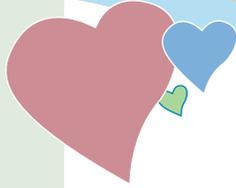


Big Hearts for Little Hearts Newsletter

BIG HEARTS FOR LITTLE HEARTS NEWSLETTER, LOMA LINDA GUILD
SEPTEMBER 2022 – MARCH 2023



A Note from the Presidents

Big Hearts for Little Hearts (BHLH) successfully finished 2022 with our annual **Fall into Reading** event and **LEGO® Love** campaign in September, **Dishes for Wishes** Cooking School at the Burrage Mansion in October, and our annual **Trees of Hope** campaign and **Gingerbread Village** in December.

At **Fall into Reading**, 175 pediatric patients received fall-themed activity kits and crafts, a LEGO® set, age-appropriate book, blank journal or coloring book, and a stuffed animal.

For our newest project, we assembled personal **hygiene packs** for the teen patient population, who are often admitted without any common toiletry items. Read more on page 2.

Please review the **Activities Calendar** for details about upcoming events. If you are interested in helping with a specific event or becoming more involved with BHLH as a board member, we welcome your participation. Please contact Jill Green at JMGreen@llu.edu for more information.

With gratitude for your big hearts,

Evelyn & Lynn

Dishes for Wishes Shines at New Venue



Photos: BHLH

The beautiful Burrage Mansion in Redlands served as the enchanting venue for the return of **Dishes for Wishes** on October 12, 2022. **Martha Green** shared her cooking magic featuring six easy to prepare dishes suitable for “all year through.” This event was dedicated to the memory of **John Mace, MD**, who chaired the department of pediatrics at Loma Linda University from 1975 until 2003 and was instrumental in developing the Loma Linda University Children’s Hospital.

The 250 attendees enjoyed appetizers and shopping at the selected vendors. The guests sampled the featured dishes as Martha, in her classic entertaining way, gave pointers on how to prepare them. The evening also featured patient **Alexander Harris** and his treating physician, **Tanya Minasian, DO**, who presented his story and treatment at Loma Linda University Children’s Hospital.

The evening proved to be the most successful Dishes for Wishes event ever!

Special thanks to our title sponsor, **Emerson Fine Jewelry**, and to **Tim and Carol Rochford** for the use of their beautiful venue! Event proceeds, which totaled nearly **\$63,000**, will purchase two “Little Lotta Neuroendoscopes” for LLU Children’s Hospital, to provide less-invasive brain surgeries for children. —*Laurel Munson Boss*

2022-2023 Board of Directors

Co-Presidents: Evelyn Guseck & Lynn Sleeth
Past President: Laurel Munson Boss
Presidents’ Advisors: Eloise Habekost & Dixie Watkins
Secretary: Carole White & Ardis Wazdatskey
Treasurer: Penny Moores
Membership Co-Chairs: Julie Cutler & Lynn Sleeth
Event Decor: Julie Cutler & Jeni Smith
Fundraising & Special Projects: Leigh Anderson
Education Liaison: Lynn Sleeth
Valentine’s Event: Evelyn Guseck
Luke’s Birthday Event: Lynn Sleeth
Spring & Fall Reads: Evelyn Guseck (Spring) & Sandy McCoy (Fall)
Family Fun Event: Joyce Waner & Caryl Clover-Shelby
Cooking School: Cheryl Fallon & Laurel Munson Boss
Hygiene Kits: Laurel Munson Boss & Evelyn Guseck
Trees of Hope: Dixie Watkins & Julie Cutler
Gingerbread Village: Sandi Herrmann
Storytime Production: Caryl Clover-Shelby
Social Media: Heather Burton
Newsletter: Kara Watkins
Guilds Coordinator: Jill Green

Contact Information

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[facebook.com/bhlhlomalinda](https://www.facebook.com/bhlhlomalinda)
[bhlhlomalinda](https://www.instagram.com/bhlhlomalinda)

Trees of Hope 2022



Thank you to the **Trees of Hope** “elves” — **Dixie Watkins, Julie Cutler, Jeni Smith, Tammy Young**, and **Carole White**, for creating another gorgeous display in the Dennis and Carol Troesh Medical Campus lobby for the approximately 150 generously donated angels. Donations for 2022 totaled more than **\$20,300**.



Photos: Dixie Watkins



Do you know someone interested in becoming a BHLH guild member? Encourage them to visit our membership website for more information: lluch.org/llgmembership

Upcoming Events

Activities Calendar

Monday, April 17

Spring into Reading
LLU Children's Hospital

Sunday, May 21

Family Fun Day
Burrage Mansion, Redlands

Monday, June 12

Luke's Birthday Party
LLU Children's Hospital

July & August
DARK – NO EVENTS

A Warm Holiday Welcome



Photo: Evelyn Gusseck

The BHLH Loma Linda Guild Board of Directors gathered in mid-December for their annual Christmas Luncheon at Martha Green's Eating Room in Redlands.

The restaurant provided the perfect atmosphere for taking a moment for fellowship during the busy holiday season and to welcome six new members

to the board (left to right): **Jeni Smith, Sandy McCoy, Ardis Wazdatskey, Diane Adams, and Caryl Clover-Shelby**. Not pictured: **Joyce Waner**.

We also extend a special thank you to **Carole White**, who has resigned her position as our board secretary. We wish Carole well as she pursues other exciting endeavors! —*Evelyn Gusseck*



BIG HEARTS FOR LITTLE HEARTS



Children in 200 hospitals throughout the United Kingdom are routinely gifted with "fairy bricks" sets. Using this as our inspiration, the BHLH Loma Linda and Desert Guilds supporting the LLU Children's Hospital now routinely provide Child Life Services with LEGO® sets for our hospitalized children from the Inland Empire. In 2022, the Loma Linda Guild provided **302 LEGO® sets** for our young patients to enjoy and incorporate into their recovery process. We thank each generous member for supporting this special program and ask for your continued interest! Would you like to donate toward the purchase of a LEGO® set? [CLICK TO DONATE ONLINE.](#)

Lifetime Members

We LOVE our lifetime members!

Diane Adams • Leigh Anderson

Gary Brown • Bev Ching

Melissa Chun, DDS

Julie & Tom Cutler • Jacqueline Davis

Marcia & Richard Dunbar • Cynthia

Johnson • Melissa & Pete Koss

Debra Meadows, DDS • Laurel

Munson Boss, MD • Joyce & Phillip

Reiswig, MD • Julia "Judy" Rogers

Joyce & Neal Waner • Ai-Mae &

Barry Watkins, MDs

HONORARY LIFETIME MEMBERS:

Caryl & Kirk Shelby

Considering lifetime membership?
Contact Jill: (909) 651-9849

Scenes from the 2023 Membership Luncheon



Photos: Dixie Watkins



Photo: Jason Watkins

This year's **Membership Luncheon** gathered long-time and new members at the Redlands Country Club on February 1, 2023. Accompanied by his parents, 11-year-old patient **Elliot Jordan** (shown above on his scooter), shared his health journey—from when he first arrived at LLU Children's Hospital as an infant with truncus arteriosus, a serious congenital heart condition, through the multiple (and continued surgeries), to the thriving, active boy he is today.



"Loving Hearts Loving You" Valentine Party

On February 14, BHLH volunteers prepared 175 bags filled with crafts, coloring books or journals, crayons, colored pencils, toys, and Valentine-themed gifts for the annual event, organized in partnership with **The Painted Turtle Outpost** team, including **Julia Bossi, Teresa Molello, and Raven Baker**

(pictured). Along with the goody bags, each child received a stuffed Valentine puppy and age-appropriate book, distributed to the hospital units by Child Life staff.

GINGERBREAD VILLAGE

On December 5, BHLH Loma Linda Guild members gathered in the lobby of the LLU Children's Hospital to prepare for the annual event, ready to bring a little Christmas cheer to the kids hospitalized over the holidays. Costco Hospitality Lane and Costco Corona donated 120 Gingerbread House kits. The guild volunteers prepared trays with gingerbread house kits, Christmas-themed books, and stuffed animals for each child. Child Life Services delivered the trays to excited patients, who assembled the houses in their rooms. Children at the LLU Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Outpatient Clinic also received gingerbread kits and holiday supplies donated by the Loma Linda Walmart Neighborhood Market — big hits at the clinic's holiday party!



Photo: BHLH



HYGIENE KITS

The inspiration of board member **Laurel Munson Boss**, the guild's newest project provides comfort kits to our hospitalized teenagers (ages 13 to 18+) for their personal hygiene needs. In fall 2022, Child Life specialists helped identify appropriate items for distribution and guild volunteers purchased trial size gender-specific and neutral toiletries and fun, patterned socks, assembling them into patient kits. Huge **THANKS** to the following who donated toiletries or gift cards: **Anthony Miller**, ETL Inbound and Fulfillment, Target Redlands; **Daryl Greaves**, Store Manager, Walmart Neighborhood Market Loma Linda; **Sam Tarabey**, Store Manager, Walmart Redlands.



Pictured from top: Teen patients Jordan, Pricilla, and Luis pose with their hygiene kits. Photos: Evelyn Gusseck

Visit the [membership webpage](#) to join the Big Hearts for Little Hearts Loma Linda Guild or renew your membership. You'll also find info about upcoming activities where you can share your big heart!