

Gazette
October 2017

THE
ST. AUGUSTINE
GUILD

www.littlesistersofthepoorindianapolis.org

A Message from Debbie Simmons, President of the St. Augustine Guild.

The Guild Luncheon on September 6th at Woodland Country Club was well attended, 66 people, including 5 guests from St. Augustine Home. Mother Francis Gabriel introduced her staff and shared with us the major needs for the coming year at St. Augustine Home. They need new beds for all the Residents who require nursing assistance. These beds are required for the home to meet compliance regulations. There were other items, including more dishes for the dining room and lockable bedside tables for the residents. I think the most critical need, and our primary focus, should be on helping the home buy the beds.

This is a major goal, but we have a major fundraiser in May—our Hats Off To Spring event. During my business days, I learned the expression, “Begin with the end in mind.” That has been on my mind since I was nominated for President and attended my first HOTS last May. It was a spectacular event, a fitting celebration of our 50th anniversary. The next 50 years starts now! Please call me or email me to sign on for this great opportunity. Check your beautiful new blue Roster for my email and phone number. OK, I’ll make it easier:

dsimmons.4708@gmail.com or 317-294-8060.

Our Meeting ended on a truly inspiring note, with a message from Therese Loureiro, a Guild member since 1985, (32 years!). She was in California, visiting family, when her granddaughter invited her to meet some friends at a party. The host parents were introduced to Therese. When the father asked Therese what she did in retirement, she told him that she knits and crochets and gives all the proceeds from her sales to the Little Sisters of the Poor. He asked her, “Why aren’t you asking for a donation? I was going to give you \$300.” He then gave her some advice, “Start Big!” She laughed, “OK, give me \$500!” His wife wrote her a check for \$1000! As she handed it to Therese, she said, “My husband is Catholic, but I am Muslim.” Therese said, “That doesn’t matter. I love you for what you did.”

Incredible, a “pinch me, am I dreaming?” experience for Therese. I hope this is an inspiration to us all. Tell people about the work you do as a volunteer, tell them about the Little Sisters, and don’t be afraid to ask for a donation!

WE NEED A TREASURER FOR THE 2018-2019 BUSINESS YEAR

The Guild needs a member to volunteer to be the Treasurer for the 2018-2019 business year. This member will need to be familiar with Quicken software and be available to work with Tricia Damler to transition into the role. Please contact JoAnne Spellman @ 317/965-8279.

Upcoming Scheduled Events - Refer to Your Guild Roster for Details

Oktoberfest - October 4th

High Tea - October 25th

Christmas Bazaar - November 3rd & November 4th

Coffee Meeting - November 8th

Christmas Party for St. Augustine Home Residents - December 13th

Get to know Mother Francis Gabriel

Mother Francis Gabriel, I.s.p., arrived in Indianapolis on June 8, 2017 to become Mother of St. Augustine Home. She had previously been Mother at St. Paul Home in Cincinnati, Ohio for six years, and had been Director of Nursing at that home for the three years prior to becoming Mother. Mother was raised in the Baltimore area and entered the Little Sisters of the Poor at the Baltimore home and novitiate. She has been a professed sister since 1981 and has received her obediences to work at many of the homes of the Little Sisters. Mother's family members, many of whom still reside in the Baltimore area, are rabid football fans and were relieved that she was not sent to Pittsburgh, home of the **Steelers**, but instead has joined us in Indy, the pirate city that stole her beloved Colts from Baltimore.

Mother has commented that she had heard about the St. Augustine Guild before arriving here and has not been disappointed at what she has seen in the Guild for herself. She is grateful for your commitment to the elderly Residents and to the Little Sisters, who benefit so much from your generous contributions of time, talent, and treasure. Mother is looking forward to building personal relationships with Guild members. Please introduce yourself to her when you see her after Mass or in the halls of St. Augustine Home.

Submitted by Kate Wilson

Dear St. Augustine Guild Members,

Thank you for your enthusiastic welcome when I arrived on June 7th. These past four months at St. Augustine Home have been a whirlwind of meetings and getting to know our Residents, staff and many wonderful volunteers and benefactors. I can honestly say, *LOVE MADE VISIBLE* is all around our Home and the spirit of St. Jeanne Jugan radiates everywhere. I look forward to many years working with you to make our Residents happy. St. Augustine Guild has a great history of caring for our Residents in a variety of loving ways.

Everyone was happy to have **Sister Celestine** return to Indianapolis as Administrator. **Sister Amy** has returned after being here several years ago as a Postulant. She is our new Begging Sister and also Youth Volunteer Coordinator. **Sister Georgia** is in charge of our Residents on 2 East and is our Vocation Coordinator. Our Begging Sister for the past 6 years,

Sister Cecilia, is being transferred to our Newark, DE, Home in early October. Our newest Sister is **Sister Cecilia Mary** who arrived on September 16 – she is in charge of the residential care area and other areas of service. We are now 9 Little Sisters in our Home.

We were so happy to welcome our new **Archbishop Charles C Thompson** for our annual Feast of our Foundress, St. Jeanne Jugan on August 30th with a special Mass and reception. Everyone enjoyed meeting him and we all look forward to getting to know him better as the years go by. We are also pleased to announce Archbishop Thompson will be joining us on December 15th for our annual Archbishop's Dinner with the Little Sisters at the Willows. Our enthusiastic '*Bingo Babes*' are working tirelessly for our upcoming **25th BINGO EXTRAVAGANZA** on October 6th at the Northside K of C. It sells out each year and I look forward to seeing many of you **there**.

Much of this year has been devoted to celebrating your 50th Anniversary. Every Sister who has lived here comments they have never seen a Guild like ours – you are a blessing to all of us in so many ways with our Residents who look forward to your numerous parties and events. I can see - you really do put smiles on the faces of our Residents with your endless variety of year round activities.

We are all looking forward to your spectacular CHRISTMAS BAZAAR November 3-4. From all I have heard, it must be quite the showplace with a variety of items you make for this special event. Thank you for your role in helping us carry out our mission of making our Residents happy each and every day. You truly live 'the spirit of St. Jeanne Jugan.' I look forward to getting to know you in the coming years.

In closing, all I can say is 'What a beautiful place, what wonderful people! Every day, my love and admiration grows for everyone I meet. St. Augustine's by far is a beautiful place to serve and I am happy to be here with you.

May God continue to bless you and your loved ones..

Mother Francis Gabriel, I.s.p.

**Welcome our New Guild
Members**

**Lucinda Blackwell
Nancy O'Bryan
Suzanne Pulawski
Lucy Mikula
Lu Ann Heitert**

**Treasury Report for
2017-2018 Year to Date**

Income: \$4862.66
Expenses: \$961.93
Net: \$3900.73

At the Fall Luncheon in September, \$433 was contributed through the table envelopes. This money will go towards the Christmas Bazaar.

**Now is the Time to Make Sure Every Guild Member Has
a Name Badge**

If you need a replacement Guild name badge, please contact **Ellen Jose** and provide the spelling of your name as you would like it to appear on your name badge. **We can no longer order one badge at a time.** We need a minimum of five badges before the company will fill the order in a timely manner. Send your information to Ellen ASAP. There is a \$10 charge for a replacement name badge. You will be notified when your name badge arrives. Badges will be placed in the Guild mailbox at St. Augustine when they arrive. You can leave your check in the mailbox when you pick up your name badge.

Status of the 12 Days of Christmas Event

Time is flying by and because of the Guild members who indicated an interest in this program on their membership renewal form and/or signed up at the Fall Luncheon we have successfully filled our 12 Days of Christmas event calendar. I extend my "thank you" for your support of this wonderful opportunity to share in a small way with each resident a Reason for the Season.

Mary Ann Van Note & Marlene Buttrum
Co-Chairs

Membership Guidelines and Statistics

Beginning in the 2015-2016 year, the membership requirements were modified to allow for **"any member who does not meet the annual dues obligation for 2 years will forfeit Guild membership after notification by the Treasurer."** Based on that, Guild members who have forgotten or have chosen to not renew their membership continue to receive all correspondence, including the annual roster and Gazettes, from the Guild and are included in the total membership statistics for 2 years. Based on that here is the breakdown of the St. Augustine Guild Membership:

Total membership - 252 (includes 216 paid members & 36 non-renewed members)

The membership type breakdown is as follows:

216 Paid Members

Active - 103
Associate - 47
Sustaining - 52
Honorary - 4
Resident - 10

36 Non-Renewed Members

Active - 15
Associate - 10
Sustaining - 11

All non-renewed members are encouraged to renew their membership dues to help support the operations of the Saint Augustine Home and to cover the costs of printing the roster (which is \$1.93 per member) and other mailings incurred by the St. Augustine Guild. If you are unable to actively volunteer, please consider renewing your dues as a Sustaining member. To renew your dues, contact Tricia Damler at sagpadindy@gmail.com.

Please Remember These Guild Members in Your Prayers

Catherine Bates, born to eternal life on July 29, 2017 - Catherine was a Guild member and mother of Guild member Barbara Kern and mother-in-law to Marjory Bates.

Robert Primavera, born to eternal life on July 15, 2017 - Husband of Guild member Dottie Primavera.

Kay Sexton, new 2017 Guild member, suffered a stroke and a minor car accident last month. She will be in rehabilitation for this. - Kay is the niece of Guild member Dottie Butcher.

Mary Malatesta, Guild member since 1989

Kitty McGinity, Guild member since 2008.

If anyone becomes aware of a death or illness/injury of a Guild member or a member of their family, please notify Pat Kirlin - 2017-2018 Corresponding Secretary.

St. Augustine Guild
2345 West 86h Street
Indianapolis, IN 46260