

# Catholic Daughters of the Americas

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Court St. Anthony #330  
Council Bluffs, Iowa  
Winter 2016

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## January

No Meeting

\$25.00 Dues are now due

Please make checks payable to:

Catholic Daughters of the Americas

Please mail your check to:

Sheila Graham  
3910 Cass St  
Apt 303  
Omaha, NE 68131

## February

13<sup>th</sup> – February Meeting

- Mass 5:15 St Peter's Church
- Dinner 5:45 St Peter's Social Hall
- Meeting 6:30 St Peter's Social Hall
- GIK Gabriel's Corner

14<sup>th</sup> – Valentine's Day

## March

1<sup>st</sup> – Ash Wednesday

6<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 Education Contest awards dinner. St Albert School cafeteria

13<sup>th</sup> – March Meeting

- 5:15 Mass at St Peter's Parish
- 5:45 Dinner and Meeting

19<sup>th</sup> – St Joseph's Day

<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>
<p>Member Anniversaries in January</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2002 – Mariann Hilderbrand</li> <li>• 2002 – Dola Mehsling</li> <li>• 2003 – Sheila Graham</li> <li>• 2003 – Irene Schlautman</li> <li>• 2008 – Pam Ratigan</li> </ul> <p>Member Birthdays in January</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12<sup>th</sup> – Joan Von Tersch-Crampton</li> <li>• 19<sup>th</sup> – Jodi Hargens- Galaska</li> <li>• 24<sup>th</sup> – Patty McGinn</li> <li>• 29<sup>th</sup> – Dola Mehsling</li> <li>• 29<sup>th</sup> – Kay White</li> </ul>	<p>Member Anniversaries in February</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2015 – Jodi Hargens-Galaska</li> <li>• 2015 – Donna Leick</li> <li>• 2016 – Mary Carroll</li> </ul> <p>Member Birthdays in February</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9<sup>th</sup> – Mona Schlautman</li> <li>• 15<sup>th</sup> – Mary Martin</li> <li>• 17<sup>th</sup> – Josephine Goeser</li> <li>• 26<sup>th</sup> – Mary Sue Wickham</li> </ul>	<p>Member Anniversaries in March</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1999 – Charlotte Spoto</li> </ul> <p>Member Birthdays in March</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17<sup>th</sup> – Sue Meidlinger</li> <li>• 29<sup>th</sup> – Mary Alice Wickham</li> </ul>

## February Meeting – GIK to Gabriel’s Corner

### *Ideas to bring:*

- Size 4 & 5 diapers
- Wipes
- Baby shampoo
- Baby wash
- Baby lotion
- Bibs
- Baby bottles
- Size 3-6 month sleepers and onesies

## Dinner Committees

### *January:*

- No Meeting

### *February:*

- Brenda Dresen
- Marti Lynch
- Marian Madden

### *March:*

- Sheila Graham
- Carol Hollenbeck
- Julie Marlow
- Shar Pekny
- Angie Shea

We have had such a blessed year in our court, especially with new members and social activities. The Catholic Daughters of the Americas is not always known about, but we've been able to get our name out in the community and through all of your efforts, we've supported and donated to many charities in need. Praise God for giving us the resources and funds to make these donations happen. It sure feels good to give! As we transition into the Advent season this also gives us an opportunity to call upon the Holy Spirit to fill us with God's love and mercy. May you all have a very blessed Christmas season and a wonderful new year.

In Unity & Charity,  
Angie Shea  
Regent



The advent season is coming to a close and we approach the birth of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. The Advent season is filled with so many distractions to the real meaning of Advent, which is the preparation for the birth of Jesus. I believe that each year we seem to make inroads into making the Advent season more spiritual. I have often said that one of the most important celebrations in Advent is the feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This feast day helps us to focus on the courage of the Blessed Virgin Mary and also it reminds us of the willingness of Mary to take the ultimate risk to be the mother of Jesus when many things threatened her life. The simple lesson here is that we need to follow the example of the Blessed Virgin Mary and have the courage to witness the true meaning of the Advent season. I hope that all of you have had a very holy and blessed Advent season so that our hearts are open to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

Fr Kottas

## New Court 330 Members

New Members Dawn Kordick-Cox, Layna Beer and Shirley Snipes were installed into our court at our November meeting. Welcome ladies!



# Court 330 Christmas Party

A great time was had by all at our December meeting and annual Christmas Party. Mary Sue Wickham did a great job of entertaining the court and we had a great dinner. Thanks to everyone who participated!!









At age 93, currently the longest serving member of St. Anthony Court #330, we see a woman steeped in service, history and faith. Luana Angeline was born at Jennie Edmundson Hospital in Council Bluffs, Iowa on June 29, 1923, the first child of Frank and Salina Paluka. Her mother was a nurse at that hospital for many years. Her father is in the Hall of Fame at Thomas Jefferson High School, Council Bluffs, IA, where he taught American History from 1924-1959. The family grew to include a sister Rosemaurine (Rose, age 92) and two brothers Frank (age 89) and John Robert (age 84). None of the four siblings ever married or had children. The only sibling of Luana's who drove a car is John, the youngest brother. They did a lot of walking to faithfully attend St. Peter's Church and remain devoted Catholic Christians their entire lives.

According to Luana, the Paluka clan moved from Hazel Street to Lindburg Drive, to Greenwood Street, finally settling at 360 Lincoln Street in the 1940's, where Luana currently resides and where she shared her memories with this reporter. Also present was her longtime caretaker and friend, CDA Court #330 member Mariann Hilderbrand. Mariann is only one of a dedicated army of friends, neighbors and Catholic Daughters who have given their time and love to this lady for many years. Court member Joan Goeser has regularly driven Luana to Mass at St. Peter's. Two other CDA sisters who have given their time and talent are Kris Jarecki and Linda Spencer. Neighbors, church members and others have kept Luana at home for most of the time since she had a stroke in 2010. As I was leaving the interview a neighbor named Connie appeared to take the next shift of caring for Luana, as she has for a long time. These women truly are the hands and heart of Jesus in our world.

Luana is very proud of her sister Rose, though a year apart in age, they both graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School in 1942. Rose lives in Denver, CO and is retired from teaching American History at Lakewood Jr. High there. She followed her father's example and became a teacher of history. Luana recently was taken to see her brother Frank in Iowa City, IA. They hadn't seen each other for many years and they shared a meal at the hospital three blocks from his home where Frank eats, because it is possible to have healthy and low cost meals. They had a wonderful visit and were so glad to be together. Frank is retired from life as instructor of English and Communication Skills at the University of Iowa who later found his calling in Library Science there. The youngest brother, John, lives in La Crescenta, California. A graduate of Iowa State University he worked for NASA for many years in the space program.

Luana worked for the McGinn & McGinn Law Firm from 1954-1985 as a legal secretary. She remained in the family home where she also cared for both her father (1888-1965) and her mother (1894-1972) until their deaths. The obligation of parental care fell to her and she carried out that responsibility with love. She has attended St. Peter's Catholic Church from her Baptism and has attended meetings of our Catholic Daughter's Court #330 from 1953 to the



present. She has also been a member of the St. Peter's Altar Society and was an active member of the Legal Secretaries of Council Bluffs organization.

Luana has always been a lover of dogs, especially puppies! She has had three special dogs in her life, two were named Brandy and Maggie. She is always interested in talking to people about their jobs, their histories, their families, their hopes and dreams. She finds the humor in life wherever she can and her unshakeable faith in God is obvious.

When I visited Luana in her home she was surrounded by family pictures, awards, certificates, trophies and memories of all their accomplishments. A respect for family, education, history and faith is on display. I was a bit surprised to see a quite large, framed portrait of President John F. Kennedy, from the 1960's, hanging in her living room. I said to her, "I see this wonderful picture of President Kennedy on your wall. Were you a big supporter of Kennedy?" Luana loudly proclaimed, "Oh YES, of course I was. I wouldn't have his picture up there if I wasn't!" (Ask a silly question you always get a straight answer from Luana, who remains ever loyal to her values and her beliefs.) All of us can learn a lesson in loyalty from the life of Luana Paluka.

*"Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me."* John 14:21

## Fr Carlos Gomez Ordination

On Sunday, January 18th, Fr. Carlos Gomez was ordained at St Ambrose Cathedral in Des Moines, IA. Fr. Carlos will be the new associate pastor at Corpus Christi Parish in Council Bluffs. Several members went to the ordination and reception following at the Christ The King Social Hall. Below Fr. Gomez blesses a couple of our members.

Left: Fr. Gomez blessing CDA Member Rita Hughes. Middle: Fr. Gomez blessing CDA Regent Angie Shea and her husband Dennis. Right: CDA Members Kathy Carlin, Angie Shea, Rita Hughes and Carol Hollenbeck with one of our seminarians Jake Epstein



## CDA State Convention coming soon

Iowa 52<sup>nd</sup> Biennial State Convention May 5-7, 2017

Quality Inn & Suites 2601 E 13<sup>th</sup> St Ames, IA

## National CDA

One of our own Saint Albert education contest entries got 2<sup>nd</sup> place at National.

### ESSAY DIVISION I

2nd Place Grade 5

Anna Helton, Court St. Anthony #

330 Council Bluffs

### *How Do We Care for the Environment?*

We care for the environment by not littering and cleaning up after ourselves if you are on a picnic. Also you should try to drive less and walk more because the more time you spend walking and not driving there will be less Carbon Dioxide in the atmosphere. We should help pick up trash around the park and in picnic areas. When you are out camping put out your fire properly because if you don't it can start a forest fire. Recycle paper, glass, cardboard, and cans because they can be reused again. Try to send emails and not letters because if you write letters it is a waste of paper and because it helps the trees because paper is made out of trees. Bring your own cloth bags to the grocery store and try not to use the plastic ones because they can blow away and they're bad for the environment because plastic doesn't break down in soil well. Have short showers instead of baths because it will use less water and it will be less energy for heating water. In summer open windows and doors so cool air can come in. And in the summer days when your not home close the curtains so less heat

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas State of Iowa Website was awarded at the National Convention. The State website received 2nd place in the CDA National Website Contest in the category as an established website

[www.catholicdaughters.org](http://www.catholicdaughters.org)

comes in the house. In the winter don't open up the door unless you are going in or out because when you open up the door the cold air comes in and the heat goes out. Make sure that when you are done washing your hands turn off the water completely. So next time you're about ready to throw trash on ground think twice and ask yourself is this good for the earth?

### 2017 Education Contest Themes:

- "Whatever you do for the least of my brethren, you do for me"
- "Helping the needy where I live".

Participants may choose a category for a division according to their age. Grades 4-5 may enter essay, poetry, art, computer art.

Grades 6-12 may enter essay, poetry, art, computer art, music, photography. Adult CDA members may enter poetry, art, computer art, photography.

**Mission:** Catholic Daughters of the Americas strives to embrace the principles of faith working through love in the promotion of justice, equality and the advancement of human rights and human dignity for all mankind.

**Motto:** Unity and Charity

**Purpose:** As the largest organization of Catholic Women in the Americas and founded through the Knights of Columbus Catholic men's organization, our purpose is to participate in the religious, charitable and educational Apostolates of the Church.