



THE Healing power of ART therapy

Maryvale students
receive therapy
through creative
methods

FALL-WINTER 2018

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MISSION Statement

The mission of the Los Angeles Orphanage Guild is to provide financial and other support for the Maryvale Residential Treatment Programs at the Rosemead campus. Our purpose is to provide the neglected, abused or abandoned children placed at Maryvale a safe, supportive, therapeutic and compassionate environment in which to grow and heal.

the presidents' message



Mary Anne Atkisson
Guild Co-President



Phyllis Conkle
Guild Co-President

2018/2019 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Congratulations to the new Executive Committee formally presented at the May General Meeting:

Co-Presidents
MARY ANNE ATKISSON
PHYLLIS CONKLE

1st Vice President
MELINDA WOODRUFF

2nd Vice President
NANCY LEWIS
HOLLY LUNTZEL

3rd Vice President
PATRICIA SUMMERS

4th Vice President
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JOANN BOURNE

Asst. Treasurer
SHELLY SCOTT

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CINDY FAIRBANK

Asst. Recording Secretary
ANGELA SIUTA-PECHIN

Corresponding Secretary
KAREN KNOTT

Asst. Corresponding Secretary
DIANA DOYLE

The New FUNDRAISERS: making an impact

One of the most difficult things for a nonprofit, such as the LA Orphanage Guild, to undertake is fundraising. Nothing is more humbling than going out, hat in hand, and asking for donations. I'm sure every member of the Guild has experienced that feeling at one time or another. That being said, fewer experiences provide more satisfaction than organizing a successful event, especially events with such an important mission.

One thing is certain: membership support is one of the Guild's greatest assets. It is what keeps us looking ahead and moving forward. And so it's our pleasure to share with our readership the work being done and introduce some of the extraordinary members who work so hard for the Guild. As you read through this Newsletter, the accomplishments of these members will enlighten, if not astound you.

ONE THING IS CERTAIN: MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT IS ONE OF THE GUILD'S GREATEST ASSETS

For instance, consider the members who make up the Junior Guild, on pages 4 & 5. They provide field trips for the children to different locations, monthly birthday parties and a variety of activities at Maryvale, plus a spectacular Christmas party with presents for each child. Many have been doing this for over 25 years, an achievement in itself.

The Chairs and Co-Chairs of this year's "Be a Friend, Bring a Friend" Luncheon, one of our most successful events, work the entire year to make it happen. The results, shown on page 6, highlight the fun everyone has – not to mention that it raises money! They create an environment of friendship, camaraderie and holiday spirit that's wonderful for all.

Another event, the Spring Gala, to be held at The Proud Bird, is our most ambitious project. This year's theme, "On the Wings of Love," is in keeping with the Guild's mission statement and purpose. Again, planning an event such as this requires months of work. This event, and its Chairs, will be highlighted in the 2019 Spring/Summer issue of the Newsletter.

To our friends and members: thank you for taking this extraordinary journey with us.

Your support makes everything possible.

Mary Anne Atkisson and Phyllis Conkle, Co-Presidents



A close-up of the check for \$175,000, which was presented to Maryvale's President and CEO Steve Gunther, Chief Development Officer Carole Tremblay and Sister Alicia Martin, at a recent meeting at Maryvale.

At left: 2019's Gala: **Save The Date, April 6, 2019, "On the Wings of Love"** honoring LAOG's Patricia McVerry.

Lower left: Newscaster Wendy Burch congratulates Idalia Santos after the former Maryvale resident concluded her heartfelt speech.

Below: Plaque honoring donors contributing more than \$1,000 during the 2018 LAOG Gala's Fund-An-Item auction.



highlights

of 2018

- o | The Annual Appeal has collected more than \$20,000 within the last two months.
- o | LAOG's Murder Mystery Party was a fun evening! A typical "Who done it" mystery to solve. See pg. 6
- o | The Guild had another successful "Be a Friend Bring a Friend" Luncheon at the Four Seasons Beverly Hills. Once again KTLA's Wendy Burch was the emcee and the guest speaker was previous Maryvale resident, Idalia Santos. The Guild had net profits of over 63,000, "our highest net profit ever."
- o | LAOG participated, for the first time, in Giving Tuesday, a worldwide charitable movement.

#GIVINGTUESDAY



2018-2019 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS

Left to right: Karen Knott, JoAnn Bourne, Shelly Scott, Diana Doyle, Cindy Fairbank, Phyllis Conkle, Indy Carey, Mary Anne Atkisson, Patricia Summers, Holly Luntzel, Angela Siuta-Pechin, Nancy Lewis, Melinda Woodruff.



Healing through art therapy

Juniors coordinate an art therapy class for Maryvale's children.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Birthday Dinners: Patricia Fielder
Aretha Green

Christmas Party: Bette Baer
Susan Frazier
Carol Livingston
Robin MacDonald
Susan Woodmansee
Melinda Woodruff

Membership: Mary Borowy

Roster: Bette Baer

S.T.A.R.: Linda Fischer

Teen Activities: Susan Frazier



President Bette Baer

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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BETTE BAER

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PATTY CRUIKSHANK

ASSISTANT TREASURER
ARETHA GREEN

LOS ANGELES ORPHANAGE GUILD JUNIORS

As another year was drawing to a close, Orphanage Guild Juniors celebrated a festive Christmas party with the children of Maryvale. We are forever grateful to our jolly ol' Santa (John Gibson) who has flown in from Portland for the past 12 years to entertain our special young guests. Of course he's the star of the party when he hands out gigantic stockings stuffed with amazing gifts. HoHoHo!

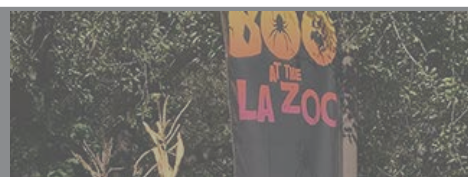
October was our Halloween extravaganza with Boo at the LA Zoo. This year's highlight was an artist who captured each child with their very own keepsake caricature portraits!

Our favorite of all times was the amazing September Reptile activity at Maryvale. Yes! A zillion snakes, tortoises, a Bearded Dragon, a Skink, frogs in all colors, a Monitor Lizard to name a few. Children got to learn about, touch and hold each reptile. And then top it off with our favorite Taco Truck lunch as well as a Kona Ice Truck! Perfect day for all!

Another fun activity was the painting "party" in the Maryvale gymnasium. Each child received a large blank canvas, and with simple instructions from the teacher, each tried to paint a picture similar to the teacher's sample. Not all paintings were like the teachers however! See the creative talents of the children's efforts in the Newsletter on page 6! Definitely Picassos in the making.

We mentors enjoy these activities, but we're hopeful each of our adventures with the children of Maryvale will create memorable moments in the turmoil of their lives.

~ Bette Baer, Juniors President



"Boo at the Zoo" offered memorable moments for the children. Coordinating the effort are Patty Cruikshank, Camille Torres, Bette Baer, Susan Frazier, Mary Borowy and Melinda Woodruff.

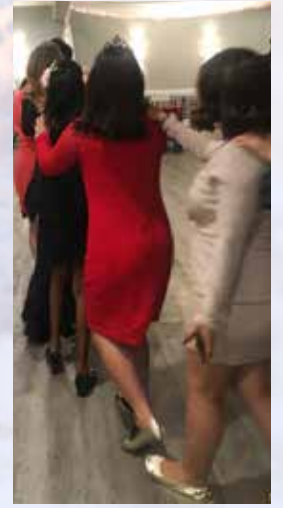




The most highly anticipated moment of every Junior Guild Christmas Party is the

annual arrival of Santa with his sleigh full of gifts. Every Maryvale child was ecstatic receiving a stocking full of presents, including a \$50 gift certificate. Eight-time Paralympic champion Patrick "Blake" Leeper gave a heartfelt speech, and actor and director Trey Carlisle inspired the children (with Angela Siuta-Pechin offering congratulations) with powerful prose. Assisting the event are LAOG's Wilma Tyson, Angela Siuta-Pechin, Valerie Kiley, Mary Beth Legg and Holly Luntzel; the Christmas Committee Melinda Woodruff, Susan Woodmansee and Bette Baer pose alongside Santa; Maryvale President and CEO Steve Gunther addressed the crowd; and the children celebrated the day by dancing in a conga line.

IT'S A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY PARTY!



ADVENTURES IN her-pe-to-l-o-gy

The Juniors brought a living classroom to Maryvale and the children were thrilled to receive the hands-on education, courtesy of Mother Nature. Supervising the event were, from left: Maryvale's Chief Development Officer Carole Tremblay, and Junior members Patty Cruikshank, Pam Somermeier, Susan Frazier, Bette Baer and Mary Bowory.



The Picasso PRINCIPLE

Juniors organized a teacher-directed art project for the children, which reinforced Maryvale's gentle approach to therapy.



Original art



"Oh no!"



First, the sky



Almost finished



Final product

Art display at Maryvale's Art Center.



Magical Murder Mystery Tour: Lisa and Michael Sheedy; Mary Ann and Eric Jacobsen; Antoinette Joyce, JoAnn Bourne, Patti Summers, Phyllis Conkle; Cindy Fairbank, Indy Carey, Patti DiTullio dressed to the nines for this thrilling adventure.





'Be a Friend, Bring a Friend'

event is a perennial success

As always..... The "Be a Friend Bring a Friend" Luncheon was a huge success!

The Boutique Shopping Vendors, Raffle Baskets with great items, Kelly Clarkson concert tickets and Team Kelly jacket, Art Tour and lunch at the downtown Jonathan Club, and the Grand Raffle of a \$700 Deluxe Balcony Room at the Beverly Hills Four Seasons plus \$500 spending money and a \$200 Spago Dinner.... ALL sold well.



Women of DISTINCTION

The Fashion Show models looked GORGEOUS in the outfits from

"PEARLS," a beautiful boutique store in San Marino. The exquisite clothes, along with delicious food and beautiful table arrangements made the Luncheon the place to be. A perfect complement to the Luncheon were the freshwater pearl bracelets that were given to each attendee.

Continued on next page



Luncheon Co-Chairs Diana Doyle and Melinda Woodruff were feted for their exceptional dedication as 3rd time hosts of the BFBF Luncheon by LAOG Co-Presidents Mary Anne Atkisson and Phyllis Conkle; Krystyna McNicoll and Indy Carey organize the guest list; Mary Kay Lalli, Luncheon Vendor Chair; Patty McVerry, Nancy Lewis, and Holly Luntzel toast the event; double raffle winner Jamie Madden with Karen Goldberg "peeking" over her shoulder; the beautiful table arrangements; guests Andrea Atkisson and Melanie Chilek.



A stunning finishing touch.

Idalia Santos, a former Maryvale resident, gave an inspirational speech about the help that Maryvale has given her. With that help, Idalia has become an engineer and is currently planning to go on to graduate school. After Idalia's speech guests were inspired to give to the Angel Pledge, and GENEROUSLY!

A thank you to Wendy Burch, our Mistress of Ceremonies, who led us through the day. Ms. Burch has been the Luncheon emcee for several years, and she brings star power to this day. We are forever grateful to her.

Lastly, a thank you to our wonderful members and guests of the Los Angeles Orphanage Guild. Your commitment to this worthwhile endeavor has made the Guild and Maryvale very GRATEFUL.

*Diana Doyle
Melinda Woodruff
Luncheon Co-Chairs*



Los Angeles Orphanage Guild
Cordially invites you to the
— 2018 —
Be A Friend Bring A Friend
— LUNCHEON —
In support of Maryvale
Friday, November 9, 2018
10AM – 3PM
Lunch will be served at noon
Four Seasons Hotel
300 South Doheny Drive
Beverly Hills
*Beautiful Boutique and Gift Shopping
Featuring a Fashion Show from Pearls
'A jewel box filled with everything
from dresses to Diamonds'*



Top: Jackie Brooks and Patty Chertok; Sue Ellen Waters; Catherine Conkle and Patti Summers; Diana Doyle and Denise Morris; JoAnn Bourne; Keynoter Idalia Santos; Maryvale President & CEO Steve Gunther gave the luncheon prayer; L/R (standing) Judi O'Sullivan, Carmen Monne, Sharon Oh, Deborah Clayton, Mary Anne Atkisson, (seated) Angela Marino, Mia Lee; Patti DiTullio; Karen Knott, Cindy Fairbank and Lauren Carey.



*Thank you,
Wendy
Burch!*

Despite a busy schedule as anchor, reporter and host of KTLA News, Emmy award-winning Wendy Burch manages to carve out time to help LAOG by bringing her star power and clever repartee as emcee of the annual "Be A Friend, Bring a Friend" Luncheon.

Wendy, a TV journalist, advocate and professional writer, has volunteered for many years as LAOG's luncheon moderator.

We thank Wendy for her commitment to LAOG and the children of Maryvale.



LAOG RUNWAY

Orphanage Guild members rock the runway modeling exquisite fashions, courtesy of Pearls in San Marino.

It's a BIG deal

One by one you all trickled in. Greeting each other with hellos and hugs. Although you were on Maryvale's campus for your luncheon, for our staff, your gathering was more than just business. **It was our opportunity to thank you for your commitment to our children, and unveil the results of your generosity.**

Before the doors opened, there were technicians, drills, hammers, and even a lift – the kind that beeps when you put it in reverse – and was it ever a welcomed sight. Because of your \$50,000 donation, they were transforming our gym into a state of the art, All Purpose Activity Center.

Thank you for the podium with built-in audio technology. Thank you for the projector that tucks away into the ceiling. A huge thank you, pun intended, for the massive, 22' high-resolution screen that would make any movie theater jealous. Movie nights, cultural activities, art programs are all transformed because of your generosity.

Thank you for the \$175,000 for our programs. Your on-going support enables us to continue providing services to our children who have suffered through unspeakable trauma. Your dedication allows for the hope and healing they need to strive for successful futures.



a Lasting **IMPACT**

You've celebrated their graduations. You've taken them to iconic locations like the Hollywood El Capitan Theater. You've even brought a python on campus for them to touch.

Los Angeles Orphanage Guild Juniors, thank you for bringing the world to our children and allowing them to experience the true meaning of caring and love.

Although you are parting, your activities will leave an impression on our kids that will last their lifetime.

All of us at Maryvale are grateful for the joy, wonder and hope you have brought to our children.



Thank You

For the past 13 years, with the last six as Chairperson, **Sr. Rachela Silvestri** has served on Maryvale's Board of Directors imparting her wisdom to all of us at Maryvale.

On behalf of the entire Maryvale family, a heartfelt thank you to Sr. Rachela for her support and leadership. Thank you also to **Gloria Mucino** who served on Maryvale's board from 2006 to 2018.

While it is always sad to say goodbye, I am pleased to announce the appointment of **Sr. Patricia Miguel** as Chairperson and **Sr. Elizabeth Riddell** as a new member of Maryvale's Board of Directors.

We look forward to our continued work together to provide essential services to the children and families served by Maryvale.

Sincerely,

Steve Gunther
President and CEO



*LAOG would like to recognize and thank the following donors
for their generous contributions to*

2 0 1 8

BE A FRIEND & BRING A FRIEND L U N C H E O N

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*Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of these lists



Los Angeles
Orphanage Guild

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laorphanageguild.com

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1
Saturday
Orphanage Guild
Juniors Christmas
Party for the
Children
of Maryvale
Porter Valley
Country Club

08
Tuesday
Board of Directors
Meeting
Hostess: Mary
Anne Atkisson

15
Tuesday
General Meeting
Caffe Roma

05
Tuesday
Board of Directors
Meeting
Hostess: Indy Carey
(or tba)

19
Tuesday
General Meeting
Los Angeles
Country Club

06
Saturday
Spring "Heart to
Heart" Gala
On the Wings of
Love
The Proud Bird

07
Tuesday
Board of Directors
Meeting
Hostess: Lisa Sheedy

15
Tuesday
General Meeting
Drago Ristorante,
located in Petersen
Museum