

DeputyGram

*For District Deputies and Institute Deputies of the
Young Ladies' Grand Institute*

March 1, 2022

DeputyGram Committee: Chairman Tina Boitano

Committee Members: Corrie Cardon, Grace Perez, and Terri Ward

Dear Sisters,

First, let me apologize to you all for the delay in getting this issue sent out. My intended deadline was December 1, 2021 (missed that one by a mile!). If anyone can tell me where the time goes—and so quickly—I will happily share that information with all!

Secondly, in the October DeputyGram, the Golden Jubilee Burse Chairman was erroneously listed as Josie Garcia, when in fact she was the contact for submitting the names of those honored with GJB cards. Maria Dusi is the GJB Chairman, and I apologize to her for the oversight. (Thank you, Josie, for bringing that to my attention!)

Tina Boitano, DeputyGram Chairman

FALL BOARD MEETING, NOVEMBER 6, 2021

You probably have already heard information from several other sources of happenings from the Board of Grand Directors meeting last November. It was a very well-run and informative meeting, that was on track and on schedule all day. Kudos to Chairman of the Board Debra Ramirez-Cruz for her strong leadership and organization! And special recognition should be given to Grand Secretary Patricia McGuire, who is the epitome of St. Martha who was “busy with many things”. Reports were given by many Grand Institute Committees, who have all been working hard, under the constantly changing Covid-related conditions, to perform their duties. A few highlights:

Disaster Relief Committee Chairman Bea Burke reported that despite the magnitude of the California wildfire season last year, no claims were submitted between the dates of Convention and the Board Meeting. (Note from Tina: That was particularly surprising to me as the area those of us from Jackson and Sutter Creek drove through to return home from Reno was--

within a week--completely engulfed in flames. The scenery we saw on our return trip will never look the same in our lifetime.)

GPP "Sisters Supporting Sisters" Chairman Elaine Brady gave a great report with suggested ways of supporting GP Jeannette's program, as well as some historical facts of Sisters who, in essence, helped settle the West. Several Orders sent Sisters to the western states during the mid-to-late 1800's to set up schools or to work as nurses. If you haven't yet watched it, there is a great little video on YouTube called "300 Years of Sister History (in 5 Minutes)". You may want to watch it several times because it is a fast-paced, fact-filled mini history lesson on Catholic Sisters and their accomplishments--a very impressive and important track record!

Golden Jubilee Burse Chairman Maria Dusi and her committee did a wonderful job on the GJB Mass at St. Francis Church in Sacramento on November 6th. Father Desmond O'Reilly of St. Francis Church was the celebrant, and the intentions of 1,280 recipients from all 74 Institutes of YLI were honored.

Long Range Planning, Research and Development, and Public Relations Committee Chairman Barbara Brown's report included several proposed mergers which were accepted by the Board and will become effective March 31, 2022.

Membership Committee Chairman Angela Kaufman's report included the proposed "March Madness Membership Month" with a goal of at least one membership activity (and hopefully initiations) from every Institute.

Scholarship Committee Chairman Sandra Gustafson reported the winners of the 2021-2022 Scholarships for 9 YLI scholarships.

"EYES AND EARS", by Grand First Vice President Terri Ward

District Deputies are the Grand President's representative in each district. You are essentially the "eyes and ears" of the Grand President. Each spring, the Grand First Vice President (this year me) sends a letter asking you as District Deputy to identify YLI sisters in your District who are interested in becoming an Institute Deputy, District Deputy or members of a Grand Committee. In all honesty, when I first received this letter, my thought was, "they don't want my suggestions." Well, I DO want your recommendations!! When I realized there were sisters in my District who were excellent candidates for Institute Deputies or a Grand Committee, I started to make phone calls or send emails. To my delight, most of those I contacted said, YES!

Each year since then, I have taken this responsibility very seriously. Please remember, you are a vital link in the success of YLI as you encourage and support your YLI sisters in becoming involved in your District, and Grand offices and committees.

...and other encouraging words...from Past Grand Director Tina Boitano

I would like to add my little story as a follow up to Terri's. At a Board meeting I attended a few years ago, I was called to a table where sat 4 Past Grand Presidents (and they know who they are!) The question was put to me, "When are you going to run for Grand Office?" (Uhhh...never?) They were calm, caring, smiling, and deadly serious all in one. I replied that I hadn't considered running for a Grand Office, that I didn't think I could do it, that I wasn't interested, and that I had tried to do my part many times by approaching other YLI sisters who I thought would be excellent candidates for this or that Grand Office and I was always told, "No". Frankly, there were unwilling to turn me loose until I promised I would think about it. All the way home in the car (alone) I talked to myself about how I had been cornered, while others I had asked had always said "no". It was quite the rant, and it continued into the shower the next morning when I was still rolling the conversation around in my head. And then it hit me. (You gotta love shower epiphanies!) In telling them "No", *I was doing the exact same thing I was complaining about which other members had done to me!* Well, there's a different perspective. So I began to seriously consider their request. And in my research, I found that there had not been a Grand Officer from my Institute since Grand Inside Sentinel Marie Mohorovich who served in 1934-1935. And she was one of only two members to serve as Grand Officers in the (then current) 100-year history of Columbia #72. The thought then occurred that it was past time for my own Institute to toss a (nervous) candidate—me-- into the arena. As a result, I found myself elected as a Grand Director at Convention 2015, and I served 2 terms in that capacity. *AND I LOVED IT!* I learned a lot and I learned I needed to learn a lot more. The fellow Grand Officers I served with became friends, and it's a special link with some very special YLI sisters that I treasure.

The moral of my story is that we don't always see in ourselves what others see in us, and that "No" may really mean "Not now" and shouldn't mean "Not Me". So when the Grand First Vice President calls you, or a pack of wild PGP's send their piercing gaze your way and crook their fingers at you, consider saying "YES". I think you will be surprised by what you gain!

P.S. The "Guidelines for Candidates" and "YLI Candidates Information Form" are available on the website: ylionline.org. Print it. Read it. *Go for it!* Deadline to submit Voice of YLI ad and photo for candidates is April 30, 2022. Let's have a real election at Convention in June!

REMINDERS:

- Quarterly Reports for the Quarter ending March 31, 2022 are due in the Grand Secretary's office by April 30, 2022. This is perhaps the most important Quarterly Report of the year to submit in a timely manner as its contents are used by several Grand Institute Committees to prepare their final reports for Convention. Please encourage your Institutes to complete and submit their Quarterly Report ASAP!
- It will soon be time for Institutes to file their 990N and 199N forms. Instructions will be given in the April GP/GS letter. It is extremely important that we maintain our non-

profit status with the IRS by keeping these reports filed correctly. If you need help with this, Crystal Connor offered an excellent step-by-step written instruction for filing the IRS Form 990N and CA 199N (California Institutes only) at the November Board meeting. She will be happy to send you a copy or to answer any questions you may have. She also generously offered to help you navigate the websites to file your forms.

- Information on applying for the YLI Scholarships is available in the March GP/GS Letter. Deadline to apply is March 31, 2022, and scholarships are open to YLI members with at least one year of membership. Scholarships are also a great incentive when you are recruiting new members for your Institute—particularly for returning students of a mature age who may not have many other scholarship opportunities.
- Last, but not least, please encourage your Institutes to have their Committee Chairmen (GJB, GPP, Membership, etc.) return their reports to the respective Grand Institute Committee Chairman by the requested deadline dates. Our Grand Institute Chairmen are counting on receiving that feedback in a timely fashion so they can complete their reports for Convention. It is always much more interesting to hear what the Institutes have done, rather than hearing the report include the phrase, “I didn’t get responses from X number of Institutes”. Be an inspiration, don’t be an “X”!

OTHER DATES TO REMEMBER:

March 5, 2022 – Board of Grand Directors Meeting, 9:AM at the YLI Clubhouse in Sacramento.

March 25, 2022 – Grand President Jeannette Borges and GPP Chairman Elaine Brady have asked that all members pause at 12: Noon on this Feast Day of the Annunciation, and pray the Memorare as a sign of solidarity with all Religious Sisters.

“March Madness Membership Month” – The Membership Committee is waiting to hear from you! The results of your Membership drive this month, and the methods you used for your success, will make the Membership Committee’s report at Convention VERY entertaining! Sharing the ideas that worked well for you will be beneficial to all Institutes in the future. This is a prime time of year to scout for new members among the newly Confirmed Candidates from RCIA; they are open to learning more about their faith and on fire to channel their energy into Catholic works and organizations. Don’t be discouraged if the answer is “No” when you ask a woman to attend a meeting or to learn more about YLI. “No” may actually mean “Not now”, so give it a little time, then invite her again.

Remember...Unity, Sisterly Love, and Protection! (And Kindness...ALWAYS!)

Note: If you have questions, concerns, or requests for information you would like to see addressed in an upcoming issue, please contact me, Deputy Gram Chairman Tina Boitano. We are happy to have your input!