My Dear Sisters in Christ,

As I write this article for my last issue of the quarterly, my heart is a bit anxious. Many of our sisters in Christ and members of their families are ill; our convention is moving ahead in fits and spurts due to the stay at home orders; speakers are uncertain as to their attendance in July; and, we are unable to go to Mass. It is hard to know how to proceed. How many convention bags should I order? How many members will go to the convention? What should I do about all manner of things?

As difficult as this period of isolation has been, it has reinforced one thing: God is all we have and all we need. I can’t see into the future, but I don’t need to know what will happen because God knows. My job is to trust. I find that I have my hands full just doing my job without trying to do God’s. I forget frequently and have to remind myself to let go and let God do His job, but God is good, and He is faithful. So, I will keep planning and forging ahead, and I hope you will do so as well.

First things first, we are trying to get the office opened back up and functioning at full speed. Dues billing will go out as soon as possible. Meanwhile, please send in your officers’ lists and your financial reviews as soon as you can.

At the present time, the convention is a go, and Dallas is waiting. Please join us. We have things to learn, issues to deliberate, and memories to make. More importantly, we need to be together to support each other and to have a chance to act like a true sisterhood again. We have a wonderful concert with Donna Cori Gibson planned and a special viewing of a movie about Father Patrick Peyton. We may need to take special precautions and bring our face masks, but we will do what we need to do. Delegates will receive special instructions if we still are under some restrictions. We are including the names of our deceased members, especially those lost to the Corona Virus, at our Memorial Mass. Please take time to write their names in the Memorial Book when you arrive. It will be in the registration area. I sincerely hope you won’t miss the convention.

I will leave you with one of my favorites of God’s promises. “For I know well the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare not your woe, plans to give you a future full of hope.” Jeremiah 29:11-13. The Lord is in charge, and He is merciful. So, we will trust; we will plan, and we will hope to see each other soon. May the peace and joy of the Risen Lord be with you!
Not My Will But Yours Be Done

Most Reverend Brendan J. Cahill, S.T.D.
National Chaplain

The Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke each record the sorrowful prayer of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. There are some minor differences in the details of the story, yet each remembers the prayer, “Not My will but Yours be done.”

For many of the first hearers of the story, these words would have been considered scandalous. People with a background in Greek philosophy of the day would have remembered the death of Socrates as a good example. He was unafraid of his death because he believed in the immortality of the soul. People with a background in Jewish history would have known that the Maccabees were “courageous” in the face of death and did not express sorrow or fear. What are we to make of the fear and anguish expressed in the words of the Gospels? Didn’t He know of the immortality of the soul and couldn’t He have been fearless and strong?

The fear and anguish may express the freedom with which Jesus, the Son of God and Son of Mary, accepted His suffering for the healing of the world. Some speculate that He may have seen the depth of humanity’s sins or the weight of the suffering He would endure. Whatever it was that caused this experience, He also knew that His life had meaning for the whole world. The offering of His free will showed the meaning of His life, and can show us the meaning of our lives. Human suffering can become redemptive and healing. Saint John Paul II wrote that the value of human suffering is twofold: “It is supernatural because it is rooted in the divine mystery of the Redemption of the world, and it is likewise deeply human, because in it the person discovers himself, his own humanity, his own dignity, his own mission.” (Salvifici Doloris, 31)

Fear and anguish are part of our human condition. The ability to transform these experiences through free will and sacrificial love opens a path for the discovery of our individual and communal mission. As Catholic Daughters, we witness this mission each and every day, especially in the most challenging times like the current time of the coronavirus pandemic. We are formed into beautiful instruments of healing through our service. The key may be found in accepting into our hearts the words of Jesus in that garden so many years ago –

“Not My will but Yours be done.”

I open my heart to You this day, Oh Merciful Father
Send forth Your Holy Spirit into the depths of my being So that, from head to toe, I may be an instrument of Your healing and mercy.

One Body and One Spirit with my Catholic Daughter
Sisters across the country I pray to listen before speaking, To understand before judging, To love before acting.

Trusting in the faithful intercession of Mary my Mother
I pray in the Name of Your Son, Jesus Christ,
Whom I profess as LORD, living and reigning with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever.

Amen.

+Brendan

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The Priesthood: Responding to the Unseen and Unknown

Father Edward Lamp
National Clergy Consultant

Dear Friends:

Talk about priesthood today is often controversial and, indeed, political. Media interest in the priesthood is mostly focused on the "shortage" of priests and on problems of priests. That colours the way we all think and worry about priesthood.

For most Catholics, their view of priesthood is formed principally by their experience of their own priest. In the vast majority of cases, this is a positive experience and the shortage of priests has, if anything, made people all the more appreciative of them. After 38 years as a priest I have learned that the priesthood needs no defense.

There are a few aspects of priesthood that should constantly be remembered. One has to do with prayer. Students for the priesthood are frequently told by their seminary staff and retreat-givers that prayer must be the bedrock of their entire lives. This is simply and absolutely true. A priest must find his bearings in prayer. Prayer must be the place to which he will always return no matter what happens in his life and no matter how far he strays from it.

But a priest doesn’t just pray, and that brings me to another aspect of priesthood. The centre of a priest's life, the main locus for making the paschal mystery present in the lives of people, is the Eucharist. Prayer is the heart of a priest's life and the Mass is the fundamental prayer. Through this prayer he engages and explores his freedom and does this through the gathering of people for the Eucharist.

The bond of God with his people is effected through the Eucharist and this is the source and basis of true community. And this happens because, in the Eucharist, the death of Jesus is made present: his sacrifice is present reality: the people offer it with the priest and so become a living sacrifice to God.

A vital and integral part of the Mass is the homily, and preaching is another aspect of this life on which I would focus. Again, preaching is about the death and resurrection of Christ. That is our message; that is our Good News. And preaching is a very special art; a unique way of addressing people that is specific to the liturgy and specific to the context of Faith. It has a two-fold dynamism in that we communicate what we have received. St Thomas defined preaching as "contemplare et contemplata aliis dare" to contemplate and give to others that which has been contemplated.

Our best sermons are those that we preach to ourselves; when we speak from our own hearing of the Word of God; when we share that or mediate it to others. And yet, although we are imparting what we have received, a good sermon will always be original; it will originate in our freedom, our vision, our imagination, in our suffering, hope and longing.

But it will also grow out of the situation of the people entrusted to our care. It will be for them and about them. For this we need to know, love and care about our people. Each of us has a voice and the word we speak must not be something borrowed or alien, but issuing from our own prayer and our relationship with our people.

Leading on from that I would finally suggest there is then a kind of tension within the experience of priesthood which operates at several different levels.

(Continued on Page 4, The Priesthood)
The scriptural texts that the Church frequently draws on to explore the meaning of vocation articulate this tension very powerfully. A recurring pattern is the contrast between the reality of being called and the inner resistance of the one being called, and the resistance can take a number of forms. Isaiah protests he is a man of unclean lips and dwells with a people who are unclean. He feels unworthy. Jeremiah insists that he is a child: he does not know how to speak. He feels inadequate. Mary wonders how this can be. She does not understand.

I suggest that this pattern tells us something profound about the mystery of priesthood. We can be secure in our calling to the priesthood, but it is a security that is grounded in Faith, not in any kind of scientific certainty.

But because of the nature of Faith, it is entirely compatible with vocation that we should experience inadequacy and doubt. Jesus said to his apostles: "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Responding to a vocation can be experienced as a response to the unseen and unknown so that confidence about vocation needs to issue constantly from Faith and prayer. Without these things, it loses its context and its power.

Conviction about one's own calling is a great grace and a great source of spiritual power. It is also profoundly freeing since it means that we are not dependent on the approval of other people.

Discovering and living the mystery of vocation lies then within the framework of Faith. We are what it is given to us to be. We say what it is given to us to say. Most of all, we are to be to others what the Lord is to us. Jesus says to Peter three times: "Peter, do you love me?" One can't help but think of the three times that Peter denied that he knew Christ. It is as if the Lord seeks reassurance and makes him say three times: "Yes Lord, you know that I love you.

And it is in response to his protestations of love for Jesus that the Lord says: "Feed my lambs; Feed my lambs; Feed my sheep." The Lord is entrusting his people to Peter: they are our treasure. That is what is given to us in priesthood. The vocation, the mystery, the power of priesthood are given to us as we respond with faith and love to the Lord. That is the source and origin of it all. God has created and called us to freedom: if we believe in God's call, if we allow the Lord to love us and engage our freedom in love of him, then we are free indeed: we have nothing to fear and we will be the source of unlimited power and grace to the world. Pray for your Priests!

**Father Ed**

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Please welcome our new courts. You are in our prayers as you join our CDA sisterhood. Congratulatory cards may be sent to:

**Court Daughters of Divine Mercy, #2753**  
Regent Kathi Morris  
4083 Rialto Ave  
 Clovis, Ca 93619

**Court St. Paul the Apostle #2762**  
Regent: Not Available  
Mississippi
Please remember to send the list of new officers to the National Office immediately after election. This ensures that the new officers will receive all information in proper order and on time.

With the cancellation of local gatherings of ten or more following COVID-19 guidelines, now is the perfect time to review meeting agendas and plan for the new year by focusing on opportunities that will keep the court active and viable.

1. What needs to be done to keep a court alive and active?

2. Develop an action plan by answering the following questions.

3. Does each meeting start with prayer or a meaningful prayer service appropriate to the season?

4. Who is the best fit for presenting spirituality to the court?

5. An opening prayer is wonderful, but a specific prayer for the season, a member of CDA or member of their family who is suffering or someone in a difficult situation says the court remembers and cares about you and all of God’s people.

6. Is information from the National Quarterly shared with the membership?

7. Are reports from the Circle of Love chairmen included?

8. Is the Circle of Love understood by all members? The Circle of Love is who we are and what we do.

9. Is every meeting uplifting and includes a little fun! Laughter is good for the body, mind and the heart.

10. Identify who will be the right presenter and explain the project best for the court.

11. Who has a passion for helping families?

12. Legislation is always changing. Who is up-to-date and follows national and worldwide issues?

13. Quality of Life covers such an array of projects that can be considered as special and needed in our court/city/county/world?

14. Is there someone in the court who commits time to a local, state or national project? How is that special person encouraged to follow up on that project for the court?

15. Would there be any interest in starting a Junior Catholic Daughters court? JCDA gives young girls ages 6-18 years of age a club that encourages them to be active members of the court. It also gives the girls practice in becoming leaders and possible members in an adult court. Who has a special interest in youth and programs for youth?

16. Education has many facets. The Education Contest, following a scriptural or secular theme is sponsored by every local court and encourages participation for grades 4-12 plus adults.

17. How long is the monthly meeting? An hour is usually the best using an agenda with suggested time limits for discussion.

After answering the questions listed, communicate the plans and goals with court members.

Once the action plan is developed, concentrate on one thing, complete that task, then reset priorities and start with another.

Your leadership comes from the member’s trust in you! Always consider the Catholic Daughters needs and opportunities before your own.

God bless you in everything you do.
I would love for this article to be strictly about recruiting and the different ways we can go about gaining new memberships. It would be fabulous to compare gaining new members to something like shoe shopping. Yet that is not the reality we find ourselves in.

Four months ago, we never could have imagined just how drastically our world would change. Almost overnight our lives went from being run of the mill, blessedly ordinary to living in isolation reality. This is real life. We are quarantined, furloughed, isolated, and watching the Mass from our televisions and computers. It is difficult at this time to find new members for the Catholic Daughters of the America’s.

I urge you, in all charity and fervor, to not let this pandemic stem your efforts for recruitment. It is in the darkest moments of the world that God forms His saints. Think of the sisters who need fellowship more now than ever; we are all yearning for connection in faith, and this could be how many of our Catholic sisters grow in holiness. This is a perfect time for each court and state to vamp up their online presence. Instagram, Facebook, even Snapchat, can be great resources that draw in tens of thousands of homebound Catholic women. We can create pages, feeds, stories, and even have live conferences talking about all that our courts are doing to be present and living reminders of Christ’s presence on earth.

Now may seem like a bleak time, even sorrowful, but if we look for the Good, we will find it. Need ideas for getting Catholic Daughter’s name out into your parish community? Host a food drive, sponsor weekly school lunches for underprivileged school children, or hold an appreciation event for your parish priest (my home parish just recently decorated the lawns of our clergy with signs from families stating how much they were missed – it was wonderful); these are GREAT ways for the Catholic Daughters to help those who need it most, AND get their name out in the community.

Not only will recruiting new sisters help others in a critical time, but (don’t forget) each top performing court and state will win prizes!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prizes for Courts who add the most membership:</th>
<th>Prizes for States who institute the most new courts:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Place - $200</td>
<td>1st Place - $500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Place - $150</td>
<td>2nd Place - $350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Place - $100</td>
<td>3rd Place - $200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Category 1: 1-75 members

Category 2: 76-150,

Category 3: 151+

In this difficult and seemingly impossible time, let us recruit with abandon. May we seek His face and His grace first, and then share that with the world; even from the quiet or craziness of our homes.

Remember, the night is always darkest before the dawn and we will make it through this difficult time. Be a sister who listens, who invites, and who reaches out for help when she needs it. We are all in this together, and I will see you soon at our National Convention.
On behalf of the National Board, we say “CONGRATULATIONS” to the newly elected local officers. Thank you for answering the call to serve your CDA court in this leadership role. Working together as a team will enable each of you to share your God given talents.

A majority of courts will not meet during the summer months. Now is the perfect time for the newly elected officers; to come together and outline the Circle of Love Program Goals and Projects for the upcoming years. When planning, all officers should be allowed to contribute and be ready to make the presentation to the members at the first meeting.

For the next two years as you carry out your duties; may you be spiritual guided. Remember that your predecessors, state officers, and the national board members are only a phone call or email away.

First Newly Elected Officers Meeting
Revisit the courts Circle of Love Program past goals and projects.
Did the court meet the goals set from the prior two years?
What was the outcome of the goals/projects?
Did the projects meet the needs of the court and/or the community?
Discuss suggested Circle of Love Spokes to present to members at the first meeting:
  - Leadership
  - Family
  - Quality of Life
  - Spiritual Enhancement
  - Education
  - Legislation
  - Youth/JCDA (Part I & II)

It is not mandatory that local courts participate in all the Spokes. However, all should be presented. If you are in a small court, do not overwhelm members with trying to participate in all the spokes. One activity can cover more than one Spoke.
Reach out to members and appoint a Local Chairman for each Spoke. Be ready to explain duties.
Put in writing the Circle of Love Programs goals/projects for the next two years.

First Court Meeting
Present and share Circle of Love Program goals/projects
For the chairman, share an example of the three type’s cover letters and entry forms.
Introduce chairman for each Spoke selected.
Allow members to share their ideas and suggestions.
Encourage members to participate in the Circle of Love Program.
If Chairmen are still needed, reach out to members in attendance.
Give progress of each selected Spoke at each meeting.
Keeping track of all activities will enable the chairman to complete report at the end of the two year period.
Are you tired of “sheltering in” and not being able to join your relatives and friends for a cup of coffee or tea or just a visit during the day? Well, ladies, Mr. Corona and Ms. Virus cannot keep the Catholic Daughters of the Americas from attending the 2020 National Convention in Dallas in July. Yes, Texas is full steam ahead planning for a great national convention. States are beginning to lift some of their restrictions and it is good that they are being very cautious in this procedure. I am an optimist and I know that the Dear Lord and His Mother will definitely have a hand in making this convention a great experience for all if we continue to pray. We are well seated in our faith and love for Christ and our dedication to the Blessed Mother and they will prevail. “Be Not Afraid.”

I would like to remind you of the following deadlines. Convention registration deadline is June 1, 2020. This includes all delegates, alternates, non-members, State Officers, guests, spouses and clergy. All meal reservations are June 1, 2020. Cut-off date for hotel reservations to receive the CDA rate is June 1, 2020. Walk/Run deadline has been changed to June 15, 2020. Registration deadline for vendors/exhibiters is June 1, 2020. So, pretty much, June 1, 2020 is THE DATE TO REMEMBER.

Also, any CDA member who is a veteran or active military, please contact Duchess Collins immediately at duchess.drc@gmail.com as you will be recognized during the God and Country Mass scheduled for Friday morning during the convention.

See you in Dallas in July. And remember “BE NOT AFRAID.”

There have been a few changes in the tentative agenda that was published in the earlier issue of Share magazine. That’s why it is called “tentative.” First of all, we will be having Morning Praise and Reconciliation instead of Adoration prior to the morning masses. Also, ALL MASSES, including the Installation mass on Saturday afternoon, will be held at the Convention Center. The installation mass is scheduled for 3 p.m. This eliminated the need for bus transportation and/or walking in the HOT Texas heat to the Cathedral. It will get hot again.

The chapel/Mass Room will be open every day from 7:30 a.m. until 6 p.m. Doors will be monitored and silence will be strictly observed with door patrol and signs as you enter “SILENCE.”

REMINDER—NOMINATIONS

CDA members can run from the floor for any office. Paperwork must be submitted to the National Regent before the drop of the gavel on the opening day of the Convention in Dallas.
1903 Certificates

To be recognized and receive your plaque for Perpetual Membership in the 1903 Society at the 58th Biennial Convention of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas in Dallas, Texas, all payments must be completed prior to June 1, 2020.

Questions? Please contact:
Sherry Nilles, National Regent-Elect
Catholic Daughters of the Americas
711 25th Avenue
Sheldon, IA 51201

Email address: ljnilles@nethtc.net
Home phone: 712-324-0125
Cell phone: 712-348-1218

LET US PRAY FOR ...

We send prayers for our CDA sisters who have lost their lives to the coronavirus. May their families find comfort knowing that their loved ones are in the loving arms of our Heavenly Father. We also include prayers for their families and close friends who are mourning during these unsettling times. During these days of uncertainty, let us come together as women of faith who will continue to help those in need through prayer and love for our brothers and sisters.

“Fear not, for I am with you.”
Isaiah 43:5
CDA 2020 National Nomination Committee

TO: Catholic Daughters of the Americas®
National Board Members
National Directors
State and Local Officers
Members

FROM: National Nominating Committee
Michele Sage, Chair
Rebecca Brown, TX
Margaret Giordano-Sultzbach, PA
Darlene Moritz, IA
Pam Melanson, LA
Donna Daniels, MT
Bernice Lansing, WI

RE: SLATE OF NATIONAL BOARD OFFICERS AND NATIONAL DIRECTORS

The members of the 2020 National Nominating Committee meet via ZOOM meeting, April 29, 2020 at 7:00 pm CT to select the slate of officers for the 2020-2022 CDA National Board. All committee members were in attendance. We reviewed each nomination package, had open discussion and voted on each nominee.

We would therefore, like to present to this voting body for their consideration the following slate of officers:

- **National Regent Elect Nominee** – Emily Guilherme, CA
- **1st Vice National Regent Nominee** – Susan Moné, AZ
- **2nd Vice National Regent Nominee** – Essie Walker, NC
- **National Secretary/Treasurer Nominees** – Carol Miller Bogacz, WV

**National Director Nominees:**
Connie Dronette, LA
Carolyn Malik, TX
Ivone da Silveira, Puerto Rico

May God Bless each and every one of these nominees and the Catholic Daughters of the Americas as they meet in Dallas Texas, July 2020.
The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops recently issued its 2020 election guidelines to parishes and Catholic organizations that have tax-exempt status. Although church organizations such as Catholic Daughters are prohibited from participating in political campaign activity, political activities are entirely appropriate for individual citizens.

Catholic organizations are encouraged to share Church teaching on life from conception to natural death, human rights, marriage, conscience protection, fetal stem cell research, ethical vaccine development, human trafficking, immigration, justice, peace and an array of other important issues.

**Voter Participation:** Church organizations may encourage members to participate in the electoral process: to register, to vote, to become informed on a broad range of issues, and to become active in the political life of the community. They can also sponsor non-partisan voter registration and "get out the vote" drives.

**Ballot Measures:** Supporting or opposing ballot measures, including referenda, initiatives, constitutional amendments, and similar procedures is allowed and is not political campaign activity. Church organizations can take positions on such measures and work to support or oppose them.

**Voter Education:** Church organizations can and should engage in non-partisan voter education. They may distribute the results of candidate polls or surveys as long as they meet these three criteria:
1) are consistent with church teaching,
2) cover a wide range of issues important to voters,
3) exhibit no bias for or against any candidate or party.

**Non-Partisanship:** The Church does not and will not engage in partisan politics.

**Specific guidelines:**
- **Do not endorse or oppose candidates, political parties, or groups of candidates,** or take any action that reasonably could be construed as endorsing or opposing anyone or any group.
- **Do not authorize distribution of partisan political materials** or biased voter education materials (those that support or oppose—or exhibit bias for or against—any candidate or party) on church property, in publications, on websites, or at activities.
- **Do not invite or permit only selected candidates to address your members.** If inviting candidates, it is important that all candidates be invited.

**DO:**
- Address the moral and human dimensions of issues.
- Share church teaching.
- Apply Catholic values to legislation and issues.
- Conduct a non-partisan voter registration drive on church property.
- Distribute unbiased candidate questionnaires covering issues of concern to Catholic teaching.
- Support or oppose ballot measures

**DON'T:**
- Endorse or oppose candidates for political office.
- Distribute partisan campaign literature.
- Arrange for groups to work for a candidate.
- Invite only selected candidates to your meeting.
- Conduct voter registration slanted toward one party.
- Distribute a biased candidate survey.

Bishops and pro-life leaders urge that coronavirus vaccine be free of aborted baby cell lines

In March the federal government gave Johnson & Johnson more than $456 million in funding to quickly develop a coronavirus vaccine. Life Site News reported that the research is using an aborted baby (PER C6) cell line.

By mid-April, several bishops and pro-life leaders wrote an open letter to the Trump administration and the Food and Drug Administration commissioner asking them to ensure that newly developing coronavirus vaccines will be “free from any connection to abortion.”

The letter says, “To be clear, we strongly support efforts to develop an effective, safe, and widely available vaccine as quickly as possible. However, we also strongly urge our federal government to ensure that fundamental moral principles are followed in the development of such vaccines, most importantly, the principle that human life is sacred and should never be exploited.”

Be Not Afraid offers help and healing to women with challenging prenatal diagnoses

Be Not Afraid (BeNotAfraid.net) is a private, nonprofit organization headquartered in North Carolina that provides wrap-around care to parents carrying to term following a difficult prenatal diagnosis. The group provides for the emotional and tangible needs of parents at diagnosis, during pregnancy, at birth and during the postpartum period for up to one year.

Following the ethical teaching of the Catholic Church, the group believes that every baby is a gift. No matter the diagnosis, they support parents in advocating for basic care, and in obtaining the treatment they think appropriate for their child.

A prenatal diagnosis leaves parents shocked and bereaved. Often they are traumatized by the way the health care provider informed them of the baby’s diagnosis and by the offer of abortion. Be Not Afraid provides bereavement support, practical guidance, information, and referrals so parents understand what is normal, what is possible and what might be helpful as they carry to term.

Online training is available so these practical plans may be implemented anywhere.

A new ethics document authored by Be Not Afraid, in consultation with the National Catholic Bioethics Center, discusses the care of newborns who receive poor prenatal diagnoses. As the document notes, terms like “fatal fetal anomaly” or “incompatible with life” are not clinical or medical terms.

While the current trend is to encourage parents to plan for “comfort care” or hospice care after their baby is born, this new document recommends a fundamental paradigm shift that actually involves stabilizing the baby medically after birth in order to evaluate him or her accurately.

According to the document, “Prenatal referrals for palliative care and/or perinatal hospice care with the mindset of limiting medical options for a newborn at birth should not be made unless it is known with moral certainty that the prenatal diagnosis is (1) accurate, and (2) that it will directly cause perinatal death with or without life-sustaining treatment and care routinely offered to newborns. …[M]edical decisions, which are moral decisions, must be made with all available knowledge. In the majority of cases, the most accurate information regarding the diagnosis, prognosis, and possible treatment options for a baby with a prenatal diagnosis can only be gained with a full medical evaluation of the child by appropriate medical specialists after he/she is born.”

The group says 100 percent of the parents served by Be Not Afraid would refer others to them.

Written by Margaret Sitte, National Legislative Chair; Approved: Olga Samaniego, National Regent