

Whispers from the Auxiliary

Dear Auxiliary Members:

I'm looking forward to spending time with you at our annual brunch at St. Michael's in Poway on Saturday, October 18, 2025. See page 2 for more details.

We are deeply grateful to Tammy Knapp, who has lovingly served as our newsletter editor for the past 15 years. Her work turned each edition into a liturgical story of faith, friendship, and our beloved camp. Thank you, Tammy.

Members: please prayerfully consider if you, or someone you know, might be called to serve as our next newsletter editor. The newsletter is prepared and shared with our community four times each year.

We also have the position of Vice President available on our governing board. If you feel called to serve, I would love to share what this opportunity involves with you. Please know - our board truly supports one another. If you have a small whisper of interest, please contact me 619-929-4660. Details of the position . For more information about the Vice President's & Newsletter Editor's Duties see page 2

On Saturday, September 21, 2025, the WWA Friendship Garden—located in the Meadow between the Welcome Center and the Game Room—was blessed by Monsignor Mark Campbell and dedicated to our founders and all auxiliary members, past, present, and future. Representing the founders were Katrina, daughter of Kathy Brown, and Bernice Mascari.

After years of planning, this sacred space is now a reality, thanks to the dedication of Karen Goodman, Chris Villalobos, Joni Deiters, Bob Wiley, Glenn Wilhite, and Larry Sheehan.

Bernice shared that sitting on the swing, with Katrina by her side and surrounded by camp staff, auxiliary members, and their families, was one of the happiest moments of her life. She encourages us all to keep saying "Yes to the Lord" and to let Him continue His good work through us.

Lord bless you and keep you,
Annie Korn, WWA 2025 President



"Called to His Purpose"

Romans 8:28

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WWA Contact information:

wwindswa@gmail.com

www.whisperingwinds.org

VICE PRESIDENT & NEWSLETTER DUTIES

VICE PRESIDENT

- This position is a 2 year commitment with the second year becoming the President
- Observes and learns from the Chair in order to 'take over' the following year.
- Attend Bi-Monthly WWA meetings and lead if President is unavailable
- Assist President with tasks
- Chair of the Annual Brunch Meeting
- Coordinate with other board members including Spirituality, Hospitality, Membership and Fundraising
- MC Event and follow script
- Secure venue, speaker, music, caterer, theme by brainstorming with others
- Coordinate with WW office on registration and staffing, collection of finances (using their laptops, printer and credit card processing)
- Work with Publicity on invite, programs and promotion of event to members and general public
- Facilitate the Nominating Committee for the upcoming Board
- Gather 2 members from board, and at least 2 from general membership to make up committee
- Before meeting, initiate calls for interest and availability along with nominating committee members
- Assemble list of candidates that have been voted
- Present to board new slate of board members
- Organize the Installation dinner for incoming Board
- Purchase/present gift for outgoing President
- Plan a ceremony for the new board
- Give hostess gift

Annual Budget

- Meet with Finance Manger and president to review and set new Budget. (Typically meet Aug/Sept)
- Budget will be for a calendar year Jan-Dec
- Review each years submitted budget with the actual amounts and make adjustments to the next years budget accordingly.
- Present to WWA board for discussion once the Budget has been set.
- Finance Mgr will upload a copy of the Budget to WWA google docs for Board access
- President will email a copy of the Budget to the-Board members
- Attend all major events (do your best)
- Give a hard copy of each board members duty to them (This is the Installation dinner where you will be then next President)

NEWSLETTER EDITOR, GRAPHIC DESIGNER, PUBLICITY DUTIES

- Attends Bi-Monthly Board Meetings assist in helping to make Auxiliary decisions
- Prepare and submit committee report.
 - Prepares the newsletter based on the WWA calendar of events and/or at the President's request.
 - Collect articles from The Board Members and WW Office by the 15th of the month prior to the month the newsletter is due to go out.
 - Send draft to the President, Vice-President and Communications Chair for review and comments.
 - Make correction to newsletter and send corrected newsletter to President, Vice President, and Communications Chair for final review
 - Get approval to send newsletter from President
 - Send approved final version to the Communications Chair for distribution, WW Marketing Director to update WW Website and upload to Google Doc Page.
 - Get an updated list from Membership of people needing hard copies mailed.
- Prepare invitations, Flyers, Save the Date and Programs when needed for WWA events working in coordination with person running the event (President or Spirituality Chair.)
 - Send draft to person running the event for review.
 - Make any corrections and send for final review to Coordinator of event.
 - Send Final Doc for President for approval and ok to send.
- Send final to Communications Chair to send out via email.
- If needed, mail invitations, flyers or save the date using most recent membership list.
- Attend all events (do your best!)



**WHISPERING WINDS
WOMEN'S AUXILIARY**

Fall Brunch

October 18, 2025

GUEST SPEAKER: YVETTE HELFERS
PRAISE & WORSHIP LED BY SISTERS IN SONG

St. Michael's Catholic Parish
15546 POMERADO RD, POWAY, CA 92064

*Register
Now!*



SCAN HERE



8:30 AM - Mass at St. Michael's Catholic Church, Poway
9:00 AM - Check-in opens at St. Michael's Holy Family Center
9:30 AM - 12:30 PM - Brunch Program

\$45 for WWA Members

\$50 for Non-Members

LET'S ROLL

Late August/early September has long been a favorite time of year for me. Our wedding anniversary falls on 8/28, then on 9/8, my husband shares and celebrates his birthday with the Blessed Virgin Mary. This year, during this time period, other significant events transpired, forever altering my perspective about it. First was the fatality resulting from the brutal stabbing of a lovely young woman riding public transportation in Charlotte, NC. Next on 8/27, came the horrific, heart-breaking multi-victim shooting that took place at Annunciation Catholic Parish in Minnesota. The result was 21 injured CT victims plus two young children who perished. A third ensuing event on 9/10 was the despicable assassination of popular conservative political commentator, Charlie Kirk. Sandwiched between the latter two tragedies, came the uplifting canonizations of Pier Giorgio Frassati and the young Carlo Acutis, the Catholic Church's first millennial saint.

Although different in varying degrees, each event has captured my attention, prompting much reflection. All relate to young men and how their personal life choices have significantly impacted others. Sadly, in several cases seriously troubled young men have lost their way as well as their faith and ended up causing great harm as well as death to others. In sharp contrast, both Pier and Carlo greatly loved the Lord and serving Him was central to how they lived their lives. Pier integrated his love for God in everything he did, especially in serving the poor. Carlo was a very accomplished computer whiz kid and he desperately wanted others to know and follow Jesus as well. He made it his life's work to help others do so. He used his digital skills to compile, organize and publish the Eucharistic Miracles in order to share them throughout the world. Passing



at only 15 years old, Carlo was a true disciple and modern day social influencer. He is still winning many souls for Christ and all eternity. Like Carlo, Charlie Kirk was also a social influencer. Married to a Catholic, a devoted husband and father himself, Charlie was a champion for God, faith and family, along with truth and defending American Freedoms.

Upon learning about the unthinkable events listed above, I remember feeling the need to turn to the Mother of God and pray for that community and all the victims. Since Mary is the woman chosen by God to be His Mother and ours, as well as the primary human enemy of the evil one, in times of need she is eager to help her children in their struggles. She provides us assistance and solace. In *Lumen Gentium*, 62, we are told,

“By her maternal charity, she cares for the brethren of her Son, who still journey on earth surrounded by dangers and difficulties, until they are led to the happiness of their true home”. For this reason we are to be vigilant in prayer and turn to Mary, having her intercede for us with our requests. Mary told St. Catherine Laboure people

need to seek her graces by asking for them in prayer. St. Carlo had a true devotion to praying the Rosary and believed “Praying the Rosary is the shortest ladder to ascend to heaven.” Fr. Donald Calloway also tells us that a Rosary a day keeps the devil away.” To counter the current discord and unrest, let's rally around like the United Flight 93 passengers did on 9/11. Let us rise-up, stand shoulder to shoulder and “let's roll” our Rosary beads through our fingers. By getting busy and praying either with or without those beads, we can take down our enemy, Satan, so together let's do it! - Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Carlo Acutis, Saint Pier Giorgio and all you Saints - PRAY AND INTERCEDE FOR US! AMEN.

Submitted by Linda Crabtree

WAYS & MEANS

The Ways & Means Committee is thankful for the generous support of our WWSA members. In the spring you gave us many gift cards to use for the raffle at our annual Women's Retreat in May. A special thanks to Tannie Wise for another beautiful quilt made especially for our retreat. Our raffle participants appreciate our plant donations.

October 18th is our annual WWSA Brunch. Our committee is again asking for your support. Any gift cards will go into our Silent Auction baskets. We appreciate your donations. The Brunch is our major fundraising event for our donation to our beloved camp. You are the reason for our success .

Please send the gift card to:

Claudia Penczar
c/o Whispering Winds Office
4636 Mission Gorge Place, Suite 203
San Diego CA 92120

God bless all of you.

Mattie Scull, Val Spooner, Claudia Penczar



MEMBERSHIP



We welcome you to join this wonderful group of amazing faith-filled women!

The annual renewal is \$30 or life membership is \$200.

Ask a friend, ask a neighbor, ask any faith-filled woman you know to join .

Let them know of all the benefits of being a member:

- Discounts on our May Retreat and Fall Brunch
- Free Advent and Lenten evenings of reflection
- PLUS you get to be part of a great group of faith-filled women who share a love for the Whispering Winds Camp!

Now is the perfect time to join, renew and/or invite a new member!

Susan Galichon &
Kelly Sinclair

[Join or Renew Here](#)

Lifting Up Our Community In Prayer - A



Powerful Ministry

Wanted to make sure that all of you are aware of our "Email Prayer Chain." We currently have 317 prayer warriors and get about 10 requests/month.

If you ever want to submit an intention you can email

wwindswa@gmail.com .

I check that site about every other day and combine any requests that have been made.

If you want to be added to the army of warriors... just send that request to wwindswa@gmail.com and I will add you to the group. We send the prayer requests out as a blind copy to the prayer warriors.

Please contact me (jdeiters@san.rr.com) if you have any questions.

Blessings,
Joni Deiters

SPIRITUALITY COMMITTEE

Our speaker for the Women's Retreat in May was Jenene Frances, author and self-professed aspiring contemplative in action who finds writing creative nonfiction and short fiction a fruitful spiritual practice. For our weekend, she focused on The Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius and her talks focused on prayer, ways to pray and guided prayer. Sessions included: Preparing to Pray, Amazed by Mercy, Jesus Appears to His Mother, Graced History, and Gathering the Graces. Jenene provided and encouraged many opportunities for discussion as well as hands-on praying using a variety of methods. Her teaching was inspiring and she made it easy and desirable to add to and enhance our daily lives. She was well received as many hearts were filled with joy! As quoted in her handout: *"Joy is what you love without reason, an unexplainable desire to merge with what fills your heart."* (author unknown).

It was a successful weekend, with opportunities to rest and receive, while creating and renewing friendships within our catholic community of women.

Upcoming events! In addition to our Annual Brunch in October, our Advent gathering will be offered at St Kieran's church Hall Saturday, Dec 6, 2025. This free program starts at 9am with music and will wrap up around 11am. Light refreshments and beverages will be provided by our Hospitality Committee. Our speaker is a local gem and member of our Whispering Winds Women's Auxiliary community, Debbie Bradel. She will talk on Tidings of Great Joy and lead us into this holy season. Please join us! If you have any questions, please email us at wwindswa@gmail.com



CARMINA CASTER – HOSPITALITY CO-CHAIR

When you look around at the beautiful, spiritual, welcoming decorations at our retreats and events, you will see the imprint of Carmina Caster, co-chair of our WWA Hospitality Committee. With her partner and Chair lead, Julie Dudziak, Carmina transforms basic meeting halls into theme-based environments, rich in faith, including desserts and beverages to keep us nourished. She stepped into this role at the beginning of 2025 and immediately got to work. Together Carmina and Julie make a great team. They are currently looking for additional helpers to join their crew.



As women, we know that each of us has our own story. It is my honor to share with you a few chapters of Carmina’s life and let you get to know her better.



Carmina was born in Autlan de Navarro, Jalisco, Mexico, the same small town as musician Carlos Santana. In a family of 10 children, 5 boys and 5 girls, she is lucky #7. Raised by Catholic parents, her dad made it a nightly ritual to gather the siblings into a circle where he would read the bible. He was a passionate story teller. She remembers him sharing the story of Joseph and his brothers’ betrayal, how it upset them to tears, making them wait until the next night to hear the end of the story. Many times, the stories were finished by candlelight when the power would unexpectedly go out. Her family would attend 6:30 am Mass every Sunday. Later, when she lived with her older sister in Guadalajara, she began attending daily Mass.

Carmina studied for a degree in tourism, traveled back and forth across the border and made the big choice to move to the United States permanently in 1995. One day, while attending Mass at Saint Kieran’s, she met a man that would eventually become her father-in-law, Terry Caster Sr. Although she spoke very little English, he saw the sparkle in her eyes and her love for God and thought, hmmm, I think she should meet my son. He quickly set up a dinner with Barbara and son Terry Van. Nine months later, Carmina and Terry Van, were married at that very church, St. Kieran’s, where it all started. In addition to 5 children from Terry Van’s previous marriage, they added to the family tree with daughter Julianna and son Lance, setting up home in Blossom Valley. continued on page 7



CARMINA CASTER – HOSPITALITY CO-CHAIR (CONT.)



A favorite memory of the early years includes meeting Mother Theresa in 1996 when she traveled from San Diego to Tijuana. “She was so petite, with a kind and loving spirit. Her face lit up with her smile and her humility touched my heart.”

Her 29-year marriage to Terry Van was grounded in a deep love for God and for each other. In 2024, he passed away from complications of liver cancer. He lives on in her heart and the glistening of her eyes as she shares how Terry’s spirituality in their daily lives made their relationship stronger, always rooted in Christ. He passed away on the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. As you enter her home, a statue and plant of the Sacred Heart of Jesus welcome you, a beloved gift from her groupies.

Carmina attended her Cursillo weekend #305 in April of 2023. She continues her faith walk by participating in daily mass, grouping, a Catholic book club, and fellowship with Christ filled friends.

Carmina is a generous and kind soul. In Terry’s honor, she is beginning a new adventure in volunteering...more on this to come! Get to know her and you will surely be blessed.

SUMMER POTLUCK WITH THE AUXILIARY & PAST PRESIDENTS



The feeling of community, camaraderie and friendship was fully alive on a hot summer morning, August 23, at the home of Kelly Sinclair. 21 members of the auxiliary gathered to enjoy one another’s company and a potluck of breakfast dishes, sweets, savories, and Mimosas. Friendships were rekindled and stories shared as we caught up on one another’s lives. Annie Korn introduced a scripture based

activity for each of us to bless one another. Karen Goodman shared the status update of the beautiful Friendship Garden and swing constructed at the camp to honor the auxiliary and our founding mothers, Bernice Mascari and Kathy Brown. The dedication of this garden took place on Sunday, September 28 at 1:30pm. Linda Crabtree lifted our hearts in prayer and blessed our time together, and the gathering was truly blessed! Thank you for hosting this special time, Kelly, and opening your beautiful home to us!

2025 WWA GOVERNING BOARD

	ADMIN TEAM
President	Annie Korn
Vice-President	VACANT
Past President	Angela Varela
Recording Secretary	Paula Crowely
Finance Manager	Karen Goodman
Board Liaison	Kelly Sinclair
	SPIRITUALITY TEAM
Spiritual Advisor	Linda Crabtree
**Spiritual Events Chair	Kesa Waddell
Spiritual Events Co-Chair	Laurie Mikolaycik
**Hospitality Chair	Julie Dudziak
Hospitality Co-Chair	Carmina Caster
**Ways & Means Co-Chair	Claudia Penczar
Ways & Means Co-Chair	Val Spooner
Ways & Means Co-Chair	Mattie Scull
Ways & Means Co-Chair	Patricia Viescas
	COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLICITY TEAM
Communications Chair/Prayer Chain	Joni Deiters
Newsletter/Graphic Designer	Tammy Knapp
Corresponding Secretary	Debbie Bradel
**Membership Chair	Susan Galichon
Membership Co-Chair	Kelly Sinclair
**Historian/Photographer Chair	Chris Villalobos

WWWA Mission Statement

Our Mission: As women united by faith in Jesus Christ and by a common interest in WWCC, 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!