

TidBytes – August 2021

CHM internal community news to CHM sisters, associates, and staff

Bishop Drumm Center – Barb Gross & Jennifer Worley

Barb Gross has graciously agreed to contribute to TidBytes with news from BDRC. Other members of the CHM staff at BDRC may also contribute to the gathering of information. Thank you Barb, and thank you to Elaine and Jeanie Hagedorn who sweet talked Barb into this.

Barb

August was a very hot month! Yet, in the morning there were always a few sisters who enjoyed going out into the courtyard to visit under the shade of the trees with one of our CHM staff.

S Rosalia is our regular Rummikub player in the Activity room after Mass. She is hard to beat and is often the winner of the game. At the same time, she will help another player win if she has not won a round. ☺

S Barb and S Jeanette Kopel had the gift of their family members being present with them in the last week before Barb's death. They came from Colorado, Ohio, Spencer and Davenport, Iowa. All were a blessing! 🙏

Jennifer

The new BDRC staff person - Kim Hall - will be joining the team next Tuesday, August 31. Her previous experience at Bishop Drumm and knowledge of our Humility sisters will be a great asset to everyone! Also, our current priest - Fr. Bede - is out of the building for a while due to some health issues. His return date is unknown so please keep him in your prayers!

Des Moines – S. Jeanie Hagedorn

As Summer 2021 slowly moves closer toward Autumn we begin to wonder where time has gone. COVID-19 cases continue to surge, though thankfully sparing the CHMs! Heartbreaking tragedies once again hit the people of Haiti, Afghanistan, the coasts of the U.S. with fires, hurricanes and floods. And politicians and religious leaders even in our own country and church have yet to find a just and peaceful road together into the future. The Iowa State Fair is over, children and youth are heading back to school (masked and unmasked), CHMs are discerning the future of religious life and our own CHM direction and leadership. Where has time gone? And where is it going? For us and for all those around us this is a trust walk into the future. Sometimes through the darkness, sometimes in the glory of a new day. But we walk together. With faith!

During the long pandemic's reduced time for travel, shopping and outings we have found more time at home for "homework" -- sorting files, cleaning closets, downsizing belongings and other "stuff". For Sr. Jeanie Hagedorn that has included sorting through and letting go of at least half of her expansive photo collection. Elaine has patiently walked over boxes of albums and smiled as the piles slowly decrease. We have enjoyed reminders of family reunions, awesome travel

experiences e.g. the Holy Land and El Salvador. Weddings, graduations and adorable baby pictures. Remnants of “CHM Photo Contest” entries, loads of memories of good times with family, friends, colleagues and students. It has been a long wonderful walk down memory lane ... and the added benefit at the end will be more *walking space* in the apartment! Time-consuming hard work, but the Hagedorns highly recommend the homework of *downsizing*!

One of the discoveries was a letter Jeanie found dated 1954. The letter acknowledged Jeanie, then a Sophomore in high school, as the winner of an essay contest sponsored by the *Iowa Good Roads Association* advocating for better, safer roads in Iowa. The award was “the best in your congressional district.” From nearly 300 entries Jeanie was complimented, “Yours was especially good and resulted in your winning a prize.” A \$100 U.S. Savings Bond, pen and pencil set, and a check! A *fortune* for a 15-year-old girl 67 years ago! The sponsors even gave a \$50 Savings Bond to Jeanie’s BVM English teacher at St. Joseph Academy. (Elaine thought the discovery of this letter was a TidBytes to share with readers.)

Probably of greater significance than all this has been the time we’ve been able to spend with our brother-in-law Jim Reed (our sister Mary Jo’s husband) who is now in Hospice care at home and dealing with serious Alzheimer’s disease. AND our first in-person visit to Bishop Drumm since the beginning of COVID! It was a joy to finally be able to see our sisters in person and to share prayers of gratitude for the life of Sr. Micheline Curtis and all our recently deceased sisters.

Humility of Mary Center – S. Mary Rehmann

Sisters Miriam Anstey, Catherine Linnenkamp, Mary Rehmann, Johanna Rickl and Mary Ann Vogel attended the Serra Club picnic at Sacred Heart Cathedral. Sr. Miriam Anstey was recognized for her 75 years of service as a CHM.

During the Iowa State Fair Public broadcasting had nightly video programs of selected events from all over the fairgrounds. This year there was a new “super-slide” at a new location and more than a couple “very scary” rides. Several watched the finals of the talent show, hosted for the last time by Bill Riley, Jr. Some CHMs recalled their own 4H experiences as exhibitors.

Roses, roses and more roses. A local HY-VEE store had a weekend fund-raiser for HHSI: donate a dollar, give a rose and, indeed, they did give. One thousand beautiful, colorful roses arrived at Humility of Mary Center in tubs. They were put in vases: in every resident’s room, a huge spray in the chapel, and other arrangements wherever you looked.

Humility Homes & Services received the first “Community of Excellence” award from the Mayor of Davenport on August 25.

Srs. Pat Miller (8/29) and Pat Heidenry (9/1) have “big birthdays” this year. Sr. Pat M. celebrates at Senior Star residence in Davenport, and Sr. Pat H. at HMC.

The Leadership Team were among more than 1000 religious women from 14 different countries who participated in the virtual annual meeting of LCWR from August 11th to 13th.

For the first time, the organization gave Lifetime Achievement Awards to women “whose contribution to religious life and ministry have been extraordinary.” They are Sr. Helen Prejean, CSJ, Sr. Amata Miller, IHM, and Sr. Joyce Meyer, PBVM. Information and documents from the assembly are online at www.lcwr.org.

HMC residents welcomed Sr. Regina Cratty home from Manor Care where she had received therapy for approximately one month.

We also welcomed our **Vietnamese Sisters Huyen, Nuong, Hoa and Nguyet** back from their summer absence for studies, internships and vacation time.

Administration – Kelly Bell

Sister Barbara Kopel, CHM, February 1, 1939 - August 9, 2021

<https://www.ilesfuneralhomes.com/obituary/Sister-Barbara-Kopel/Johnston-Iowa/1887426>

Please contact Kelly if your email has changed or you are no longer using it.

If you have dual residences, please contact Kelly when you move for the summer/winter.