

Echo

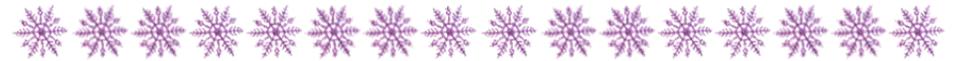


Count Your Blessings

Yvonne Shimschock, Editor
13 Banor Drive
Hillsborough, NJ 08844



New Jersey State Columbiettes
Winter 2016



New Jersey State Columbiettes

Message from State President Lisa Roberts

Let Every Day Be Christmas

*Christmas is forever, not for just one day,
for loving, sharing, giving, are not to put away
like bells and lights and tinsel, in some box upon
a shelf.*

*The good you do for others is good you do
yourself.*

*Peace on Earth, good will to men,
kind thoughts and words of cheer,
are things we should use often
and not just once a year.*

*Remember to the Christ-child, grew up to be a
man;
to hide him in a cradle, is not our dear Lord's
plan.
So keep the Christmas spirit, share it with others
far and near,
from week to week and month to month,
throughout the entire year!*

— Norman Wesley Brooks

Hello to all my sister Columbiettes throughout New Jersey. As we enter the Advent Season, this message brings with it well wishes for a Blessed and Merry Christmas and Happy, Healthy, Prosperous New Year.

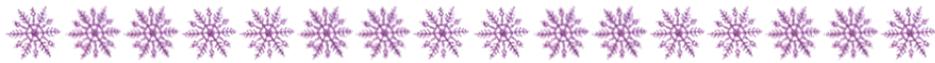
As I write this Christmas message, it amazes me that I am almost to my last six months as your State President. It has been my great honor and privilege to serve in this capacity and to spend time with so many of you at the various events, seminars and conventions.

On behalf of the state board, I want to congratulate Pat Zellner on her re-election as Supreme President and her board of officers. It is also with great pride that I congratulate Carol Bohinski on her election as Supreme Director, I am confident she will be a great addition.

The NJ State Council along with all the Columbiettes

throughout the state has been very busy since celebrating our 60th Annual Convention which was only a six months ago. I want to start by thanking all of you for re-electing me to this position and I hope that, along with the state board of officers, we can serve you in the best possible way. I hope that everyone enjoyed the convention and venue as we will be returning to the Embassy Suites – Piscataway/Somerset the weekend of June 23rd to 25th, 2017. Convention is being hosted by Western Chapter and the ladies have planned a great weekend. Hope many of you can attend, as I move on and State Vice President Vicki Bird, “for if she is elected :)”, takes on the helm.

The Recruitment Team is off and running for the New Year. They have been traveling the state, telling the Columbiette Story to the Knights who have inquired about our great organization.



We have hopes and prayers to possibly institute three new auxiliaries by June, 2017. The team has also been working on the expansion of a new Southern Chapter. The process is well underway with the anticipated institution on Thursday, June 29, 2017.

Please note that date in your calendars as we would like to see many of you out that evening to support these ladies as they begin this new endeavor.

In January, 2017 an email package will be sent to all Chapter and Auxiliary Presidents and District Deputies with the forms and reminders of due dates for the remainder of the year. Please share this information with your members and plan to support the events, complete the forms and **SUBMIT THE AWARDS DOCUMENTATION** - I would like to give every auxiliary certificates for all of the programs. Please refer to the information guidebook as a tool for the programs, forms, due dates and valuable information to help you navigate throughout the

year.

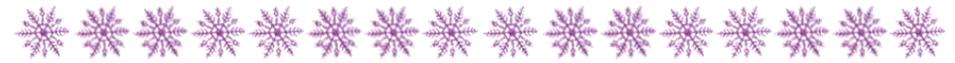
Dates and Events to Remember:

January 13th is a Comedy Night Fundraiser - proceeds to benefit the Chapter Seminar-ans/Postulants and Charities at the Annual Convention.

Weekend Retreat - **April 21st to 23rd, 2017** - and there is a one day option for those that can't get away for the entire weekend. Barbara Ann Lucarelli, chairlady is taking reservations - first come/first reserved.

Charity Awards Luncheon and Raffle - date **April 30th** at Pierre's - more information will be included in the January email package.

Look for more details on the Family Fun Bowling Day in the upcoming months. Convention packages will be sent via email to Chapter and Auxiliary Presidents and District Deputies shortly after the New Year. This will give you the ease of printing the number of packages and the papers you need to distribute to your members while saving some mailing costs allowing us



to keep the price of the week-end package without increase.

Please know, that I and the board of officers are available to you to answer questions and assist in any way we can. We are but a phone call or email away.

To all my Sister Columbiettes and their families, I extend my heartfelt wishes for a joyous Christmas and New Year's. May the New Year bring growth and prosperity to each and every one of you and to the Columbiettes.

State Chaplain—Fr. Bill Smith

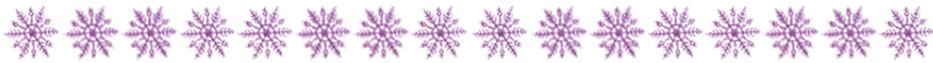
As I am writing this message, it is mid-way through Advent. As Christians, we are preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary from Nazareth. In his birth, Jesus is God made man. Jesus came into the world as the Anointed One of God. Jesus, the Anointed One of God, came into the world to be the perfect sacrifice on the cross for the forgiveness of all the sins of the world. Jesus, as the Son of

*May the Advent Season
celebrate a period of joy, peace,
and love in your life.
May your life be filled with more
victories and blessings through
Jesus Christ the
Celebrant. May He renew our
lives and reunite us with Him,
Merry Christmas!!!*

Always Count Your Blessings -
and as I count my blessings - I
count each of you twice.
With Much Love
-Lisa

God, was able to be the perfect sacrifice to God for the forgiveness of sin. Jesus as man, you and I are to believe and accept Jesus' sacrifice on the cross for the forgiveness of all the sin of the world, as well as our own sins.

What a message of HOPE as we prepare and celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Because of this hope we can know PEACE as we prepare and celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Because we have



Christ's peace, we can experience the JOY Christ gives as we prepare and celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

You and those you love will be remembered in the Masses I celebrate this Christmas, 2016.

I wish you and those you love a Blessed, Peaceful and Joyous Christmas.

May you have a Blessed and Healthy 2017.

GOD BLESS!
– Fr. Smith

A Message from Immediate Past State President– Lorraine Noger

Remember to send me the information on any new members for the Welcome Seed program and the First Degree Honoree. I hope to see my mail box full.

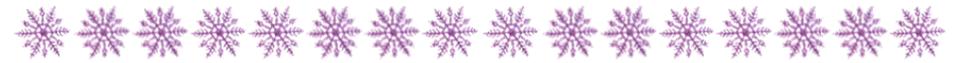
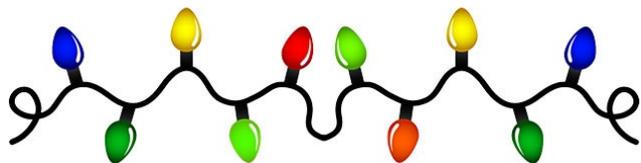
I would like to wish you and your family a very Happy Thanksgiving and a Happy, Holy and Blessed Christmas. May your New Year's be filled with love, peace and happiness.

– Lorraine

A Message from our Prestigious Past State Presidents

To All our Sister Columbiettes,
May your Christmas be filled with Peace, Love and Joy and your New Year be filled with happiness.

May 2017 also bring health and wealth to you and your family.
– Prestigious Past State Presidents



State Vice President–Vicki Bird

The first half of our Columbiette year has gone by 'in the blink of an eye'! We had very successful training seminars to start the year off. There is much more to come in 2017! Our State President Lisa is keeping us all very busy!

During the coming seasons of Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas I will be thinking of and praying for all my sister Columbiettes and their families as each of us continue to 'Count Our Blessings'.

Wishing each of you a Happy Thanksgiving, a very Blessed and Merry Christmas



and a Happy and Prosperous New Year!
– Vicki

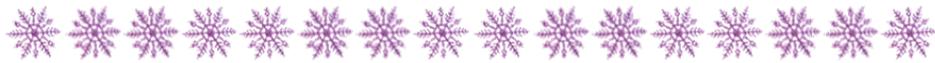
State Secretary–Elena McFarland

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 2016. 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.

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!!

Finally, I would like to take a moment to say Thank You for your love and support over the past several months. As many of you know, I had back surgery in November. I'm on the mend, but it's a very slow recovery process. Your well-

wishes have kept my spirits up – especially on the days when I am most down. I'm so blessed to have each of you in my life.

May you have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
– Elena



State Financial Secretary—Nadine Lecorchick

Dear Sister Columbiettes,

You have all done amazing work this year; I'm looking forward to seeing what we can accomplish in 2017!

Wishing you a most Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year!

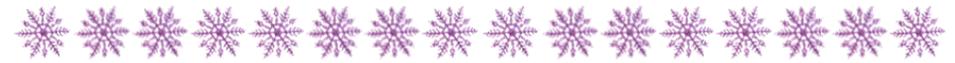
– Nadine

State Treasurer—Fran Corcione

I would like to wish my Sister Columbiettes and their families a very Happy Thanksgiving and a Happy and

Holy Christmas. Please remember to “Count your Blessings”.

– Fran



State Advocate—Kathleen Donahue

Dear Sister Columbiettes,

I love this time of year! Everything about Christmas makes me smile. The decorations are bright and festive. The smell of pine and cinnamon bring back fond memories of when I was a little girl. I love wrapping presents for family and friends hoping they like their “special” gift. Of course, Christmas music has to be playing the whole time. But the best thing about Christmas is the celebration of Christ's birth!

Something magical seems to happen at Christmas. People open their hearts to this little

baby that saved the world.

Although He was the Son of God, Christ was not born in a palace but a stable surrounded by animals. His humble beginnings teach us that it's possible for each of us to help change the world. All we have to do is use Jesus as an example - love our fellow man, give to those in need and believe in God.

I pray that all my Sister Columbiettes have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with love and good health.
–Kathy

State Sentinel—Donna Lewandowski

Dear Sister Columbiettes,

Thank you again for entrusting me with the office of State Sentinel. I truly am honored and hope to serve you all well.

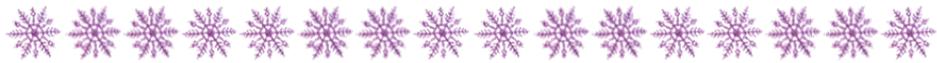
Business.....new travel cards will be coming soon, so please make sure you sign your cards in the lower right hand corner; even if you are the president or financial secretary...you need to

sign as the member. Bring them to all your auxiliary meetings, chapter meetings and Convention.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy Blessed New Year!

May the Immaculate Heart of Mary Obtain Peace for the world.

– Donna



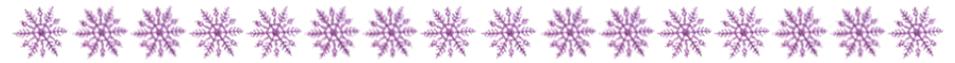
Scenes from the State Officers' Seminar 9/25/16



Honoring our Deceased Past State Presidents 11/15/16



— Photocred: Maureen O'Brien



NJ State Committee Chairpersons

Vocations

Many thanks to all of the Auxiliary and Sister Columbiettes who participated in the Vocation Program by buying angel pins or sponsoring sales at your meeting/church events. This program helps our program to succeed so we may help our Seminarian/Postulants in their studies along with our Memorial fund program. Also remember to keep saving those pennies; this will enhance our program and we may then be able to give

our Seminarian/Postulant a large check to help them in their studies.

Remember I am only a phone call away. I will be more than happy to attend an auxiliary or Chapter meeting to show you our new selection of pins.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving and a Holy Blessed Christmas season.

— Lorraine Noger
Chairlady

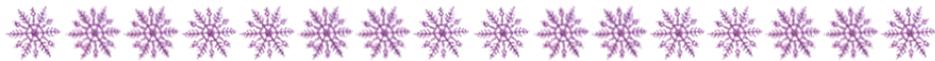
Charity Awards Luncheon

Once again, The State Council will honor three Catholic women who volunteer their time and talents to better the lives of others. Once again, Catholic women will honor Catholic women.

The New Jersey State Council Columbiettes' CHARITY AWARDS LUNCHEON will be held on Sunday, April 30, 2017, at

Pierre's of South Brunswick in Monmouth Junction from 1:00 to 4:00PM. It will be an enjoyable and uplifting afternoon.

The Committee is requesting Auxiliaries and members to submit candidates for consideration. Candidate submission forms will be sent to each Auxiliary in December. There is no limit to the



number of submissions from an Auxiliary or a member. An Awards Selection Committee, comprised of one Columbiette from each Chapter, will select the honorees.

The award criteria are:

- **A Catholic woman** - can be a Columbiette or a member of a religious community
- **Volunteerism** - centered in the areas of education, business or social welfare

If you know a Catholic woman deserving the recognition and honor, please submit her information and profile.

Luncheon reservation forms will be mailed in January.

Thank you.

– Carol Bohinski, Chairlady
cabohinski@verizon.net
 732-521-0085

–Mary Ann Sweet, Co-Chairlady
cjubileesweet47@yahoo.com
 732-970-3456



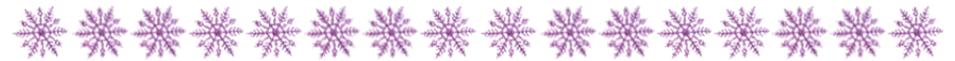
Jewelry and Name Badges

We are still selling Columbiette jewelry. There are a number of pins and necklaces available as well as a watch, key rings and pocket-book hangers all which have the Columbiette logo. Also available are our newest items - the silver Alex and Ani type bracelet. One with the Columbiette logo is \$20 and a bracelet with both the Columbiette logo and an angel

charm are \$30. Would you prefer to add the charm to a bracelet or necklace you already own? You may purchase the charm for \$10.

You will be getting a new travel card for 2017. Do you need a new case for it? Is yours split in two or being held together with tape? If it is, it's time to treat yourself to a new one.

If you would like me to



bring the jewelry to your meeting, I can be reached at 732-826-3881 or e-mail me at columbietteskathy@yahoo.com.

The Columbiette name badges are still available. The cost is \$9.00 for the pin back and \$10 for the magnet back. They come in white with blue lettering, blue with white letter-

ing, white with red lettering and red with white lettering. The badges are not just for officers, any Columbiette can wear one so everyone knows your name and where you are from. Contact me if you wish to place an order.

– Kathy Donahue
 Chairlady

Ronald McDonald House – Tab Tops

Throughout the holiday season, please remember to pop those tops and save them for the Ronald McDonald House.

– Sandy Bohinski
 Chairlady



**RONALD MCDONALD
 HOUSE CHARITIES**

Expansion and Retention

A Gift for your Auxiliary, This year give a gift to your Auxiliary. Sign up a new member to help your Auxiliary grow and Prosper.

– Sandy Bohinski
 Chairlady



News From Our Chapters

South East

Greetings from South East Chapter!

We began our new Columbiette year with the Installation of Officers at our September 8th meeting held at St. Bartholomew's in East Brunswick. We were honored to have New Jersey State



President Lisa Roberts install the officers. They are President Diane Kulbacki, Past President Kathy Distefano, Vice President Kathy Donahue, Secretary Katie Elichko, Financial Secretary Gerri Kosloski, Treasurer Louise Welch and Sentinel Lilly Zammit.

President Diane tried something new by having us sit at tables based on what month we were born for the refreshments. It was her way of getting the ladies to mingle and talk more to people from other auxiliaries instead of staying with the ladies you already know from your own auxiliary. Each group was given a quiz where all the answers were a month which got everyone working together.

Our Christmas Party/Tricky Tray took place at our November 17th meeting held at Our Lady of Victory auxiliary in Parlin. We were served a delicious dinner. Every auxiliary donated two baskets for the tricky tray. President



Diane thanked Nancy Fallon for the wonderful job she did running this fund raising event. Congratulations to all the lucky winners!

The members brought in or signed birthday cards that were available on every table for St. Bernadette Past President Irene Padewski's 100th birthday.

South East Chapter Chaplain Father William Smith was able to stop in at the end of our meeting. We congratulated him on the 35th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. President Diane presented him with a cake and gift basket.



Supreme President Pat Zellner and State President Lisa Roberts joined us for the festivities.



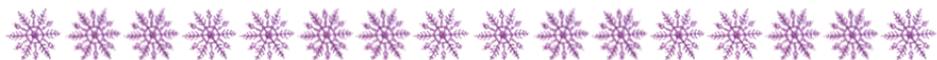
Our next meeting will be on February 16, 2017 at St. Lawrence in Laurence Harbor. Charity resumes will be read and voted on that evening.

Our Chaplain Fr. William Smith will hold an Evening of Recollection at his parish St. Anthony of Padua Church in Port Reading on March 30, 2017.

Our Baby Shower will take place on April 20th in South Amboy.

The officers and members of South East Chapter wish all our Sister Columbiettes a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May 2017 bring you good health, peace and happiness!

—Kathy Donahue
Publicity Chair



Western

Western Chapter's meeting took place on October 5th at St. Anthony's KOC Hall in Butler. Since all of our officers returned for a second year, we did not have an Installation of Officers Ceremony.

Officers for 2016-17 are:
President: Cathe Nicholson
PP: Donna Lewandowski
Vice President: Barbara Hill
Secretary: Ann Taggart
Fin. Secretary: Colleen Testa
Treasurer: Mary Hargraves
Sentinel: Pam Porfido

The travel gavel was voted in. Our meetings will be as follows:

Oct 5 – St. Anthony's
Dec 7 – Bishop Navagh
March 8 – General Judson
May 3 – Don Bosco, Newton

This year's State Charity is Harvest House in Sussex, NJ. It was chosen by General Judson. Seminarian Charles Macorino was chosen as the Western Chapter Seminarian.

Our December 7 Chapter meeting was the Christmas Party at Bishop Navagh. We held a tricky Tray. All

members brought a \$5.00 gift. Each auxiliary was asked to bring a \$25.00 gift.

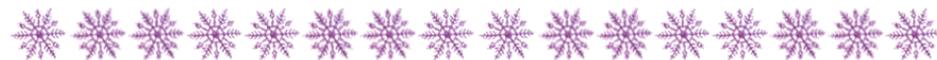
We are planning a Major Degree on March 8, 2017 at the General Judson meeting in Vernon.

April 1, 2017 is our fund raiser. Breakfast will be at Applebee's in Butler. Please support us in this event.

Western Chapter is busy working on the State Convention. We are looking forward to celebrating with all of you at the Embassy Suites, Piscataway, from June 23-25, 2017.

Western Chapter wishes everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, a Blessed and Holy Christmas, and a Healthy Happy New Year.

– Barbara Schounnot
Publicity Chairperson



Central

I hope all have had a rested summer. Central Chapter re-elected all its officers at its June meeting. They are President Barbara Ann Lissi, Vice President Maureen Italiano, Secretary Joan Winant, Treasurer Filomenia Mohr, Financial Secretary Susan Liguori, Sentinel Eileen Colby and Immediate Past President Mattea Truppe.

All the auxiliaries in our group have been very busy. St John's in Dumont has held a Spud night a Halloween party for the children and is always helping their brother nights at their functions. With November being retention month St John's is sponsoring Early Christmas Shopping and they also have reached out to members that have not been at a meeting in a while to join them.

Regina Mundi has been busy their new members along with members from St John's who received their Major Degree on October 17. Thank You to Fran Corcione and her

Chapter for holding the Degree Ceremony.

St Philip the Apostle of Clifton held their annual International Dinner in October. Every Friday a few members go to Eva's Kitchen in Paterson and help to serve lunches. Cathie Murtha and her crocheting group are busy with crocheting hats and scarves, blankets etc.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help has also been busy with their recruiting after masses and serving coffee and cake.

On a sad note, Bloomfield Auxiliary is in the process of disbanding and members have transferred to other auxiliaries.

Central Chapter will sponsor Early Christmas Shopping at their November meeting.

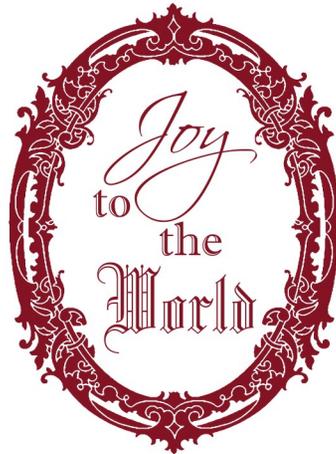
Best wishes for the upcoming holiday season. Happy Thanksgiving, a Very Merry Christmas and Healthy, Happy, Prosperous New Year of 2017.

–Barbara Ann Lissi
President

South West

South West Chapter would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, a Blessed and Holy Christmas, and a Healthy Happy New Year. Stay warm!!! See you all in 2017.

– Mary Ann Sweet
President



Mid West

We hope that this message finds you well! Mid West Chapter held its September meeting at Millstone Valley (St. Joseph's Parish) where we were joined by NJ State President Lisa Roberts. Best wishes to the officers for 2016-17:

President –Fran Corcione
Past Pres –Elena McFarland
VP –Yvonne Shimshock
Secretary –Mia Sena
Fin Secretary –Bev Redondo
Treasurer –Margaret Oxenham
Sentinel – Erica Ruffer
At this meeting, we practiced for the upcoming First/Major that we would be hosting in October. We were pleased at

the turnout for the Degree; thanks to all who participated!

Our November Meeting was held at Sgt. John F. Basilone, where we collected donations for the local food bank. We also started a 10 Week Club chapter fund raiser.

We will be meeting at Somerville in February; activity is a Baby Shower. Watch this space for details!

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

– Fran Corcione
President

News From Our Auxiliaries

Our Lady of Victory

Here are some of the things our auxiliary has been working on or participating in:

On Oct. 20th, we held a fundraiser at Texas Roadhouse in Parlin. By presenting a flyer to your restaurant server, 10% of the entire bill was donated to our organization so we can continue our charitable efforts.

On Nov. 15th, we held a Memorial Service for our deceased members.

On Nov. 17th, we hosted the South East Chapter's Meeting. Those who attended enjoyed a Christmas Dinner and Tricky Tray as well.

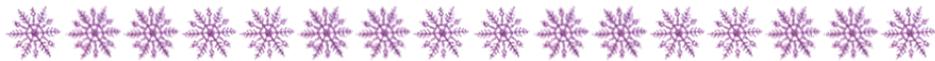
On Nov. 19th, our Columbiettes enjoyed an outing to the Sands Casino. Many enjoyed a day of fun, good food and shopping at the nearby outlet stores.

We are continuing our Baby Bottle Project in which the money collected promotes Birth Rights.

In October, our beloved grotto suddenly collapsed due to many years of exposure to the elements. We are continuing to collect donations to contribute to replacing our grotto.

The Pajama Program serves children throughout the nation. We collected pajamas and a bedtime book for or monetary donations for children newborn to 18 years. These new items are donated to those who were physically or emotionally abused, neglected, traumatized or abandoned. Some of these children have never received new items in their lives. The donations are made to group homes, shelters or temporary housing facilities. It is our way of letting them know that we care and that they are not forgotten.

Our auxiliary also made a monetary donation to our charity, Wyatt, who was recently granted a trip to Disney



through the Make a Wish Foundation. This donation was made so Wyatt could purchase a memento of his trip.

We also are continuing our efforts in the Linus Program. This program collects hand-made or store bought items for pre-mature babies and donated

Long Valley

The Long Valley Columbiettes are looking forward to a very exciting year. So far, we had a successful Yankee Candle fundraiser. A membership drive will be held after all our masses this weekend. A Christmas Cookie sale will take place in December along with a Panera Bread fundraiser. Christmas wreaths will be placed at the OLM cemetery to

St. John's

St John's Council 1345 participated in a Corporate Communion with our Brother Knights in July. After Mass we hosted a "baby shower" collection drive for pro-life organization, "Several Sources

to St. Peter's and various area hospitals.

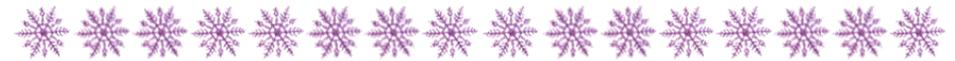
Our Lady of Victory Columbiettes wish our Sister Columbiettes a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

– Liza Palestrini

honor local veterans. We will also assist the Long Valley Knights of Columbus at a Thanksgiving Food Drive and their annual Sharing the Season Auction. Wishing you a very Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2017.

– Nancy Lennon
President

Shelter" with its director Kathy DiFiore as speaker. Several Sources Shelter provides an alternative for young women who are pregnant to keep their baby rather than have an abortion. They also provide



shelter for women who are homeless, sick and elderly.

Our new year 2016-2017 started in September with us welcoming a new Chaplain, Fr Stephen Carey! Fr Carey is from St Mary's Church in Dumont and we look forward to the spiritual guidance he will give us at our meetings.

In October we had our third annual "Spudtacular Event." This consists of a hot, piping baked potato with a fixin' bar to load up your spud with choices of; chili, sour cream, broccoli, butter, chives, carrots, onions, etc. A "smashing" time was had by all.

Then it was time to "Eat, Drink, and Be Scary" at TWO Halloween parties! The Knights and Columbiettes co-hosted an adult Halloween party with a Tricky or Treaty Tray, entertainment by the TW Walker Band and awards for

best costumes were given. The next day the little ghouls and goblins came to the Children's Halloween party.

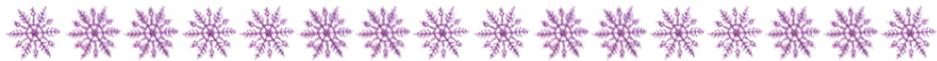
November is the month where we remember those of us who have passed with a Memorial Mass held at our council and when we give thanks for all we have at our Thanksgiving celebrations.

December it was time to "rock around the Christmas Tree" as the Knights and Columbiettes have a children's Christmas party and of course and adult one. Santa and the Mrs. are known to make an appearance at both!

As the new year approaches, (and we're always surprised at how fast it comes!) we stop and reflect on the year that has passed and pray for a happy and blessed new year.

Peace,
– Roberta Elwell
Past President





Parsippany

Dear Sister Columbiettes

After a beautiful and busy summer, we continue our years with our new officers that were installed at our September meeting. We thank the “retiring” officers for all their hard work and thank the new officers for stepping up to their new positions.

Our major fund raiser was held in October - our fifth annual TEA was again a super success. It is always a sell out event and all the ladies attending enjoy the day. Parsippany President Holley served Tea to State President Lisa Roberts, Chapter President Cathe Nicholson and Past State President Susan Kadar (below).



Our income through pillow sales has also allowed us to again collect and donate items

hats, gloves and scarves for those in need. We have continuously donated to our three area churches as needed, especially at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

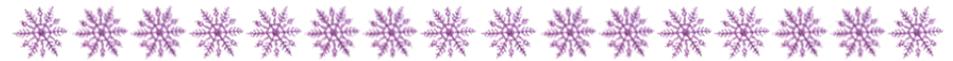
Working with our Knights of Columbus on an ongoing basis has been steady and strong as we assist them and they support us. Our Memorial Mass to our deceased Columbiettes and Knights was an example of our combined faith.

Some of our ladies were able to visit a beautiful little shrine to St. Therese The Little Flower – a very special place in Mountain Lakes. Read this beautiful story of Achille Arci who built the chapel – <https://olmcboonton.files.wordpress.com/2014/10/saintthereseshrine.pdf> –it will add to your faith.

Every holiday we remember those who are not as fortunate and send cards to those who are shut-in.

We wish all our Sister Columbiettes and their families a very Blessed Christmas Season.

– Fran Veit



South Plainfield

South Plainfield has been busy. We had our soup kitchen in September.

Four ladies joined the South Plainfield Columbiettes at the Chapter Degree Ceremony.

At our September 1st meeting we had “Creature Comfort”. This is an organization that provides dogs that give affection and comfort to individuals in hospitals, nursing homes, and other facilities.

At the October meeting we



had Fire Fighter Bill Conte. He gave us tips on how to keep our homes safe from fire, and how

to react to various emergencies.

At the November meeting our speaker was Officer Mike Sikanowicz. He spoke about personal and property safety. He gave us examples of various criminal activities and gave us tips on how we should be vigilant regarding our surroundings.

We are in the planning stages of having a Four Season dinner



sometime in February.

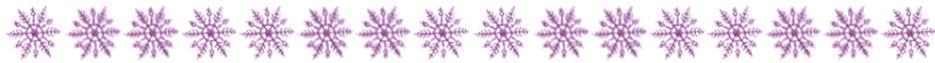
Merry Christmas to All!

– Linda Susan Gitto

President

– Mikki Antoniazzi

Past President



Regina Mundi

Our Auxiliary started off by joining St. Phillips Auxiliary for the Memorial Mass for the unborn. It was a very beautiful ceremony.

During our September meeting, we introduced Dr. David Moore, a Clifton chiropractor. His office is located at 850 Clifton Avenue at OnTrack Chiropractic & Lifestyle Center. He was very informative, plus each member received a complimentary coupon to attend three sessions.

We are pleased to announce that four new members joined our Auxiliary. We attended the First/Major Degree hosted by Midwest Chapter. It was a beautiful day for everyone. Our hosts were very accommodating. Two First Degree members also received their Major Degree at this time.

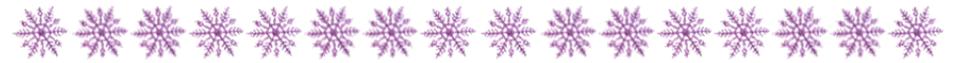
Left to right in the following picture: President Kathy Rager, Joanne Groziano, Dolores Bonkowski, Florence Campanella, Jo-Ann Tuzzolino, Deborah Molnar, Joann

Barbarita, and Past President Anna Misajet.



We have welcomed Mrs. Eileen Colby, a member from the disbanded Bloomfield Auxiliary.

The Knights of Columbus hosted their annual Doo/Wop Halloween party at the end of October; reports are that it was a wonderful event. Check out the picture of Columbiette Joan Neville with her husband, Knight Marty Neville as well as



band "The Cameos".



At our November meeting we will host a local honey fella, Brian Eromenak –his company is called Stix & Stones. We will learn all about the bees and how honey is made. This should be a wonderful lesson.

In December we will have a fundraiser at TGIF, 826 Route 3, Clifton on Tuesday, December 6th, 2016 from

Don Bosco, Newton

The Don Bosco Columbiettes ran a murder mystery dinner on April 22, 2016. It was a fun night for all. Reserve April 29, 2017 for our next murder mystery dinner. You're guaranteed to have a good time.

May 1, 2016 was our May crowning and we were honored to have a Squirettes brother do the crowning for us. On May 4, 2016, The Don Bosco

llam-1am. TGIF made up the flyer and we present it to receive 20% of sales. They were very accommodating.

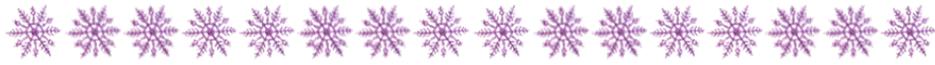
We have chosen "SMILE" as our charity for the year. We know we can help make a difference.

We are pleased to welcome back our District Deputy, Lillian Holmes. Best wishes to Lillian as she guides us along.

Wishing everyone a Blessed Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2017.

– Kathy Rager
President

Columbiettes hosted the Western Chapter meeting along with Major Degree. The night went smoothly and almost 30 women made their Major Degree. Out of that number 15 were from our Auxiliary. Congratulations to all. We held a Migrant Ministry dinner on May 15, 2016. The recipients are very grateful to receive a dinner as they socialize after



mass. The end the month, we held our annual Flea Market. At our May meeting, we held a baby shower and collected diapers for Birth Haven. A representative a birth haven attended and accepted the gifts.

At our June meeting the scholarship winners we sponsored were announced. We collected all the backpacks, bathroom ministry bags and can tabs to be brought to the convention. Several of our members attended the convention and had a great time. Also, two of our members attended the tank pull. That was a lot of fun and we hope more attend both next year.

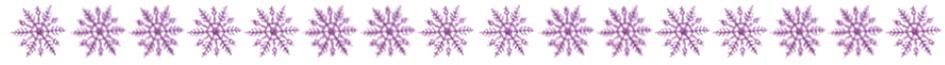
During the



summer, members of Don Bosco Auxiliary and their families helped the Knights of Columbus #7784 with their annual fundraiser. They sell food at the NJ State Fair. AKA Sussex County Farm and Horse Show. It is a lot of fun working side by side with everyone and the profits all go to local charities.

With a heavy heart, we had to say good bye to a very special lady. Rosemary Woodring passed on to the forever life in Heaven. She was a friend to everyone and only found good in people. Rosie was a true example of a Columbiette and servant on God. At our September meeting, we collected lunch items and donated them to our local food pantry since school is once in session again.

In October, we collected character band-aids for the Squirettes. They donate them to a children's hospital. Some of our members attended Respect Life Sunday Demonstration in Newton Square. We ran a membership drive alongside the Knights of Columbus. We are contacting



the women who gave us their names and are hoping to have a 1st Degree soon.

At our November auxiliary meeting, we had very special guests. The Don Bosco Columbiettes donated 70 duffle bags to NJ Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCPP).

Previously known as DYFS. Although we donated the bags, we got the idea from 2 very young children. The charity is known a "Bags for Buddies". The duffle bags are given to DCPP and when a child needs to be placed in a foster home, they will receive their own duffle bag to put their possessions in, instead of a black garbage bag. From L to R in pic: Olivia, Jimmy, Edward, Rita-Ann Schmick, Ben Davey from DCP&P, and Patricia Keegan, President of Don Bosco Columbiettes #7784.

The children in the picture, Edward (age 10) and Olivia (age 9) were in the foster care system and were eventually adopted by their

foster parents. They came up with this charity so other

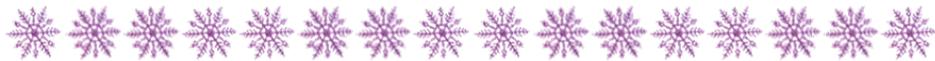


children have a little easier transition when having to leave their home.

We collected pet items/food at our meeting this month and donated all to Fr. John's Animal Rescue. They are a local non-kill non-profit animal rescue.

On November 17th, some of our members gathered at St. Paul's Abbey to enjoy a covered dish dinner and make wreaths for the Abbey to sell along with their Christmas trees. Don Bosco Auxiliary is also buying cooking to donate to the Abbey to sell with hot chocolate while people are shopping for Christmas trees.

In December, we are planning to sing at 3 local nursing homes. We are also



getting together for a Christmas Social and about 60 of us, including spouses, are going to enjoy dinner and a show. We are having a Santa Vintage Christmas sale with Santa on December 11th at St. Joseph's Community Center.

I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, A

St. Bernadette's

St Bernadette's Council #8478, Parlin celebrated their 15th Anniversary with a Dinner Dance on July 9, 2016 and was pleased that our Supreme President, Patricia Zellner was able to attend. Pat presented our members with a certificate honoring our special milestone. We pray for many more years of serving our Brother Knights, Church and Community.



Merry Christmas and a safe and Healthy New Year.

Please remember to visit our auxiliary website for an update on activities and related events.

www.donboscocolumbiettes.weebly.com

– Patricia Keegan

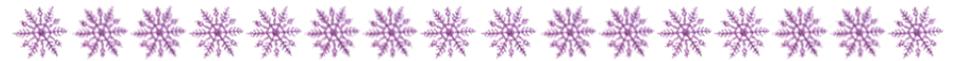
President

We shared camaraderie after October and November meetings by writing Christmas and Chanukah cards for ALL the residents of The Venetian Care and Rehabilitation Center in South Amboy.



Wishing all of you and your families a Blessed Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

– LoisAnn Smith
President



Our Lady of Peace, North Brunswick

Hello Sister Columbiettes, this is our first submission to the Echo and we are very proud to share with you our activities for our community and to show you the fun we have in the process!

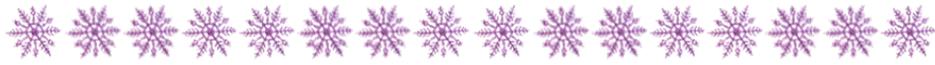
Our Lady of Peace Columbiettes in North Brunswick welcomed all our sisters back, prior to our first meeting, with a social filled with fun, music and a gift of the bounty of our Lord at a feast all helped prepare and enjoy. This was a well-deserved event to reward us for all we did for our community the prior year and to prepare us for the year ahead.



Rosary Rally: On October 15th of this year, the Our Lady of Peace Columbiettes of North Brunswick gathered with their brother Knights and fellow congregants to participate in our rosary rally.

Each year, America Needs Fatima holds the Public Square Rosary Crusade, with thousands of rosary rallies in cities across the country. In 2015, there were 14,108 rallies and in 2014, there were 12,629 groups simultaneously praying for our country and the world across America! These Public Square Rosary Rallies take place on the closest Saturday to October 13, feast of the last apparition of Our Lady of Fatima and the Miracle of the Sun.

6th Annual Indoor Garage Sale, "Legs for Lenny": Each year we raise funds for someone in our community that can use our help and support. On April 2, we raised funds for an army veteran who was wheelchair bound. The funds raised were used to help get a new set of leg braces and a new lease



on life. It was a huge success comprising of indoor garage sale, bake sale, raffles and tricky tray. A lot of hard work and a lot of fun!

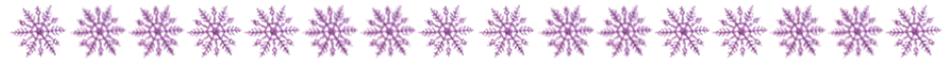
— Eva Gresh
President

Below: Rosary Rally
Right: Veteran Len Lacina



Congratulations to the OLP, NB Officers of 2016-17, who were installed on July 26, 2016.

—Photocred:
Maureen O'Brien



Vincent T. Lombardi

Back in April, we had our annual Playhouse Fundraiser at the First Avenue Playhouse in Atlantic Highlands. Those that attended enjoyed the play "Daughters", about a multi-generational Italian family living under one roof. Proceeds benefitted our Scholarship Fund.

In May, members participated in the Corpus Christi Procession, held in honor of the Feast of Corpus Christi, at St. Mary, Mother of God Church. The next day, Memorial Day, we marched along with the Knights in the Middletown Memorial Day parade. It was heartwarming to see so many residents lining the streets, celebrating such an important day.

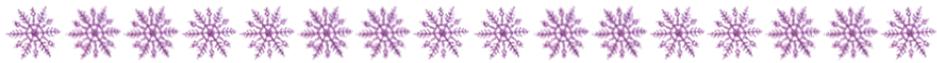
For the Great St. Mary's Fair, we volunteered by selling raffle tickets and manning the game booths. I myself covered the "Frog Bog", and VP Gilda Healy (along with hubby Mike, a Knight), took charge of the booth where you knock the cans down.

We attended two Rosary events. On the Fourth of July, a special Mass was said at St. Mary's in honor of the holiday. Following Mass was a recitation of the Patriotic Rosary. In this version of the Rosary, each mystery celebrates our Patriotism, followed by a Patriotic hymn. The second event was the Annual Rosary Rally, held outdoors at St. Mary's Chapel. Praying together while sitting outside on a beautiful, bright, sunny, fall afternoon, with blue skies overhead, was the perfect way to honor our Blessed Mother.

This month we held an Open House and membership drive. We have six potential new members. We hope they find it in their hearts to join us.

And lastly, to our Sister Columbiettes, both near and far, we wish you all a Happy, Healthy, and most importantly, Blessed Christmas Season.

— Mary Vernarelli
President



Somerville

Somerville began with an installation at our first meeting. Congratulations to the 2016-17 officers:

President: Mary Jo Farmar

PP: Yvonne Shimshock

Vice Pres: JoAnn Shuleski

Secretary: Nancy Fusco

Fin Secretary: Michelle Reno

Treasurer: Elena McFarland

Sentinel: Dotty Capra

We are also happy to have Kathy Valente as our DD.

We continue our monthly food bank collection at every month, which we had started doing several years ago. So far, we've donated breakfast and lunch items to a local food bank.

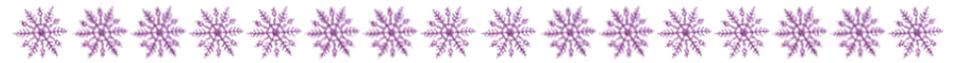
We kicked off October with our annual pet collection at Mary, Mother of God Church as celebration of the Feast of St. Francis. The food, bedding, and monetary donations were given to St. Hubert's Animal Shelter. Several of us also attended the Somerville KOC Charity Ball, where proceeds were given to 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 a basket for our raffle.

In conjunction with National Vocation Awareness Week (Nov), we held 'shake a can' events at Mary, Mother of God, Holy Trinity, and St. Joseph's of Raritan Parishes. Spare change collected will be sent to NJSCC "Pennies from Heaven" program.

We will wind down 2016 with Adopt a Family for Christmas. At our December meeting, we will write Christmas cards to our Senior members and of course...party! Several will also be attending the Somerville KOC Breakfast with Santa for the kids and an Adult Christmas Get Together.

Wishing everyone a Wonderful Thanksgiving, a Joyous Christmas, and a very Happy New Year!
— Yvonne Shimshock
Past President



St. Anthony's

Congratulations to our Officers that were installed on August 27, 2016. They are as follows:

Pres - Catherine Nicholson

PP- Debra Wickham

Vice Pres - Florence Cartagena

Secretary - Joan Shuhnicky

Fin Secretary - Ann Taggart

Treasurer - Christine Lynch

Sentinel - Barbara Barchuk

DD - Mary Ann Stanek

Chaplain - Fr. Emmet Murphy

We wish them a successful

year. We also respect and

honor State President Lisa

Roberts; Supreme Director

Catherine Nicholson; and

Supreme Past President

Barbara Ann Lucarelli. It is

with their dedication and the

dedication of our membership

that the Columbiettes grow

and prosper.

We enjoyed the following events:

Sept 16 - Wine Glass Painting Night

Sept 24 - Bloomingdale Pride Day. [We used this as a

membership drive, sold angel

pins, and welcomed all people

in attendance to view our

upcoming events.]

Oct 5 - Western Chapter meeting held at St Anthony's.

Oct 7 - Country night with the Farmer Phil Band.

On October 21, the Knights and

Columbiettes had a Grand

Reopening Cocktail Party to

show everyone the new hall and

thank all the volunteers.

Oct 27 - Baked Potato Night

Oct 29 - Kid's Halloween Party

Nov 4 - Pocketbook Bingo

Nov 9 - Mass for the Deceased

Nov 12-13th - Membership

Drive at St Anthony's church

Nov 16 - Pot Luck Dinner

Retention month - If you have

not been to a meeting, it would

be a nice time to stop by and

visit old friends or meet new

friends.

Dec 1 - Soup & Nog Night

[Take out will be available]

Dec 17 - Christmas Dinner

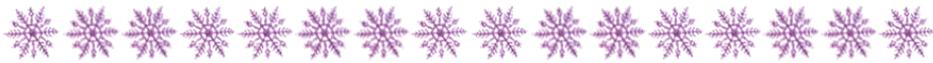
May God continue to bless our

great organization, our members

and their families, the armed

forces, and our Country.

— Geri Nolan



Updates to the State Directory as of 11/2016

Page	Update
1	Fr. Bill Smith email is frsmith_kofc_iettes@yahoo.com
13	JoAnne LoPiccolo 20 Old Coach Road Vernon, NJ 07462 Home: 973-827-4008 Mobile: 862-266-0265 djpico4@embarqmail.com
24	Holley Adams email is illtch4U@optonline.net
26	Nancy Fallon email is nfallon9@aol.com
29	St. James Council is #6336
29	Hopewell Financial Secretary is Eileen L. Toth, 609-466-1143, eileen527@verizon.net
35	Kathleen Michalski phone is 732-297-1282
40	Nancy Lennon phone is 908-852-9362
53	Echo Submission Date is April 1
60	St. Cecelia's Council is in SW Chapter



*And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God,
Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace.*

ISAIAH 9:6

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 1, 2017.**

Submissions can be mailed to me at **13 Banor Drive, Hillsborough, NJ 08844** or emailed to echonewsletter@hotmail.com. Call 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. The electronic version (PDF) of the newsletter is available at no cost. Contact me 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

