

LOS ANGELES  
**Orphanage GUILD**



*The*  
**ODYSSEY**

Juniors chaperone Maryvale girls during educational odyssey at the California Science Center.

**SPRING-SUMMER 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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Recording Secretary  
CINDY FAIRBANK

Asst. Recording Secretary  
ANGELA SIUTA-PECHIN

Corresponding Secretary  
KAREN KNOTT

Asst. Corresponding Secretary  
DIANA DOYLE

# Difference Makers

In looking over the past year and the accomplishments of the Guild, from every perspective, we're reminded of what a dedicated and enthusiastic group of women can do. We give our time, energy and resources for the greater good of children. In other words, we make a difference.

It's difficult to put into words but we feel this is what makes the difference.

**First, we're passionate about our cause, helping the children of Maryvale.** Our new Mission Statement says it best: "provide financial and other support for the Maryvale Residential Treatment Programs" and "provide the neglected, abused or abandoned children placed at Maryvale a safe, supportive, therapeutic and compassionate environment in which to grow and heal." We believe passionately that what we do is important and that it can transform the lives of these young children.

**Second, through our fundraising efforts we have developed a cadre of friends.** We not only accomplish

We not only transform the lives of children but our passion has the power to transform ours as well. It's a life well lived.

great things together but become friends through the process. This motivates and inspires us.

**Third, the Juniors, and members which interact with the children, make more of a difference than they realize.**

Only years later do they see how far their influence has extended. How incredible a difference is that!

Life sends us serendipities; it drops little miracles into our laps. It's a miracle that we have found this passion and have responded to it. We not only transform the lives of children but our passion has the power to transform ours as well. It's a life well lived.

Guild members – you make the difference!

Respectfully,  
Mary Anne Atkisson and Phyllis Conkle  
Co-Presidents



Clockwise from left:  
Phyllis Conkle and Anne Sisteron;  
quote from past Maryvale  
resident, Monse;  
page from "The Difference  
Makers" Booklet; Melinda  
Woodruff and Monse.

# highlights

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## of 2018



"We are grateful to you because receiving isn't easy for us.

In the past it meant having to give something in return.

Thank you for these gifts from your hearts."

Monse, age 18, past Maryvale resident

- | Annual Campaign has collected more than \$29,000 since the beginning of September.
- | The Guild collected \$7,200 from the Anne Sisteron Jewelry event, held May 10th.
- | Hollywood Nights Party at Capitol Records netted over \$116,000. Of that amount \$50,000 was collected for the Fund in Need item.
- | Nine new Provisional members have joined the Guild. They are: Lynn Alvarado, Mary Curry, Dale Harbour Day, Antoinette Joyce, Nancy Loder, Angela Marino, Krystyna McNicoll, Stephanie Silvers, Terry Peters.



The past cannot be changed. The future is yet in your power.



2017-2018  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS

Left to right: Shelly Scott, Diana Doyle, Melinda Woodruff, Nancy Elliott, Mary Anne Atkisson, Phyllis Conkle, Patricia Summers, Patti DiTullio. (Missing: Indy Carey, JoAnn Bourne, Joan Layden, Margo Gleitman).



**The Odyssey**

Juniors chaperone Maryvale girls during field trip at the California Science Center.

## 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

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ARETHA GREEN

## LOS ANGELES ORPHANAGE GUILD JUNIORS

With joy we are planning the June Graduation Dinner celebrating Maryvale grads. They have all worked very hard and each have college goals. To assist them as they venture out on their own, scholarships as well as "wish list" gifts are being coordinated.

May was an extravaganza at Bowlmor as we welcomed all Maryvale children including the 6-12 year old boys and girls. Such fun as we heard cheers when balls made it back on the lane, thanks to bumper rails. To their delight, the kids ate delicious pizza, fruit, chicken nuggets, fries and cookies. After bowling and their adventures in the arcade, they were very appreciative as we sent them on their way with gigantic bubble sticks and signable bowling pins for each dorm.

April was a visit from Nature of Wildworks. This presentation included a tiny squirrel, baby prairie dogs, ferrets, hedgehogs, opossums and a gigantic 20 lb. Flemish Rabbit who hopped his way into all hearts. Molly's 3 talented dogs create their own impressive show. And to top it off, our favorite Taco Truck Lunch.

March was the iconic Hollywood El Capitan Theater to view "A Wrinkle in Time" and lunch at Hard Rock Cafe...how cool is that!

February highlighted a Warner Bros. Studios Tour. The girls recognized sets from their favorite shows. Guides were happy to answer their many questions on current movies.

January's tour was to the world-renowned Science Center BODY WORLDS. The girls were truly amazed at this exhibit which aims to educate the inner workings of the human body.

We are grateful to everyone who participates, donates and attends our OGJ activities. We are most hopeful our gatherings bring a ray of brightness into these children's lives.

*~ Bette Baer, Juniors President*



Clockwise from left:  
Bette Baer and her  
Executive Committee.  
L/R: Linda Fischer,  
Aretha Green, Patty  
Chruikshank, Pam  
Sommermeier; science  
exhibits from the  
California Science  
Center; signable  
bowling pins and  
bubble sticks, one  
for each child from  
Bowlmor.

*Junior  
GUILD  
activities*



Warner Bros. Tour: (L to R) Lisa Sheedy, Melinda Woodruff, Bette Baer & Robin MacDonald enjoy the magic of Hollywood in a “matter of perspective” moment and how special effects make some things look larger than others.



Nature of Wildworks: Ferrets and 20-pound Flemish Rabbit.



Juniors Christmas party for Maryvale’s children: Clockwise from top left – Table decorations; Patrick Blake Leeper, Paralympic champion, addressing the crowd; entertainer Raymundo; Christmas stockings for every child; children dancing to the DJ; Sister Trang and her new chorus.



Warner Bros. Tour: left to right: going through the back lot via tram; “Fist Bumping” with Batman; Wonder Woman exhibit.



# HOLLYWOOD NIGHTS

Apr. 28 | Capitol Records

As the song goes: "Oh What a Night!"

Guild members and guests were treated to a wonderful evening at the iconic Capitol Records building. Because of Guild member, Maureen Schultz, everyone was able to take a tour of the recording studios inside the building – this was an incredible hit with all. Food Trucks, "Gourmet Food Trucks," were introduced at an Orphanage Guild Gala for the first time and everyone loved them. The food was amazing.

Guests could wander the Capitol Records area, tour the studios, socialize with friends, leisurely peruse the Silent Auction items, have a "volcano martini," eat at the different food stations and just enjoy the balmy weather. As Guild member, Merelyn O'Donnell wrote, "The evening at Capitol Records was ..... SMASHING!"

Grant Snyder, our auctioneer once again, called everyone together for the Live Auction. Maryvale had created a beautiful video and photo presentation for guests to watch before the Live Auction began. Some of the auction items included were the Balboa House, Dinner for 10 given by chef, Danny Harold, Jimmy Kimmel Live!, Santa Barbara weekend, Napa getaway at the Meadowood Resort, Deer Valley Luxury townhome, and theatre tickets to "Waitress!" We collected, for the first time, \$50,000 for the Marvale Funded Item.

Thanks go to the Capitol Records Event Committee

- |                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Maureen Schultz, Chair | Patti Robinson, Co-Chair |
| JoAnn Bourne           | Lisa Brady               |
| Debbie Buderwitz       | Indy Carey               |
| Patti DiTullio         | Diana Doyle              |
| Nancy Elliott          | Cindy Fairbank           |
| Margo Gleitman         | Karen Knott              |
| Joan Layden            | Nancy Lewis              |
| Kathy Moy              | Susan Poon               |
| Shelly Scott           | Lisa Sheedy              |
| Patricia Summers       | Sue Ellen Waters         |
| Melinda Woodruff       |                          |

Thank you everyone for a "SMASHING" good time!

~ Mary Anne Atkisson and Phyllis Conkle



# OTRC

ON THE RED CARPET\*



Indy & Lauren Carey



Valerie Kiley, Krystyna McNicoll, Barbara Frear, Angela Siuta-Pechin, Holly Luntzel



Nancy & Richard Lewis, Aiko Tan, Jerry Hoffman



Jill & George Plumb



James Murphy, Andrea Atkisson, Melanie Chilek, Mary Anne Atkisson, Mia Lee, Varun Rawat



Phyllis Conkle, Mary Anne Atkisson



Lisa Brady



Cindy & John Fairbank



Judith Mulryan, Margo Dennis



Kevin Brenner, Deirdre Murphy



Eve Marie & Anil Bhandari



Karen Goldberg, Jamie Madden, Susan & David Heldman

\*For more photos, please visit [laorphanageguild.com/OTRC](http://laorphanageguild.com/OTRC)

The Los Angeles Orphanage Guild  
would like to recognize and thank the following donors for their  
generous contributions to the Guild and the

2018 Heart to Heart  
**HOLLYWOOD NIGHTS** *Gala* at Capitol Records

Mary Anne Atkisson  
Bistro Garden  
Blue Jam Café  
BOA Steakhouse  
Bombay Palace  
JoAnn & Wade Bourne  
Lisa Brady  
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Pantages Theatre

Petersen Automotive Museum  
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Susan Poon  
Reback Family  
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Santa Monica Seafood  
Shelly Scott  
Lisa & Michael Sheedy  
Judy Shelton  
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Maureen Shultz  
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Melinda & Edward Woodruff



# Because of you...

By  
**STEVE GUNTHER**  
Maryvale President & CEO

Their journey might have begun in darkness, but thanks to your generosity and the support of others in our community, the lives of Maryvale's children have been brightened and uplifted more than you could ever imagine.

Many of you may never realize what your heartfelt assistance can do, but we have witnessed first-hand how lives are transformed because someone cared.

You can get a deeper understanding by reading "Maryvale Voices" stories ([maryvale.org/voices](http://maryvale.org/voices)), moments from our children's lives, in their own words. Take another moment to consider the courage, strength and confidence of children who now see a world of possibilities because of your help.

Thanks to your enduring commitment to Maryvale's children with such magnificent events as "Hollywood Nights," the "Be a Friend, Bring a Friend" luncheon, and other important work, graduating teens are attending college, and much more. Even I was treated to something I never dreamt of at Hollywood Nights -- a seat in front of the microphone Frank Sinatra used to record some of his greatest hits. Thank you, Orphanage Guild ladies. Yes, dreams do come true!

Events like these underscore an important truth, that every donation, every volunteer hour, every word of encouragement given to our kids, helps improve the life of a child.

Thank you for honoring Maryvale and our children.

Sincerely,

Steve Gunther



Steve Gunther at Capitol Records

## A graduate's insight

Sonora shares her journey – from a self-doubting, frightened teenager into the courageous, inquisitive young woman she is today.

"Thank you to my staff and social worker at Maryvale, for standing by my side, helping me evolve into a better adult.

Even when I felt like I had nothing left, wanted to give up, the staff has always been on my team. Through the rough times, you guided me with resources and care to help prepare me for the real world.

---

“Maryvale’s supportive services helped me become better than I was before. Now I know I can do anything I set my mind to so I can become a successful adult.”

---

My main objective in life is to help people who are struggling and are homeless. I used to have fears that I was going to be homeless ... but I've practiced patience and learned to make it through obstacles and to strive hard for an independent life.

My time at Maryvale has helped me to continue going forward, not to turn around and go around in circles. I've learned to always try and try again even if you fail!"

"I had a rough childhood and didn't see much meaning to life. But once I picked up a pencil and started to draw I learned what my hands could do, and it felt magnificent. I learned how much my hand can create.

Like a lot of foster kids I never seemed to fit in any place. But when I picked up a brush my whole world changed."

~ Destiny, age 15



## MAY GENERAL MEETING

May 16, 2018  
Fogo De Chão

The last General Meeting of the year was attended by many and included several exciting announcements.

First, a report by Treasurer, JoAnn Bourne, of the proceeds of the Hollywood Nights at Capitol Records event was given. Everyone commented on what a spectacular event it was and how much fun! The Guild netted over \$116,000. This was unexpected as we had planned to have a "smaller" event this year. But Guild members, as always, made it a much more successful benefit.

Second, the Guild was able to present Carole Tremblay, Maryvale Chief Development Officer, and Steve Gunther, Maryvale President & CEO, a check for \$50,000 for their Funded Item. This will begin the process of upgrading the current auditorium/gymnasium into a state of the art facility for Maryvale's children.

We announced the Guild's new official address: 149 S. Barrington Ave., Suite 332, L.A., CA 90049.

Diana Doyle reported on the May 10th Anne Sisteron Jewelry event, and how well it was supported and attended by Guild members, thanking everyone, and made the astonishing announcement that we netted \$7,200!

Nine new Provisional members have joined the Guild. They are: Lynn Alvarado, Mary Curry, Dale Harbour Day, Antoinette Joyce, Nancy Loder, Angela Marino, Krystyna McNicoll, and Stephanie Silvers. They were introduced to the members by Membership Chairs: Nancy Lewis and Angela Siuta-Pechin.

Diana Doyle and Melinda Woodruff were announced as Chairs of the 2018 "Be a Friend, Bring a Friend" November Luncheon and Nancy Lewis and Holly Luntzel were announced as the 2019 Gala Chairs.

All are invited to the Maryvale Graduation, Wednesday, June 13th, 3:00 p.m.



Mary Anne Atkisson and Phyllis Conkle present the \$50,000 check to Maryvale for Funded Item. L/R: Mary Anne Atkisson, Carole Tremblay, Steve Gunther, Phyllis Conkle.



Provisional Members, L/R: Nancy Loder, Terry Peters, Angela Marino, Angela Siuta-Pechin (Membership Chair), Antoinette Joyce, Stephanie Silvers, Nancy Lewis (Membership Chair), Dale Harbour Day. Missing: Lynn Alvarado, Mary Curry, Krystyna McNicoll.

## "THE DIFFERENCE MAKERS" – THE LADIES OF LAOG & MARYVALE 2018

A booklet, "The Difference Makers," was put together by Susan Eigenbrodt and Eva Smythe, from photos and video images that they created for the Hollywood Nights at Capitol Records Gala; these images were shown to the audience before the Live Auction portion of the event. The images were so stirring and heartfelt that, Phyllis Conkle and Mary Anne Atkisson, Co-Presidents, asked if Susan and Eva could create a booklet of these photos so it could be given to all members of the Guild.

The 20-page booklet, a written and photographic testament to the difference both the Guild and Maryvale make in the lives of the children, was presented to Guild members at the final LA Orphanage Guild General Meeting of the year.

*The Difference Makers*

The Ladies  
of **LAOG**  
& **Maryvale** 2018



The Los Angeles Orphanage Guild  
would like to thank the following donors to the

2017-2018

# Annual Giving CAMPAIGN

## **SPECIAL DONATION**

Lisa Brady

## **DIAMOND BENEFACTOR**

Judy Jenkins

Patricia McVerry & Roger Halfhide

Julia Stearns Dockweiler Charitable Foundation

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Indy & Steve Carey

## **SILVER BENEFACTOR**

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Los Angeles  
Orphanage Guild

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laorphanageguild.com

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**STAFF**  
Editor: Mary Anne Atkisson  
Graphic Design: Eva Smythe  
Photographers: Mary Anne Atkisson, Eva Smythe  
Printer: Chromatic Inc.



**15**  
*Saturday*  
6:00 pm  
Hollywood Nights  
Mystery Party

**02**  
*Tuesday*  
Board of Directors  
Meeting  
Hostess: Eve Marie  
Bhandari

**16**  
*Tuesday*  
General Meeting-  
Maryvale

**09**  
*Friday*  
"Be a Friend,  
Bring a Friend"  
Luncheon  
Four Seasons  
Hotel, Beverly Hills

**01**  
*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