

Light the Way



Echo

Yvonne Shimssock, Editor
13 Banor Drive
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

New Jersey State Columbiettes
Winter 2014



New Jersey State Columbiettes

Message from State President Lorraine Noger

My second Columbiette year is well underway. It is again my pleasure and privilege to serve this wonderful organization as your State President and for all the support you have given me.

We would like to congratulate Barbara Ann Lucarelli and Patricia Zellner on their reelections to their respective offices. May our Blessed Mother guide you during your second term.

As I traveled to each of the Chapters installing their Officers and District Deputies, my state officers and I were so graciously received. A special thank you to Vice President Rose Nafus for installing the Officers and District Deputies of South West Chapter.

The Seminars on September 28th was very well attended. The Auxiliary Presidents and District Deputies received an update to their "Information Guide" and many questions were answered.

In October we were scheduled to have a "One Day Retreat" but due to the response, it was canceled. We will have our

Memorial Mass on May 12 at St. Anthony's church at 8pm and immediately following with light refreshments and the Charity raffle drawing. All are invited and more information to come.

Also remember, the Weekend Retreat in April, Barbara Ann is taking reservations. It is a great time, so please come out and join us.

To all my fellow Sister Columbiettes and their families, I wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving and I hope you have a wonderful and blessed Christmas. For the New Year may your troubles be less, your blessings are more and nothing but happiness comes your way. P.S. Thank you for all the get well cards I received for my husband Frank during his recent illness. May we continue to "*Light the Way*".



For each new morning with its light,
For rest and shelter of the night,
For health and food,
For love and friends,
For everything Thy goodness sends,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.

— Ralph Waldo Emerson



A Message from Immediate Past State President— Susan Kadar

My Dear Sister Columbiettes,
With the Advent and Christmas season upon us I try to eschew the commercial and focus on the Virgin Mary our patroness. She is our Mother and when we say the Rosary we are praying and asking Her to



intercede for us, as in the Memore we say:

To you we come, before you we stand sinful and sorrowful, O Mother of the Word incarnate, despise not our petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer us.

So many people are in need of our prayers, the Rosary is the perfect prayer to say. Have a blessed Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year.
— Susan

State Secretary—Lisa Roberts

Greetings to my sister Columbiettes at this wonderful time of the year. I hope you are all having a successful start to the Columbian year with all your events and holiday preparations. I extend wishes of Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas to all. Enjoy time with family and friends during this Advent Season.

As a note - if you haven't already received you will

shortly an invitation to join the NJSCC Board of Officers for a memorial mass for the deceased Past State Presidents. This will be held on May 12, 2015 at St. Anthony's in Port Reading. It will be followed by light refreshments and the Charity Raffle drawing. Hope many of you can attend.

Many Blessings to All!!!
— Lisa



State Vice President—RoseMarie Nafus



I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year!
God's Blessings for all!!
— RoseMarie

State Financial Secretary—Vicki Bird

I want to say 'Welcome and Congratulations' to our newest sisters- Leisure Village West Columbiettes #9134, who were instituted on November 9, 2014. You are a wonderful group of women! May our Patronesses bless you.

My heart swells with pride when I attend a Columbiette event/function to be among some of the most caring, loving and amazing women. During the coming seasons of Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas I will be thinking of and praying for all sister Columbiettes and their families that they may continue to be showered with our Blessed Mother's Light.
As a reminder to all

Financial Secretaries, the per capita bills will be sent out in the New Year. Remember that there are two per capita bills: Supreme and State.
I want to wish each of you a Happy Thanksgiving, a very Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!
— Vicki





State Treasurer—Elena McFarland

Dear Sister Columbiettes,

It is the most wonderful time of the Year!!! Time to be thankful all that we have and thank others for all they have done...**“Thank You”** to all of my sister Columbiettes for all the wonderful works of charity you have done throughout 2014. Less than a month later we celebrate the Birth of

Christ! It is sometimes the most overwhelming time of the year too! Let us focus on the joy and happiness of Christmas and find pleasure in all we do to prepare for such a wonderful event.

May you have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

— Elena

State Advocate—Nadine Lecorchick

Dear Sister Columbiettes,

I would like to welcome Leisure Village West to our organization. I hope they will enjoy their membership and I look forward to hearing about their successes. I would also like to wish all my sister

Columbiettes a very happy Thanksgiving and a Blessed Christmas and a Happy, healthy and holy New Year.

May our Blessed Mother, St. Theresa and St. Joan of Arc watch over you and bless you.
— Nadine

State Sentinel—Frances Corcione

Dear Sister Columbiettes, It has been a privilege to represent you as the New Jersey State Sentinel. I hope that each of your Auxiliaries had a rewarding year. I wish you all a

very Happy Thanksgiving and a Blessed Christmas Season. May God continue to light your way and watch over you.
— Fran



NJ State Committee Chairpersons

Weekend Retreat

San Alfonso Retreat House — “Where God and Sea Come Together”

Next year’s retreat will be **April 17 – 19, 2015** and the cost will be **\$200.00**. A **\$50.00** deposit will hold your reservation. Try to attend this beautiful weekend.

Reservations have been coming in, but there is still a

lot of room. You do not have to be a Columbiette to attend, so invite your friends to come.

Please call me at 973-697-8559 or e-mail

bannlucarelli@aol.com

I will send you a reservation form. Thank you.

— Barbara Ann Lucarelli
Weekend Retreat Chair

Logo Wear

Be sure to show your Columbiette pride by wearing one of our beautiful logo wear items while volunteering around the state! Check out our Columbiette Logo Wear Shop online at

<http://njcolumbiettes.promoshop.com>

there is something for everyone. Remember we can do custom T-shirts if your auxiliary or chapter is attending an event as a group. Just give me a call!!

— Elena McFarland
Club Shirt Chair





Jewelry

One of the best parts of my job as Jewelry Chairperson is the opportunity to meet so many of my Sister Columbiettes. Occasions such as the Officers' Seminar in Helmetta in September, Western's First and Major Degree in Vernon on Nov. 2nd and the Institution of Leisure Village West in Manchester on Nov. 9th gave me the chance to meet new Columbiettes and say hello to old friends.

We carry a number of items with the Columbiette logo. Necklaces, pins, key rings,

watches, rosaries, pocketbook holders, car emblems and embroidered patches are available for purchase. With the start of a new year that means a new travel card. Isn't it about time to get a new travel card case for it? The opening and closing prayers are included.

If you wish to get in touch with me, my phone number is 732-826-3881 and my e-mail is columbietteskathy@yahoo.com.

— Kathy Donahue
Jewelry Chairperson

Vocations

I would like to thank all my Sister Columbiettes who supported our Vocations Programs this past year. This is a New Year and we are once again in need of your support for our Seminarians / Postulants -so keep saving your change for the Pennies from Heaven Program -it all adds up at the end of the year. If you or your Auxiliary would



like to have an Angel Pin sale it would greatly help. Remember Angel Pin sales large or small help our programs to succeed. Call me at 732-636-2407 or E-Mail your request to Babs.Columbiettes@gmail.com.

— Barbara Lasek
Vocation Chairlady



News From Our Chapters

South East

Greetings from South East Chapter!

We were delighted to welcome a number of distinguished guests to our September 18th Chapter meeting and Installation of Officers and District Deputies. Supreme President Barbara Ann Lucarelli, State President Lorraine Noger, State Secretary Lisa Roberts, State Financial Victoria Bird, State Treasurer Elena McFarland, State Sentinel Fran Corcione and her mother Past State President Anne Graziano, and our Chaplain Father William Smith were in attendance.

State President Lorraine Noger, with assistance from State Secretary Lisa Roberts, began the evening with the Installation of the District Deputies - Yvonne Burdynski, Kathy Donahue, Kathy Jessen, Barbara Lasek, Judy Logan, Mary Muehlbauer, Maureen

O'Brien, Linda Orosz and Eileen Swingle.



The South East Chapter Officers were then installed. They are President Kathy Distefano, Past President Kathy Jessen, Vice President Diane Kulbacki, Secretary Kathy Donahue, Financial Secretary Katie Elichko, Treasurer Gerri Kosloski and Sentinel Louise Welch.





A delicious dinner was served by the Don Bosco Columbiettes. President Kathy Distefano thanked the ladies from her auxiliary for the tasty meal and warm hospitality.

Our November 20th meeting at Our Lady of Victory auxiliary in Parlin is our Tricky Tray/Christmas Party. Ways and Means chairladies Nancy

Mid West

Mid West Chapter held its first meeting on September 11th at the Union Knights of Columbus Hall. State President Lorraine Noger installed our new Officers for 2014-2015:

President – Frances Corcione
 Past Pres – Elena McFarland
 Vice President – Joann Martin
 Secretary – Yvonne Shimshock
 Fin Secretary – Bev Redondo
 Treasurer – Mia Sena
 Sentinel – Erica Ruffer
 Lorraine then installed our District Deputies: Kathleen Valente, Frances Corcione, Elena McFarland, Kathleen Donahue, and Mia Sena. Congratulations to all!!

Fallon and Meg Zadlock always do a wonderful job. Everyone enjoys this evening, especially the lucky winners of our baskets and special prizes.

Our February 19, 2015 meeting at St. Bartholomew in East Brunswick will be our annual baby shower.

– Kathy Donahue
 Publicity Chairlady

Also at this meeting, Auxiliary and Chapter Officers had the opportunity to meet in small groups with State Officers to discuss the responsibilities of their office.

Our November Meeting was held on November 13th at South Plainfield auxiliary. Nonperishable food items were collected and donated to St. Mary's Soup Kitchen.

We are planning a Major Degree for the spring and 10 Week Club for the New Year.

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

– Fran Corcione
 President



Central

Central Chapter would like to thank our President Lorraine Noger and her state officers for their presence at our September meeting as she installed the following: Mattea Truppe President, Barbara Anne Lissi Vice Pres, Maureen Italiano Secretary, Elena Saludo Fin Secretary, Susan Liguori Treasurer, Filomenia Mohr as Sentinel and the new District Deputies.

In November we remember all past presidents of Central Chapter.

On Sunday March 22nd we will celebrate the 10 year anniversary of St. John's Auxiliary starting with a special blessing at the noon Mass at St. Mary's Church in Dumont and then a luncheon at Lieto's Restaurant, please join us!

We wish all of our sister Columbiettes, their families and friends a Blessed Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

– Mattea Truppe
 President

Our Seminarian Ernesto Betancourt is receiving his check from the NJ State Columbiettes on October 12th, 2014 at St. Mary's Church in Dumont, NJ. In the photo from the left to right are Nina Di Costanzo (VP St. John's Auxiliary), Roberta Elwell (PP St. John's Aux), Mattea Truppe (Central Chapter President), Deacon John Sylvester, Ernesto Betancourt (Central Chapter Seminarian), Very Rev. Dominic Ciriaco, Laura Labetti (Financial Sec St. John's Aux), Michele Labetti (member St. John's Auxiliary), Pauline Scalice (Sentinel St. John's Auxiliary).





Western

Western Chapter's Installation of Officers and District Deputies took place at St. Thomas Church in Sandyston on October 1st 2014. State President Lorraine Noger presided over the Installation.

Supreme President Barbara Ann Lucarelli was in attendance and addressed the attendees. State Secretary Lisa Roberts chaired the ceremony. A reception and dinner followed in the adjoining hall.

The officers for 2014-15: President Donna Lewandowski Past President Janet Tussey Vice Pres Catherine Nicholson Secretary Barbara Hill Fin Secretary Colleen Testa Treasurer Mary Hargraves Sentinel Pam Porfido

We had a First Degree and the Exemplification of the Major Degree in honor of Past State President Susan Kadar on Sunday November 2nd 2014 at St. Francis deSales Church in Vernon. Twenty-three ladies made their Degrees.



The fundraiser Comedy Night will replace the Calendar Party on May 2nd 2015 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Butler. Time is 7:30pm and price is \$25.00, which includes the show and tap beer, wine, and soda. Every auxiliary will be responsible for selling 10 tickets.

Our December 3rd Christmas meeting will be held at Bishop Navagh. We will hold a Tricky Tray. All members bring a \$5.00 gift. Auxiliaries are asked to bring a \$25.00 gift.

Western Chapter wishes all a Happy Thanksgiving, a Very Merry Christmas, and a New Year full of blessings.
— Barbara Schounnot
Publicity Chairperson



South West

South West Chapter held its first meeting September 18, 2014, at Fr. Emil J. Kapaun Auxiliary with Vice President Rose Nafus installing our Officers and District Deputies for the year 2014-2015. We discussed our Tricky Tray and the upcoming Institution of our new auxiliary. Several auxiliaries discussed their upcoming events.

On November 9th, 2014, Leisure Village West Columbiettes were welcomed into South West Chapter.

Twenty seven candidates made their First Degree and Major Degree, followed by Installation of Officers. We were very happy to have them join our Chapter.

On November 20th, 2014 we had our Tricky Tray and Christmas Celebration. A good time was had by all.

South West Chapter would like to wish everyone a Blessed and Holy Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year.
— Barbara Liona
President



Did you know...

National Vocation Awareness Week (NVAW) is an annual week-long celebration of the Catholic Church in the United States dedicated to promote vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life through prayer and education, and to renew our prayers and support for those who are considering one of these particular vocations. NVAW began in 1976 when the U. S. bishops designated the 28th Sunday of the year for NVAW. Beginning in 2014, NVAW was moved to the first full week of November. (<http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/vocations/national-vocation-awareness-week.cfm>)



News From Our Auxiliaries

St. John's

St John's Council Columbiettes started the year 2014-2015 off in September with our officers being installed. The installation was presided over by our Chapter President, Mattea Truppe, (who also is Past President of St John's Council) and Father Dominic Ciriaco of St Mary's Parish in Dumont, NJ.

September was a busy month for our Brother Knights, who along with their Sister Columbiettes participated in the "Giants of Generosity". This was a joint effort between two charitable groups to raise funds that will give urgent relief to people in our community. A fundraiser dinner and show were held at our council hall in Dumont NJ. It featured live entertainment from our council members, friends, and family.

October brings out all of the "ghouls and goblins" in all

of us as the Knights and Columbiettes host a Children's Halloween Party. This is an annual event that is always so much fun, we have crafts for all the children to do, serve finger foods, have decorations, goody bags, a DJ for games, dancing and of course a **BEST COSTUME AWARD!**

November is the month we celebrate all Saints Day, remember our departed Brother Knights and Sister Columbiettes for All Souls Day with a Memorial Mass held in November at the council hall. It also the month we celebrate Thanksgiving and remember to be grateful for what we have and pray for those in need.

"It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!".....is the general statement by the time December rolls around. Once again the Knights and Columbiettes host a Children's Christmas party, AND the adults have their own



Christmas party the night before. Mr. & Mrs. Claus are known to make an appearance at both!

Ring in the New Year....2015! Let the celebrations continue! The Columbiettes host a post-holiday party at a local restaurant in our area and then it's

...Back to Work!
On behalf of myself, my Sister Columbiettes, and the Officers of St John's Council, we wish everyone a very happy, healthy, blessed New Year!
Peace,
— Roberta Elwell
Past President

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

It is with a sad heart that I announce Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Columbiettes has disbanded. In March we celebrated our 60th anniversary but our membership did not want to continue. Sometimes it was difficult getting members to attend regular meetings.

We have shared many good memories over those 60 years which no one can take away. I

would like to thank all the State and Supreme officers that have helped and supported me in office as president. We would like to wish all our sister Columbiettes and their families a very Happy Thanksgiving, A very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, Holy Prosperous New Year. May our Patronesses keep you all in their care always.
— Barbara Ann Lissi

Our Lady of Peace

Congratulations and Best Wishes to the newly installed OLP North Brunswick Officers!





St. Philip the Apostle

September was a busy month for the St Philip's Columbiettes. On September 28, we sponsored our Mary Ellen Valentin Memorial International Food Festival. Mary Ellen was our member who was responsible in starting this dinner but was called home to our Lord too early and wasn't around to see its success and enjoyment by all attending. Countries represented in the food selection was Poland, Ireland, Philippines, Austria, France, Italy and of course American favorites.

October 5 we manned the dessert table at the annual picnic. At our October meeting clothes were collected to be sent to the Philippines. A few weeks passed and we were at the Stop and Shop in Clifton collecting food for the Father

Parsippany

Dear Sister Columbiettes

Parsippany ladies have had a busy few months, thankfully

English Food Pantry in Paterson. The center went back with car loads of filled bags; people were very generous in giving one, two or more items of food.

We are sponsoring a family Bowling Party; we will be collecting hats, gloves and scarves for St. Mary's Family Outreach center. During our own Christmas party we will be collecting food for St. Peter's Haven Food bank in Clifton besides enjoying and evening of camaraderie and fun.

2015 will be just as busy. Our best wishes go out to our sister Columbiettes and their families for a Happy Thanksgiving, Very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, Holy Prosperous New Year.

— Barbara Ann Lissi

happy events. We began our year with our installation of some new officers and thank



them for taking office. Our pillow sales have been thriving throughout the area. Parsippany Day was our first success and we look forward to sales for the Thanksgiving and Christmas season. The profits go to our various charitable works, 100%. We continue to send cards to shut-ins and home-bound for all holidays. Several of us were able to attend the Western Chapter installation and we are very proud to be part of Western. Our beautiful event thus far was our 3rd Annual TEA. A complete sold out success, everyone wants us to hold a TEA more often. Our Angel theme was perfect and we were



blessed with a wonderful group of ladies planning, decorating and serving. If anyone is interested we have a Parsippany Facebook Page and try to post both old and new photos and messages. We love sharing in so many ways. We wish each and every one of our Sister Columbiettes a Blessed Christmas, health and happiness your gifts.
— Fran Veit

Leisure Village West



Congratulations and Best Wishes to the ladies of the newly instituted Leisure Village West Auxiliary! See Updates to State Directory (last page of this newsletter) for contact information.



Somerville

Dear Sister Columbiettes:
I imagine that you are in preparations for the upcoming holidays! I hope this newsletter finds you well.

In September, we kicked off the 2014-15 year with a joint installation with our brother Knights. At our September meeting, we began a new charity initiative – which we are calling “A Day of Meals”. At each auxiliary meeting, we will bring an item that one would eat at a particular meal. These items will be donated to a local food pantry, and by end of the year, we will have provided a day of meals to several families. At October’s meeting, each member brought a box of cereal. In November, each member brought a breakfast drink (coffee, tea bags, juice); in December we’ll collect soup...and so on.

October was a busy month! In conjunction with the Blessing of the Animals for the Feast of St. Francis, we held a collection for St. Hubert’s

Animal Shelter on October 2 at Mary, Mother of God



Church. The Somerville Auxiliary and parishioners of Mary, Mother of God Church donated monetary gifts and many bags of towels, blankets, and animal food!

At our October auxiliary meeting, we wrapped over 100 copies of “33 Days to Morning Glory”, a booklet that contains a 33 day program for deepening Marian devotion. These booklets will be sent to



seminarians across the United States. Several of us also attended the Somerville KOC Charity Ball this month, where proceeds were given to Samaritan Homeless Interim Program (SHIP). Our auxiliary raffled 3 “baskets of cheer” at the Ball, which resulted in a generous donation to SHIP on behalf of our group! Petrock’s Liquors of Hillsborough generously donated this basket for our raffle.



Finally, we had a table at the Millstone Valley Columbiettes Vendor Sale. Car magnets, glass crosses, and angel pins were available for purchase.

We welcomed 2 new members during a joint First Degree with Millstone Valley at our November meeting. We had several inactive members

attend the meeting, including our only living charter member! In conjunction with National Vocation Awareness Week (Nov 2-8, 2014) we are having ‘shake a can’ events at Mary, Mother of God and Immaculate Conception Parishes. We will be collecting spare change for the NJSCC “Pennies from Heaven” program. Also in November, we will be donating gently worn coats to the United Way’s annual Coat Drive. At November Chapter meeting, we will be donating items for local food pantries.

We will be winding down 2014 with our December Adopt a Family for Christmas. At our December meeting, we will write Christmas cards to our members, decorate the KOC hall, prepare a care package for the Mid West Chapter Seminarian, and of course...party!

Somerville wishes everyone a Wonderful Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

– Yvonne Shimshock
President



St. James

Our Columbiette year began in September with a commitment to dedicate our charitable efforts to the needs of our military veterans. We designated this as “The Year of the Vet”. Also, during the meeting, we presented a review of the NJ State Council Convention held in June and a recap of our successful 2013-2014 year. We concluded the night with our auxiliary’s 50-50 raffle, of which three winners shared in the winnings. It reaped us needed funds to continue our good works.

On October 5th, we celebrated our 40th Year of Institution. Our Anniversary Party was held at Garvey’s Family Restaurant in Monroe Township and it was a gala event. We were honored to have our Supreme President, Barbara Ann Lucarelli, her husband, Michael, and our State President, Lorraine Noger, be among the dignitaries in attendance.

St. James is blessed to have reached this milestone.

In keeping with our values of Faith and Country, we recited the rosary at our October meeting asking God’s guidance and protection for our nation and her leaders, including personal intentions. We also committed to gather socks and undergarments for a donation to our Veterans’ Organization. The donations will be collected at our Christmas Party.

October 17th was a night full of tricks and treats as we assisted our Knights with their 6th annual Tricky Tray at the Holy Trinity Church’s Parish Hall. We sold tickets, gathered prizes, and donated desserts. It was a very successful event and a great time was had by all.

Our Memorial Mass for deceased Knights of Columbus and Columbiettes was held on November 3rd at Holy Trinity Church. Together, we prayed for and remembered our



deceased Brothers and Sisters who built the foundations of the organizations we support and enjoy today.

Plans for our November meeting are to hold our “Prayer Service of Thanks”. During our social time, turkeys will gobble and strut at the “Turkey Trot”. It will be a night of gratitude and smiles.

We hope to see angels fly at our “Angel Pin Sale” during the weekend of December 6 and 7. Our Christmas Party is scheduled for December 11th at which the State Council Columbiettes’ Support Club Raffle will be drawn. Our elves are busy in preparation and a joyful time is planned for all. Then, on December 12th, we will join our Knights at their Christmas Celebration and Awards Night. Columbiette elves are busy in preparations as December will be full of parties and celebrations! On December 15th, we will assist our Brother Knights at the “Christmas Party for Rest Home Residents”.

St. James is pleased to end this year with three new members.

Plans for the New Year are underway. Currently, we will host a presentation on “Aging Feet”, a party for our parishes’ altar servers, a baby shower to benefit the Action Pregnancy Center, and our Tea Party. We will hold a fund raising event of which the profits will be donated to a Veterans Group. During Lent, we will assist our Knights at their Friday Lenten Dinners. We committed to set tables and provide desserts. Also, we will continue our efforts in providing non-perishable food goods to the Deacon’s Food Pantry and collecting personal items, school supplies and tab tops for our Diocesan Charities.

From St. James Columbiettes to all - our sincerest wishes and prayers for a Happy Thanksgiving, a Very Merry Christmas and a New Year full of blessings!
Union of prayers,
– Carol A. Bohinski
President



Vincent T. Lombardi

The Vincent T. Lombardi Columbiettes Council #6552 have progressed to our 5th year and continues to serve the parishes of St. Mary's, New Monmouth, NJ and OLPH/St. Agnes, Atlantic Highlands, NJ. In the mid summer of 2014 St. Agnes has merged with Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Atlantic Highlands and St. Agnes is now known as OLPH/St. Agnes.

We began the 2014-2015 with a new slate of officers: Gilda Healy, President, Mary Venerelli, Vice President, Jan Flanagan, Secretary. Both Connie Lopusznick and Christine Dudek have remained as Treasurer and Financial Secretary respectively. Our current Past President is Louise Welch.

Vincent T. Lombardi Columbiettes was once again recognized with the Margaret Mary Jane Mangan Achievement Award for 2014 as we have in 2011 and 2013.

A new partnership between

the Lombardi Columbiettes and Arbor Terrace Independent Living Adult Community in Middletown, NJ was formed. They have opened their doors for us to hold two bake sales which have helped us with some fundraising events. We are scheduled to have another fundraiser in December 2014 for our scholarship fund. These fundraisers help us provide scholarships for the students of St. Mary's, and Mater Dei, part of St. Mary's parish and Mother Teresa Regional, part of OLPH/St. Agnes parish.

We now have our own banner made of Tyvek that proudly displays the Vincent T. Lombardi Columbiettes #6552 on light blue background with black lettering and the beautiful, distinctive Columbiettes symbol. Our first Past President, Sue Costa, was able to secure our new banner in time for us to display at Hospitality Events, 5th Sunday



events and Ministry Fairs at St. Mary's, New Monmouth and OLPH/St. Agnes, Atlantic Highlands.

October, the month of the Rosary, brought us many activities. Beginning with the Past President's Dinner, honoring Louise Welch, held at Yesterday's Restaurant in Hazlet, NJ. We all enjoyed ourselves with good food, served family style, good company and topped off with a "Cupcake Style" cake for dessert. This cake was made up of three Dozen cupcakes and topped with delicious butter cream.

The annual Rosary Rally was held at St. Mary's, New Monmouth and attended by a few of our members. The Blue Mass at OLPH/St. Agnes was a full house with dinner hosted by the Shore Casino restaurant in Atlantic Highlands. Our brother Knights hosted a Spaghetti Dinner for a Brother Knight in Need at St. Mary's, New Monmouth and raised close to \$1,400 for the Brother in Need.

In November we held an

"Open House" to recruit new members and so far, we have one new member. We will hold a First Degree, most likely in December. We will be participating in the "Tricky Tray" festivities at the November Southeast Chapter meeting on the 20th of November. We will be supplying two baskets: "Holiday Baking" and "New Year's Eve".

We will bring the desserts and side dishes, like always, to our Brother Knights; Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners and share in the fun.

In 2015, our brother Knights will host monthly pancake breakfasts at St. Mary's, New Monmouth as fundraisers. We will be assisting them with the serving of breakfast and hold bake sales whenever possible to continue with our fundraising. Blessings to all from all of us at Vincent T. Lombardi # 6552 to all of you. Pray for us.

– Gilda F. Healy
President



St. Anthony's

During our June meeting we presented an award to the TriBoro Ambulance Corp; Eva Kessel (Humanitarian); and Sarah Bright (Good Citizen).

On September 6, 2014, a mass was held followed by the installation of officers for the Knights along with the Columbiettes. It was followed by an enjoyable dinner held immediately after.



Preceding our monthly meeting in September, a mass was said by Fr. Christopher Barkhousen. We presented him with a stole prior to mass. He thanked us for the gift along with our continued support while he was a seminarian.

In October, we held our Baked Potato night with all the yummy toppings. We also assisted our Knights with the annual Halloween Children's Party.

In November, we enjoyed the Knights Fish Fry and our infamous Pocketbook Bingo.

We look forward to our future events in 2015. Our sneak preview will include - Country night with the very talented Farmer Phil Band on 1/25/15; Comedy Knight 5/25/15; and Pocketbook Bingo 6/15/15.

We thank all our sister Columbiettes who continue to make these events successful. Wishing everyone a Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving.
- Geri Nolan



Long Valley

Long Valley Columbiettes Council #10419 is CELEBRATING our 5th Anniversary! We have been very busy since the last publication of The Echo.

At our May meeting we held a very successful "Baby Shower" for the Fr. English Center in Paterson. After hearing the urgency and gratefulness from the center for the baby items donated, we wanted to do more. We were told that baby items are the least donated items and they are always in need. So we approached a local supermarket and on a Saturday morning in June we asked customers when they entered the store to consider buying something for a baby, the response was overwhelming, the community was so generous. And Fr. English Center was overjoyed.

We worked all summer long on our fundraiser, a Fashion

Show/Tricky Tray to be held in September. It was a successful and fun event.

We are continuing to sell our cookbook's "A Little Taste of Heaven". It is a collection of treasured family recipes. It makes a wonderful Christmas gifts or treat yourself to one for only \$15.00 and start cooking up something new. Contact Cindy Jones at cinjim1126@aol.com or 908-684-0661.



We are looking forward to bringing Christmas cheer, to the Sisters of Christian Charity at their convent in December. We wish all a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS.

- Cindy Jones
President



Millstone Valley

We have had a busy Fall! In July, we had a joint officer installation with the Knights.

In September, we helped the Knights celebrate Fr. Tom's 50th anniversary of ordination with a parish breakfast.

In October, we had our 4th and most successful vendor fair to date! We also had a pot luck supper where 4 ladies expressed an interest in joining our auxiliary.

In November, we held a joint First Degree with

Somerville—where 3 new members joined. We will be selling poinsettias for Christmas and have restocked the St. Joe's food pantry.

Next month we will decorate the church hall with the Knights in preparation for their annual pancake breakfast. We will also be collecting pajamas for the Women's Resource Center.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas!
— Linda Kenyhercz
President

South Plainfield

We kicked off the year with a Murder Mystery Dinner ("Deadly Housewife") on September 28. Everyone that attended the dinner enjoyed it; there was lots of laughter.

On October 17, we held a successful Vendor's Night. On November 9, we ran the Soup Kitchen at St. Mary's Church. We served chili,

rice, cornbread, and other baked goods. This month, we are also collecting coats and toiletries for those in need.

Looking ahead to 2015, we have a Mass for Deceased Columbiettes planned for January. In February, we will have a St. Patrick's dinner with the Knights. Blessings.
— Migdalia Antoniazzi
President



Warren

We started our year with a welcome back wine punch and great desserts. Our first fundraiser was a bake sale on September 13th and 14th. We also sold "25% Off" coupons to Boscov's as a fundraiser activity.

At our meeting on October 8th, we held a First Degree. We welcomed 4 new members. We voted on adopting a family with 7 children in our community. We will be supplying the family with a fully cooked Thanksgiving meal. At Christmas, the children will receive gifts and another donation of food for their Christmas dinner. We will

Sgt. John Basilone

The Sgt. John Basilone Columbiettes #13264 kicked off this Columbian year by marching in the annual John Basilone Parade and assisted our Knights with a picnic for parade participants immediately following. In

also be donating money to our local food bank for the needy.

We will be attending a Memorial Mass on November 17th, where we will pray for our deceased member Sharron.

On December 12, we are helping the Knights fill 250 bags of food to distribute to those in need in our community. We are currently planning a Christmas party in lieu of our monthly meeting.

We wish everyone a Blessed Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.
— Bev Redondo
President

October we installed our Officers and discussed events for our planning calendar. We also helped our Knights with their annual mum sale and their monthly pancake breakfast. In November we hosted a coffee and dessert



reception after the All Souls Mass. We also supported our Knights annual Veterans Memorial Breakfast by collecting shoebox donations and writing notes to 34 soldiers.

For the Christmas season we are continuing our tradition of adopting a family in need and plan to host a Wrap Party in place of our December meeting. We have also partnered with 5Below in Somerville and Flemington for a fundraising event from 11/27 thru 12/7. We are also planning on joining our Knights for their annual

Christmas party and a bowling night event they are planning for January 31st.

We wish all auxiliaries a Happy Thanksgiving and a blessed Christmas season. We look forward to continuing our good works in the new year!

– Karen Melander
President



Msgr. James. F. Gacquin

Dear Sister Columbiettes,

September brought us to our first meeting of the Columbian Year and despite many other church functions, attendance was high. Ideas for our future are flowing and moving right along. We collected school supplies from the parish families for our June backpacks while the sales and goodies were plentiful. Thanks to our

Pastor, Father Wayne Varga, we held a recruitment drive at all our massed in September.

October was a jam packed month with events and such. We hosted Western Chapter's first meeting of the year and welcomed not only our State President, Lorraine Noger, but our Supreme President, Barbara Ann Lucarelli. It was a great evening with good food,



gathering as a group and instillation of WC officers and DD's. Congratulations to all WC officers, DD's and Auxiliary Officers for Msgr. James F. Gacquin and a warm welcome to our new D.D. Janet Tussey. May your experience and pride of being a Columbiette help inspire us to do great works.

October we also organized and displayed a "Cancer Ribbon Wall" for those who have lost their battle or continue to fight their battle with cancer, hoping to raise awareness and support a local cancer charity. October, being the month of Mary, we have agreed to lead our parish family in the Joyful Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary prior to the Saturday evening mass, to pray for peace.

November is always a busy month starting on the 1st with our "Fish and Chips" fundraiser dinner for a young lady of our parish in need of a kidney transplant. Thanks to so many who came out to dinner and those who donated to this event it was a huge

success. November 2nd we welcomed two new members at W.C. Exemplification of the Major Degree in St. Francis deSales Church in Vernon, in honor of our Immediate Past State President, Susan Kadar. Our Veteran's Day Ceremony took place on Veteran's Day remembering those who have served and continue to serve our country; may our flags fly with pride. We gathered as a group at mass on November 16th for all our deceased members, may they rest peacefully with our lord. We will participate in St. Thomas' church Vendor, Craft and Bake Sale at the end of this month and also in December for St. James, our Sister church.

As warriors of prayer, we will continue our Rosary on Saturday evenings for peace. We wish you all a Blessed Thanksgiving, a Joyous Christmas and Healthy New Year; with a bit of rest thrown in for good measure. May the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Obtain Peace for the World,
– Donna Lewandowski
President



Bishop Navagh

We began August off on a sad note. We lost our longtime Columbiette, Teresia Holahan, on Aug. 2. The following week, we lost our chaplain, Fr. Phil LeBeau. His smiling face and gentle spirit are sadly missed. At national convention we received the Margaret Mary J. Mangan award for the 17th time. We are very proud of this achievement.

We started September off with our first fundraiser, a Fish & Chips Dinner catered by Tastefully British, on Sept. 5. It was very successful. At our Sept. 23rd meeting we installed Fr. Tom Mangieri as our new chaplain. We welcomed him and he thanked us for all the



good works we do. We got started on our recruitment work for next month.

We started October out making Oct. 4 - Oct. 5 recruitment weekend. We Columbiettes gave speeches at all the weekend Masses at Holy Spirit and St. Joseph's. We were at all the doors afterwards for questions and gave out information. Barbara also put announcements in those bulletins in addition to Our Lady of Good Counsel's too. We had a lot of positive responses. We held our second fundraiser, Baked Potato Night, on October 17th. We were happy to have six Dumont Columbiettes join us for the evening. It was a sellout crowd!

On Nov. 2 we traveled to St. Francis DeSales in Vernon for the First and Major Degrees. We had six ladies take their First Degree and eight ladies take their Major Degree. We are very proud of our expansion! We are growing rapidly and these



active women are very helpful in completing our charitable endeavors. We are working on retention, too, during this month. We will invite all ladies who haven't been active in a while to join us for our November meeting.



We will remember our Columbiettes who have passed away at a Memorial Mass on November 20. This past year we lost Louise Homentowski, Carmella Nellesen, Kitty

Esposito, Jane Hughes and Teresia Holahan. We are collecting food for our adopt-a-family. We will present them with the first of three baskets for Thanksgiving.

We are busy planning for our next Western Chapter meeting which Bishop Navagh is hosting at the K of C Hall on Dec. 3. We will cook a nice buffet dinner and after the meeting, hold our annual Christmas tricky tray. We hope to see you all that evening. We always have a fun time! We wish you a blessed Christmas and a happy, healthy new year!
— Barbara Hill
President





Congratulations to State Sentinel Fran Corcione on Humanitarian Award!

Frances "Fran" Corcione is the recipient of the 2014 UNICO Richard J. Galante, Sr. Humanitarian Award.

Fran was honored by Union Chapter of UNICO (Italian word for 'unique') Service Organization on September 20, 2014 at Costa's Restaurant in Roselle Park.



Examples of community service for which Fran was recognized include coordinating fundraisers for academic and athletic scholarships, volunteering at nursing homes and residences of the sick (cutting hair of those who cannot travel to a salon), raising awareness of

illnesses such as Leukemia, and supporting numerous school activities as VP and/or President of the PTA in each of the three Springfield schools. She also spent time on the Springfield Township Committee.

Within the Columbiette organization, Fran has held many positions at the Auxiliary, Chapter, and State levels over the past 30 years.

In addition to her works of charity, Fran is the proud mother of 2 and has been a business owner since 1985.

Congratulations to Fran on receiving this Award!

Slide show of the event:

<http://www.unionunico.org/unico-fun.html>



NJ to Host First Beatification on October 4, 2014

The New Jersey Catholic Church will celebrate a major first on Oct. 4 by holding the premier beatification in the United States in Sacred Heart Basilica, Newark, where New Jersey native Sister Miriam Teresa Demjanovich will be beatified in a ceremony that only recently began being celebrated outside of Rome.

The beatification will take place during the 9:30 a.m. Mass with Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation of the Causes of Saints, presiding. He will be joined by cardinals, bishops and clergy in concelebrating the Mass.

Sister Miriam Teresa Demjanovich was born in Bayonne on March 26, 1901. She was a member of the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth, a New Jersey-based congregation. In her short life she showed deep reverence for God's presence and action in her life.

Sister Miriam Teresa bridges the Eastern and Western Church; she was baptized, confirmed and received First Holy Communion in the Byzantine Ruthenia Church, the rite of her parents who were immigrants from the Ruthenian area of Slovakia. Although Sister Miriam Teresa went on to become a Sister of Charity and belong to the Roman rite, she never changed

from her original membership in the Eastern Byzantine rite. This recognition of her sanctity draws more closely these two segments of the Church Universal.

Throughout her life Teresa had great devotion to the indwelling of the Blessed Trinity. She knew that she was constantly in the presence of God, and she carried out the Great Commandment of love of God and love of neighbor to an extraordinary degree. Through prayer and charity, she strove always to do God's will. As a young novice Sister Miriam Teresa was asked by her spiritual director to write a series of conferences on the spiritual life which were later published under the title "Greater Perfection."

Sister Miriam Teresa died May 8, 1927, at the age of 26.

Recognizing her holiness, as well as acknowledging a miraculous cure attributed to her intercession with God on behalf of a young blind boy, the Catholic Church will raise her to the status of Blessed which is one step from her canonization as a saint. To be raised to sainthood, another miracle will have to occur.

<http://www.trentonmonitor.com/main.asp?Search=1&ArticleID=8269&SectionID=4&SubSectionID=37&S=1>



Updates to State Directory

as of 10/2014

PAGE CHANGE

- 10 Kathleen Donahue
Phone number is 732-826-3881
- 26 Patricia Fell
Correct email is patpeq@optimum.net
- 40 Sharon Festa
Correct email is sfbeanie@aol.com
Correct Meeting Place Name is Molloy Center

NEW AUXILIARY:

Leisure Village West Columbiettes Council #9134
 Manchester, NJ Instituted - November, 9th, 2014

1000 Buckingham Drive, Manchester, NJ 08759

Connie Emmino - President

1196 A Thornbury Ln, Manchester, NJ, 08759

732-664-5061 email: neil7644@gmail.com

Neil Emmino	Grand Knight	732-664-8391
Patricia Cassidy	Financial Secretary	732-657-4954
	email: passidy@hotmail.com	
Barbara Liona	District Deputy	732-657-1872



A Note from the Editor

Thank you for all your submissions to this edition of the ECHO Newsletter. What amazing things you are doing in His name! If you haven't submitted anything recently, please consider contributing to the Spring issue. **Deadline is April 15, 2015.**

Submissions can be mailed to me at **13 Banor Drive, Hillsborough, NJ 08844** or emailed to me at echonewsletter@hotmail.com. Feel free to contact me at 908-723-0239 with any questions.

ECHO Newsletter subscription price is \$9.00. A 'subscription' includes the Winter and Spring issues for the Columbiette Year. You may obtain an electronic version (PDF) of the newsletter at no cost. I can be reached by mail, email, or phone for subscription requests.

For more information about what is happening within the Columbiette organization, check out the Supreme Semantics Newsletter. It is available on the homepage of the Columbiettes website: <http://www.columbiettes.com/>

Have a Wonderful Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!
— Yvonne Shimshock

