



Las Candalistas Insider

2017

www.lascandalistas.org

[Facebook.com/lascandalistas](https://www.facebook.com/lascandalistas)

We are pleased to announce the top three programs which will benefit from the largest portion of the funds raised this year:



Community's Child- Hunger Heroes

Community's Child is a non-denominational organization supporting women and infants. Las Candalistas is helping support their *Hunger Heroes Healthy Bags* program, which provides weekend meals for food insecure children. These children receive breakfast and lunch through school programs, but often have no food on the weekends or the summer months when there is no school. Las Candalistas is proud to be a sponsor of this program which will feed 250 children (and up to 350 siblings) in the Lomita and Torrance elementary schools.



Family Promise

The goal of Family Promise is to help homeless families in transition achieve sustainable independence by providing short term shelter, meals, case management, and hospitality. The families spend their nights in the community rooms of various churches and synagogues for a week at a time, shifting to the next location on Sunday morning.

Las Candalistas is supporting Family Promise by helping them purchase a van that would be used to transport families they serve to and from the host locations where they spend the night and take them to jobs, school or to the Day Center to work on their particular case plans. The van would also be used to transport families during the day to appointments and services as needed.



Toberman Neighborhood Center

Toberman Neighborhood Center, founded in 1903, is committed to assisting Harbor Area families by delivering life-changing services that encourage, inform, educate and empower them to live healthy and purposeful lives. Their primary programs include the FamilySource Center; Children, Youth & Family services including academic enrichment; Family Literacy/Learning Program; and Gang Intervention/Prevention services.

Las Candalistas is sponsoring their "Mountain and Sea Adventures" for 12-15 youths (ages 10 through 15) as part of their Gang Prevention Program. Enrollees are assessed and identified as being at significantly high risk of joining gangs. This is a 6-day summer camp experience where they will live aboard a marine research vessel off Catalina Island which would open up a whole new world of possibilities as well as exposure to future career options for them

*We will also support donation requests from Marine Mammal Care, Ride to Fly, and Trinity Kids Care Hospice.

2017 Spring Event-

"OUT OF AFRICA" is the theme for our April 27, 2017 Spring Event. It will once again be held at the beautiful Catalina View Gardens. This year we will experience the culture, music, natural beauty and animals of Africa.

Linda Eckerbom Cole- author, humanitarian and founder of Community Action Fund for Women will be featured and will enlighten us with her talk about "Empowering Women in Africa". Dr. Sue Soldoff will teach us about safaris and safari animals in her talk of "All Creatures Great and Small". World Renowned Master Kora Player, Amadou Fall, will mesmerize you with the breath-taking sounds of his Kora instrument, best described as an African Harp. Enjoy your day at this spectacular venue overlooking the vineyard, Catalina Island and the Pacific Ocean. Enjoy a glass of Catalina View wine while dining with your friends at our own Las Candalistas catered gourmet lunch. Shop our boutique vendors, Las Candalistas Creations and Garden Shop, exciting Silent Auction items and our famous Gourmet Pantry.

Enter to win a private 8-Day Kenyan Safari for two courtesy of Wander Africa , The Safari Co.

Explore the famous Mt. Kenya Safari Club, the Jane Goodall Chimpanzee Sanctuary, the iconic Masai Mara and more, Trip also includes a stay in Cape Town provided by Marriott Protea Hotels, African Travel and TravelStore. See www.lascandalistas.org for more details and ticket information.

Spring Event tickets go on sale in March, limited availability. (Last year we sold out). All proceeds will benefit our South Bay charities. This is a day you will not want to miss!

Last year, thanks to your generosity either by donating or supporting our fundraising events, we were able to donate over \$75,000 to our selected charities.

Community's Child



A non-denominational organization supporting women and children.

TrinityKids Care



They provide in-home hospice care for young patients and support for their families.



Pediatric Therapy Network

Helping to provide what's needed for high quality therapy research and education for children with special needs.

The above received support of their major requests. In addition we were able to help fund programs for the following:

Harbor Interfaith

Ride to fly

Toberman Neighborhood Center

South Bay Wildlife Rehab

RPV-REACH Program

Cabrillo Beach Youth Sailing Club

Campus Concerts

Los Serenos De Pointe Vicente

Marine Mammal Care Center

YWCA Harbor Area and Southbay

"It is in loving, not in being loved, the heart is blessed: It is in giving, not in seeking gifts, we find our quest: Whatever be your longing or your need, that give: So shall your soul be fed, and you indeed shall live."

**MILESTONE: LC HAS
RAISED \$2.5 MILLION**



A Message from Las Candalistas' President, Jennifer Sittel

It is an honor and a privilege to serve Las Candalistas as President during this milestone year. As we celebrate our 50th Anniversary in 2017, my hope is that we will continue to grow and increase our contributions to worthy charities that benefit children and the environment in the South Bay. We have a strong heritage on which to build and I am grateful for all those who have come before us and paved the way for our successful fundraising efforts. We have been working very hard this year to raise funds for our top three philanthropies; Community's Child, Family Promise of the South Bay and Toberman Neighborhood Center. We began the year with the return of our popular Fall event, "Entertaining for the Holidays." Our guests enjoyed creative table designs, informative speakers and a little shopping. They were serenaded by a Barbershop Harmony Chorus and also appreciated the lovely music provided by the Pat Maki players. The event was a huge success and the funds raised exceeded our expectations.

Our next fundraiser was the annual Las Candalistas Friends and Family Holiday Sale. Members and friends look forward to this all year as our jams, jellies and other assorted gourmet goodies make wonderful gifts. We stirred over hot stoves and decoratively packaged each item with loving care. The end result was an income that surpassed all previous sales! We truly enjoy working together for a good cause.

We now look forward to our biggest fundraiser of the year, our Spring Event, to be held on Thursday, April 27, 2017. We are gearing up for the big day and hope to "Wow" our guests with our "Out of Africa" theme. There is much to be done in preparation for this event, but we are a highly motivated group! We are grateful for the support you have given us in the past and we hope you will continue to support us by attending our events, donating an item for our Silent Auction or making a contribution.

Las Candalistas does know how to put the "fun" in fundraising. If you are interested in making some new friends while lending a helping hand to those in need in the South Bay, we would love to hear from you. We welcome new members with open arms. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to learn more about our organization. I can be reached at: jennifergsittel@gmail.com

Highlights From 2016

Our Spring event "A World of Flavor" was an absolute hit. The many months of hard work paid off, our tickets sold out, and we exceeded our fundraising goals.



Event Chairmen Karen Stockbridge, Irene Almeida, and Tracey Pepper.



Guests enjoying Las Candalistas catered lunch.

Our guest speaker Chef Bernard Ibarra, Executive Chef from Terranea Resort with Sous Chef Jonathon De La Cruz.



Back by popular demand and more beautiful and better than ever- Las Candalistas' "Entertaining for the Holidays" fundraising event. The table arrangement suggestions for all holidays were inspiring, guests shopped the Las Candalistas creations and Sweet Shoppe, bid of a fabulous array of Silent Auction items, learned new and special entertaining suggestions from 3 speakers and started their holiday shopping at the Boutique Vendors.



Event Chairmen Janie Woodburn and Janie Hasselman.



New Years Eve "clock themed" table décor

A special LC 50 Year anniversary table representing 10 Event Themes through the years.



Once again our very popular Friends and Family Holiday Sale created an additional \$9000 in fundraising for us. Pictured here our Event Chair Brigitte Haber and members Jan Raymond and Judy Armstrong.

Due to the very generous donations from our members we were able to compile our collection of toiletries and cosmetics for our Holiday Gift kits. We were able to donate 520 kits to our charities and all were extremely grateful. Toiletry kits were donated to: Beacon House, YWCA, Harbor Interfaith Shelter, Toberman Neighborhood Center, House of Hope and SHAWL.

During the holidays, the ladies of Las Candalistas banded together to help create a magical holiday for 3 families. Our Adopt a Family donations were very appreciated and brought the magic of the season to those who really needed it.

Many of our members help out at Community's Child's Food pantry packing the bags for the school children whose families receive them on a regular basis.



"Never worry about numbers. Help one person at a time, and always start with the person nearest you."
- Mother Teresa

A Message from the Chairman of the Board— Marcia Butler



Welcome to the 50th anniversary year of Las Candalistas. Our philanthropic organization was founded in 1967 by Jane McNeil and several other far-sighted women who wanted to volunteer their time to give back to others in the South Bay. Although Jane McNeil is our only current member who has been in Las Candalistas for 50 years, many of our present members joined this organization in the 1970s and 1980s. Some of them have not slowed down and still devote many hours to the success of our programs. Las Candalistas is that kind of a wonderful organization, where life-long friends are made as we all work together for a common goal. Jane McNeil is still a member of Las Candalistas and actively participates in some of our events. She set the bar extremely high for all of us. Through the past 50 years, hundreds of caring women have followed Jane's lead. They are actively involved in the Spring Event and are also involved with Entertaining for the Holidays, a fall fundraiser that we have held for several years.

I, along with the two previous chairs of the Board of Directors, joined Las Candalistas in 2005. During the last twelve years, I have been constantly amazed at the talents and dedication of our members. We are all extremely interested in raising money to help our philanthropies. Our main focus is to assist organizations that support children and/or the environment in the South Bay. After reading this edition of the Insider, if you are interested in joining a caring group such as Las Candalistas, please contact us at www.lascandalistas.org.

We are pleased to introduce one of our featured speakers for our 2017 Spring Event, "Out of Africa", Humanitarian Award winning author and philanthropist:
LINDA ECKERBOM COLE



In 2006, Linda Cole founded the Community Action Fund for Women in Africa (CAFWA). It is a small non-profit organization in Uganda that seeks to empower women after war by providing them with the technical skills, education, agricultural knowledge and microfinance training they need to succeed.

Women carry the heaviest post-conflict burden and are key to rebuilding war torn communities. For the women who were forced to participate in the conflicts, the return home is difficult. Many return to areas where the infrastructure has been destroyed and access to health care, education and employment is tenuous. They are often stigmatized and their children may be rejected from the community. Because women are traditionally caretakers and responsible for running their households, access to these resources is critical for survival. CAFWA works in partnership with community groups to improve the lives of women in post-war areas of Africa. Believing that women should be active participants in determining their path to success, CAFWA builds on initiatives that the women themselves have started. When women are actively involved in decision making, their voices ensure that vital societal priorities are upheld.

Linda Cole has extensive experience in assessing community needs, preventative health-care and small -scale farming. Linda has a Master's degree in Humanitarian Assistance from Tufts University. She is the co-author of "Women, Girls, Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration" with Dyan Mazurana, published in "Women and Wars." Linda is the recipient of the 2014 Leah Horowitz Humanitarian Award. She is in the process of changing the name of the organization from CAFWA to African Women Rising - a name that reflects the positive impact the organization has on the women it serves to lift up from dire circumstances.

Linda's talk will be informative and inspirational!

"I believe that if you change one woman's life it will have a ripple effect, more powerful than anything you can imagine. CAFWA is working to make a difference within the communities in Uganda one woman at a time." Oprah Winfrey



Las Candalistas
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SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR SPRING EVENT
THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2017
10a.m -3pm.

"Out of Africa"

An African Cultural Experience at the beautiful Catalina View Gardens.

Enjoy our speaker series featuring Humanitarian and Author Linda Cole about "Empowering Women in Africa", Dr. Sue Soldoff on "All Creatures Great and Small", African Music performance by Amadou Fall.

Boutique Vendors, Silent Auction, Las Candalistas Gourmet lunch, Las Candalistas Creations, Garden Shop and Gourmet Pantry.

Best of all, enter to win a fabulous Kenyan Safari and a stay in Cape Town. More information inside as well as at

www.lascandalistas.org

"From what we get, we can make a living; what we give, however, makes a life." Arthur Ashe

520 Toiletry Bags compiled and donated to South Bay Shelters this year!

149 MEMBERS

