



ANNUAL REPORT 2010



WHISPERING WINDS
CATHOLIC CONFERENCE CENTER

Our Mission:

“...to provide a **Christ-centered** environment, apart from the everyday world, where **all are welcome** to increase their knowledge of and commitment to Christ, and **join as fellow pilgrims** on their journey of faith with God.”



A letter from the Executive Director

Whispering Winds is a special place where people are renewed by experiencing the presence of God in His creation. The camp offers a unique perspective on what it means to participate in the Church. The experience at Whispering Winds literally takes Church “outside” of the buildings and traditional settings. Our guests frequently have their faith rejuvenated, whether it is during a retreat where Catholic language is commonplace, while viewing stars in the vast sky, or reconnecting with family in a fun and prayer-filled setting.

As campers arrived at Whispering Winds throughout the year, the message was clear that we are all sons and daughters of the Most High. Our program theme, “Fit for the King,” brought kids and families together from all over San Diego county and beyond for a summer filled with meaningful moments of faith and fun. Though our “Camp Castle” – Founders Hall and the Prayer Chapel – was being built, the royal celebration was stronger than ever. In addition to programs, the camp facility and food service are offered year-round for guest groups to rent. In 2010 God’s love encouraged and lifted nearly 8,000 guests from various organizations including numerous churches and schools; Camp Connect hosted by the Promises2Kids Foundation; San Diego Civic Youth Orchestra; The Brickman Group; and many more.

The impact of Taking Church Outside is profound, and it would not be possible without those who have given of their time, talent, and treasure to the mission of Whispering Winds.

The camp exists thanks to the faithfulness of many who have carefully chosen to invest in the lives of future generations by taking Church outside. Thank you for your stewardship and especially for your prayers as Whispering Winds continues to grow and offer year-round services to the faith community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martin'.

Martin Rosales

Building the Kingdom of God...

A STEP AT A TIME

- 1978 "San Diego Family Camps" founded by Don Kojis and Dr. Jerry Tisi
- 1981 Camp renamed Whispering Winds after "gentle whisper" heard by Elijah
- 1986 First permanent meeting and dining halls completed
- 1988 Bernice Mascari and Kathy Brown found the Women's Auxiliary
- 1990 First Cursillo Retreat; Conference Room A donated and installed
- 1995 Final mortgage payment for complete ownership of 161 acres
- 2003 Cedar Fire ravages 80% of Camp
- 2005 Kids Camp program launched; year-round service and programs started
- 2008 30th Anniversary celebrated; installation of new Mary statue in the Grotto
- 2009 Swimming pool opened in time for summer programs



Highlights OF 2010

FOUNDERS HALL & PRAYER CHAPEL COMPLETED

Phase I of the 1.65 million dollar building project was officially kicked-off with a blessing at the January Board of Directors retreat and completed by the end of the year. The first new permanent buildings since

the devastating Cedar Fire in 2003, Founders Hall and the

Prayer Chapel serve as multi-function and intimate spaces for our guests.

SUMMER PROGRAMS FIT FOR THE KING

Medieval armor, pool noodle jousting, and feasts of turkey legs were among the many merry sights during the summer Family and Kids Camp programs. The theme "Fit for the King" combined Renaissance Faire fun with prayer as each camper learned of his or her role in the Kingdom of God.

SENIOR MOMENT

In October, the first ever Whispering Winds program exclusively for our guests over the age of 55 was a great success and expanded the scope of the camp offerings. Frank and Bernice Mascari, the retreat leaders, were filled with joy as they joined their peers in a rocking 50's themed sock hop, wine tasting, and reflection on the presence of God in their golden years.



2010 Financial Summary

AN INVESTMENT IN MINISTRY

INCOME	2008	2009	2010
Camp Rentals & Store Sales	\$399,832	\$433,977	\$419,517
Programs	\$104,839	\$128,315	\$197,409
Food Service	\$200,455	\$219,174	\$119,692
Challenge Course	\$29,450	\$18,962	\$11,790
Camp Income	\$734,576	\$800,428	\$748,408
In Kind Donations	\$20,034	\$36,590	\$28,766
Donations & Grants	\$261,477	\$302,395	\$650,581
Fund Raising Income	\$281,511	\$338,985	\$679,347
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,016,087	\$1,139,413	\$1,427,755

EXPENSES

Camp & Programs			
Salaries & Benefits	\$469,190	\$477,273	\$452,892
Operating & Other	\$451,208	\$422,406	\$386,273
Founders Hall & Prayer Chapel	\$0	\$0	\$478,157
Camp Expenses	\$920,398	\$899,679	\$1,317,322
Camp Gross Surplus	\$95,689	\$239,734	\$110,433

Administrative & Office			
Salaries & Benefits	\$150,477	\$147,628	\$163,153
Operating & Other	\$90,916	\$67,271	\$70,013
Administrative Expenses	\$241,393	\$214,899	\$233,167
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	(\$145,704)	\$24,835	(\$122,734)

Non-audited financial data

Activity Summary

Guests Served	7,805
Groups Served	105
Guest Nights	13,193
Meals Served	32,950
WW Programs	9
Diocesan Programs	6
Churches Served	31
Schools Served	22

Whispering Winds is grateful for the foundations and many donors who recognized the need and value of the new Founders Hall and Prayer Chapel. Because of their generosity, giving more than doubled in 2010 compared to the previous year. This investment sustains our ministry and will allow us to continue our mission for generations to come.

Changing Lives Saving Lives Impacting Lives

RACHEL BASS, Guest Group Coordinator

The staff was so friendly and welcoming! We had such a pleasant and blessed visit – thank you! We will be back.

STEFANIE BATAGLIA, Board of Directors

As I reflected on the life-changing moments of the youth that I've had the privilege of witnessing, I was reminded of how God uses the camp.

Moments such as this involved the meadow and the stars at night; mass at Mary's Grotto; small group discussions; and snow (if they were lucky enough to see it snow – some for the first time in their lives!). I personally witnessed my daughter last year at Camp Emmaus. After reconciliation, she came back

to the tent in tears (as did most of the youth), and she

and I shared a 10-minute hug where no words were spoken. Watching the youth transform is priceless, and none of it has to do with stuff.

“Watching the youth
transform is *priceless...*”

COREEN BAKER, Family Camp Guest

God is present everywhere at Whispering Winds. We feel him in every activity and in every exchange. I personally loved when Paula had us give up a cheer to God after the mass. I imagined God looking upon his children and loving the applause. God has touched each of our children in so many loving ways each time we attend the camp.



2010 Person of the Year

Fr. Gilbert Gentile



It was only fitting that in the Year of the Priest, Whispering Winds would honor Fr. Gilbert Gentile for his steadfast commitment to the camp's mission of taking Church outside. Fr. Gil has worked with the St. Vincent de Paul Village for over 20 years, and he assists at St. Joseph Cathedral, Queen of Angels, and the Immaculata, as well as serving on a number of local boards. The heart of his ministry is in the Casa de los Pobres in Tijuana. Fr. Gil is also very involved in the Cursillo movement and frequently can be found celebrating mass "on the mountain" at Whispering Winds.

At the 28th Annual Dinner Dance Gala in April, 377 guests attended the festive evening which raised \$43,700 for the Founders Hall and Prayer Chapel building project, specifically for furniture, fixtures, and equipment.



our friendly staff

New Developments

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Following our call as Christians to be good stewards of the earth, ways of reducing our impact at the camp are in the works. New recycling bins will be installed and campers will be made aware of how they can make a difference.

DINING HALL

With the completion of Founders Hall and the Prayer Chapel, a strategy for building a much needed permanent Dining Hall that can accommodate more guests is being explored.

Whispering Winds depends on prayer and the generosity of faithful friends like you to continue our mission.

There are a number of ways that you can become more involved in supporting our efforts:

FOR ALL GENERATIONS GIVING

As a member of For All Generations, your monthly sacrifice shares your faith with campers in a convenient way through Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) or credit card from your designated account. Your consistent support allows us to make long term plans for facility and ministry improvements.

CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Your gift to the fund will send a child or family to camp.

MATCHING GIFTS

Ask if your company makes matching gifts for donations.

STOCK, REAL ESTATE, OR IN-KIND ITEMS

Your gift of appreciated stock, real estate, art, vehicles, and other property is another way to support the camp and impact lives.

DINNER DANCE GALA SPONSORSHIP

Your family or business can support our largest fund raiser, the Dinner Dance Gala, through numerous sponsorship opportunities. Donate wine, host a table, take out an ad, or contribute an auction item.

PLANNED GIVING

Add Whispering Winds as a beneficiary of your will or living trust, create a charitable trust, or consider advanced estate and tax planning techniques. Leave a lasting legacy for generations to come.

VOLUNTEER

Giving of your time and talent is always welcome and numerous opportunities arise throughout the year that benefit from the dedication of volunteers, young and old.

If you are interested in participating, please see our website at www.whisperingwinds.org and click on **DONATE**. For more information contact us at (619) 464-1479 or office@whisperingwinds.org.

2011

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

George Anderson

Stefanie Bataglia

Msgr. Mark Campbell
Chaplain

Greg Evans

Shirley Gauvin

Rick Ghio

Phillip Jelsma

Barbara Noerenberg
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Vic Reichert

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Dan Ryan

Jeanne Shannon

Maria Sittmann

Susann Wilhite

STAFF

Martin Rosales

Executive Director

Don Kojis

*Co-Founder/
Community Relations*

Judy Burke

Business Manager

Terry Henberger

Director of Sales & Marketing

Lauren Prust

Director of Guest Services

Paula Bott

Director of Programs

Allison Wilhite

Volunteer Development Support

Annie Korn

Camp Director

David Rilling

Food Service Manager

Jose Montes

Groundskeeper

Martina Montes

Housekeeping

Ofelia Aceves


Housekeeping

Karen Coleman

Camp Store/Food Service



Together,
we impact lives



A young girl is rappelling down a rope. She is wearing a red helmet, a floral shirt, pink shorts, and pink sneakers with floral patterns. She has a green safety harness on. In the background, another person wearing a red helmet is also rappelling down a rope. The background is a clear blue sky.

OFFICE

8186 Commercial Street
La Mesa, CA 91942

(619) 464-1479

office@whisperingwinds.org

CAMP

17606 Harrison Park Road
Julian, CA 92036

www.whisperingwinds.org

Most photos courtesy of Bob Forrest Photography
(858) 357-6451 | bob@your-precious-moments.com

Design concept and printing courtesy of Favela Printing & Silk Screen
(619) 271-1430 | lfavela1@cox.net