A Note from the President

Have you ever asked yourself “Why is it important for me to be a part of a volunteer organization?” And beyond that, “Why is it important for me to volunteer for Big Hearts for Little Hearts Loma Linda Guild for the Loma Linda University Children’s Hospital?” I asked myself these questions and answered them in several ways: 1) I enjoy being with people who love what they do. 2) I enjoy being able to share with others — be it a time, a smile, a thought, a prayer or a gift. 3) I love children and feel blessed when I can do something to help them. With the “answers” to my first question, my second question was easily answered! Big Hearts for Little Hearts Loma Linda Children’s Hospital Guild is a perfect fit for volunteer service. I invite everyone to join our Guild. You will receive much more than you can possibly give!

The Loma Linda Guild got off to a flying start for 2017 with our annual Membership Luncheon February 1, and Valerie Lewis has been busy preparing packets for distribution at the Valentine’s Party at LLUCH on February 13. Cheryl Slaton is already outlining the plans and arranging details for April’s Family Fitness Fun 5K Run & Expo at the Burrage Mansion. Looking ahead even further, Angie Temple, event chair for Dishes for Wishes, has already begun making arrangements for the popular fall event (see story at right).

We invite you to check out the Activities Calendar on page 2 and march with us to your gifts of service. You will be blessed!

Blessings,

Lynn

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Treasurer: Penny Moreo
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One of the Loma Linda Guilds’ popular fall fund raisers is the Dishes for Wishes event. This year, 325 guests attended the 17th annual Dishes for Wishes “Soup’s On” cookout, demonstration, shopping extravaganza and gourmet dinner, held Nov. 17 at the National Orange Show Events Center in San Bernardino.

Chefs from The Easting Room and Dough Eamblies, Restaurant Italian Restaurante, Dhat Island Caribbean Creole Cuisine, Watercress Vietnamese Bistro and Loma Linda University Catering all participated in the event. As a special treat, Sherry Noll, LLUCH executive director of patient care, took to the stage with her recipe for parmesan rosemary sauce.

Guests were served by more than 20 men and women in uniform from Colton Fire Department, Loma Linda Fire Department, Redlands Fire Department and San Bernardino Sheriff’s Department. All tips collected were donated to Children’s Hospital. Teen Challenge, a program for boys who are trying to turn their lives around after drugs or addiction, provided 14 additional servers for the event as well.

In addition to warm comfort food and exemplary service, guests enjoyed shopping for holiday gifts, accessories, and clothing and from nine boutique vendors, all of which donated 20 percent of their proceeds back to LLUCH.

“We were thrilled to see such a great turnout,” said Dixie Warkins, co-president of the guild in 2016. “Everyone seemed to really enjoy it and many of the guests told me the food was some of the best ever. Of course, Martha Green shined herself as Mistress of Ceremonies. She always finds a way to inject lots of humor and spice into her presentation, and she was certainly in top form tonight.”

Corporate Hearts Sponsor Lexus of Riverside contributed $20,000 to the total and other individuals and organizations joined hands to help the guild help the children. Altogether, the 2016 Dishes for Wishes event raised over $50,000 in sponsorships, tickets and sales of boutique items.

Dishes for Wishes serves up love and hospitality for Inland Empire kids by James Ponder and Brianna Paterino

Blessings,

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Membership luncheon gathers big hearts eager to help little hearts
by James Ponder

Former LLUCH patient and piano sensation Ben Phipatanakul (pictured) performed at Loma Linda Guild’s annual membership luncheon, held Wednesday, February 1 at Redlands Country Club. Ten-year-old Ben and his twin sister Emma were born at LLUCH. Unfortunately, Ben had a duplication cyst in his bowel and required surgery the very next day. After spending his first two weeks of life in the NICU, Ben reunited with his family at home. Ben was honored to play the piano for the guild that supports the hospital that gave him a head start.

The theme of this year’s luncheon, “Healing One Heart at a Time,” underscored the role the guild plays in supporting the life-saving work of LLUCH. Ben’s father, Wes Phipatanakul, MD, an orthopedic surgeon at LLU Health, and Donald Moores, MD (pictured)—who performed Ben’s life-saving surgery—discussed the importance of the hospital in serving the needs of children from the Inland Empire and Desert regions.

According to Lynn Sleeth, who became president of the guild on January 1, the annual luncheon represents an opportunity for interested parties to meet the officers and members of the guild, learn about their charitable activities on behalf of vulnerable children, and explore different avenues of involvement and support. “We look forward to this every year because it allows us to share some of the needs of the children of our community and talk about what the guild is doing to provide for them,” Sleeth observed.