

"Called to His Purpose"
Romans 8:28

Whispering Winds Women's Auxiliary

Special points of interest:

- Messages From the President
- Reflection From a Servant
- Committee Reports
- Fall Brunch & Advent Evening of Reflection Recaps
- Woman of the Year
- Whispering Winds Dinner Dance Gala
- Upcoming Events

Whispers from the Auxiliary

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 35

JAN / FEB 2016

From the President.....

Happy New Year to all our Women of the WWWA. I hope you all had a blessed and joy-filled Christmas season with family and friends! This is a wonderful time of year for so many. During the Christmas holidays especially, we thank God for all those happy moments. Let us all continue to thank Him for all our blessings and for the support we have through our more difficult times. As we begin the year 2016, let us pray for others who are in need, whether spiritually, emotionally, physically, or materially.

Looking back, we had events that were well attended and enjoyed by our members and others. November 7th was our brunch and annual meeting. We give a special thank you to Vicki Youngers for her leadership to make this event successful! The theme of the brunch, G.I.F.T.—Growing in Faith Together, personifies the values of our auxiliary. There are many who made this event a special event on many levels.

December 9th was our Advent Evening of Reflection. Using a multifaceted format, Carolyn Kalb, Spirituality chair, and her committee took a leap of faith and presented us a prayerful evening! We viewed a virtual talk, wrote in Advent journals, and shared with women at our tables. We were also blessed with beautiful music, including Christmas carols. Many women made this a wonderful and peaceful evening.

As we begin this year, we look forward to the work of the WWWA. We will have a Lenten Evening of

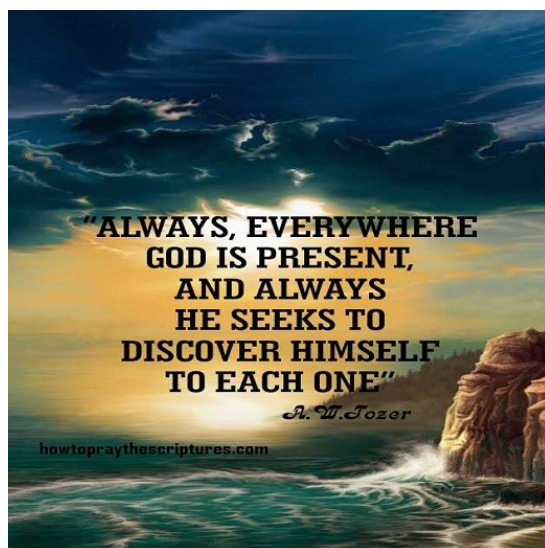
Reflection in February and our annual retreat in May.

We ask for your prayers and support for the upcoming Whispering Winds Dinner Dance Gala on February 20th. The theme is "And I think to myself What a Wonderful World". We look forward to this important event as an additional way to support our camp.

Our lives are filled with many events. Some are wonderful times; others are trials. No matter how our journeys play out this year, remember God's love is present and so is the support of our members!

God bless all of you,

Claudia



BLESSED ARE WE AMONG WOMEN

The Whispering Winds Women's Auxiliary was blessed extra special with member **Sue McGrath** who has passed and joined our Heavenly Father in heaven.

Once Sue attended her first WW Women's Retreat she was a convert for LIFE! Sue became super involved with the WWWA--we were so blessed! She began by co-chairing the Membership Committee, hosted our first two Meet & Greet parties and then took over Finances. She thoroughly enjoyed every minute of our Whispering Winds Dinner Dance Galas. Sue was always early to buy a table, dressed to the nines and an eager supporter of our Live and Silent Auctions. She wore the brightest smile and her love was absolutely contagious.

Sue belonged to the Mission de Alcalá Parish, sang in their choir, loved Taco Tuesdays, a nice glass of Chardonnay and adored Ireland with her traveling buddy Cheryl Doss. She loved a great party, was always the 'Hostess with the Mostest'. Unforgettable.

Sue passed away and her funeral mass was Monday October 7, 2016 at the San Diego Mission de Alcalá. There were 4 priests saying Mass: Celebrant Father Bill Springer and Co-celebrants Fathers Mark Campbell, Richard Duncanson and Peter Escalante. The Mission Choir sang like angels—just the perfect songs with the perfect meaning. The Mass was amazing—so lovely it is hard to put into words. We met in the Church Hall for a delicious lunch, classy in every way just like Sue!

Thank you to all the women of the WW Auxiliary who were there to support Sue's daughters Debbie and Patty and the entire McGrath family. We were well represented.

We are all blessed to have known her and have loved her. Let us thank God for the gift of Sue. Please join me in continued prayers for Sue and her family. God rest your soul sweet friend. You made our world better by being in it!

Vicki Youngers
WWWA Fundraising Co Chair



REFLECTIONS FROM A SERVANT

Knock, Knock. Who's there? Merci. Mercy who? Merci beaucoup!

A silly play on words, however I am very thankful for God's blessings and grace on the journey. As I reflect on the past year, pray about my New Year's Resolutions and the invitation Pope Francis extended to be the face of Christ in our church's Year of Mercy.

Christmas Eve at Midnight mass, this servant sister was at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New Orleans, Louisiana. The lights in the church were dimmed to candlelight and Mass began with the priest proclaiming the Birth of Christ, then picking up a life size statue of the baby Jesus that was at the foot of a statue of the Blessed Mother. The choir was singing Silent Night in German as he raised the infant high in the air and processed behind six altar servers carrying lanterns up and down the main isles of the church until he reached the crèche in front of the church on the opposite side where he began. He passed the infant to a young perisher, about four years old and was also part of the procession, to be placed in the crib. All the lights in the church came on and the congregation sang O Come, All Ye Faithful. The impact of going from dark to light was very symbolic. I was moved to reflect on the path we take as Christians to be the light of Christ.

The dictionary gives four simple noun descriptors for the word mercy: compassion, compassionate disposition, something to be thankful for, and easing of distress. This is clearly our Heavenly Father and his action towards us. In Psalm 103 we hear these words: "The Lord is kind and merciful. Slow to anger, rich in kindness, the Lord is kind and merciful. Bless the Lord, O my soul; all my being bless God's name. Bless the Lord, O my soul; forget not all God's blessings. The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, full of kindness. God is good to all creation, full of compassion. The goodness of God is from age to age, blessing those who choose to love. And justice toward God's children; on all who keep the covenant." St. Ignatius says that love shows itself better in deeds than in words. What are some concrete ways I can show my love in my daily living?

One of my New Year's Resolutions is to exercise not only physically but spiritually. It became very clear to me that St. Ignatius' exercise of the Daily Examen is the best practice to discern God's direction. The Examen is an ancient practice in the church that can help us see God's hand at work in our whole experience. The Daily Examen is a prayerful reflection in order to detect God's presence and discern his direction for me.

There are five simple steps that I will share and invite you to go to loyolapress.com for more detail.

STILLNESS-Recalling God's presence. Relax in God's presence, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. What draws me close or pulls me away from Him?

GRATITUDE-expressing thankfulness. Recall the gifts that God has given me to share with others and express my gratitude.

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REFLECT-Look back on you day. Recall feeling and motives to see whether I considered all of the possibilities and freely followed God's will. Reflect on the times I did or didn't act with God's grace.

SORROW- Asking for Forgiveness. Express sorrow for the times I failed to follow His direction and ask the Holy Spirit to be with me next time I encounter a similar situation. Feel sorrow and gratitude in your heart as you converse with God.

HOPEFULNESS-RESOLVING TO GROW- Resolve to cooperate and trust in the loving guidance of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit as you look forward to a new day.

Pope Francis has declared this to be the Jubilee Year of Mercy . What will this look like for you? Catholiccompany.com , gifted author, Gretchen Filz has a few suggestions in her article 8 "New Year Spiritual Resolutions". I hope you will check it out as we prepare for our New Year at Whispering Winds Camp and grow as Women of God.

Your Sister in Christ,
Annie McConville

'Taking it all In'

Sitting with a cup of coffee one morning I was suddenly overwhelmed by God's grace and mercy in my life. It started with a plaque in my kitchen that reads: 'Grace Each Day With Thanks'. So simple, so powerful. I bowed my head in prayer for my morning meal and looking down at my plate I realized that it's contents could be considered a feast in some countries... I was humbled. Looking outside it was a beautiful sunny day and the roses were blooming around the St. Francis statue.... I was grateful to have a garden.

Next to me lay an opened magazine and the photographs of beautifully designed rooms was a testament to the talent of incredibly creative people.

Wow, so much beauty... I closed my eyes to take it all in, and then prayed:

"My God, Thank You! Please let me, with grace and mercy, take all of YOU in today, for "I have this HOPE as an anchor for my soul". Hebrews 6:19

Let us have this HOPE as an anchor for our souls as we begin 2016! We are blessed to have a wonderful committee of women that support our ministry and encourage each other as we serve through Him.

Please join us this year at one of our meetings, volunteering on a committee or attending an event.

Our Spirituality Committee meetings are always the 2nd Wednesday of the month:

February 10th

6:30 ~ Social 7:00 - 8:00 ~ Meeting

March 9th

Hosted by: Marie Cizek

April 13th

6249 Camino Corto SD 92120

May 11th

619/582-9472

Spirituality Committee ~ Carolyn Kalb - Chair & Marie Cizek - Co-Chair

MEMBERSHIP

FALL BRUNCH RECAP

New Year - New Changes to Membership

The auxiliary was asked earlier last year to move our finances from a fiscal year - July 1 -June 30th to the a calendar year - January to December to be in line with Whispering Winds.

The WWWA board recommended that we change the dates for membership. The board proposed that dues be due January 1st and membership in the auxiliary runs January through December. To accomplish this, any dues paid from May 2015 and forward will be good through December of 2016. At the Annual Meeting and Brunch this past November, the attending members were asked to vote and the proposal was approved. Annual membership for the Auxiliary is now January through December. If you have not paid dues since May 2015, they are due now. Membership is \$30 for the year or \$200 for life membership. Dues can be paid on line at <http://whisperingwinds.org> or by mailing a check payable to WWWA to the Whispering Winds office at 4636 Mission Gorge Place, STE 203, San Diego, CA 91920.

If you have any questions or need to know if you membership is due, please contact Monica Larson (619) 435-4141 or larson.monica@gmail.com

GIFT: Growing In Faith Together

What a treat Saturday November 7th was! Not only were we serenaded by the angel voices of Julie Davis and Ann Fishburne all morning, we were able to **Grow in Faith Together**. What a **G.I.F.T.** And what an impression was made when we walked into the hall at Ascension Parish! It was decorated so beautifully, so colorfully, that the mood was set for a joy-filled day! Following a yummy breakfast by Cupid's Catering, we heard great witnessing on why the Camp touches so many lives and why we do what we do! Not only were we enriched and entertained, we raised over \$10,000 for Camperships!

Thank you for your continued support of the WWWA. While being personally fed we earned lots of monies so more and more people can experience what we have experienced firsthand ourselves.

Thank you Lord for the gift of Whispering Winds, the WWWA, the community we share, their generosity, talents and their love of you Lord. May the Camp that keeps us united in our efforts help to bring more and more brothers and sisters closer to You. May we always remember that in all that we for you Lord is done in humility and thanksgiving. Amen.



Woman of the Year

Matthew 20:26 reads, "Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant."

Our woman of the year is certainly a dynamic leader, mainly because she is a dedicated servant. She has spent more than 10 years serving the community of Whispering Winds with open hands and a humble heart. Her welcoming spirit draws others to provide a helping hand, too. She understands well the words of Mother Theresa, who said, "You can do what I cannot do. I can do what you cannot do. Together we can do great things."

You would think with five children, a home business to run and a highly active husband, that this woman would have no time left to give to others. Yet, she is never too busy to take a phone call from a hurting friend, to pray with a needy young mom, to care for a sick family member or listen to a fellow auxiliary member's concerns.

No one believes more in prayer than she does. She must have the record for most prayer requests placed on the Auxiliary prayer chain. And she never forgets to reply back with the praise report, reminding us of God's faithfulness to our intentions. Her gifts in the Healing Prayer ministry at the annual Auxiliary retreats, praying over ladies with an open heart to God's will, has allowed the Holy Spirit to work powerfully in the lives of others.

This multi-talented woman participated in many family camps at Whispering Winds over the years, including helping with the children's program, the family ambassador program and sharing her gift as a guest speaker for the couples at family camp.

A major contribution this woman has given Whispering Winds is the support she provided her husband when he was the executive director of the camp from 2004-2006. This was right after the Cedar Fires of 2003 that decimated the camp. She not only encouraged her husband in continuing the mission of the camp, but also provided valuable insights and ideas. She and her husband's dedication and devotion to Whispering Winds during this rebirth period of the camp was vital, successful and inspiring.

Being a part of the Auxiliary Spiritually Committee, from 2000-2006, really fed this genuine lady. She would say she got more out of the experience than she gave, but her leadership had a profound impact on the group, especially at the annual Auxiliary retreats. Under her guidance as the Spiritually Committee chair we saw many sell-out retreat weekends, hundreds of new women experiencing the camp, many new team members using their gifts and healing miracles happening before our very eyes.

They say true leaders don't create followers, they create more leaders. If you look around this room today, many of the ladies who lovingly serve our camp are leaders who were birthed under the guidance of this special, anointed woman. She is one who knows the way of Christ, goes the way of Christ and shows the way of Christ.

When you look at this woman EYE to EYE you see the face of Christ – compassion, warmth, acceptance, love. Her faith is lived from the inside out. She listens when it would be easier to give advice. She encourages, even when she doesn't understand God's reasoning. And she always says, "Let's pray right now," instead of "I'll be praying for you." She is gracious, positive and does not seek recognition. She encounters her share of earthly problems, but instead of just enduring setbacks and difficulties, she considers them opportunities for God to work. She definitely places herself in God's hands.

Her husband, children and extended family bless her. Her friends thank God for her presence in their lives. We are proud to call her one of us and we feel honored to claim her as our 2016 woman of the year...Cathy Sperrazzo



Fall Brunch & Annual General Meeting



Pictures provided by
Karen Goodman, Historian

ADVENT GATHERING OF REFLECTION

Our 2015 Advent gathering "Delighting in the Promise" was an evening of reflection on the sharing of God's great love and promises for each of us. Approximately 75 women gathered at Our Mother of Confidence parish on December 9th to experience a webcast presented by "Blessed Is She". "BIS" is a group of women seeking to foster scriptural knowledge and devotion via the web to women all over the world. You can find them at blessedisshe.net.

After the web cast each table group shared on the scripture and message. This was followed by a closing from "BIS", prayer and Christmas carols.

Special thanks and blessings to Father Mark Campbell who gave us the venue for the evening, opening the evening with prayer, and closing the evening with additional refreshments for our table. We were graced with Anne Fishburne and Julie Davis providing beautiful music during our gathering time and for the Christmas carols at the end. Susan Diem and her Hospitality Committee beautifully decorated the room and tables and also arranged for refreshments. Karen Goodman provided the technical support for the webcast.

Marie Cizek
Spirituality Co-chair



Pictures
provided
by Karen
Goodman,
Historian

WW DINNER DANCE GALA



Ladies it is time to get those prom dresses and cocktail clutch bags out! There is a party go on for Whispering Winds Catholic Conference Center on

Saturday February 20, 2016
Marriott Marquis San Diego Waterfront!
 Starts at 5:30 PM!

If you have attended in the past you know what a great evening it is! If you have never attended that this evening is so much more than a Dinner Dance. It is a Gala with fellowship, prayer, witnesses and music, Live Auction items, Silent Auction items, Raffle opportunities, dancing and so much more.

**IT IS SO CLASSY AND ACTION PACKED
 YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS IT!**

Attention SINGLE Ladies! Especially for all the single ladies out there! We often call it the dinner dance and that scares us singles away! We don't have a date, we have no one to dance with and we wonder if we will be the only single person there. Rest assured that the Gala is pure class and you will have a wonderful evening no matter what! It starts with cocktails and a Silent Auction—I know that we ladies like to shop and especially when the proceeds go to support our beloved Camp! No date is necessary to shop, right? After the Auction is closed we go in for a yummy dinner with nice wine. You don't need a date for that either! The tables seat 10 people and so even if you arrive by yourself you will not be sitting alone. During the dinner, there is a presentation about the Camp. No one puts together a better program that our very own Martin Rosales—he is a class act through and through! Lights, music, film, witness. Your heart will be touched and you will never be the same. Sure about 9:00 to 9:30 PM we start the dancing with a great DJ. Unless it is a slow romantic song, the girls join forces *and dance dance dance!*

**PLEASE join us. We promise that you will have an amazing time and
 You'll never ever want to miss the GALA again!**

Sure hope to see you there! You can sign up on the Whispering Winds Web site: whisperingwinds.org or call Stacie in the WW office at (619) 464-1479

See you there girlfriends!

Your Dinner Dance Team: Stacie Bales, Sue McCarthy, Claudia Penczar,
 Mattie Scull, Val Spooner and Vicki Youngers

WW DINNER DANCE GALA



November 2015

Dear Whispering Winds Supporter,

Our 34th Annual Dinner Dance Gala is on **Saturday, February 20** at the Marriott Marquis Hotel and we invite you to join us to celebrate "*What a Wonderful World!*"

Because of your faithful, continued support, Whispering Winds is thriving. We experienced another outstanding year of programming, welcoming more than 10,000 guests to the camp for family & middle school camps, youth leadership retreats, and camps for young adults and seniors. New this summer we offered a weekend camp welcoming enlisted military families to the mountain for an uplifting experience!

Your prayerful dedication helps us to enhance our offerings, and thus our ministry to guests, year after year. We hope you will support our mission as we look ahead to 2016.

Will you consider helping us by donating an item or service for our 2016 auction?

Please see the attached Auction Contribution Commitment letter and return it with your contribution to our office at: 8186 Commercial Street, La Mesa, CA 91942. If you have any questions or need any assistance you may contact the Whispering Winds office at office@whisperingwinds.org or 619-464-1479.

Thank you so much for taking the time to consider supporting Whispering Winds. God Bless you!

Martin Rosales
Executive Director

P.S. More information on this year's Dinner Dance Gala is on our website at whisperingwinds.org. You may also purchase your tickets on the website as well!

Whispering Winds is a non-profit corporation; tax I.D. #95-3407343



Whispering Winds Catholic Conference Center
4636 Mission Gorge Place ~ San Diego ~ CA ~ 92120
office@whisperingwinds.org ~ 619-464-1479 ~
whisperingwinds.org



34th ANNUAL

DINNER DANCE GALA AND AUCTION

Saturday, February 20, 2016

Auction Contribution Commitment

☐ I/We have arranged for the following contribution(s):

Value: \$_____

Donor/Business Name_____

Donor/Business Address_____

City/State/Zip_____

Donor/Business Telephone#_____

Donor/Business E-mail_____

☐ I would like to receive my receipt by email ☐ I prefer to receive my receipt by standard mail

Note: In all publications and publicity the Donor's name should be listed as:

Please complete and return this form along with your contribution to:

Whispering Winds Office
4636 Mission Gorge Place Ste. 203
San Diego, CA 92120
Office (619) 464-1479
Fax: (619) 464-4491

Contribution deadline: February 8, 2016

Any items received after this date will be used for another event.

Thank you so much! Your contribution will help the Whispering Winds' dream come true!

For more information, visit our website at **whisperingwinds.org**

An acknowledgement of each tax-deductible donation will be sent to the Donor.
Whispering Winds is a non-profit 501(c) (3) corporation; tax I.D. #95-3407343

WWA DINNER DANCE GALA

Request for Donations from the WWA for the Upcoming Dinner Dance Gala February 20, 2016

Ladies I have a favor to ask of you for the upcoming Dinner Dance. We would like to create a Gift Card Tree from the WWA like the one we raffled off at the Annual Woman's Retreat. I was wondering if you would consider donating a gift card or two to the Dinner Dance auction team so we can create an awesome gift card tree?

Simply send a gift card to Stacie at our NEW Whispering Winds office:

Whispering Winds Catholic Conference Center

4636 Mission Gorge Place, STE 203

San Diego, CA 92120

(619) 464-1479

Fax: (619) 464-4491

Email: office@whisperingwinds.org



Thanks in advance from the Dinner Dance Team:
Stacie, Sue, Claudia, Mattie, Val and Vicki

2014-2015 Whispering Winds Women's Auxiliary Board

	ADMIN TEAM:	
President	Claudia Penczar	cmpenczar@gmail.com
Vice-President		
Secretary	Linda Aguilar	laguilera@me.com
Finance Manager	Rosemari Spooner	rosemarispooner@gmail.com
	SPIRITUALITY TEAM:	
Spirituality Advisor	Annie McConville	Islandgurl94@hotmail.com
**Spiritual Events Chair	Carolyn Kalb	kalbcarolyn@gmail.com
Spirituality Events Co-Chair	Marie Cizek	
**Hospitality	Susie Diem	suzidiem@cox.net
Hospitality Co-Chair	Val Spooner	Sv4grls@cox.net
**Fundraising	Vicki Youngers	vicki.youngers@yahoo.com
Fundraising Co-Chair	Madeline Scull	mjscull06@gmail.com
	COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLICITY TEAM;	
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Correspondent	Brianne Kojis	briannekojis@hotmail.com
Website Liaison	Terry Henberger	Terry@whisperingwinds.org
Board Liaison	Denise Casinelli	denise.casinelli@wellpoint.com
**Membership	Monica Larson	Larson.monica@gmail.com
**Membership Co-Chair	Joy Hodson	joyhodson@att.net
**Historian/Photographer / Digital	Karen Goodman	Kgoodman@pd.sandiego.gov
Scholarship	Chris Villalobos	chrisvillalobos5@gmail.com

Our committees are always looking for helping hands.
Please consider volunteering for one of the committees
marked with **



UPCOMING EVENTS

Whispering Winds Dinner Dance Gala

Saturday, February 20, 2016

Marriott Marquis San Diego Bayside

Lent Evening of Reflection

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Our Mother of Confidence

6:30pm ~ Social 7:00pm - 8:00pm Event

WWA Women's Retreat

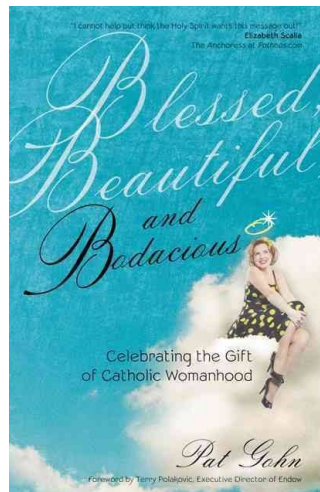
May 13 - 15, 2016

Whispering Winds Catholic Conference Center

Online Registration Opens in March

Guest Speaker: Pat Gohn

Topic: Blessed, Beautiful, and Bodacious:
Celebrating the Gift of Catholic Womanhood



You can find us @ www.whisperingwinds.org