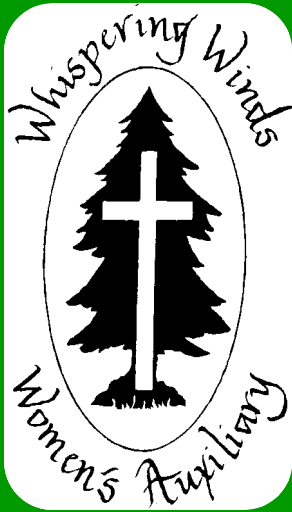


Whispers from the Auxiliary

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 48

NOV/DEC 2018



"Called to His Purpose"

Romans 8:28

Whispering Winds
Women's Auxiliary

Special points of interest:

- Message From the President
- Loving Donna Callaway
- Advent Evening of Reflection
- Thankfulness
- WWVA Woman of the Year
- WWVA Annual Fall Brunch
- Meet Your Board Member
- Opening up Our Gifts

From the President.....

"We love because God first loved us." - 1 John 4:19

Dear sisters in Christ,

God is truly the source of life, the giver of all that is good. God IS love. And how wonderful to know we are made in that very image, of love. It is in our spiritual DNA. We are here now on this earth, at this time, made to love. What a privilege and a challenge!

At our annual brunch, our speaker, Dotti Hulburt, spoke of the image of a sunflower, turning its face to the sun to soak up light, source of life. We, too, are called to seek the light source, to fuel the call to love. No matter the season of grace we are in, no matter where God is calling us right now, God is with us. He has this! He pours out his grace in abundance as we reach out in fidelity, charity and honesty.

Dotti reminded us that we are to scatter, to release the seeds in our heart packets. To sow the seeds of love, compassion and kindness, regardless! We are not the soil tester. We don't know what seeds will come to fruit in due season, yet we scatter anyway. We love anyway! Share the seeds in fidelity, charity and honesty.

And finally, we are a people of gratitude. When was a seed thrown

my way? Where do I put my thanksgiving? Be generous in scattering. God gives the growth; we trust. We do not fear the darkness, the unknown, for that is where the growth can happen. Scatter generously!

In gratitude for the seeds of love you shower upon Whispering Winds,

Chris Villalobos



P.S. This issue of "Whispers from the Auxiliary" is brimming with personal stories of God's goodness in our lives. Be sure to read Linda Aguilera's story of trust and Joni Deiter's reflection on embracing God's gifts. Meet our beautiful Spiritual Committee Chair, Lisa Moritz, and our fabulous Woman of the Year, Denise Casinelli. Let the tribute to Donna Callaway touch your heart as all these messages will give you more reasons to count your blessings!! See you all on Dec. 6 at our Advent Retreat! ~ Chris

LOVING DONNA CALLAWAY



“What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?...No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” ~Romans 8 35-39

When I think of my beloved Donna, I think of a friend I will cherish forever. It is hard to put into words the thanksgiving I have in my heart for her life. She was such a loving and giving person, always there for my needs and those of others. She listened instead of telling me what to do and hugged away my troubles and tears with joy through her sparkling spirit. She was always ready to bring laughter and hope and music to enrich my life.

From the very beginning of Whispering Winds Family Camps, Donna eagerly took on many tasks. She was the very first musician at our early Family Camp Weekends and used her gift of singing and playing guitar as an expression of her love of Jesus. She quickly earned the nick-name of “Music Mama”. Oh! The many little children she shared Jesus with using her gift of music. How she blessed us! This music ministry carried on into the Whispering Winds Women’s Auxiliary and Senior Moments Retreats. She would never weary of saying YES to praising Jesus with her beautiful voice and joyful spirit.

Donna, my cherished friend, you will be terribly missed...and your loving spirit will always be with me. ~Bernice Mascari



“Prepare the Way of the Lord” WWWA Advent Evening of Reflection

Guest Speaker: Kimberli Halpin

Thursday, December 6, 2018

Our Mother of Confidence

3131 Governor Dr.

San Diego, CA 92122

Gathering/Social 6:30PM - Program 7:00PM

Please register online at whisperingwinds.org

Free will offering or bring a donation for Polinsky Children's Center, either new tennis shoes (Vans, Nike, and Converse are favorites) or gift cards for Wal-Mart, Target, or clothing stores.

THANKFULNESS

Happy November my Auxiliary Sisters,

As our Advent Seasons approaches, it is a perfect time to reflect on what we have to be thankful for in our lives. In my kindergarten class, we are getting ready for our Manners Lunch and making placemats that tell the world (at least our little world) what we are thankful for. It's funny what 5 year olds appreciate: hot dogs, toys, pets and even their bed. Their thankfulness is whole-hearted and so sincere. That's the type of thankfulness I want to feel for all of my blessings!

I know that my sense of thankfulness has greatly evolved over the years. In my childhood I was thankful for my parents and sisters, my extended family and friends. In my younger adult life, I was thankful for my then-husband and our 2 children; for our home, health and happiness. I thanked God for these blessings.

While I still thank God for the above blessings, I now thank God for the blessings that don't bring smiles – at least not right away. We all experience these, they can come in the form of an illness, divorce, financial difficulties, children having troubles... So why would I thank God for unhappy experiences? I trust God to bring good out of all experiences. Pure and simple, I trust God.

Romans 5:3-5 says:

More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

What a beautiful way to prepare for the coming of our Lord, to put our complete trust in Him, knowing that His plan is one of Joy, Love and Faith. I pray that you and your families have a blessed Christmas season. See you at our Auxiliary Advent Evening of Reflection! (see page 3 for more details)

God bless,
Linda Aguilera,
Spiritual Director



WWWA Woman of the Year

We've each been inspired to join the WWWAuxiliary for various reasons:

-could be we were touched by a life-changing family camp weekend or by the joy and healing of a Senior Moments weekend or...

-it could be that our hearts were filled on a Women's retreat or Cursillo weekend at Whispering Winds.

-Or maybe it was the simple invitation of a dear friend to come join an amazing group of women who love the Lord?

Whatever seed fell on our heart, we were drawn to the auxiliary out of love, to serve, to give back in gratitude to God for the role the camp has played in awakening and activating God's presence in our life.

As a result, we have formed deep, lasting spiritual friendships with faith-filled, caring, generous women. And that brings me to one, special, dedicated, spirit-filled woman, the very one we are honoring today. If you've been an auxiliary member for just one year or 20 years, you will have felt the unconditional love of our amazing Woman of the Year!

This year's Woman of the Year epitomizes the purpose of the auxiliary: to contribute to the growth of the camp through prayer and fellowship, assisting in fundraising, and providing support for all functions held at the camp. These are not just words to our honoree, but a call to action above and beyond!

For countless years, our Woman of the Year has tirelessly dedicated her time and talent to the camp as secretary to our auxiliary, and currently as our auxiliary liaison to the main board. She knows the history of our camp, our auxiliary by-laws and can confidently present issues to the board as well as offer creative solutions which she follows through on. When a need arises and there is a call to help, this gal simply says, "What do you need, I can help!"

In addition to a full-time job, much of it on the road throughout the country, our honoree finds the time to put on an apron, roll up her sleeves and spend weekends during the summer preparing, serving and cleaning up after meals in the WW kitchen alongside David and his staff. All with a smile on her face, not a word of complaint. A true humble servant for the Lord. You can't outwork our Woman of the Year, her energy and enthusiasm are boundless! This could be the secret to her slim trim figure! Or is it that her inner beauty has seeped out to become such outside gorgeousness!

Our honoree has spent many loving hours in prayer for the camp, volunteering on the hospitality committee, and working on the spirituality committee. Needless to say, she is dedicated, diligent, trustworthy, competent and gives the biggest, best heart-felt hugs you'll ever get. It is with IMMENSE joy I'm pleased to call DENISE CASINELLI our 2019 Woman of the Year!!



W W W A F a l l B r u n c h

The Fall season brings a time of change. Crisp cool nights, warm sunny days, and trees changing colors in such dramatic fashion. So set the tone for reflecting on these times in our own personal seasons of life. So grateful to **Karen Goodman** for her planning and organizing of a brilliant brunch, "Seasons of Grace"!! 140 women enjoyed a delightful brunch from the French Gourmet, a heartfelt message by Dotti Hulburt, and music from **Jen Bedison, Letty Peck** and **Barbara Wojtach**. Martin Rosales and Paula Bott shared with us all the exciting things happening at the camp. New buildings, family camps and other developments – so much we have to look forward to the next time our cars ramble up the gravel roads to Whispering Winds. Table and hall decorations by **Marla Carter** and **Gloria Rosales** and crew set a festive fall tone to St. Michael's Family Center. **Claudia Penczar** and her team of busy bees (**Vicki Youngers, Mattie Scull, Annie McConville, Denise Casinelli, Linda Aguilera,**) made many hearts happy with an incredible Silent Auction from gift cards, to art work to jewelry by **Donna Wilkins**. Set-up and clean-up were graciously and lovingly done by **Annie McConville, Denise Casinelli, Annie Korn, Linda Aguilera, Kesa Waddell** and **Lisa Mortiz**. **Stephanie Kiesel** successfully lead the paddle raise and according to early estimates, your generous giving exceeded \$23,000 in donations for camperships to help needy families and children enjoy the blessings of Whispering Winds. Thank you spending the morning with us and furthering the good work of the camp! Enjoy the pictures on the next page!

God has made everything beautiful in it's time... Ecclesiastes 3:11



Pause for a moment to recognize and name your season in life...

Pray over what you have just named, with honor and regard...

Re-evaluate your commitment to this particular season; what is God calling you to?

Bloom where you are planted

Cultivate a heart of gratitude

Like a sunflower, that follows every movement of the sun, so I turn toward you, to follow you, my God.

God is good! We prepared over thirty silent auction baskets for the WWA Brunch. The theme and speaker's focus on Seasons of Grace was mirrored by our preparation for the silent auction. Through the generosity of a number of board members and a few faithful business donors we were able to offer a variety of items.

Led by Vicki Youngers and our faithful creative women, we were able to create beautiful baskets to capture the eyes of our generous bidders. At the same time we had some quality community building, all for the future campers!

God bless all of you for your generosity. Thanks to all of you we raised over \$3,500 to donate to our beloved camp for camperships.

God bless our camp and all of you,
Claudia Penczar, Annie McConville, Annie Korn

WWWA Fall Brunch 2018



Meet Your Board Member

Cradle Catholic, loving mother of a fantastic adult son, Michael, daughter, sister and friend, Lisa Moritz was born and raised in the small town of Osmond, Nebraska (Go Big Red!), 2010 census population 783 people (0.8 square miles).

Lisa now lives and has cultivated a beautiful garden in the not so small town of La Mesa, CA (2017 population 60,021, 9.1 square miles), where she is a parishioner of St. Martin of Tours Parish.

Lisa's midwestern hospitality and charm is apparent when you visit her home that is filled with the spirit of St. Teresa of Calcutta, "Let no one ever come to you without leaving better & happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness."

Lisa was brought into the Whispering Winds Women's Auxiliary by our dear sister, Patricia Viescas. A few years later, Jackie O, lead by prayer, sponsored Lisa in Cursillo. Through Cursillo, Lisa became friends with Kimberli Halpin—the speaker at our Advent Retreat on Thursday, December 6, 2018, 6:30 PM, at Our Mother of Confidence Church in University City.

Lisa has brought much glory and honor to God through her volunteer work for Whispering Winds. She has lead the raffle at the Dinner Dance and has served her way to currently being the chair of the Spirituality Committee.

Lisa's gentleness, joy, and humility are gifts from God. Please hold Lisa, and her family, in your prayers.



The way God makes connections for us is always amazing. At Polinsky Children's Center recently, I was discussing the tennis shoes and gift cards that WWA will be collecting at the Advent Evening. Just then, a man walked through and said, "What about Whispering Winds?" I explained who I was, what we do, and what the auxiliary is all about. Turns out he worked one of the camps and three of the kids he worked with were given scholarships. Of course, they were from WWA! He shared what a fantastic experience it was for everyone and how much they appreciated the scholarships since many of the kids would not be able to attend without them.

What a beautiful moment to affirm what we do and remind each of us of the impact we have because we are part of the Whispering Winds Women's Auxiliary.

God is good!
Lisa Moritz
Spirituality Committee Chair

Opening our Gifts

Every month at the infant Baptism seminar I get to hear my husband Tom talk about being aware of the gifts that God gives us. Be open to “our purpose” and embrace the reason we were put on this earth.

Through the years, I have reluctantly accepted that I have the gift of bringing people together, basically I am the big blue hub (BBH) in a box of tinker toys. Lots of little yellow and red sticks poking out the sides and attaching to other medium size hubs which have little sticks poking out of them. For the most part, I enjoy bringing people together to share in community. I believe that it is in community that we live out part of the plan that God envisions on a daily basis. A world where we help each other become the best versions of ourselves. A world where we “die to ourselves” and live for others...and conversely....allow others to live for us when we are in need.

Being the BBH comes with some setbacks too, it is unusual for everyone to embrace the “optional plans” that are put forth. I have had 53 years to learn this. I can now say that I embrace the name given to me by my brother Jeff. Sergeant Stryker. Yep, as Sergeant Stryker, I would plan the yearly “Mini-G” for our Gordon Family Reunion. Continually asking for feedback but ultimately it was my name in the “From” line on most of the emails. So it was me that received the accolades and the complaints at the end of the day. The BBH, needs to be strong and flexible at the same time. Lots of water needs to be able to fall off a BBH’s back...much like that of a duck. It took me awhile to become “Daffy”.

My youngest son, 22 year old Michael, has similar passions regarding seeing people connect. “I put out a text for a

pick up volleyball game at Mission Beach this Saturday, and have a pretty big group showing up,” said the “apple” that has fallen so very close to this tree. That was the recent announcement when he came by to visit me on his lunch hour. He is often called my “mini-me”. Not only did he get my smile, read that as eyes that squint up so you can barely see them, but his personality is the one that matches mine the most of all my three “apples”. He is an extrovert, confident and yet a little vulnerable too. Hmm...he doesn’t have my “big bones and sturdy build” but he will give you a rockin’ hug that is just as powerful as I do.

Now I see Michael starting to open his gift basket from God. The gift of the ability and desire to gather people together and encourage community. As a BBH, he organized a softball team of his peers and siblings last year. He experienced the joys and frustrations of being the organizer. There were times of complaining or disagreements but then he also saw the benefits. Helping to provide a place for people to build friendships and compassion. It was a great way to share sports, laughter, daily struggles and of course craft beers. Even though they didn’t take home the 1st place trophy... it was still a winning season for building community.

My “eye squinting” smile gets so big each time I see him rise to the challenge to include all types of people in his circle of friends. As he continues to build the tinker toy set in his circle, I see that he doesn’t have any qualms about reaching out to all walks of life and including them in community. I believe that makes God’s eyes squint too. May all of you be open to tapping into your gifts and embrace all that He, our Maker, continues to bless you with.



2018 Whispering Winds Women's Auxiliary Board

	ADMIN TEAM	
President	Chris Villalobos	chrisvillalobos5@gmail.com
Vice-President	Karen Goodman	Kgoodman@pd.sandiego.gov
Recording Secretary	Kesa Waddell	kesa1@cox.net
Finance Manager	Rosemari Spooner	rosemarispooner@gmail.com
	SPIRITUALITY TEAM	
Spiritual Director	Linda Aguilera	laguilera@me.com
**Spiritual Events Chair	Lisa Moritz	Lamoritz619@gmail.com
Spiritual Events Co-Chair	Annie Korn	anniekorn@gmail.com
**Ways & Means	Gloria Rosales	gloriarosales1@me.com
Ways & Means Co-Chair	Marla Carter	marlacarter77@yahoo.com
**Fundraising	Claudia Penczar	cmpenczar@gmail.com
Fundraising Co-Chair	Annie McConville	Islandgurl94@hotmail.com
	COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLICITY TEAM	
Communications Chair/ Prayer Chain	Joni Deiters	jdeiters@san.rr.com
Communications Co-Chair/ Website & Facebook	VACANT	
Newsletter/ Graphic Designer	Tammy Knapp	knapptnt49@gmail.com
Corresponding Secretary	Norine Millum	NorineC21@gmail.com
Board Liaison	Denise Casinelli	denise.casinelli@anthem.com
**Membership	Kathy Cazin	kcazin1@gmail.com
Membership Co-Chair	Marie Hickey	Marie.hickey@cox.net
**Historian/Photographer / Digital	Monica Larson	Larson.monica@gmail.com

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

Purpose of the Auxiliary

As women united by faith in Jesus Christ and by a common interest in Whispering Winds Family Camp, 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 all functions held at the Camp, Providing monies for scholarships and projects for the upgrading of the facilities at the Camp.