



SC Council of Catholic Women **INFORMER**

...sharing news from all rings of Council

Volume 2, Issue 3

www.scccw.org

Winter 2012

Message from the President

Barbara J. Birds

Greetings Father Fabio and the South Carolina Council of Catholic Women:

"To God be the Glory"

As most of you know, March 11th at our 82nd Convention is the end of my tenure as SCCCW President. I want to take this opportunity now to thank each and everyone of you for your support during the last two years.

I have enjoyed working very closely with the Board of Directors. You have been a great asset to council in carrying out our goals for this administration. I hope our new president will continue to embark upon some of these visions, along with her goals. I look forward to us rebuilding our membership and creating a new council format. I hope to continue to be a voice for change and growth of our organization. Being the president of SCCCW signified - new relationships, friendships, learning new things and discovering that you can only do so much in two years of service and leadership. Spiritually, I have grown in a different sort of way. Simply know that my life has been enriched by just being the President of the South

Carolina Council of Catholic Women. I encourage SCCCW to continue being the gateway of love and support to all Catholic Women in our state.

Shortly, all Deanery and Affiliate Presidents will be receiving the Call to Convention packet. This year we are hosting a Leadership Training Development Workshop. The workshop will offer many ways to enhance your club and grow your membership and develop new and present leaders. The board feels very confident that this training has something good to offer every one. Please plan to attend and bring a friend. The packet will provide you with registration information. Also check out our website scccw.org and click on the convention and hotel link for more information.

Please take a few minutes to enjoy all the articles in The Informer. This newsletter is designed and produced by our wonderful Correspond-



ing Secretary Pat Web. In addition to the articles are pictures of our new Spiritual Advisor Fr. Fabio Refosco. He is a gift from God to the SCCCW organization. Since his appointment, Fr. Fabio's mission is

recruiting ladies to join us. We applaud him for taking on this tremendous task. Welcome Fr. Fabio!

In closing I would like to share this quote with you. "Let us ask Mary, Mother of God, to help us to welcome her Son and, in him, true peace. Let us ask her to sharpen our perception so that we may recognize in the face of every human person, the Face of Christ, the heart of peace!" Pope Benedict XVI.

Barbara J. Birds

"Do ordinary things with extraordinary love."

Mother Teresa

Bishop:

Most Rev. Robert E. Guglielmo

Diocesan Spiritual Advisor:

Very Rev. Fabio Refosco, CO

President:

Barbara J. Birds

birdb@musc.edu



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SCCCW Winter Board Meeting

The final Winter Board Meeting of President Birds' administration took place on Saturday, January 7, 2012, at St. Joseph's Church in Columbia, SC.

You can read about all of the wonderful events and news throughout the deaneries and their affiliates in this newsletter. Everyone has been very busy doing good works in their churches and communities.



Please take the time to read about them as you may find an idea or two that you could implement in your own affiliate. Contact the deanery president or commission chair person if you have any questions or need more information about an event they described. When we share, we GROW!

What a treat we had meeting our new Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, Father Fabio Refosco. He also celebrated Mass for us before we began our meeting. Following are a few photos of him giving his presentation to the board. Later, we all enjoyed a delicious piece of cake to welcome him!

It was a l-o-n-g meeting as plans were being finalized for the upcoming annual convention in Columbia in March. Make plans to attend and take advantage of the Learning Training Development Workshops being presented by experienced personnel from the National Council of Catholic Women. This training is of value to EVERYONE! See page 14 for more information and how to make your reservations! Remember, Bishop

Guglielmone will be our celebrant for Mass on Saturday evening at Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Church!

President Birds enjoyed a few laughs before we all departed.



PHOTO BOARD



Fr. Fabio (L) at the NCCW Convention in Chicago last November.



SCCCW Board Members "selling" SC as the next location for the NCCW Convention! By the way, they WERE SUCCESSFUL!!

Deanery Corner

Coastal—Elease Amos Goodwin *Columbia-Midlands*—Delores Gilliard *Low Country*—Joan Valesente
Pee Dee—Marlene Grover *Piedmont*—Kathleen Merritt

Coastal: *Elease Amos-Goodwin, President* eamosg@bellsouth.net

Blessed Sacrament Women's Guild hosted the Coastal Deanery Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser on August 20th at their parish hall. Beverly Buford, from St. Patrick's Women's Guild, chaired the event. Maria Stephens (BSWG) assisted with the plans. She and her son were the primary cooks. The affiliates donated the food items for this very successful fundraiser. Individual members Harriett Condon, Carolyn Heider and Lisa Summerlin also participated. The funds raised enabled the CD to move forward with its approved projects and donations.



CD's Fall Meeting, hosted by the ladies from St. John Ladies Guild, was held on Sunday, September 11th, at St. John Catholic Church Hall in North Charleston. They provided a delicious meal of salads, fruit and dessert and over 44 members attended. There are 5 active clubs in the CD—Blessed Sacrament Women's Guild, Our Lady of Mercy Ladies' Guild, St. John's Ladies' Guild, St. John the Beloved Women's Club and St. Patrick Women's Guild along with 4 individual members: Harriett Condon, Carolyn Heider, Margaret Kerr and Lisa

Summerlin.

Since our meeting was held on the 10th anniversary of the tragic events of 9/11, we observed a moment of silence to remember those who lost their lives, the survivors, and the families impacted by this tragedy. Fran Cummings, Spirituality Commission Chair, wrote a special prayer for the anniversary and to remember Judy Godbee who recently passed away. Judy was a faithful member of Divine Redeemer Catholic Church and Women's Club.

At the meeting, Cindy Plavney was introduced and the members were advised that she graciously agreed to serve as the Assistant Secretary for the CD in Carol Hatosy's absence. Carol has relocated to the Baltimore/Washington area where she accepted a new employment opportunity.

CD affiliates are once again participating in the Low Country Food Bank Backpack Buddies program—providing non-perishable food for school age children and their families. Students are given food to take home for the weekend. Individual members have been paired with affiliates to participate with this program. Thus far,

- BSWG collected and delivered 98 pounds of food in November. Ann Mitchum delivered the items to the

Low Country Food Bank.

- OLOMLG and Lisa Summerlin collected 28 pounds of food and Veronica McDaniel delivered the items to the Food Bank in December.
- SJLG will be collecting and delivering items in January.
- SJTBWC, Harriett Condon and Carolyn Heider will deliver items in February.
- SPWG will deliver items in March.

One of the most exciting events planned by the CD this year was our Advent Retreat. It was chaired by Cecilia Velte with assistance from Ann Mitchum and held on Saturday, December 3rd at John England Hall, May Forest on the grounds of the Sisters of Charity complex, James Island, SC. There were 42 CD members and non-members in attendance. Sister Colie Stokes, SSMN facilitated the retreat. The topic "Mary, the Mother of Jesus" was covered at the retreat along with a film and discussion sessions. The ladies left the retreat renewed and looking forward to Advent.

The CD made a monetary contribution to Cross International Catholic Outreach Women Helping Women to support their program, *Protecting the Lives of Babies and Mothers n Kenya*.

Deanery Corner *(continued from page 3)*

SPWG held a Fall Tea in October focusing on the history of African Americans in the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Charleston Coastal Deanery. The commissions provided the decorations and food. The information provided by each group was very educational.

The CD is responsible for the Marketplace at the 2012 SCCCW Convention. A cover letter and flyer were provided to President Barbara Birds for the initial packet she sent to all affiliates and SCCCW Board members. The CD ladies are developing plans for implementing the Marketplace projects.

The CD Winter Board meeting was held Wednesday, December 28th at Mr. Oliver's House on the grounds of St. Patrick Catholic Church. The affiliates turned in their commission reports. The CD Annual Meeting will be hosted by SPWG on Sunday, January 15, 2012.

We have had a very productive year as a deanery, with affiliate activities and in our parishes. The ladies of the CD are committed to service and continue to reach out to our sisters and brothers who are less fortunate.

My term as president is coming to an end in a few months. I have truly enjoyed working with the affiliates and individual members of the CD. The ladies have been very supportive and worked hard to complete the projects we adopted

during my term as president. I look forward to continuing my association with the CD and SCCCW.



Columbia-Midlands:

Delores Gilliard,
President
Deloredg5@bell-south.net

The ladies of the Columbia-Midland Deanery will host their winter meeting at Our Lady of the Hills on Sunday, January 29, 2012. The ladies of OLH will be the hostesses for the Convention Mass. Our affiliates and convention committee members have been very busy preparing for the 82nd Annual Convention.

Affiliate Highlights:

St. Joseph Women's Society had a busy Fall and Christmas season. Listed below are just some brief highlights of their work during the holidays.

- o Gift Wrapping Party where gifts were brought for needy families and people in their community.

- o December 13th the ladies decorated the tree in the church with 450 ornaments that had been cross stitched by members and other parishioners. AWE-SOME!!

- o December 14th, Christmas tree was lit with a ceremony combined with the CCD students' Nativity pageant. Several

members made the costumes for the pageant for the last three years.

- o On October 9th, St. Joseph Church hosted the Diocesan Rosary Celebration. The ladies provided refreshments.

- o November 2nd they hosted a reception after the All Souls Mass with carving stations of beef briskets, ham, chicken fingers, veggie and desserts trays.

Corpus Christi Catholic Women's Group welcomed Hank Chardos as their guest for the annual Baby Shower for Birthright. The ladies collected and donated numerous baby items and gave a monetary donation.

□ During the holidays the ladies assisted the church in their annual Giving Wreath Program. This program provided gifts to those in the community that may not receive gifts during the holidays.

St. Martin de Porres Rosary Altar Society had a busy fall and Christmas season. At their first meeting of the season with new officers, the business at hand was preparation for the Annual Mother, Daughter, Sister, Sister Luncheon held the first Saturday in March. In addition to revising their by-laws, participating in the annual Walk for Life, the church's Soul fest and monthly soup kitchen, they also assisted in the preparations to receive the

Deanery Corner *(continued from page 4)*

new priest. The ladies had a busy Fall.

o During the Christmas holidays the ladies decorated the church and hosted the reception sponsored by the priest after the Christmas program. Other members participated in the Christmas program by singing in the choir. The program was produced by the youth in the church.

Columbia-Midland Deanery Highlights: The Fall meeting was held on Sunday, September 25th, at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Columbia. The president hosted a Silent Auction to assist in raising funds for the Deanery. Other fund raising ideas were shared to assist the ladies in raising funds to support a charity organization. The ladies all agreed to send collected funds to Cross International Catholic Outreach.

Mary Sue Barnum, convention chair, shared information and updates from our October Convention meeting with President Barbara Birds. Vivian Hernandez, chair for ditty bags, gave a report. Yvonne Pygatt, ADS Chair, gave a report for soliciting ads.

Low Country:

*Joan Valesente,
President*
Val5242@aol.com



The affiliates have been very busy preparing the annual reports of their many activities of the past year. Unfortunately, many are not happy with all the work that must be completed during one of the busiest times of the year. We must consider ways in which we can decrease the amount of stress that is brought to bear by the SCCCW in preparing bios and reports when we are supposed to be preparing the Way of Our Lord.

Nancy Kuykendall, our LC Deanery Vice President and Membership Chairperson, and I were privileged to attend the December meeting of the St. Anthony's Altar Society in Ridgeland. This new affiliate was excited to be preparing to decorate the church for Christmas and to prepare for their prison ministry. We brought a copy of the convention packet and encouraged them to attend the annual meeting of the LC Deanery to be held on January 14th at the Bel-fair Country Club. They were very excited to nominate their Catholic Woman of the Year, but did not feel that they were prepared to complete all of the reports from the commissions. We also encouraged them to make plans to attend the SCCCW Convention in Columbia.

A week later, Nancy and I set out for Hampton to speak to the women's club at St. Mary's. They graciously allowed us the opportunity to encourage them to join the deanery and the SCCCW. They seemed very receptive, but were not quite ready to make the commitment to join. We continue to invite them to our meetings and different activities.

Our dean, Monsignor Cellini, has been very supportive of our efforts to recruit all women's organizations to become members of the LC Deanery Council of Catholic Women. At our annual luncheon given for the priests of the Low Country on October 19, he made a point to tell all of the priests present to support their women's clubs and to encourage those not yet affiliated to become members. Father Higgins, who is the pastor of St. Anthony's in Ridgeland, St. Anthony's in Hardeeville, and St. Mary's in Hampton, is actively involved in recruiting his women's groups. He feels that we may have to be patient a while longer with the Hardeeville club. Those groups will complete our efforts to encompass all active clubs in the Low Country.

Monsignor Cellini thanked us for a wonderful lunch with chili, salad, cornbread, and various desserts. He informed us that our annual lunch has even prompted some of the priests to prepare a meal for their monthly meetings. These meals have been helpful in

Deanery Corner *(continued from page 5)*

bringing the efforts of the deanery members to mind and to show our appreciation for our clergy without taking up another day in their busy schedules.

Our annual luncheon meeting will be held at the Belfair Country Club in Bluffton on January 14 at 11:30 am. Monsignor Cellini will be our speaker. Awards will be given to the clubs for special efforts in the various commissions. We will also announce the LC Deanery Catholic Woman of the Year and honor all of the affiliate Women of the Year. The commission reports show that all of our affiliates have been doing outstanding work throughout the year for the spiritual well being of their members and for the physical well being of their churches and their communities. I applaud them all for work well done.

Pee Dee:

Marlene Grover, President

Martini53@sc.rr.com



Dear Sisters in Christ,

As I sit at my computer during this glorious time of year preparing a report that will be seen after Christmas, all I can think about is the joy of the coming of baby Jesus Christ

and the glory of God! Looking back over the past year, I think about how blessed I am to be a part of this organization, blessed by knowing the work that women have accomplished in the name of the Lord, and blessed by their friendship. This has truly been a great year for all of us! I am sure you will enjoy reading about all of the SCCCW accomplishments in the 2012 Convention Booklet. *I look forward to seeing you all in Columbia in March!*

As a Deanery in the last few months, we have started a monthly (or bi-monthly) time where we come together for Mass and Lunch in fellowship at different churches in an effort to show the community who we are and what we do. The group wears red and processes in with the priest to sit in the front row, receives a blessing, bring up the gifts at Mass, and afterwards we meet for a delightful lunch at a restaurant or parish center. The choice is up to the women. I have met with five of the seven affiliate presidents for lunch (the other two by telephone) to go over the new report format and the fall packet. This one on one communication was truly a gift to me! We have worked with our new affiliate president, Marcia Boyer, and her ladies to become acquainted with the Deanery. All of us look forward to a wonderful time with the women from Precious Blood of Christ in Pawley's Island, SC. In October, I met with Fr. Karl

Roesch, Dean of the Pee Dee Deanery to discuss our organization with him and the needs of our very different communities. He is a delight! Presently, Fr. Karl is recovering from heart surgery, please keep him in your prayers. In November, I traveled with my "cohorts in crime", Pat Langston and Cherin Moore to Chicago, the *WINDY* city for a superb NCCW convention, workshops, and of course food and fellowship. It was really windy and cold, but we seemed to keep warm and have fun. The workshops were awesome and Fr. Fabio is a charm!!! Caroline Paulhus and I have been planning our annual Deanery Retreat to be held at St. James Fellowship Hall in Conway on Saturday, January 14, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. followed by Mass. Sr. Patricia Rogan, OSF from St. Benedict's Parish in Mt. Pleasant will be the facilitator. If you are interested in attending, please give me a call. Registration is \$12.00 per person for breakfast pastries, beverages, and lunch. The deadline for reservations is January 12. All in all, the last quarter of the year has been busy for us, but extremely gratifying!

All affiliates have been busy preparing for the holiday season bringing food and clothing to the poor and celebrating the Christmas Season with a dinner or lunch with each other. Our Lady Star of the Sea Ladies Guild were busy making

Deanery Corner *(continued from page 6)*

lap throws for each of the residents of "Summit Place" and are in the planning stages for the coming year.

St. Michaels Women's Guild in December collected Shoe Boxes for St. Cyprian and are busy planning for the January 9th meeting with "Chair Yoga" for their members.

St. Andrew Women's Club helped children decorate Christmas ornaments and are preparing for an "Oldies Dance" on January 28 where proceeds will go to Grand Strand Downs Syndrome organization.

Women of St. Anthony in Florence coordinated the annual Angel Tree where gifts are taken to a local nursing home and they collected food for the area Hospice House.

St. Mary's Council of Catholic Women continues with their "Knit Whit" ministry, also helping the church, and are preparing for the Deanery Meeting, Mass, and Luncheon on February 5.

St. James Ladies Guild held a very successful Rummage Sale and are preparing for a new slate of officers to begin in January.

Precious Blood of Christ joined us for our December 4 Mass and Lunch and held a successful Rummage Sale in November.

A joyous New Year to you and your family from the women of the Pee Dee Deanery!

Piedmont:

Kathleen Merritt, President

Kathleen@catholic-doc.org



The Piedmont Deanery held its fall meeting on September 18th. St. Anthony of Padua Women's Council hosted the meeting. Updates on the annual convention were shared with those present as well as the possibility of SCCCW hosting the 2012 NCCW meeting in Myrtle Beach. The Diocese of Charleston, Office of Ethnic Ministries, in collaboration with the PD, conducted a Christmas Multicultural Project with our youth. Catholic elementary school and elementary school aged CCD students in the PD were invited to submit drawings focusing on either "*Christmas and the Birth of Jesus: A Celebration of All Cultures*," or "*Christmas Cultural Traditions*." Four students' drawings were selected to be printed as 2011 Christmas card covers. The students whose drawings were selected were: Evans Easler, Our Lady of the Rosary, Grade 8; Cat Jumper, St. Paul the Apostle, Grade 5; Matthew Karban, St. Paul the Apostle, Grade 1; and Tiziana Ortega, St. Paul the Apostle, Grade 4. Prizes were awarded to the winners and all participants received a certificate from Bishop Guglielmo. The PD made sets of this card available to the

public. Proceeds from the cards will be used to support the mission of the organization. Over 90 students from 4 schools participated. The feedback from the principals, parents and inactive members of SCCCW at St. Paul the Apostle was very positive. The Deanery provided several financial assistance scholarships to children from low income families in the West Greenville Community to attend an after school homework center at the West Greenville Community Center. In addition to the deanery's donation, the St. Anthony and St. Mary's Women's clubs provided additional scholarships on behalf of their clubs. Ann Friend auctioned off a beautiful handmade truck in which the proceeds were donated to the West Greenville Community Center for scholarships. Several members of the deanery supported the clean water for people of Haiti project by attending the Annual Haitian Community Gala. This is our International Concerns project and the 2nd year we participated. The Deanery welcomed one new individual member, Karen Eagle from St. Mary Magdalene Parish in Simpsonville.

St. Mary's Women's Club hosted their Annual Welcome Event/Membership Drive in September with over 50 people attending, 12 of whom were guests. They also held their 1st Annual Retreat on Saturday, August 13th at LaForesta

Deanery Corner *(continued from page 7)*

Retreat House at the Poor Clare Monastery in Travelers Rest. It was open to all women of the parish and 33 registered guests were present. Attendees heard Deacon John Heuser present a seminar "Mary, Our Life, Our Sweetness and Our Hope," as well as a seminar presented by Joe Waters on "The New Mass." The club participated in 40 days of Life in October and the November 19th gathering on Pro Life with Guest Speakers; Alveda King, Fr. Dwight Longenecker and Fr. Paul Williams, OFM. St. Mary's Newsletter can be found on the SCCCW Piedmont Deanery's website.

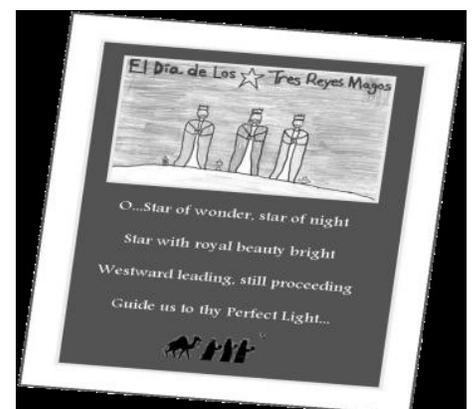
St. Anthony of Padua Women's Council held their Annual Seniors' Luncheon in November for parish and community Senior Citizens. They served lunch to over 100 seniors and celebrated the 90th Birthday of one of the guests. The club hosted a International Bridge fundraiser to benefit the new school for the children of St. Anthony of Padua's Catholic School.

Kathleen Merritt will be facilitating a Women's Day of Reflection, titled "Proverb Women" for St. Paul Women's Club at St. Paul the Apostle Mission in Seneca on Tuesday, March 13, 2012 from 10:30am-2:30pm. Blenda Suarez, Client Advocate/Hispanic Outreach Liaison for the Diocese of Charleston Piedmont Deanery will

facilitate a session for the Spanish Speaking women of the club. A presentation and invitation for the women to join SCCCW will also be included in the presentation.

The Winter meeting of the Piedmont Deanery will be held on January 22, 2012 from 2:00 – 3:30pm at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Greenville and sponsored by the St. Mary's Women's Club. The meeting of the board is scheduled before the general meeting at 1:15pm. Lunch will be served.

Some of the winning cards for the Multicultural Christmas Card Project are shown here.



Commission Corner—State Chairs

Church—Phyllis Atkins **Community**—Marion Alexander **Family**—Jeanette Tobin **International**—Wilma Lucas
Legislation—Ruthann Howard **Multicultural**—Wilma Lucas **Organization**—Joan Mack

Church:

Phyllis Atkins

jp Atkins2@hargray.com

My Dear Sisters in Christ,

I hope you all had a healthy and happy Christmas and are ready to start the New Year in the Church by remembering all the proper responses to our new liturgy. Remember to pray for the monthly intentions of the Holy Father and our Bishop Guglielmo. I attended the National Convention in Chicago and was once again renewed by the tremendous outpouring of grace while we were there celebrating the beautiful liturgies with our sisters for all over the world. However, due to some lingering illnesses, I have not pursued many other ventures other than still waiting for a response from the Director of Vocations, Father Kirby, who says their office will be planning a time of discernment for Religious. I am still looking into the opportunity to host a retreat and will be discussing it further with Father Fabio, our new “spiritual advisor” who suggested the Oratory. Just a reminder that I am beginning to collect Honors and Memorials for the SCCCW Convention in March in Columbia.



Please send me your names so that they can be recorded properly and on a timely manner.



Community:
Marion Alexander

marmalex@bellsouth.net

In Galatians 5:13 we are told to “serve one another in love.” In the NCCW magazine (pamphlet) we read about those in need. As Catholic women, we are prayerful for those in need, therefore, as a combined effort each affiliate is asked to enter a fundraising campaign that supports the efforts of the NCCW program “Cross International Catholic Outreach” in partnership with the National Council of Catholic Women. Each affiliate can raise money to submit as a combined state to the National program. At the spring convention the fundraiser can be submitted and each deanery can be recognized.

Family:
Jeanette Tobin

Hijjayinva@lowcountry.com

I will continue with another report about Dementia, specifically, Alzheimer. This



second report is about Communicating—best ways to interact with the person with dementia; Responding to Behaviors—what causes dementia-related behavior like aggression and how to respond; and Activities at home—planning the day for the person with dementia.

We all hope science will develop a cure for this debilitating disease.

(Please e-mail Jeanette for a copy of these reports as they are too numerous to print.)



International: *Wilma Lucas*

MITmom7@aol.com

Our global community faces many of the same issues as our country, state, deaneries, and affiliates. In 1991 and 1998 Pope John Paul II urged us to be aware of the immense problems facing “the hungry, the needy, the homeless, those without medical care and, above all, those without hope...” The NCCW addressed the most significant issues that we as Christian Women need to address not just in our nation but worldwide:

☐ To free families and children from pornography and sexually explicit messages

Commission Corner *(continued from page 9)*

- To end the trafficking of human persons
- To endorse public policies that foster a *healthy* environment for children and families
- To study climate change and its effect on the poor, especially toxic exposure on children
- To support the end of global conflict and encourage World Peace
- To aid the poorest of the poor, especially the “undeserving” who need the most help
- To bring about humane and just immigration reform
- To partner with Catholic Relief Services in its initiative to end hunger, disease, and conflict as well as to aid those who face devastating natural disasters
- To support CRS programs such as Water for Life, the Refugee Women Emergency Fund, Help a Child, and the Madonna Plan
- To encourage the dignity and sanctity of human life from conception to the grave, with special emphasis on eliminating the death penalty and euthanasia
- To protect the victims of domestic violence and abuse
- To establish support systems in impoverished and disadvantaged communities
- To support the partnership of NCCW and Cross Inter-

national in the areas of Women Helping Women, Human Trafficking, and other human rights issues.

Each deanery, affiliate, or individual member can add one of these initiatives in their yearly concern list, for as Mother Teresa of Calcutta advised us, we only have to do little tasks well and the rest will follow.

Legislative: *Ruthann Howard*

ObzHoward@aol.com



E-Verify

A new law went into effect January 1, 2012 that relates to immigration. The change was signed into law in June 2011 by Gov. Nikki Haley. This is an amendment to the South Carolina Illegal Immigration and Reform Act. The amended law requires all employers to enroll in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify system beginning Jan. 1 and to verify the legal status of all new employees through E-Verify. Failure to enroll in and use E-Verify to verify new hires will result in probation for the employer or suspension/revocation of the employer's business licenses.

E-Verify is a free internet based system maintained by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The system compares the

information the employee provides on Form I-9 against millions of government records. If the information matches, the employee is eligible to work in the United States. If there is a mismatch, the employee will be allowed to work while he or she resolves the problem.

Enforcement

The SC Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (LLR) is charged with investigating complaints and conducting random audits of private employers to assure compliance. The agency must (1) notify the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) of suspected unauthorized aliens employed by a private employer, and (2) notify state and local law enforcement agencies responsible for enforcing state immigration laws. Failure to comply with the new law can result in probation or suspension of the private employer's business licenses for 10 to 30 days.

Human Trafficking

South Carolina is one of 8 states without full legislation against human trafficking. H.3757 needs our support. There will be a South Carolina Lobby Day to End Human Trafficking on January 24, 2012. On this day we will have an opportunity to advocate for legislation that will eliminate this horrific crime. The event is being held at the SC State House and runs from 9:00 am until 3:00.

Commission Corner *(cont'd from page 10)*

Multicultural Outreach:

Wilma Lucas

MITmom7@aol.com



This past year the board members and their affiliates have been informed of the opportunities offered for ministry in the local jails and prisons, for the work to attain equitable immigration reform at the state and national level, and the plight of sexual exploitation of women and children by the illegal human trafficking industry.

Since the aim of the Multicultural Outreach Committee is to serve our brothers and sisters in Christ, it is time to think of the forgotten or invisible poor, not just during the holidays but all year long. It's easy to spot the poor in places where the homeless gather, in soup kitchens, in ghetto communities and the poorest of the poor parts of Africa and Asia. We readily reach out to children and people that have fallen on hard times. But how do we treat the people that have made bad choices? Do we judge them as "undeserving"? That can become a problem that we must overcome.

Many affiliates in South Carolina's five deaneries serve all the poor through many short and long term programs. The Pee Dee

Catholic Charities office has initiated case management for the clients that wish to improve their lot in these hard times. We have seen some successes and a few failures but it is a way to help the invisible poor to benefit by helping themselves with good choices, perseverance in reaching attainable goals on a monthly or bi-monthly basis, encouragement in establishing new goals, and possible ways of dealing with recurring or new problems. We help them find the causes of some problems, and ways that may or may not work as possible solutions. We try to help them with basic skills to manage their lives.

In his Encyclical on Social Concerns, Pope John Paul II reminds us that we need "to embrace the immense multitudes of the hungry, the needy, the homeless, those without medical care and, above all, those without hope..." This is not an easy task for the poor, just like the rest of us, are prone to greed, ingratitude, wastefulness, apathy, and inability to get out of their rut. Like us, they also can be generous, grateful, and active problem solvers when they are not overwhelmed by their seeming unsolvable problems.

Pope John Paul II further warns us of the massive proportions of poverty in the world and different kinds of poverty faced by those who live in the margins of society, the victims of consumerism, and the unmet needs of the sick and elderly. This is our challenge: WWJD?

Atlanta Province Director News



*Pat Langston,
Atlanta Province
Director*

pat-
langston@gmail.
Com

January 7, 2012

I am concerned as to how much the membership is interested in the fact that SCCCW is hosting a NCCW Leadership Development Training workshop during the SCCCW Convention this March. Included in the Fall Mailing from SCCCW President, Barbara Birds was information on the Individual Pre-Assessment form (also included). To date they have had 1 returned, mine. The group assessment forms were sent out during the summer and only 13 were returned. Are we the only ones interested in seeing this workshop offered? They take the information submitted on these forms and choose the topics and presenters for our workshops. As instructed by our President, I have completed and signed contracts to host this event. I hope you understand the cost involved. We have to pay to NCCW \$10 for each member attending the workshop. We also have to cover the expenses of the presenters (airfare, hotel room, food, etc). We are also responsible for the cost of copies of the information for the attendees and room set up fees.

This is a huge financial undertaking. We need to start taking this seriously and start promoting the event. I plan on asking Barbara to include this information again in the call to convention. I have copies of the individual assessment forms available today. Please ask all members of your affiliates to complete this form and send it in. It can be scanned in and emailed to them. The information is on the form.

NCCW will not be having their winter board meeting in January this year as they have in the past. We will be meeting March 16-19th in Grand Rapids Michigan.

A call for Volunteers for NCCW Commissions and Committees has been sent to all SCCCW members. More information on this is on the website, ncccw.org. I encourage everyone to take this opportunity to consider serving and complete the application and return it by January 13th. I have applications with me today, but you can easily complete the form and submit it directly on the website.

The dates for the 2012 NCCW Convention to be held in Myrtle Beach, SC has changed. It is now scheduled for September 19th to 22nd. Joanne Dunne, Judy Powers and I will be scheduling a conference call in the near future to begin plans for the convention. After this call, I will be contacting volunteers to serve on committees for the convention. This will be a Province hosted convention so we will be soliciting

help from Atlanta and Savannah as well.

Please renew your NCCW Individual Membership. I challenge you to recruit new members as well.

Pat Langston

Atlanta Province Director

Atlanta Province Representatives Report

January 7, 2012

There have been no Atlanta Province meetings since the last SCCCW Board meeting on September 17th, 2011 for your SCCCW Atlanta Province Representatives Mary Sue Barnum and Leslie Barhyte-Moulton to attend.

Both of your Atlanta Province Representatives did attend the NCCW Convention in Chicago, Illinois on November 10th thru 12th. Our newly appointed SCCCW Spiritual Moderator – Fr. Fabio, President Barbara Birds, and Atlanta Province Director Pat Langston were among the 15 SCCCW Delegates in attendance at this convention. The NCCW Convention started with an opening Liturgy attended by more than 600 delegates and with over 50 Priest concelebrating Mass! What a fantastic experience this was. And we got this privilege again on Saturday. At our Province dinner – President Barbara Birds presented Fr. Fabio with his Moderators stole.

I attended the LTD Techniques for Successful Councils: Forming Effective Leaders given by Linda Clark, Pat Smuck and Pat Reymann. This workshop included information on By-laws, Parliamentary Procedures, the need for Job Descriptions, Mentoring and Leadership. What a wonderful workshop this was!!! I wished all SCCCW members could have

been there. Join us at the 2012 SCCCW Convention and you will be amazed at the workshop the LTD team is going to present to us!

There was also a fantastic workshop on Welcoming the Third Edition of the Roman Missal given by Sister Rene Simonelic, OSF.

All SCCCW delegates attended the Banquet at the end of this convention. Vito Zatto with his quick-witted, spontaneous and high-energy entertainment got many attendees at this banquet involved in his show – mostly unsuspecting moderators! We very much enjoyed this hilarious stand-up comedy with celebrity impersonations and incredible singing.

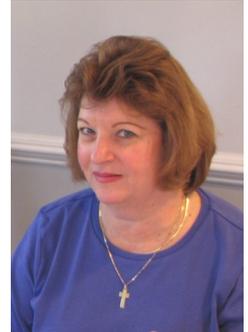
This was just a brief look at the 2011 NCCW Convention. There were many workshops to attend and many fantastic speakers. This convention was packed with Liturgies, workshops on Spirituality, Service and Leadership, a breakfast meeting with speaker, purse auction, vendors and closed with the banquet and entertainment.

Blessings to all,

Your sisters in Christ,

Mary Sue Barnum
Leslie Barhyte-Moulton

Mary Sue Barnum



Leslie Barhyte-Moulton



SCCCW Convention Report

South Carolina Council of Catholic Women

2012 SCCCW Convention Report

January 7, 2012

The Columbia-Midlands Deanery has been very busy with meetings and planning the 2012 SCCCW Convention. We are working very hard to make this the best convention you have ever attended.

82nd ANNUAL CONVENTION

March 9, 10, 11, 2012

Embassy Suites Hotel

Columbia, South Carolina

“Gift of Christian Leadership”

Empowered through

Spirituality Teaching Service

Go to WWW.SCCCW.ORG to reserve your room online – click on the heading ***Activities and Events***, click on the link “to Reserve your room at the Embassy Suites in Columbia”, and follow the prompts. Don’t forget to have your credit card handy. Or you can call 1-800-Embassy. Our

Group code is CTH. **Cut-off date for reservations is February 15th, 2012.**

Convention will start on Friday at 7PM – Roll Call will be on Friday.

Convention is dedicated to the Memory of Fr. William Pentis, C.O., SCCCW Moderator for over 25 years and the **Convention Project:** Cross International, Women Helping Women

Embassy Suites will offer a buffet lunch on Saturday for around \$12.

The Rev. Robert E. Guglielmone will celebrate Mass on Saturday at Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Church.

Don’t forget about Ads for the convention booklet. Deadline for ads is February 17, 2012

The National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW) Leadership Training Development Team will be our workshop presenters. They are coming to help you with ideas and ways to energize and help you to find ways to improve and motivate your affiliate. They will share ways to mentor others. Come and bring your questions or problems. They will be able to lead you on the path to success.

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SCCCW Mission Statement

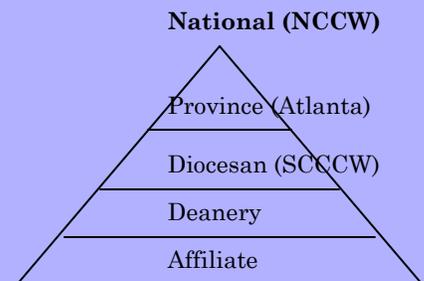
“...to serve as a medium through which the Catholic Women of the Diocese may speak and act as one unit.

Its goals are to stimulate the work of and render definite assistance to the efforts of all affiliate organizations to give service to the Church. The

SCCCW will endeavor to create interest in, and to assist in the furtherance of the faith and well being of the people of the Diocese.”

Church
 Family
 Community
 Legislative
 International
 Organization

Levels of Council



Next issue: Convention 2012 News!