



April, 2022 – Cincinnati Catholic Women Newsletter

Letter from our President

Dear CCW Members:

Welcome to Spring and the new life we have now that Easter is almost here and we will celebrate “Jesus has Risen.” What a cleansing feeling we all experience this time of year. While many of you may have sacrificed and “gave something up” during Lent, it is now time to celebrate the Lord and look at our faith with a new lens. Time to refresh our faith and renew our commitment.

Please take a moment to read the newsletter as we spend time providing you information on your organization. Note that our April meeting will include an extended discussion about the sale of the house. We want your input so please plan to attend this important meeting.

Peggy Kenney has written a timely piece on the original CCW houses that preceded our home on Marion Avenue. Worth a read.

This month we will bid a fond farewell to Miguel, our wonderful caretaker. He has done an amazing job of making our house so much prettier and safer for us. We can’t thank him enough for a job well done. You will be missed!

As we enter Spring I offer the following thought:
“Be gentle with yourself.
Think less and feel more.
Be as happy as you can.
You only have this moment” (Dan Millman)

Suzy

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Our Mission

Offering women of all ages spiritual growth, philanthropic endeavors, volunteerism, and friendship through personal involvement in projects and activities that have a focus on helping women and children in our community.



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APRIL 18, 2022

CCW HOUSE – 6:30 Cocktails; 7:00 – Dinner; 7:30 – Dr. Ceil Dorger April 18, 2022

There is so much we can learn from the art in our churches. We welcome Ceil Dorger to our meeting as she presents on “Post Resurrection in Art”.

Dr. Cecelia Dorger received her doctorate in Art History from the University of Louisville. Dr. Dorger teaches art history at Mount St. Joseph University. She specializes in sacred art, especially images of the Virgin Mary. She also teaches at the Athenaeum of Ohio. Lecturing about Mary in art and how art can be used to facilitate prayer is a favorite pursuit.

MENU:

- Sliced Marinated Flank Steak w/ Teriyaki Bourbon Glaze & Pasta Pizzaiola
- Green Beans w/ Caramelized Onions and Mushrooms
- Salad (Garden Green Salad - Ranch Dressing & Balsamic Vinaigrette on the side)
- Homemade Mini Lemon Bars
- Cost is \$15.00 (wine/beer included)

A CCW General Meeting will follow the speaker.

**This is an important meeting as we will discuss the future of the
CCW House (See letter below).**

Please EMAIL TEDDIE (TEDDIE@FUSE.NET) BY APRIL 14, 2022

SAINT JUDE PRAYER

O Holy St. Jude!
 Apostle and Martyr,
 great in virtue and rich in miracles,
 near kinsman of Jesus Christ,
 faithful intercessor for
 all who invoke thee,
 special patron in time of need;
 To thee I have recourse from
 the depth of my heart,
 and humbly beg thee,
 to whom God hath
 given such great power,
 to come to my assistance;
 help me now in my urgent need
 and grant my earnest petition.
 I will never forget thy graces and
 the favors thou dost obtain for me and
 I will do my utmost to spread
 devotion to thee.
 Amen.

RYANHART.ORG

**SPECIAL INTENTIONS WERE SHARED AFTER THE
 STATIONS OF THE CROSS (we did not record them)
 Please pray the following prayer for those intentions
 mentioned at the last meeting and for those we hold
 in our hearts.**

***PLEASE PRAY FOR Maggie Roberts Gleich who will be having
 reconstructive surgery on her jaw on April 14. She has been battling
 several serious health issues which is why she hasn't been at the
 meeting.***

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT -- Peg Halpin

I joined Catholic Women of Cincinnati in the fall of 1992. I had a handful of friends who belonged from my Parish, St. Vincent Ferrer who invited me. I was eight months pregnant and with a two and four-year-old at home so it seemed like a great way to get out of the house, dress up, put on makeup and have a nice dinner. I was much shallower in those days! As many other members shared in their newsletter spotlights our meetings were always held at a restaurant in a private room, and the majority of our activity was fundraising. So we had lots of committees and plenty of work. I met wonderful women which is the one consistency thru [today](#).



As my family grew, and the children were in school it became harder to get to the evening meetings. In those years I tried to remain on committees that I could meet possibly during the day or weekends. My favorite of all time was being on the scholarship committee. It was such a blessing to be able to financially help some of the courageous students and women continue to pursue their education.

Cincinnati Catholic Women that I know of [today](#) is different from where I started. This truly was one organization that I never wanted to leave, and even if I only came to one or two meetings a year I was still welcomed and it felt like home. Thankfully there have been many consistent friends from over the 30 years. I have also loved meeting our new members that have joined and made us richer with their faith, enthusiasm and energy. At this point in my life, I appreciate so much the spiritual journey that our group shares, the commitment to our Catholic faith and values, and that we still have fun. Did I mention the wine yet?! I am still a bit shallow. I expect you ladies to help me work on that.

Thank you for your years of service to CCW, Peg!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Anne Flottman
Mary Ellen Sullivan**

IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY ART SHOW AT ST. XAVIER CHURCH

Encountering Mystery: Contemporary Art Inspired by Ignatian Spirituality Press Release: Encounter the mystery of Ignatian spirituality through an artist's eye. On Saturday, March 12th, St. Xavier Church will feature an immersive exhibition of sacred art in the parish gallery. Using vibrant colors and rich textures, renowned local artist Holly Schapker offers a wide variety of paintings and unexpected installations inspired by her journey through St. Ignatius Loyola's Spiritual Exercises. The Jesuits are celebrating their Cannon Ball Year, 500 years since St. Ignatius' conversion. March 12th is significant because on that date in 1622, St. Ignatius Loyola and St. Francis Xavier were both canonized.. The show will remain open through July 31st, Ignatius Loyola's feast day. The sacred art gallery is in the parish center directly beneath St. Francis Xavier Church at 611 Sycamore St. in downtown Cincinnati.

INTERESTED? The collection will be on display Monday - Friday 8:00AM - 3:00 PM, and Sunday 9:00AM - noon. Closed on Saturday. For more information call (513) 721-4045 or visit

www.stxchurch.org



BOARD ELECTIONS:

We will be electing ONE Board member this year at our June meeting giving us 9.

Those Board members returning to serve their first year; second term are Peggy Kenney, and Tracy Green. At the MAY meeting members at large may also put forth candidates for the Board. Nominations from the membership will be accepted at this meeting. Nominations shall be presented to the Nominating Committee in writing with two signatures supporting the nomination or made and seconded from the floor at the next to the last general meeting. Contact Carol Turchick w/questions.

The Nominating Committee (Carol Turchick, Chair; Kelley Carrier, Julie Ross and Lynne Kraemer) respectfully submit Beth Boland as a nominee.

Elizabeth "Beth" Boland has been a resident of Cincinnati/Northern KY since 1989.

I have been married to my husband, Brian, for 30 years this year and have 3 kids: Alexandra (21), Tim (17) & Nick (16). I have earned a Bachelor's degree of Science from the University of Cincinnati in Special Education and a Master's degree in Science in HR development from Xavier University where I am the Manager of the Accounts Payable Department. My passion is for theatrical lighting design and you can see her work in the upcoming Footlighter production of "Something Rotten". I have dedicated part of my free time to working with the Wyoming High School Drama program as their Technical Theatre Advisor. This has helped me satisfy my goal for teaching the next generation about lighting and technical theatre. The church we consider to be our parish is Bellarmine as we live in the North Avondale neighborhood next to Xavier, but we often go to holiday masses at the Basilica in Covington where we were married and our kids were all baptized. When I first heard about this group last year, I was immediately curious. I was so warmly welcomed in December that I immediately wanted to be a part of this group and if I can help take a role.



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IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO THE CCW MEMBERS.

For many years, CCW members have joined together every month at our home on Marion Avenue to celebrate our faith through friendship, food, and community engagement. While this space has provided us with a lovely place to meet and host other events, there is a lot that goes into keeping it up. Last month we learned that Miguel, our caretaker, is leaving us to spend more time with family. As a result, the Board is exploring the pros and cons of selling the house (that is used less than 20 times a year).

What's driving this recommendation?

- It is a perfect time to put the house on the market as we will get a good return on our investment.
- With Miguel's departure, we will need to find someone who can take care of the house.
- We want to grow our organization and the house limits us to hosting meetings of 40 or fewer people and that's tight.
- If we sell the property, we could take the money and invest it so that we could impact more organizations in our community with our outreach and contributions.

Financial strain.

- Right now the improvements /maintenance we have done to the house, in the last two years alone, has set us back over \$100,000 and we anticipate spending another \$40,000 or more for things we need to do in 2022.
- With Miguel gone, we would have to hire outside professionals to do some of the work he does for us at no charge. In addition, THANKS TO KATHY HOSKING, we have been able to negotiate outside contractors and keep up on maintenance, but this is a full time job with a house as old as ours and we all have our own houses to tend to.

Next Steps.

While we understand that this house is important to us and we have enjoyed the comforts of having a place to gather, the house does not define us as an organization. For all the reasons above, the Board has begun the process of exploring what it will take to get the house ready should the membership decide it is the right decision. A Sub Committee comprised of : Marty Cunningham, Lynne Kraemer, Bunny Jacobs, Edy Schlotman, Suzy Dorward, Carol Turchick and Teddie Curry has been formed to help answer some of these questions.

WE WILL NOT MAKE A FINAL DECISION UNTIL THE MEMBERSHIP HAS HAD A CHANCE TO EXPRESS THEIR THOUGHTS. THE APRIL 18 MEETING WILL GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO DO JUST THAT. While we have a guest speaker, we will spend the last part of the meeting addressing any questions/concerns you may have about selling and moving. We hope to make this decision by May. In the meantime, we really want the membership to give us direction so please feel free to either email me (sldorward@fuse.net) or call me at (513-703-7690) if you have questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Suzy Dorward
President



THE FIRST CLUBHOUSE

(by Peggy Kenney)

Since we are having so many conversations about our house, I thought it might be interesting to talk about the original Clubhouse. It might not be a funny story but informative. *(Sorry Suzy!)*

“It was almost incredible at our April Meeting 1923, it was announced that the first payment of \$15,000 been made, and that the new club house at 516 East Fourth St. had been formally turned over to the organization.” (that amount is equivalent to @ \$250,000 today) Then many members stepped forward to furnish rooms, which was about \$200 per room. They purchased 2 flags one for indoor and one for outdoors. The house warming took place on June 23 when the Most Reverend Archbishop Moeller blessed the house.

The following year the club purchased the neighboring house so they were the proud owner of two lovely old Victorian houses, “located in the *only* well preserved historic section of early Cincinnati.”

The ladies were so happy with the surroundings, across 4th St. was the “impressive bronze statue of Abraham Lincoln” at the entrance of Lytle Park. In the park was a bronze plaque dedicated to the marines with a long list of names plus a bandstand . From there in the summer, they could see a swimming pool and hear the happy voices of little children. Then at Christmas a large nativity scene was displayed. Going east was the Taft Museum built in 1819, which was always beautifully landscaped. “Can you imagine a more perfect setting for our Clubhouse?”

In 1924, they had a musical extravaganza, with over 200 patrons and profited \$6,600 which took care of the financial demands of the building. *(We should be so lucky now to have that cost! Yet that is currently equal to \$106,000, so maybe we are not so bad)*

By April, 1927 it was announced that the debt on both houses had been “paid in full”. So they begin to concentrate on building an auditorium. The dedication of the new building took place in October, 1928. *(Wow, those ladies moved quickly on project led by Mrs. LeBlond!)*

The clubhouse served the group well for many years for the committee meetings, celebrations, young people’s dance groups, and of course, luncheons followed by bridge or needlework. No one ever mentions they had a wine and cheese party, guess prohibition was in full swing. However, in the late ‘60s with the construction on the Lytle tunnel, the group had to find a new home. So that is what brought us all to our home on Marion Ave.



The Victorian Room
See anything familiar?



516 & 518 East Fourth St

Minutes from the March Meeting

The group and guests toured the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption in Covington. The tour was followed by the Stations of the Cross that culminated with the sharing of Special Intentions. CCW members met at Blinkers Restaurant where an abbreviated meeting was conducted including: Announcement of next meeting, Resignation of Caretaker, Miguel, Pennies from Heaven preparation, Birthday announcements and an appeal to members to consider running for the board.



Thanks for the pictures, Lynne!

Pennies from Heaven

This is our ONLY fundraiser so we need everyone to pitch in.

NEW THIS YEAR! In addition to awarding \$2,500 in cash prizes we were able to secure the Private Viewing Suite at the Aronoff to see “The Band’s Visit”. This prize is worth \$1,000 and includes 8 tickets. (thank you, Deborah Morgan at Cincinnati Arts Association).

We will soon have our Pennies from Heaven raffle

Upcoming Meeting Information:

May 16, 2022 – May Crowning



Our annual May Crowning holds a special place in the hearts of our members. Members/guests are encouraged to bring a picture of their Mother to pray in honor of the women who have shaped our faithful lives. Also feel free to bring a friend as this is always a lovely celebration!

June 13, 2022 – Year-End Meeting

Come celebrate our year with a cookout (spouses/significant others invited). Voting for new board members, Pennies from Heaven Winners announced and outdoor games! Don't forget, it's also “Dues paying” month!

Board Members for 2021-22

Officers:

Suzy Dorward – President

Carol Turchick – VP/Recording Secretary/Communications

Tracy Green – VP/Membership Chair

Marty Cunningham – Corresponding Secretary/Newsletter Coordinator

Edy Schlotman – Reporting Treasurer

Members at Large:

Pat Evans – House Co-Chair/Reservations

Kathy Hosking – House Co-Chair

Peggy Kenney – Newsletter Coordinator

Lynne Kraemer – Meetings/Mission

Bunny Jacobs – Funds Allocation