittenton was founded on innovation and the courage to support people in the most difficult circumstances. Our approach is based on our historical knowledge and an innovative approach to serving families.

#### Respect & Compassion

We believe that all families matter and believe each individual to be worthy, valuable and important.

#### Resiliency

We believe the future is not defined by the past and that families are able to heal and live healthy, successful lives.



### Message from Gale Kreitzberg Montana 2nd Vice State Regent

With the end of summer, I look forward to fall, my favorite time of year.

Fall brings cooler days, the leaves turning colors and the start of another CDA year. I am very grateful for CDA and all it offers and how it has helped me to grow in my faith. GRATITUDE and FAITH are what we can always have more of. Imagine if everyone lived in gratitude and faith how different our world would be. Start today and everyday find 5 things you are grateful for and share your gratitude with others. We can make a difference by our actions and how we choose to look at things.

FAITH is what has kept me going even with all that has happened over the last several years. Always know God is in charge and He only wants good for us. Remember FEAR (FALSE EVIDENCE APPEARING REAL) is from the devil.

May this Fall bring a life filled with Gratitude and Faith.

God Bless

*Gale Kreitzberg, 2nd Vice State Regent*

Member: Ct. St. Cecelia #1151—Billings

### Just a few reminders!

Court Regents—share the information from the National Quarterly Newsletters with your members.

If we have an updated email address for members, you should receive an emailed copy of the Montana State Newsletter. Also, all Court Regents and Recording Secretaries will receive a hard copy. If we do not have an email address for your court officers you will receive a hard copy, as well. Please share with members who have not received the state newsletter.

Dues: Remember to keep your court rosters up-to-date. Send in forms for additions, deletions, address changes—asap, as well as your new members. (Ask for an updated court roster from National: [cdaroster@aol.com](mailto:cdaroster@aol.com))

- **National Dues are going up by \$3.00 per year. The Fall 2022 dues statement from the National office will reflect a \$1.50 per member increase.**

Remember each court officer should have a copy of the current Bylaws—Amended July 2022. All members may receive a copy. You can order through the store on the national website.



"It is not enough to say we are Christians. We must live the faith, not only with our words, but with our actions." *Pope Francis*

**The Montana State Board is selling seat cushions as a fund-raiser for state board expenses. If you would like to purchase one or two or more, please contact any state officer. They are \$15 each.**







### Message from Pam Boner, State Treasurer

Hello Ladies, I hope everyone had a great summer, enjoying your family and friends and staying cool too.



As we begin a new CDA year with some courts having new leadership, I would like to say Thank You. Thank you for saying yes. Thank you for stepping out of your comfort zone. Thank you for wanting to keep your court active in Montana. Thank you to our newly elected National officers, too. They are members of a local court just like us.

Our 1st Vice State Regent Jo Ann Harper, along with Livingston's Recording Secretary, Joannie Warnke, attended the National Convention in Puerto Rico this past July. Our State newsletter placed 2nd at the convention. Whoo-hoo Patty, our State Regent and editor. I can't wait to hear all about it.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at our Spiritual Retreat in Wibaux and Billings this fall. Please plan on attending one (or both) of these. We will have some very moving and fun activities and great guest speakers. Deacon Jim Wosepka will be speaking in Wibaux. Our Diocese Coadjutor, Fr. Jeffery Flemming will be speaking in Billings. Now doesn't that make you want to attend?

Yours in Christ,  
Pam Boner, State Treasurer

Dual Member: Ct. St. Katherine #239-Glendive  
and Ct. St. Cecelia #1151-Billings



### Message from Peg Smith, State Secretary

Greetings from my home to yours! By the time you get this, we might be commenting that



Fall is in the air.

With a change of season, it's time to look within and see where I might be able to make a change for the better!

How do I show my generosity? How might someone need my help? Who could I invite to a Catholic Daughter meeting? How have I been hospitable? Have I thought about sitting with someone different to open lines of friendship? Could I have a greater attitude of gratitude?

God puts so many things before me each day. Some days I just look too hard and still miss the cues. How can I recognize these gifts more quickly, more readily, and then be thankful?

God has plans for each of us! This might be the season in which we find new opportunities to be more generous with our time and talent; to be more hospitable and warmer to that person we haven't forgiven yet; to be more gracious when something is an inconvenience to us.

This isn't a new idea so I can't take any credit but I thought I would share it.

Start a Gratitude Journal. Each day find a single thing you are grateful for and write it down. What a wonderful reflection that would be even by New Year's Day! There will be a great deal to be thankful for, not to mention the gifts we will receive in return. Just some food for thought!

Happy Fall!!! God Bless!!

Your Sister in Christ,  
Peg Smith, State Secretary

P.S. Journal Entry #1

I am grateful to be State Secretary for Montana CDA  
Member: Ct. St. Cecelia #1151—Billings

**Catholic Daughters of the Americas websites**  
**National:** [www.catholicdaughters.org](http://www.catholicdaughters.org)  
**Montana State:** [www.cdaofmontana.org](http://www.cdaofmontana.org)

The state website is now live. Please submit your information, pictures and ideas to Jo Ann Harper, State Website Editor.

#### State Board Tentative Calendar—2022/2023

- Aug. 20, 2022: State Board meeting, Billings
- Sept., 2022: Publish newsletter
- Sept. 23, 2022: State Board meet with 2023 Convention Committee in Glendive State Board meeting, Glendive
- Sept. 24, 2022: Fall Spiritual Reflection/Workshop, Wibaux
- Oct. 1, 2022: Fall Spiritual Reflection/Workshop, Billings
- Oct., 2022: State Officers or District Deputies visit courts for Financial Reviews (weather permitting)
- Nov., 2022: State Board meeting, Billings
- Jan., 2023: State Board meet with 2023 Convention Committee, Glendive
- May 4—7, 2023: 38th Biennial MT State Convention

#### DEADLINES—DATES

**Oct 2, 2022:** Respect for Life Sunday

**Oct., 16, 2022:** CDA Sunday

**Oct., 22, 2022:** Make a Difference Day

**Oct., 30—Nov., 5, 2022:** White Ribbons Against Pornography (WRAP) Week

**Nov., 1, 2022 deadline:**

Financial Reviews need to be completed and mailed before the November deadline. Weather permitting, a State Officer or District Deputy will attend your courts Financial Review.

**Feb., 1, 2023 deadline:**

Your application to run for a state officer position must be postmarked prior to February 1, 2023 and mailed to the 2023 Nominating Committee Chairman Joannie Warnke, 325 S Main St., Apt 302, Livingston, MT 59047

**ALL STATE OFFICER POSITIONS ARE OPEN!**  
**PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER RUNNING FOR**  
**A POSITION ON THE MONTANA STATE BOARD!**

**National News:**

*Congratulations to our National Chaplain, newly elected National Board, National Directors and 2024 Nominating Committee*

*National Chaplain: Father Shenan Boquet*

*National Regent: Emily Guilherme*

*National Regent-Elect: Susan Mone'*

*1st Vice National Regent: Essie Walker*

*2nd Vice National Regent: Connie Dronette*

*Secretary-Treasurer: Luone da Silveira*

**National Directors**

*Brenda Anderson*

*Nancy Bambenek*

*Michele Bowman*

*Duchess Collins*

*Yvette Griego*

*Mary Impellizzeri*

*Darlene Moritz*

*Barbara Ward*

*Brenda West*

**2024 Nominating Committee**

*Rita Carlson*

*Irene Duda*

*Rosie Duran*

*Primavera Johnson*

*Dr. Heather Rave*

*Maria Santos-Silva*

*Brenda Spizzo*

*Terrie Vacek*

*Cindy Vincent*

**New National Charity:****HUMAN LIFE INTERNATIONAL**

Human Life International (HLI) is a United States based Roman Catholic anti-abortion organization. It is one of the largest anti-abortion organizations in the United States. It is also the largest international pro-life organization in the world. It has affiliates and associates in over 80 nations worldwide and has sent representatives to approximately 160 locations.

Through their global mission Human Life International is-

1. Training local leaders and make a lasting impact on communities around the world through doctors and teachers.
2. Helping families choose life by providing counseling, healthcare and other resources to expecting mothers in crisis.
3. Going beyond abortion by bringing Christ's teaching on life and family to the world including chastity, marriage, end of life issues and more.

Human Life International truly builds a pro-life culture.

**2023 Education Contest Themes:**

*We walk by Faith, not by Sight. 2 Cor 5:7*

*or*

*When do I have to lean on my Faith more than my Sight?*

Court St. Mary #645— Livingston has glassware for purchase, which was ordered for the 2021 State CDA Convention. Stemmed wine glass, Stemless wine glass, Mason jar glass. \$3 each or 2 for \$5. Contact Jo Ann Harper at 1-406-223-9046



What: **38th Biennial Montana State Convention**

When: **May 4-5-6-7, 2023**

Where: **Glendive, MT**

*Please plan to attend!  
Regents watch your mail  
for upcoming information to  
share with court members.*

***Please consider running for a  
State Officer position!  
We need you! CDA needs you!***



*Congratulations to the newly elected Montana Local Court Regents and court officers for the 2022-2024 term:*

*Court St. Katherine #239, Glendive:  
Brittany Persons 406-939-5085*

*Court St. Mary #645, Livingston:  
Jo Ann Harper 406-223-9046*

*Court St. Cecelia #1151, Billings:  
Peg Smith 406-672-3006*

*Court St. Theresa #1161, Havre:  
Monica Gallegos-Laeupple 406 945-0822*

*Court Our Lady of Victory #1383, Wibaux:  
Darlene Begger 406-796-2326*

*Court Mother Cabrini #1766, Sidney:  
Kelly M. Ihde 406-489-1059*

*Court Our Lady of Fatima #1979, Nardin:  
Christina Kepp-Morse 406-860-3644*

*Court St. Monica #1994, Baker:  
Evelyn "Evie" Smith 406-775-6689*

**Catholic Daughters of the Americas  
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.***

## 2022 National Education Contest

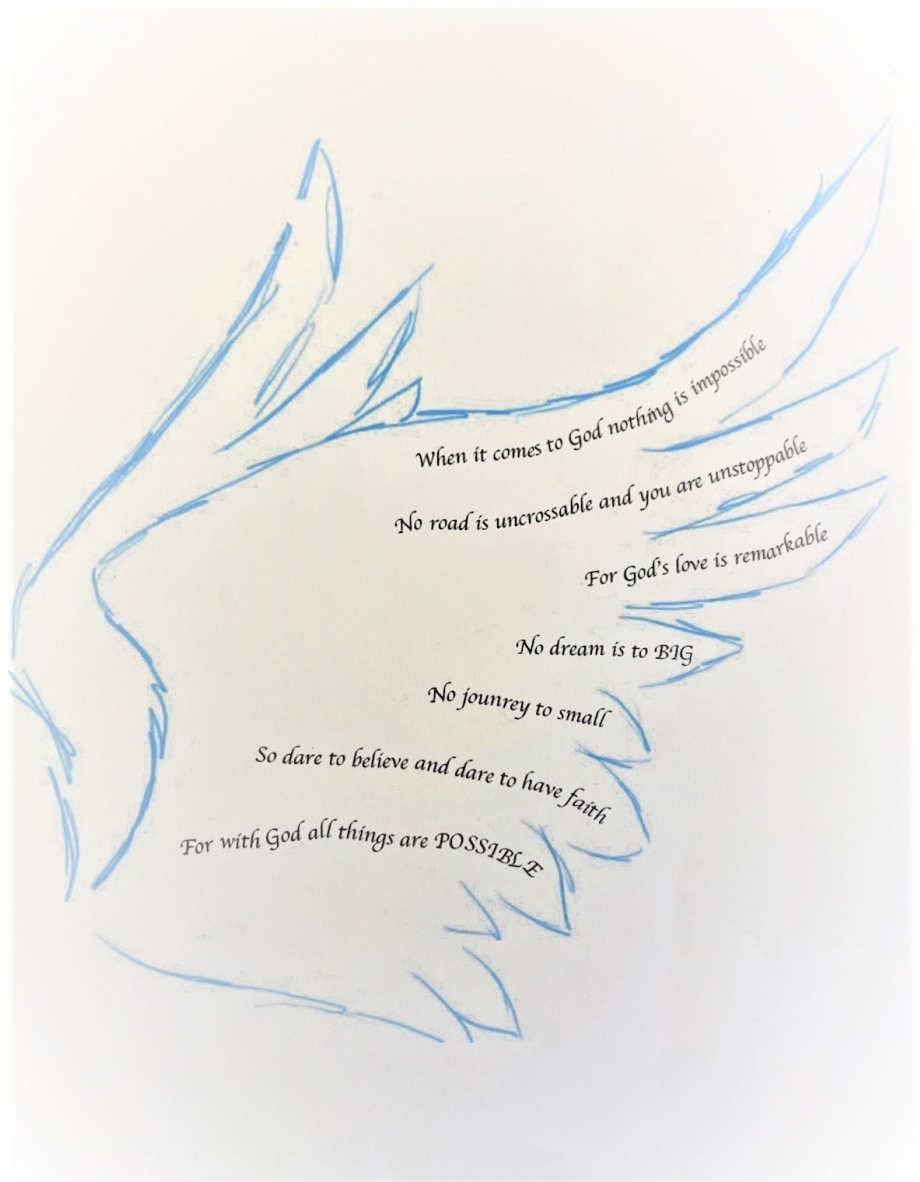
### First Place—Poetry—Division I

*"With God all things are possible."*

Miss Ella Morris of Billings, Montana was awarded first place with her Poetry entry—Division I at the 2022 National Education Contest. Ella has given the State Board permission to publish her winning poetry in our September 2022 State Newsletter. When she wrote this poem she was in fifth grade at St. Francis School. Her first place award includes a blue ribbon, certificate award from the Catholic Daughters of the Americas National Board and \$100 to spend anyway she wants. In order to enter the national contest Ella was awarded first place locally with her entry through Court St. Cecelia, #1151 of Billings and then her entry won first place with the Montana State Education contest. From there on to nationals! We are so proud of Ella!

Congratulations Ella and thank you for sharing your poetry with the Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

Hope everyone enjoys the poem to the right by Ella Morris!



#### WHERE IS GOD IN MY LIFE WHEN I AM STRUGGLING?

Daily I am yearning and searching for answers to my prayers,  
But only get discouraged thinking not a single soul even cares.

I seek high, I seek low, I even seek on top and underneath,  
Where is God when I am struggling? I grumble and grind my teeth!

I discovered that patience and fortitude are always on my side,  
He tends to make his message much more clear when my faith I do not hide.

I need to learn to listen to the quiet moments in my life,  
Cuz God is ever more present, and He calms my every strife.

#### 2022 National Education Contest winner

#### Poetry—Division IV Adult CDA Member—Third Place

Congratulations to our own Jo Ann Harper for her third place award in Poetry—Division IV at the 2022 National Education Contest.

Jo Ann is quite the poet as we are honored with her many talents. Including the many lyrics she has written and set to music we all know and appreciate.

Thank you Jo Ann for allowing the State Board to publish your winning entry.

Please enjoy the poetry to the left by Jo Ann Harper!





*Sponsored by the Montana State Board,  
Catholic Daughters of the Americas*



## *2022 Fall Spiritual Reflection and Workshop*

*Wibaux: Sat., Sept., 24th, 8:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.*

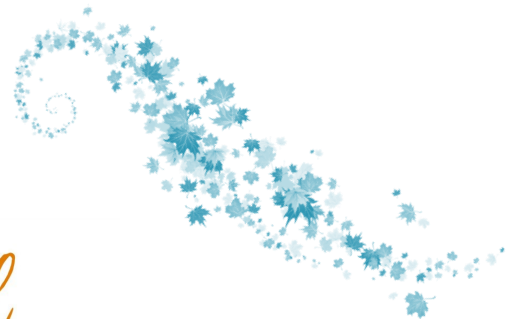
*St. Peter's Catholic Church, 313 1st Ave SW.*

*Hosting Court—Our Lady of Victory #1383*

*Billings: Sat., Oct., 1st, 8:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.*

*St. Pius X Catholic Church, 717 18th St West*

*Hosting Court—St. Cecelia #1151*



### *Wibaux*

*Guest Speaker:*  
*Deacon Jim Wosepka*

### *Billings*

*Guest Speaker: Bishop Coadjutor*  
*Jeffrey Fleming*

*Guest Speaker: Deb Leveaux*  
*"St. Ignatius Spiritual Exercises"*



### *Silent Auction Items:*

*(Each court is asked to bring an item – individuals may as well)*

### *CDA State Board Sales:*

*Seat cushions, Polo Shirts,  
Earrings, Montana Silversmith  
pins, etc...*

### *Court St. Mary, #645*

*will be selling CDA Glassware.*

**Please RSVP with a count by Sept 14th for the Wibaux retreat and Sept 21st for the Billings retreat!**

**406 665-5257 (Patty) - Thank you!**

## NATIONAL PROJECTS AND CHARITIES

Catholic Daughters of the Americas supports five National Projects. Every court is asked to contribute \$20 a year to each of these projects so they can continue their good works.

The five projects are:

- Habitat for Humanity
- Holy Cross Family Ministries
- Laboure Society
- SOAR! (Support Our Aging Religious)
- National Center on Sexual Exploitation  
(formerly Morality in Media)

Catholic Daughters also support ten National Charities. Courts are asked to choose who they wish to make contributions to each year. They are:

- The North American College
- Apostleship of the Sea
- Mother Theresa
- Disaster Relief Fund
- Catholic Relief Services
- Covenant House
- Tutwiler Clinic
- Human Life International
- Catholic Extension
- Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

***Collectively, all contributions equal huge checks to these organizations at National Conventions.***



### 2021—2023 MONTANA STATE OFFICERS CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS



#### REGENT

Patty Kepp

917 N Crow Ave Hardin, MT 59034  
406-665-5257

\* contact Patty for any CDA questions or issues / schedule an officer visit to your court

\* Circle of Love Chairman: Education / Leadership / Public Relations

#### FIRST VICE REGENT

Jo Ann Harper

430 N C Street, #12 Livingston, MT 59047  
406-223-9046

\* contact Jo Ann for any CDA questions or issues if you cannot reach Patty

\* Circle of Love Chairman: Family / National Projects & Charities / Leadership / Public Relations

#### SECOND VICE REGENT

Gale Kreitzberg

2454 Southridge Dr Billings, MT 59102  
406-860-2669

\* contact Gale if Patty or Jo Ann are not available

\* Circle of Love Chairman: Quality of Life / Leadership / Public Relations

#### SECRETARY

Peg Smith

8725 Cutthroat Dr Billings, MT 59106  
406-672-3006

\* send the secretary your dues and payments of any kind / membership forms

\* Circle of Love Chairman: Leadership/Public Relations

#### TREASURER

Pam Boner

2133 Lake Hills Dr Billings, MT 59105  
406-939-1936

\* contact Pam if you want to verify you paid your dues

\* Circle of Love Chairman: Local Newsletter / Youth & JCDA / Leadership / Public Relations

Circle of Love Legislative Chairman: Monica Gallegos-Lauepple 406-265-6802

Circle of Love Spiritual Enhancement Chairman: Kelly M Ihde 406-489-1059

*\*contact ANY state officer to report court news for the State Newsletter or the State Website*