



**Welcome everyone to a new
Catholic Daughter year!**

I'm hoping everyone had a wonderful summer and stayed plenty cool during those hot days!

We had a fabulous 38th Biennial Montana State Convention in Glendive. If you weren't able to attend you missed a good time had by all. See pictures on page 3. Thank you Glendive Court St. Katherine #239 for hosting the state convention. It was splendid!

Your newly elected State Officers traveled to Arizona to attend the National State Officer Training at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale. Oh—yes, it was very HOT in July! We renewed friendships, made new friends with state and national officers and learned lots to share with our members.

The 2023 Fall Workshop will be held in Billings at St Pius X Catholic Church on Sat., Sept. 30th (see flyer, page 6). Please try to attend! Not only are we “Working, Playing and Praying” we have invited women from other parishes in our diocese who do not have CDA courts. Let's show our love of Unity and Charity and promote Catholic Daughters of the Americas to show the Catholic ladies in eastern Montana who we are and what we do. Be enthusiastic! *Enthusiasm glows, radiates, permeates and immediately captures everyone's interest.* Paul J Meyer

We are honored to have Bishop Jeffrey Fleming presenting at the Fall Workshop. If you were able to attend the retreat in Billings last fall you know Bishop Jeff will be entertaining. Florence Crittenton Family Services (one of our state projects) will be sharing information with us and Barb Ward, MT National Representative/National Director will present to the membership.

Please check page 3 for “Put This on Your Calendar” with deadlines and dates. Robes survey, page 7 & 8. And, of course, read the complete newsletter. A lot of time and expense go into preparing and publishing from the articles written, research, pictures, etc... New court officers will be elected next spring - be thinking about nominating committees, slate of officers and current officers sharing your expertise with members who have never held an office. There may be a “diamond in the rough”.

Have a wonderful Labor Day weekend and a beautiful fall. See you Sept 30th in Billings.

In Unity and Charity
Patty Kepp, Montana State Regent



**FROM ONE SEASON
TO ANOTHER**

Summer is winding down and school has started in most places. Many CDA milestones have been accomplished this spring/summer by your courts and officers. A very successful State Convention started off your season. New state officers were installed. I want to thank the new state officers for accepting their positions. We are very grateful for the ladies who have served the last two years as a state officer, and we are very thankful for those who are doing their second term. No one can thank you enough for all you do. I apologize for missing your State Convention due to the conflict of one of my other states having their State Convention that exact same weekend.

It was good to see your state officers at the State Officer Training workshop in Scottsdale Arizona. I am sure they came back with new information to share. We spent a few hot days there, but the air-conditioned rooms made it well worth the opportunity to see everyone again.

Next up is your Fall Conference and the beginning of a new season. I plan on attending and look forward to seeing you there. May all of you have a successful second season. Many of you will be back to attending monthly meetings again. It is really important that all of us focus on obtaining new members and starting new courts. This, after all, is what we are all about.

There is a plea out for funds for the recovery efforts in Maui Hawaii. This is not a mandatory donation. Along with this plea, a survey on robes was sent to all court regents. Each individual member needs to please take the time to give the committee your honest opinion and suggestions. It's just like voting in an election—you can't complain if you don't vote. The third bit of information sent out recently is asking your opinion on what you want the role of your local court chaplain to be. The chaplains won't know what you expect of them if we do not give them any guidelines.

God Bless all of you as we move from one season to the next.

Barb Ward,
National Director

Montana State Officers

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Message from State Chaplain Father Greg Staudinger

The weather is changing little, from the hot and the coolness that touches our souls. Each day is different for us. Changes in our lives come with changes of the leaves. The brilliance of the colors are like the changes of our lives. No day is the same, we search the meaning of what life brings to us. The changes of the autumn colors are changes of life that bring ourselves to the beginning of the silence of winter. The rest of our mind, as we rejuvenate ourselves. The way we can rejuvenate ourselves from fall to winter is to attend the fall CDA Workshop on September the 30th at St. Pius, Billings. Let us welcome the season that changes yourself Spiritually.

Fr. Greg, State Chaplain



Montana State Chaplain Father Greg Staudinger installs Stephanie Bearden of Court St. Theresa #1161 Havre, as the newly appointed 2nd Vice State Regent during a Montana State Board meeting on June 10, 2023 in Billings.

From our newest State Officer, 2nd Vice State Regent Stephanie Bearden

"Happy Fall Y'all!"

I am Stephanie Bearden and new to the Montana State Board of Catholic Daughters. I am actually new to Catholic Daughters. I began this journey in December of 2021, thanks to a very wonderful lady. I am looking forward to growing in my faith with the help of Catholic Daughters.

I attended the National State Officer Conference in Arizona with my fellow State Board members.

I am very blessed to have attended. I am ready to pass along all of the wonderful things I have learned. We will be holding our Fall Workshop

September 30th at St Pius X in Billings. I hope to see all of you there.



By Darcie Huppert—Newly elected State Secretary

"Why am I a Catholic Daughter" and/or "Why did I Become A State Officer?"

A friend asked me to come to a meeting and I joined. Simple? Right? I just decided this was a wonderful group of women trying to do their little part to make the world a better place and I thought maybe I could help with that. Well, that may be where the journey began in March of 2018, but 5 years later it's become a passion and a place where I love and learn with other wonderful caring women.

When I was in Glendive in May at the State Convention, my mind and thoughts began soaring and my heart was being tugged as I listened to some of the stories of projects other local courts were doing. In a world that seems to be so full of anger, violence and moral abolition, there was peace, faith and hope in this gathering of women. I could foresee that though each local court may be few, we had the capability to turn that little ripple into a big wave if we joined hands with "all" our Catholic Daughters. God has a plan for each of us but we need to listen and step forward from the shadows. I had convinced myself I was too busy, or I was doing enough, or I couldn't do what those other women were doing because I didn't have enough experience. But God laughed at me and said "you can do this and I will help you". So I said "yes" to becoming the State Secretary.

Now there are days that I get a little crabby with God and I say "I told you I was too busy" because that day I have a funeral to sing at, payroll to do, minutes to type up from the last meeting, brownies to bake for the funeral and I have to get a project lined up for the CDA women coming over tomorrow to work on crafts. But God looks down and says "you got this" and miraculously by the end of the day, all is accomplished and my heart is full.

I am a Catholic Daughter because I want to make a difference in the world. And what better way to do that then with all my wonderful women friends and companions? I love women of all ages and generations. Always have. Always will. My grandma was my first "older" mentor and I loved to hang out with her whenever I got the chance. I watched and learned from all she did as part of her congregation and I knew some day that would be me. My mom is a gentle, "quiet soul". I'm still trying to learn to be more quiet and listen. When I was a young girl my 4H Club leader was a woman. She would organize for our club to go to the nursing homes and mentally handicapped homes. We would mingle and sing or play checkers or bingo with the residents. I loved those moments and I still do. I loved to listen to the shared stories from those elderly residents. I would soak up their words and whatever they wanted to teach me.

So being part of Catholic Daughters is where I get to share my faith and my friendship with women I "love". They are my mentors, my friends, my teachers, my "partners in crime". Together we feed the hungry, encourage the lonely and disillusioned and hopefully inspire others to let "their light shine". We are daughters, sisters, mothers, grandmothers, great grandmothers. We come from all backgrounds and ways of life but we all have a passion for our faith and helping others. On our own each of us may feel small and inconsequential, but together we are mighty and we can do "big things" if we listen to God and just say "yes". God had a plan and here I am.



MONTANA STATE NEWS:

Installation Mass during the 38th Biennial Montana State Convention, May 5-6 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Glendive.



Friday Fun Night "Hawaiian Luau" at the 38th Biennial Montana State Convention in Glendive! What a wonderful evening of great food, fun games and really good jungle juice! Thanks Glendive—you did good!



Helen Granmoe, 103 years young and 78 year member of Court St. Katherine #239 in Glendive was honored during the 38th Biennial Montana State Convention. Helen could not attend the convention, so we visited her. Shown is National Director Michele Bowman of Florida and Montana State Regent Patty Kepp, along with Pam Boner of the Glendive/Billings courts (dual membership) taking the picture. We awarded Helen with a bouquet of flowers, 75 year membership pin and a visit. Congratulations Helen!



September 30, 2023: 2023 Fall Workshop
(see flyer page 6)

October 15, 2023: Catholic Daughters Sunday

October 31, 2023: Semi-Annual Financial Review is due covering the period of 4.1.23-9.30.23. Please contact the State Regent with your court's scheduled date of review.

March 1, 2024: Education Contest, Newsletter Contest entries due from the Local Court Chairmen to the State Chairmen.

March 1, 2024: Circle of Love reporting forms due to the State Chairmen.

Local Court Nominations & Elections: The Nominating Committee is elected at the regular meeting March 2024. The Chairman shall report the Slate of Officers at the April 2024 meeting. The Court Regent sends written or electronic mail to the court's membership at least ten days prior to the May 2024 election to be held at the regular business meeting in May. (please see By-laws pg 39-40).

The Montana State Assessments & Projects:

The following amounts were written on behalf of the Montana State Court:

\$632.00 Priest Burse—portion of state dues assessment

Each state project received the following amounts

\$549.32 Florence Crittenton Family Svcs.

\$549.33 Poor Clares

\$551.35 Ronald McDonald House

MT CDA, we were able to donate to these Montana projects due to your local courts generosity.

Thank you everyone!

(The above covered the period of 4.1.21—3.31.23)

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 \$10 each.



Catholic Daughters of the Americas websites

National: www.catholicdaughters.org

Montana State: www.cdaofmontana.org

Please submit your information, pictures and ideas to Jo Ann Harper, State Website Editor.

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.

NATIONAL NEWS:

Convention 2024 Is On the Horizon: Save the Dates!

August 14-18, 2024 in New Orleans.
More information and complete details to come.

Please Help us by Taking Robes Survey. Your Opinion Matters!

Your input is requested regarding the important matter of how robes will be worn in the future. You can fill out the survey on the National website or complete it manually and mail in. A copy is on page 7-8 of this newsletter.

Role of the Chaplain

A Powerpoint on the role of the Chaplain was prepared by National Chaplain Father Shenan J. Boquet. The presentation can be found on the National Website.

CDA Sunday Proclamation

October 15, 2023 is National CDA Sunday. A downloadable Proclamation and information about your special day can be found on the National website. There is also a Press Release template to help you publicize CDA Sunday.

National website: www.catholicdaughters.org

2023 National JCDA Scholarship Winner:

Katelyn Fuchs—Court St. Bernadette, #1979, Hardin, MT

2023 National Education Contest Winners:

First Place—Division III—Computer Art:
Brynn Sogaard, Billings, MT

First Place—Division III—Music:
Alex Johnson, Billings, MT

Congratulations Montana



Montana State Officers attending the National State Officer Training in Arizona in July. (First row L>R) Darcie Huppert-State Secretary; Jo Ann Harper-1st Vice State Regent; Stephanie Bearden-2nd Vice State Regent. (Back row L>R) Gale Kreitzberg-State Treasurer; Patty Kepp-State Regent

REMINDER

NATIONAL DUES: \$18.00 per member per year
(*\$9.00 per member invoiced semi-annually*)
STATE DUES: \$12.00 per member per year
(*\$6.00 per member invoiced semi-annually*)

Circle of Love:

By definition, a circle is a curved line with every point equal distance from the point to the center and bound together by a common interest. The seven point program of the "Circle of Love" is bound together by the common interest - love.

** Education *Youth/JCDA *Family *Leadership
*Spiritual Enhancement *Quality of Life *Legislation*

National Charity:

CATHOLIC EXTENSION **Where We Help**

Catholic Extension's funding supports isolated and/or financially under-resourced Catholic dioceses in the United States. These areas are called "Extension dioceses," and are reviewed and approved by Catholic Extension's Board of Governors. In a Catholic Extension-supported diocese, often one or more of the following conditions exist:

- There are many Catholics, but little institutional Catholic presence (i.e. ordained leaders, Catholic schools and church buildings).
- There is a rapidly growing Catholic population, but limited financial means to support this growth.
- Catholics are spread throughout great geographic distances, making pastoral outreach difficult.
- Catholics are located in areas facing economic hardships.
- Catholics represent the religious minority in their communities.

National Project:

HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

HCFM was founded by Father Patrick Peyton, CSC to encourage family prayer, especially the Rosary. Father Peyton came to the US in 1928 as a poor Irish immigrant and dedicated himself to ministry. Over his life he got over 10 million people to pledge daily. CDA has supported HCFM since 1977. Their motto is "The family that prays together, stays together." Holy Cross Family Ministries carries out its work through numerous ministries including:

- Peyton Institute
- Museum of Family Prayer
- Family Rosary
- Family Theater Production
- Catholic Mom
- PRAY (the film about Father Peyton's story)

A global team also helps families around the world grow in prayer and faith. Father Peyton believes that **"a world at prayer is a world at peace"**.

NATIONAL PROJECTS AND CHARITIES

Catholic Daughters of the Americas support 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! (Save 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:

- Apostleship of the Sea
- Catholic Relief Services
- Disaster Relief
- Missionaries of Charity
- Catholic Extension
- Covenant House
- Human Life International
- Tutwiler Clinic
- National Shrine of Immaculate Conception
- Pontifical North American College

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



2023—2025 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 / Court Development / Leadership / Membership / 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 / Court Development / Leadership
Membership / Public Relations

SECOND VICE REGENT

Stephanie Bearden
3675 14th St West Havre, MT 59501
970-381-1537

- * contact Stephanie for any CDA questions or issues if you cannot reach Patty or Jo Ann
- * Circle of Love Chairman: Local Newsletter / Court Development / Leadership / Membership / Public Relations

SECRETARY

Darcie Huppert
3509 54th St West Billings, MT 59106
406-671-3082

- * send the secretary your dues and payments of any kind / membership forms
- * Circle of Love Chairman: Youth & JCDA / Court Development / Leadership / Membership / Public Relations

TREASURER

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

- * contact Gale if you want to verify you paid your dues
- * Circle of Love Chairman: Quality of Life / Court Development / Leadership / Membership / Public Relations

Circle of Love Legislation Chairman: Monica Lauepple 406-945-0822
Circle of Love Spiritual Enhancement Chairman and Montana History Book: Kelly M Ihde 406-489-1059

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

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



2023 Fall Workshop

Work - Play - Pray

Sat., Sept 30th 8:45 a.m.—3:00 p.m.,

St. Pius X Catholic Church

717 18th St West, Billings

Hosting Court—St. Cecelia #1151

Lunch and snacks will be provided—free will offering!

***Join your Sisters for a day of
CDA information, prayer and fun!***

Speakers:

Bishop Jeffrey Fleming — Diocese of Great Falls/Billings

Florence Crittenton Family Services — CDA State Project

Barb Ward — CDA National Director/MT National Representative

Questions about duties of local court officers? Questions in general about CDA? Bring your questions with you and we will have slips of paper available for you to write down your question if you wish to remain anonymous. If you would like to ask questions in advance please email Patty at mtcda.patty@gmail.com and we will have the question and answer for you at the workshop.

Also, if you have any new/used CDA clothing that doesn't fit anymore or you just want a change, bring with you to the workshop. There will be a table set up for sharing. The State Board will not be collecting these items. If yours is not used by someone, please take with you at the end of the workshop and try again at the next event. Thank you!

Please RSVP with a count by Sept 20th to Patty @ 406 665-5257 - Thank you!



National Robe Survey

1. Should we continue with the current style of Ceremonial Robes for: *

	Yes	No
National Officers:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State Officers:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local Officers:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. If we replace our Ceremonial Robes, choose one: *

Please use the "Other" option to enter your suggestions. We encourage everyone to share their ideas.

☐

Sash


☐

Medallion



Other _____

3. What would we wear with the sash/medallion (choose one): *

Please use the "Other" option to enter your suggestions. We encourage everyone to share their ideas.

☐

White Dress

☐

White Top with Black pants/skirt

☐

White Top with White pants/skirt

Other- Specify: _____

4. Additional comments:

5. Name: _____

6. Court Name & Number: * _____

7. State: * _____



Where Are We Going??



A committee of Catholic Daughters from many parts of our Nation has been appointed by the National Board with the task of studying the use of our ceremonial robes.

Committee Members:

Emily Guilherme, National Regent, California – Ex Officio

Helene Shepard, Past National Regent, New York – Chairman missshelene2018@gmail.com

Alicia Baer, State Officer, Massachusetts – aliciabaer12@gmail.com

Rita Carlson, Immediate Past State Regent – Iowa – lowafarmgirl4@hotmail.com

Rosie Duran, State Regent – New Mexico – rduran@newmexicocatholicdaughters.org

Irene Gramza, National Director – Arizona – igramza@aol.com

Debbie Lattus, Past National Director – West Virginia – lattusdl@gmail.com

Barb Wiechmann, Past State Regent – South Dakota – mbwiech@charles-mix.com

A brief survey is attached. We hope **every Catholic Daughter** will respond **now**. The results will be compiled and presented to the delegation at the next National Convention in August of 2024 in Louisiana. Survey deadline January 31, 2024.

There are many factors that have motivated this study. It is time we updated our use of the robes. We must take into consideration the financial costs (*cleaning, alterations, fabric fading*) and the availability of these robes at affordable prices. Therefore, we need to research other possibilities that will allow us to maintain the dignity and distinction that we have had for so many years at our ceremonies.

Your input is very important as we plan to maintain our mark of distinction in all that we do. Please take the time today to give us your thoughts and ideas to help us accomplish this task. Feel free to contact any member of the committee.

Send your response:

Email to: aliciabaer12@gmail.com

Postal Mail to: Helene Shepard, Chairman
Robe Committee
PO Box 455
Washingtonville, NY 10992

In the name of the entire committee **Thank You** for your part in helping to make a difference in the Catholic Daughters of the Americas.