

PBOC Catholic Women's Club
General Meeting Minutes
September 7, 2023 11:00am

1. Welcome and Call to Order at: Nancy Crosbie
2. Opening Prayer: Spiritual Facilitators, Debbie Clatterbuck

- The members recited the Elizabeth Ann Seton prayer.

Lord God, you blessed Elizabeth Seton, with gifts of grace as wife and mother, educator, and foundress, so that she might spend her life in service to your people. Through her example and prayers may we learn to express our love for you in love for our fellow men and women. We asked this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives in reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Quorum present: Yes, per Carole Kaczynski from the Membership Committee
5. Minutes of the June General Meeting: Rita Foster, Secretary

- President, Nancy Crosbie, emailed the June Minutes out to the Membership along with today's meeting reminder and agenda. To cut down on the amount of paper, a copy of the previous meeting's Minutes will be posted on the Bulletin Board behind the Membership Check In area for your reference during the monthly meeting. The Minutes are also available for review on the Women's Club website.
- Rita asked if there were any corrections to the June Minutes and then asked for a motion to accept the Minutes "as is" for filing.
- Yvonne Chadwick made the motion to accept the Minutes.
- By a show of hands, the Membership accepted the Minutes.

6. Financial Reports: Kathy Brochu, Treasurer

- The August Financial report has been posted to the WC website.
- Kathy gave a brief synopsis of last year's financial status.
- Amounts to note:

Income: Membership dues \$1280 YTD

Month's Expenses:

Welcome Tea \$552.21 - are there any more expenses? Please submit as soon as possible.
Operation/Administration: \$96.27. An iron & ironing board was purchased & a few misc. closet supplies; we used iron/board for the Welcome Tea and they will help for the Boutique Auction and other events.

- Budget for 2023-2024 - please see the budget worksheet at each table.
- The Board has been reviewing what other fundraising events we might hold.
- Note 2 new Ways and Means events being planned for this year - Bake Sales and a Soup Night.

- Ways & Means is also looking into selling Amaryllis this year; at the time of this budget document, research was still in process so the income & expense is TBD.
- Soup Night budget is also TBD.
- We will ask the Membership for a vote to accept the proposed budget at our 10/5 meeting, so please look and let Kathy know if you have any questions.

7. President's Report: Nancy Crosbie

- Welcome to our new members and all our returning members. Thank you for attending our first meeting of the New Year. I know that with your enthusiasm and help it is going to be an amazing one. Today you are going to hear about some of our Spiritual and Fundraising Activities that we have planned for the next few months.
- The Royal Welcome Tea, held on Sunday, August 27th was a wonderful event. The PLC was transformed into a Regal Room of blue and gold thanks to Jeanne Rosol and Claire Turner's vision and all those who helped to make it a success. Thank you, also to the Club members who provided all the delicious sandwiches and yummy desserts. Later, as part of today's agenda, Carole Kaczynski will give us an update about membership numbers.
- I would like to take a moment to remember Christine Kitchen. As per her obituary, she passed away peacefully at the Lakes in Litchfield on August 27th. She was a member of our Parish and this Women's Club. She was 88 years old. There will be a Memorial Mass September 16th at 2:00 PM here at Precious Blood. Her family is debating whether to have a repast. There are only a few family members and they are wondering how many might be coming from the Women's Club. Is it possible to have a show of hands?
Let us please observe a moment of silence to honor her memory.
- Recognition of longtime Women's Club member, Donna Martin, as Knights of Columbus Woman of the Year for 2023! Nancy Crosbie presented her with a card.
- For the new members information, the General Meetings start at 11:00 AM but you are welcome to come early and mingle and check out the Volunteer Sign up table. Michelle Schneider will tell you more about that in a few minutes.
- One group of Sign-up sheets pertains to the Kitchen Cupboard for the Arts & Crafts Festival. I was lucky enough to enlist the help of the Chefs from Father Pat's Kitchen to help us organize the cooking of food. The Kitchen Cupboard is an important piece of the festival. Last year it netted \$8,000, which is why we need your help. We need members who are either willing to cook in their own homes or join us here at the PLC Kitchen. The offerings are the following: New England Clam Chowder, Chicken Corn Chowder, Chicken Pot Pie, Shepherd's Pie, Spinach Quiche, Bacon Cheddar Quiche, Meatballs & Sauce, Scalloped Potatoes, and Eggplant Parmesan. We will be starting this month and working through October, freezing what we make. Last year, I made some of the Chicken Pot Pies at home. I was given the recipes and the containers by the committee, but I purchased the ingredients. Please consider signing up to help with the Kitchen Cupboard. Even if you do not like to cook there are other ways you can help with this

project. Other ways are to chop ingredients and setting up the pans to be given out to the membership so they can cook at home. We cannot do this event without you.

- Those of you who are returning members know that Kathy Knittel has been our Sunshine Committee Chairperson for many years. Due to her husband's and her recent health issues, they have decided they will be moving to NC to be closer to family sometime by this coming spring. Kathy has decided that she can no longer continue with the Sunshine Committee. I have been sending out the Prayer Requests for the last few months and arranging with Callas Florist to send flowers to members who have been hospitalized, but with my work load I cannot continue to do it. We need someone who would be able to take this on. It does require some computer skills. Please see me after the meeting if you would be interested.
- Nancy Crosbie read a "thank you" note for Rocky for our retirement gift to him.
- I am looking forward to working with all of you to make the 2023/2024 year another successful one for the Women's Club!

8. Appointed Officers

a. Spiritual: Christine Schwartz

- A lot of activities are coming up this year! We will need some volunteers so please be generous with your time.
- Our first scheduled Mass is for Deceased Members on November 14th. A sign-up sheet is available on the back table for positions we need filled. Please check carefully and sign up if you are able. We will have a Communion Breakfast afterwards at Tap & Pour. More details to come.
- The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is sung or recited on First Friday of each month at 3 p.m. in the church. During lent the Chaplet will be recited on every Friday. Please mark your calendars to attend. Recitation of the Chaplet was requested by Jesus to Sister Faustina. It is also a good time to stay a few minutes or longer in adoration as exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is in the main Church on First Friday. Christine asked that everyone put aside some time to participate in this religious event.
- We will no longer place baskets on tables for prayer requests. Before the final prayer, we will request that each member silently mention all the requests that she holds in the silence of her heart.
- Two rosaries, brought back from the Holy Land by Fr. Paul, are available to take home for a period of two weeks or longer, if needed. Please see me for one of the rosaries. This is a special way to recite the rosary for a special intention.
- October 7th is the Coast-to-Coast Rosary however; this is not a Women's Club event. More details to come.
- Bible Study starts next week. This is a 23-week program. Meetings on Wed even and Thursday mornings at 9:30. There is a sign up and a book for educational purposes.

b. Membership: Carol Kaczynski

- As of today, 90 renewed members and 7 new members. Peggy is on vacation so a big "Thank you" to Lorraine Mainer and Gina Washington for your help with Membership Check In today!
- I will tell Nikki to have two tables for check-in. One for member check-in at which time they will get a raffle ticket and second table for new member sign-in and member renewals. We are hoping that this new setup will help the meeting check in process run a little smoother.
- At the second table, we will also have Name Tag Orders should anyone wish to order one. I would like to remind the members about renewing and mention about the list for birthdays on the bulletin board (August & Sept. birthdays).
- I would like to welcome all our new members at that time and have all the active members please make them feel welcomed.
- Monthly drawing done by Carol Kaczynski.
- Roses on each table are part of the giveaways too!

c. Ways and Means: Yvonne Chadwick

- Amaryllis Sale

She spoke to Andrew at Callas, and this is what he said. "Only red amaryllis in 6" pots @ \$12, same price as 2 years ago. If pots are wrapped in foil and bows to give as a gift with an additional charge of \$1.25."

Cut-off date for the orders is October 20th. Delivery will be Thursday, December 7th or Sunday, December 10th.

Further information:

2020 - we sold 175 plants (first time we did this)

2021 - we sold 59, but we also additionally sold succulents, which are not part of the count.

2022 - we did not sell them this year.

- Soup Night – Melanie Bulman suggested this as a fundraiser as St. Michael's does this fundraiser on a cold night. WC members would cook for this and serve out of crock pots. Bread provided in the cost of event. We can also pre-sale tickets and use power strips to accommodate all the crockpots. WC can offer a variety of soups. Super Bowl is 2/10/24. Can offer dessert for additional amount. No takeouts this year.

Board has added this item to the proposed budget. Yvonne will put out a Sign-Up Sheet to see who will volunteer closer to the proposed event.

- Belk

Yvonne received news that the Belk Charity Sale will be held on the weekend of November 3-5th. For those of you who are wondering "What is this Belk sale?"

Tickets for this sale will be sold ahead of the sale date. By purchasing a \$5 ticket, you can enjoy store wide discounts plus get your \$5 back. Only one \$5 ticket can be redeemed for each purchase. So, if you plan to do Thanksgiving shopping for dishes, tableware, clothes, or jewelry shopping for Christmas, purchase more than one ticket.

The best part of the sale is that all proceeds from ticket sales, 100% of goes directly to the Women's Club.

- Bake Sale

It was suggested that we have the Bake Sale on February 10th with the "Souper Bowl" at the PLC and then sell on the 11th after all Masses since Wednesday, February 14th, is Valentines' Day, and Ash Wednesday.

Another Bake Sale would follow on Mother's Day, May 11th, and 12th after all Masses.

- Irish Soda Bread

It was determined that we should sell the Soda Bread on March 16th and 17th (St Patrick's Day) after all Masses. Could be a possible conflict finding bakers as it is also Fashion Show on Saturday the 16th but hope there are enough members that there is plenty of people to do both events. Yvonne is away so Greta Morris will handle this function.

9. Special Committees

a. Arts & Craft Festival: Debbie Allen

- Debbie is excited to share that the 70+ vendor spaces for the Arts & Crafts Festival on October 27th & October 28th from 9 am to 4 pm are completely filled!
- And---there are volunteer opportunities for every one of us.
- If you bake--Patty would love lots of goodies for the bake sale.
- If you cook--Nancy will tell us about the Kitchen Cupboard needs.
- If you have books that need a new home--save them to donate to the used books.
- The Silent Auction always needs nice auction gifts.
- The Cafe needs help with food preparation, serving and selling.
- Many hands make the work more fun!
- Sign-up sheets are available at the door.
- With your help, we look forward to another fun, successful Craft Fair.

10. New Business

a. Refreshments: Melanie Bulman

- Introduction of the new team: Sue Webster, Michaelene Lynam, and Kathy Oaks
- Nikki del Valle asked that we tip our chairs at the end of the meeting so she can sweep under the table.
- Catered lunches; Go over menu with Membership
- The Servers responsibilities will be:
 - To bake 2 dozen cookies or supply store bought cookies
 - Clean up after the meeting
 - Come to the meeting your regular time.

b. Volunteer Lists and Sip N' Chat: Michelle Schneider

- SIP & CHAT

- Sip & Chat is a gathering designed to keep us all up to date on what gets discussed at the Women's Club meetings as well as a way for us to enjoy ourselves. We welcome new members to socialize with us and have members who were not able to attend our regular to catch up on our current events.
- Mostly, Women's Club Members host at their home. However, we will be venturing out of that comfort zone occasionally. We may have it at a local restaurant or have it on a different day of the week. The day of the week, week of the month, and time of day are not set in stone. We will keep the times reasonable so no one should have to drive in the dark.
- Sip & Chat will kick off this year at my home located at 2073 Timmerman Road, Myrtle Beach on Tuesday September 19th at 3pm!
- October will be hosted by Terry Senger in her home located at 1076 Parker Dr. In North Litchfield on Tuesday October 24th from 4-6.

- VOLUNTEER SIGN UP SHEETS

- I have taken our sign-up sheets and made them easier to set up. I have made a general form that any portion of our organization can use when they need members to voluntarily sign up for different activities and jobs. Each includes a space to fill in which event, what date, and at what time they are needed. Then there are spaces for each volunteer to fill in their name, phone number, and email address.
- If your event needs an unusual set up for your sign in sheet, I am more than happy to design what you need on my computer. Call, email, or text me with your requests.

c. Name Badges: Nancy Szarowicz

- Explained what the jewels on the name badge are for. Please contact Nancy for more information.

d. Using the website – see Kathy Morris for help

e. MaryAnn Sandborne – her husband passed away this morning. More information to

f. Family Justice Center – Linda Cimadon spoke about the fundraiser that they are putting on in Georgetown in early November.

g. Fresh Express is this Saturday from 9:00-10:00am. Mary Anne Fox explained that it is part of the Parish Outreach programs. Everything is free with no paperwork attached! Open to the public.

11. General Q & A from Membership

- What is the difference between the Kitchen Cupboard and the Kitchen Café?
- The video screen was broken during the Women's Tea. What are we going to do about this?

Nancy said that Nikki del Valle was going to order a new one for the PLC.

12. Closing Prayer: Christine Schwartz

13. Meeting adjourned at: 12:

Important Dates to Remember

September 19	Sip N' Chat; 3:00-5:00pm at Michelle Schneider's home
September 28	Board Meeting PLC; 9:15am; Rm. 5
October 5	General Meeting PLC; 11:00am
October 26	Board Meeting PLC; 9:15am; Rm. 5
October 27 & 28	Arts & Crafts Festival; PLC
November 14	Mass of Remembrance

Respectfully Submitted,

Rita A. Foster, Secretary

Nancy Crosbie, President