

## *Whispers from the Auxiliary*

My goodness fall is already upon us! Where does the time go? The word "generation" was put on my heart for this newsletter as we postponed a meeting this month so that members could go to a funeral service for a past longtime member, Jo Sullivan. One board member my age, stated, "I need to go and support my mom, it is another dear friend of hers that has passed away". Soon after, seeing a photo of Jo Sullivan with other auxiliary members made me realize that will someday be a photo of me with my beautiful Whispering Winds women when I pass. Who even knows when that might be?

I looked at the definition of generation and it gave me two definitions:

- 1) All of the people born in and living at about the same time, regarded collectively.
- 2) The production of something.

I obviously knew definition 1 and know that I am part of the second generation of WWA.

Definition 2 really struck me. It is what the camp and the auxiliary is all about. The generation of something is what camp and auxiliary is all about. God, our faith, friendships, volunteering and giving.

The third generation is upon us now in MY young daughters and their friends.

What a legacy this first generation has left us to carry, continue to build upon and to "generate" . May God continue to bless camp and the auxiliary for many generations to come.

Please join us for the mass of gratitude at camp Sept. 10th, celebrating the years God has blessed us with. How many generations may pass or new ones will be here when we gather to do this again!!

In gratitude always, Andi



*"Called to His  
Purpose"*

*Romans 8:28*

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## The Crazy LOVE of God!

Every year the carefree days of summer seem to whiz by a bit faster than the one before, and this one was no exception. Countless delightful and blessed hours were spent on family outings, activities and fun, including attending Family Camp at Whispering Winds with our son, his wife and their 5 children. The theme for this year was "Wacky Weekend! Discover the Crazy LOVE of God!" The accompanying scripture verse for the weekend was, Matthew 10:39, "Whoever loses his life for my sake will find it".

While the grandchildren were enjoying attending their respective programs, the adults were graced to hear the talks given by Deacon Kevin Helfers and his lovely wife, Yvette. One of the points mentioned in their talk was that we all need to share with one another because personal testimony builds faith, and oh my, what an amazing testimony the two of them presented! One special point emphasized was that we are all created in love and have a special purpose. God reaches out to us hoping that we will respond. We don't always recognize our own strengths and potential, but being in community helps us to see these and helps us to pursue them. Also, it goes without saying, the crazy, wacky love of God can move us in amazing ways!

When we allow ourselves to be vulnerable we feel the love of God and we are dignified because He has called us! He wants us to surrender and "be enough" because He will provide for us. His love never ends or fails. He's always faithful and is with us to give us a "hand up". Jesus himself never held back, but led with

total abandon. Although it may not seem like it at the time, the Lord's goodness and mercy is even sweeter when we're in the midst of our struggles. At such times He continues to call us to more and greater things and gives us the dignity to respond.

Jesus sent us the Holy Spirit as a helper because He knew the battle being waged for our souls. The evil one uses guilt, shame and all of our weaknesses in hopes that we'll fail and fall into sin. St. John Paul II reminds us to "Be not afraid". Also, in preparation for battle, wise military leaders study the tactics of the enemy, in order to counter and defeat them. This is what we too must do as well, in order to defeat the evil forces tempting us.

In the Gospel reading on this particular weekend, Matthew 14:22-33, Jesus commanded Peter to step out of the boat and to walk on the water. This dovetailed very nicely with Kevin and Yvette's message. The homily given that weekend by Fr. Michael O'Connor did so as well. He posed the question, "How much faith does one need?", and he responded by saying we need enough to remain faithful when the storms rage and the waves rise up around us as they did in this Gospel. We all know it's easy to have faith when everything is going well, but much more difficult when things are not! However, when we do keep the faith and call out to the Lord in our times of need we can find the strength to press on through the difficulties. Furthermore, Fr. O'Connor went on to say that by following God's Holy will and promptings we might also empower others, thereby giving way to unexpected miracles.

## The Crazy LOVE of God! (continued)

As we have seen in the aftermath of the recent horrific inferno that leveled Maui's historic old town of Lahaina, incredible stories of faith and miracles have come forth. As heart-wrenching as seeing and hearing these accounts and images can be, there are many amazing witnesses of God's faithfulness as well as His mercy and graces abounding. While surrounded by unfathomable devastation one might imagine there would be grave and unimaginable feelings of loss and despair. While faced with this tragic disaster, however, countless stories of heroism and triumph continue emerging. Individuals are selflessly reaching out to aid and assist one another despite the dire nature of this calamity.

As reported by Reverend Monsignor Terrence Watanabe to News Nation, a truly inspiring and incredible miracle appeared after the catastrophic firestorm.



Rising above the ashen and apocalyptic landscape the historic

Maria Lanakila Catholic Church remained standing! Founded in 1846, the appropriately named church, which in Hawaiian means "Victorious Mary" or "Our Lady of Victory", was completely unscathed!



Despite the adjacent Convent, parish hall, school and preschool all being incinerated around them, both the church and Rectory escaped the wrath of the flames. Moreover, two days later when Fr. Kuriakose Nadooparambil, the Pastor entered the church he was amazed to find that the flowers at the foot of the altar weren't withered from the extremely high temperatures that resulted from nearby flames. True to it's Mission Statement Lahaina's Maria Lanakila Catholic Church, inspired by the Holy Spirit and by the example of the patroness, Mary, Our Lady of Victory, is called to be a vibrant voice in the community and a beacon for the Catholic faith and sharing of the Gospel.

In contrast to Lahaina's phenomenal devastation, like a rainbow appearing after a storm, the fact that Maria Lanakila Church remains standing serves as a testament of God's loving mercy as well as a sign of hope for the future. As we hold in our hearts and prayers all of Maui's departed souls, those injured, missing, displaced and devastated, as well as all first responders and all of the extended families of these individuals, may God grant them the graces of strength, perseverance, comfort, and peace during this most difficult and trying of times. May we all also continue to find consolation in Matthew's 10:39 promise, "Whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."

Aloha and God's blessings  
upon one and all.  
- Linda Crabtree -



*Whispering Winds Women's Auxiliary*  
*2023 Fall Brunch*

*“Divine Mercy Miracles”*

Saturday October 28, 2023

8:30am -12:30pm

Mission San Diego de Alcalá  
10818 San Diego Mission Road  
San Diego, CA 92108



Mass begins at 8:30am in the St. Francis Chapel  
Brunch doors open at 9:00am in the California Room



**Guest Speaker: Kathy Kuebler**

Kathy looks for daily miracles - large and small - in her life and encourages others to do the same. She has experienced unbelievable yet documented healing from a brain tumor and Crohn's disease. She and her family of 12 include joyfully – welcomed twins with down-syndrome. She has a strong faith that she's asked God for, and He has given it in abundance. You'll be encouraged by her story.

(More information to follow)



## Gift Card Donations



As we approach our annual WWA Brunch and Fundraiser on October 28th, we are asking for donations for our silent auction. Many of you have supported the Auxiliary through the years. Without your donations we would not have been able to generously support our beloved Camp! We always depend on your gift card donations. Please be sure the gift card includes the value and the receipt for validation. Another suggestion is for a group of friends to put together a gift basket.



Gift cards can be sent or dropped off at the Whispering Winds office:  
4326 Mission Gorge Place, Suite 203,  
San Diego, CA 92120.

**We will appreciate receiving your gift cards or other donations by September 30th.**

If you have any questions, prefer donations to be picked up, feel free to call Claudia Penczar at (858)-699-4705.

We'll look forward to seeing you at the Brunch!

God bless you for your generosity,  
Val Spooner, Mattie Scull, Patricia Viescas,  
Claudia Penczar  
Ways and Means Committee

## Woman of the Year Nominees Requested

Each year at WWA Annual Fall Brunch we honor one of our outstanding auxiliary Members as Woman of the Year.

If you have a woman you think should be honored please submit her name along with why you think she be considered for Woman of the year.

You can email your nominee to WWA President Andi Finch at [momfinch4@gmail.com](mailto:momfinch4@gmail.com)

Nominees must be submitted by September 5th.

### Past Women of the Year

Letty Peck	Betty Gibbs
Mattie Scull	Brigit Luciani
Vicki Youngers	Nelda McComb
Denise Casinelli	Noel Leary
Tammy Knapp	Marie Cizek
Claire Hughes	Sylvia Black
Cathy Sperrazzo	Connie Osborn
Joni Dieters	Pat Rauber
Val Spooner	Birdie Juanico
Marion Huffman	Carolyn Montgomery
Doris Dodge	Joanne Hunt
Mary Jane Weisman	Gloria Walton
Eileen Deely	Maureen Kojis
Laurie Gleeson	Kathy Brown
Linda Crabtree	Bernice Mascari
Dottie Fetter	Sister Mary Martial
Chris Villalobos	Marge O'Neil

## Meet Your Board Member



*Claudia Penczar*  
*Ways and Means Co-Chair*

When I volunteered to write this article, I thought it would be a breeze. Writing about one of your dearest friends, should be, right?? Wrong! I didn't know where to start!

Let's start at the beginning, shall we? Claudia was born in Chicago, IL and was named after her aunt who was a religious sister. Everyone thought she was Italian because of the name, but also her use of her hands; she "talks" with them, as many of Italians do...including me! So when I claim her as a sister, it's kind of true..! The family moved to Arizona, and after she and her dear husband Pete married, they traveled toward the ocean and beautiful San Diego. Lucky us! They have two exceptional children (no she didn't tell me to say that....just my personal opinion...) and 5 remarkable grandchildren. Blessed indeed!

Claudia worked for 30 years as a high school English teacher, mostly at Hoover High. She is small but mighty and I know she was a great influence on the young adults she served there. She still keeps in touch with some of them!

She and Pete have lived in Tierrasanta for over 47 years and have been an active part of Ascension Catholic Parish from its humble beginnings (meeting in a nearby school) to present day, as we just dedicated our new church in June.

If you know Claudia, you know she has unending energy and she can never say "no" to any need anyone may have; or she will be volunteering to do any and all to get the job done.

Mostly, this girl is generous to a fault. Her time, talent and treasure are shared with all who know her, whether stranger, or friend. She lives her faith daily.

Claudia has been active with WWA for many years, serving on almost all committees, and has been President of the Auxiliary. Currently, she is on the Spirituality Committee and Chairwoman of Fundraising. With her committee, is in charge of "Brunch Baskets" (that's what fundraising is all about!) procuring and packaging all donated gifts for the Auxiliary's brunch, our only fundraiser of the year. She and her committee also take part in the gathering and packaging (more baskets...so much fun!!) of the gifts for the annual Whispering Winds Gala Dinner Dance. Her gift and expertise to the camp comes from giving; leading with love, determination, compassion and hard work, with an insatiable appetite to be of service to others.

God bless my dear friend Claudia; what an inspiration she has been to me! I hope you will all get to know her, what an asset to our Whispering Winds Auxiliary!

Matti Scull

## 2023 WWSA Governing Board

	<b>ADMIN TEAM</b>	
<b>President</b>	Andi Finch	momfinch4@gmail.com
<b>Vice-President</b>	Angela Varela	avarela@san.rr.com
<b>Past President</b>	Kesa Waddell	kesa1@cox.net
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Paula Crowely	paulawaulatwin@gmail.com
<b>Finance Manager</b>	Karen Goodman	goodmank619@gmail.com
<b>Board Liaison</b>	Nelda McComb	nsm3359@sbcglobal.net
	<b>SPIRITUALITY TEAM</b>	
<b>Spiritual Advisor</b>	Linda Crabtree	linda.crabtree@gmail.com
<b>**Spiritual Events Chair</b>	Cathy Sperrazzo	cathy@eyetoeyep.com
<b>Spiritual Events Co-Chair</b>	Linda Aguilera	laguilera@me.com
<b>**Hospitality Chair</b>	Gloria Rosales	gloriarosales1@me.com
<b>Hospitality Co-Chair</b>	Marla Carter	marlacarter77@yahoo.com
<b>**Ways &amp; Means Co- Chair</b>	Claudia Penczar	cmpenczar@gmail.com
<b>Ways &amp; Means Co- Chair</b>	Val Spooner	sv4grls@cox.net
<b>Ways &amp; Means Co- Chair</b>	Patricia Viescas	relaxandrefresh@cox.net
	<b>COMMUNICATIONS &amp; PUBLICITY TEAM</b>	
<b>Communications Chair/ Prayer Chain</b>	Joni Deiters	jdeiters@san.rr.com
<b>Newsletter/ Graphic Designer</b>	Tammy Knapp	knapptnt49@gmail.com
<b>Corresponding Secretary</b>	Debbie Bradel	bradeldebbie9@gmail.com
<b>**Membership Chair</b>	Kelly Sinclair	ksincl505@cox.net
<b>Membership Co-Chair</b>	Susan Galichon	susan@galichonlaw.com
<b>**Historian/Photographer Chair</b>	Chris Villalobos	chrisvillalobos5@gmail.com

### WWSA Mission Statement

Our Mission: As women united by faith in Jesus Christ and by a common interest in WWSA, we propose to contribute to the growth and development of the Camp through prayer and fellowship, assisting in fundraising, disseminating information, and providing support for functions held at the camp, providing monies for scholarships/camperships and projects!