

APRIL 2010

Our April, 2010, meeting was preceded by our program presented by Dr. John Bamberg of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Research Station in Sturgeon Bay, which is the only one of its kind in the United States. His wife Ingrid accompanied him and is active in helping with his work. John showed a power point presentation of the research done at his facility, which is actually done on a State farm while being a Federal facility. They keep a backup of genes for crops to meet any future needs to breed or to battle challenges, such as disease. Most of the genes are kept as seeds (over 150 species) and fledgling plants in test tubes. Potato growers are concerned with yield and consistency and consumers are concerned about nutrition. Move is afoot to breed potatoes with less starch, reduced sodium, anti-cancer effects and PI2 to fight obesity. The potato bank is kept in an area where the genes can be preserved without blemish while further research is being done. Samples were brought and we got to marvel at the many forms potatoes can take.

Following refreshments, Vice-President Barbara Tidball brought the meeting to order and thanked our hostesses, Kitty Eagan and Merlie Cox, for their lovely presentation. Prayers were said for all members of our parish and their families. The minutes were read and approved. The Treasurer's report shows a balance of \$11,045.56 in our account.

Under Old Business, thanks was given to all who helped at soup and stations. Shall we continue next year? Or does the evening meal in Baileys Harbor reduce our attendance at stations? It was decided that we had about the same number of people attend in spite of the stations in Baileys Harbor and we should plan to continue with it next year.

The luncheon and fashion show was again discussed and it was proposed that we think about moving it to the fall when there are fewer activities scheduled at our site. Some members felt the clothing stores might not want to participate in a fall fashion show. We agreed that it would likely take place in September so their autumn clothing could be showcased. It was decided this can be revisited at our next meeting.

Thanks was given to all who participated in the coffee and... on Palm Sunday. Groups I and II did a great job and had an abundance of food and help. Discussion produced the feeling that it's too much to have a large service of hospitality two weeks in a row, even though our plans have been ongoing for years. Since we are never consulted about any plans made by Parish Council or the parish office, we don't know about them until when they're about to occur. Pat mentioned that we had been contacted to provide treats for the hospitality following the dedication of the new altar in Baileys Harbor and it was announced that we had enough to do in order to provide our

coffee and... A couple comments were made that whoever decided something should occur should be doing the work and providing the food and stop asking us to bring food to church for every event. Comments have been made that it gets expensive to be baking or preparing food on such a regular basis.

Sign-up sheets for Strawberry Fest were passed around. Kitty will have her usual merry band of bakers and Vice President Tidball announced that we need to have six-to-eight people in the kitchen throughout the day in two shifts. We will need help for scooping the ice cream and will appreciate the volunteering of anyone's strong husband or friend to assist.

Carol Gray has been busy working on the membership book and will list names in italics of people who don't elect to help and/or provide food but continue to want to be members. An asterisk will designate those members who are not able to help any longer. Our cover will have our new logo on it and the booklet will not have dates so it can stay current for a longer period. Each page will face a blank for notes to be made. It's going to look very nice and Carol will follow up on getting the cover and insides printed.

Under New Business, we discussed having sign-up sheets in the back of church for attendees who are willing to help or provide food but are not attending meetings. Perhaps a bulletin article could be inserted stating you don't have to be a member to be a part of the activity. Women of the parish who would like to contribute to our work could give us their names so we could call them when help is needed. Our cookbooks continue to be offered for sale after Mass and will be throughout the summer. They will also be located in some of the gift shops in the area.

Stacy reported that she had been contacted by the school about scholarships and we will put an article in the bulletin to encourage current students, ongoing students, and returning students to apply. We have \$2,500 allocated to the fund this year.

Pat indicated that we had been contacted by St. Mary's and they'd like everyone to know they're welcome to come and enjoy the newly released movie about Fatima next Tuesday, February 13, 2010 at 1:30. We were invited to bring friends as well.

On motion by Kitty Eagan and second by Carol Gray, our meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

PAT WISNER, Secretary