

TidBytes – February 2022

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

Des Moines – S. Jeanie Hagedorn

The radio announcer reminded us this morning that today is 2-22-2022. In a few days we will turn the calendar to March as time moves ever more quickly (especially as we age!) This month has been filled for Elaine and me, and no doubt for you as well, with supporting a good number of friends with very serious health issues, surgeries, cancer treatments, personal struggles, addictions, marital and family problems and losses. Often, we can only offer a listening ear, sympathetic heart, and encouraging words. Yet just knowing that others walk this journey with us makes all the difference! (Seems that's what Body of Christ is all about.)

On a larger scale we suffer along with the people of Ukraine and Russia in this critical time when major war is looming over them and their families. We take to prayer our U.S. President and Administration as well as the leaders of Russia, Ukraine and all nations in conflict. Elaine and I have been absorbed in webinars educating us about the history that has led to the present crisis. We're discovering that often what we hear and see in the media is *not* the whole picture. What we have learned in U.S. history books is not the whole story.

Like those today who are fighting to keep the ugly story of slavery out of history books in our schools, the temptation is to see only the good side of who we are as a nation. That, I believe, does a disservice to students and enables the not-so-comfortable history, attitudes and behaviors to be denied and continue. The 1619 Project is a great resource to help us become more informed about this issue. With all that is good about our past and present we must also acknowledge the painful facts as the *truth* they are.

Like the story of slavery, some of our U.S. history regarding war, white supremacy and patriotism also does not make us feel very comfortable. Yet, again, facts can help us understand and learn from

the past. Some good webinars we have watched show the history that has brought us to this current crisis involving Russia, Ukraine, NATO, and the U.S. (With 3,000 *nuclear* warheads positioned around the world, we can only pray this conflict does not expand into another world war.) Hopefully, some of you had a chance to watch the informative PowerPoint presentation offered on Zoom by Jeffrey Weiss, a friend and teacher at DMACC, and sponsored by the Catholic Peace Ministry in Des Moines. Kelly Bell sent out that email invitation for that Wed. 2-23 Zoom.

This is heavy stuff and for that I apologize. But the current global reality is *really heavy* stuff! As members of this Body of Christ we *must, like in our personal relationships*, listen (be informed), encourage (decision makers) and support others (including those around the globe).

Please let us all pray as one that war can yet be averted, diplomacy be successful and innocent lives be spared. **“Lord, make us instruments of your peace!”**

Humility of Mary Center – S. Mary Rehmann

Valentine's Day was celebrated all during February. There were lace, paper “doilies” with red glass vases and red and pink roses on the dining room tables. The Vietnamese sisters had left the colorful red lanterns hanging following the celebration of the TET new year earlier. Boxes of potted “mums” were sent from HY Vee, celebrating care-takers, that afternoon. There were enough for anyone who wished to take one, choice of bright yellow, white or pink.

TET New Year: Vietnamese sisters sang, danced and offered “good luck” gifts to everyone on the last Sunday in January. Sr. Hoa Phung played with passion on the guitar after those present enjoyed wine and cheese while celebrating with them.

RED HAT BIRTHDAYS, two of them, were marked by Sisters Rachel Beeson, (the 7th), and Claudellen Pentecost (the 13th). Following traditional singing of “Happy Birthday” and “May the dear Lord...”, staff served root beer floats to the tables. Those present remembered Sr. Claudellen’s delicious venison and Sr. Rachel’s long service in leadership roles.

Original Valentine Bingo cards were created by Residential Life Coordinator (RLC), Shelly Seifert, with the pink and blue “whale” being the hardest to locate. Prizes included heart-shaped boxes of chocolates, of course.

Super Bowl favorite seemed to be the Cincinnati Bengals who, in the last minutes, lost to the LA Rams.

Residents also followed the Olympics at various times during the days and evenings. CHMs watched the Opening Ceremonies and could not figure out the “torch” and wondered where it was throughout the games. Sr. Joan Marie followed “curling” throughout the 2-week schedule. “Skeleton” seemed to be a new event but this writer learned that it is in the Olympics when there is the appropriate venue. Srs. Catherine Linnenkamp and Mary Rehmann saw the first U.S. woman on the new “monobob” event, the one-person bobsled. Correction: **officially it is a bobsleigh**, not bobsled.

Residents and staff sampled coffee (hot or iced) and tea, with additional almond, peanut butter, vanilla flavorings, one Wednesday morning. Super fresh donuts and other breakfast pastries completed the offerings.

Monthly “Happy Hour” included wine, beer and soft drinks on the last Friday of the month, February 25, the anniversary of the death of Mother Mary of the Angels Maujean in 1902. She was one of the original Sisters of Humility from France and led the Missouri/Iowa foundations.

Bishop Drumm Center – Kim Hall

The overall vision of Exercise with Humility is a place where our sisters can enjoy physical and mental health exercise. The program is designed to help people with limited mobility participate in a chair-based program. The goal is to improve cognitive, physical function and strengthen social ties all while having fun. Kim leads the exercise portion and Jennifer adds some trivia facts that are interspersed to exercise the mind. The program is not limited to our Humility sisters; we invite anyone that is interested to join in. Exercise with Humility meets every Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. in the chapel.

A Note from Claudia Scharf

Hello everyone: I just want to say I am sincerely grateful that the CHMs hired me as a walk-in, July 2016. The Sisters’ prayers throughout the years sustained me through various highs and lows in my personal life. I look forward to time off so I can regroup, unwind, explore my creativity, exercise, birdwatch and enjoy nature, etc. God is my guiding light so whatever I note here, God will add to it. I look forward to continuing the journey of life and see where God will bring me next. God bless you.
Sincerely Claudia

Administration – Kelly Bell

S. Marcia Eckerman: On HMC phone list, Home/Cell should be 563-340-8940.

S. Caridad Inda: Kahl Home, 6701 Jersey Ridge Road #202N, Davenport IA 52807, No phone at this time.

Rita Hagner: Silver Crest, 1575 W 53rd St #101, Davenport IA 52806-2445; 563-391-1862

S. Marilyn Schierbrock †
April 27, 1939 - February 28, 2022.
Arrangements pending