

LAS CANDALISTAS MAY NEWSLETTER

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

From the President's Desk:

We have endured a very long year with many challenges. Many of us are tired and ready for rest. But I have never been prouder of all of you. Our members have come through over and over again, rising up, facing the challenges and overcoming anything in our paths.

April is the traditional month for our major fundraising Spring Event. This has become a glorious event with luncheon for 350 guests, vendors, bake shop, garden shop, silent auction, boutique items and (previously) an Opportunity Drawing. All of these were in the context of a huge gathering, created by our own smaller gatherings for all the preparations.

Clearly, we were not able to do any of that this year. But our members rose to the challenge and produced several events that were amazing. Sweet Shoppe and Friends and Family baked and jellied their way to a 'sold out' sale, where items were picked up at Janie Woodburn's home.

Found Treasures plus some Members' Sale leaders valiantly faced the rain at Mary Sloper's home to bring in almost as much as in 2019. Ann Goodhart's patio became a Las Candalistas Boutique for more money for our charities. And as I write this, Debbie Sampson and Laura Henson-Broussard are bringing the Bidding for Good on-line auction live and ready for action.

Next weekend, we will broaden, just a little bit, our fundraising. In an effort to reduce our items at Ladera Linda, we are going to have a booth at the Sunday Palos Verdes Farmers Market, located in the Parking Lot of the high school. We will be there from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. If you missed our Members' Sale or wish to pick up a Mothers' Day gift, or just offer support, bring your friends and neighbors and come by. We would love to see you.

We have faced sadness and illness this year. We have gathered round our sisters when the comfort is needed. That is also part of the character of Las Candalistas. We are a special group, one that makes me eminently proud to be your President.

Paula Tuckerman, President



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We are nearing the end of a very challenging year and I hope all of you have remained healthy and are doing well. On April 16, the vote was held for the 2021-2023 Board of Directors and we are able to share the results in this newsletter. Hollidae Brown will complete the 1-year, 2-month vacancy position. Janie Hasselman and Laura Webb will join the Board, each serving a full 2-year term. I extend my heartfelt appreciation to each of you for agreeing to serve and I know the addition of your years of experience will be a great asset and is truly appreciated.

For the third and I hope final time, our members have come together to create our Spring event both virtually and in person, socially distanced, of course. The final results are not in yet, but I am told that Found Treasures and Boutique sales brought in nearly as much as last year! I know the Bakeshop was well received. I know because I ate goodies from it! Kudos to everyone involved.

Last week's event just proved how resilient and adaptable we are to meet the moment and exceed all expectations. We were happy to see one another and we look forward to the time we can meet again!

**Polly Goodman, Chair, Hollidae Brown, Janis Davis-McGarry, Sue Spellacy, and Karen Tucker
Board of Directors**

PARLIAMENTARIAN

The **May General Meeting will be held on Zoom on Wednesday, May 12, at 9:30 a.m.** The meeting room will open for some online social time beginning at 9:15 a.m. Our President, Paula Tuckerman, will be sending the Zoom meeting link to the entire membership a few days or so beforehand. Be sure to look for it within your email messages.

June Members Social

We discussed the possibility of having the June General Meeting on Zoom followed by a socially distanced get-together for any members comfortable meeting to celebrate everyone's accomplishments over the past year. So far, both the Point Vicente Interpretive Center and South Coast Botanic Garden will not be available for a group of mixed household members to gather. Throughout the month of May, we will continue to explore alternative options for making a year-end social possible and will keep you all posted.

Board of Directors Election

Thank you to everyone who voted last month for our newly elected Board of Directors members Hollidae Brown, Laura Webb and Janie Hasselman. All three women bring a wealth of experience that will positively contribute to the success of Las Candalistas over the time they serve.

Amy Mosher

EVENT CHAIRS NEEDED FOR 2021-2022 FUNDRAISING!

The Nominating Committee has filled all of the Officers positions for next year, but we would LOVE to have the Event Chairs in place too. Wouldn't it be so awesome for us to finish this year of trials and tribulations knowing we have a solid plan for our 2021-2022 fundraisers? There will be so many philanthropies that are going to need our help next year more than ever to recover from this year's losses.

Having Co-Chaired two consecutive Spring Events myself I would encourage anyone that may be interested to take the leap to go for it! The pride and gratitude that comes with the job from knowing that your leadership helped our deserving philanthropies is an amazing sense of accomplishment.

Here are testimonials from some of our past Co-Chairs. Feel free to give any of us a call with questions. Then let our President know of your interest!! Thank you!

Irene Almeida (Past BOD Chair)

Chairing or Co-chairing a huge and complex event such as ours is a daunting task to say the least. However, and this is a big however, it is one of the most rewarding things you can do within Las Candalistas. The amazing things you learn about yourself and others, the friendships that are made and strengthened, and the great feeling of accomplishment when you finally get to the finish line make every bit of it worth the effort. The biggest learning curve for me was that we are all capable of doing much more than we think we can – go for it! **Polly Goodman**

These past few weeks have been a time of reflection for me, so when I was asked to share my thoughts on chairing the Spring Event and E4H many fond memories came to mind. The best word that describes my feelings is GRATITUDE! I have had the good fortune to Co-Chair two of each! Partnering with Ann Goodhart in 2009, we converted the RPV City Hall grounds into a quaint Italian village for “A Stroll Through Tuscany”. Three years later as Ways and Means chairs, Ann and I stepped forward to chair “Fashion in Bloom” at the Botanic Gardens creating a 10’ mannequin wearing a taffeta gown! Both were challenging and required a lot of teamwork and imagination. There is nothing more gratifying than seeing your vision come to life!

After a hiatus of several years, Las Candalistas decided to revive our Fall fundraiser, E4H. It was a little scary because we had never had to pay a facility rental fee. Thanks to a daring and visionary partner in Janie Woodburn, we recruited an enthusiastic team of Chairwomen who made it an amazing success encouraging the continuation of the event.

Another opportunity to Co-Chair E4H came three years later when Ann and I teamed up again to “Celebrate the Seasons” (who could say no to Ann?). It was so rewarding to be able to contribute those additional funds to our charities in June.

In retrospect, I can't think of a more rewarding way to invest my time, energy and creativity. I cherish the friendships that bind us together through the good times and the challenging times. Now more than ever we all need to share our gifts. **Janie Hasselman**

I Co-Chaired the Spring Event 2018 with Judy Armstrong and Polly Goodman. I was a little nervous at first, but the theme was Ireland, so it was hard to say no. It was so much fun working with Judy and Polly. We worked great together and between the three of us meeting up over wine quite a few times during the year we put on a great day and made money for our charities.

Co-Chairing the event was so rewarding and something I really enjoyed. It also is an accomplishment of which I am very proud. Working with Polly and Judy brought us very close together and we're even better friends afterwards than we were before.

I would encourage anyone to Co-Chair the event. The talent and support from the entire Las Candalistas sisterhood is amazing and makes a successful outcome almost assured. **Paula Redmond**

Our natural reaction is "I couldn't possibly do that!" That is exactly what I thought when first approached. I would say as long as you can work as part of a team you definitely can. If you can bring up children, run a household, Yep, you have the skills! Co-Chairing makes it much easier as you can break down the event into manageable size chunks.

I've now Co-Chaired two Spring events and enjoyed both so much. It's great fun exploring the themes and once a theme clicks you will be surprised what falls into place! It can be a challenge getting speakers, especially as we don't pay them, but our group has a great network and Las Candalistas is well known in the area, so we have ways of helping.

Because our events are Co-Chaired you can play on each other's strengths. As long as you have one in the group who is detail orientated, one who is creative, and one who is slightly techy, you will make a great team. Plus, don't forget you have the whole village to help. We are so blessed that we are all in this group because we want to make a difference within our community and we want to raise money for our charities, so you have a huge band of willing helpers, and they are your biggest cheerleaders.

You definitely learn new skills, and you grow as a person and on the day of the event, you will pinch yourself that you had anything to do with the event. The first one I Chaired was 'Out of Africa' and although I could see our vision in my head I was still blown away on the day, and extremely proud of the atmosphere we created, and the money raised.

Co-Chairing is fun, you work together, laugh together, and sometimes cry together, it certainly cements stronger friendships.

This year Karen, Janie and I have been robbed of that last 'blown away moment' as we could definitely see it in our heads, we could feel the excitement brewing as all the Chairs came on board and as they started to make the magic happen.....sigh....

But you have to be ready with plan B and in this case plan C and D! So, don't shy away from having a go, you won't regret it and so many people in the group have done it and are always on the end of the phone or email. You won't regret it - I promise! **Debbie Sampson**

Signing up to be an Event Co-Chairman may sound like a daunting task... but it doesn't need to be. I've heard people say, "Oh, I could never do that, I don't have the skills". But here's the deal... most of us do. Being a Chairman is being a project manager with 1 or 2 partners to share the load. We each manage projects every day. We plan: birthday parties, a week's grocery list for a week's worth of menus, a kitchen remodel, a move to a new home, our kids' college plans, a European vacation.... think about what is needed to make Christmas happen: cards are ordered and sent out, the House is decorated, gifts for 20 extended family members are planned, purchased, wrapped, delivered, parties are attended in new dressy outfits, meals and menus are planned, baking special treats happens... that's a Project Manager. You do have the skills!

Las Candalistas' Events have a tried and true formula, and a great guidebook with timelines to follow. So many of our members specialize in certain jobs. Get those experienced members in key chairmanship positions and they take the ball and run with it. Divide the load with your Co-Chairs so it's not overwhelming.

The best parts of being an event Chairman are getting to know the other members better, watching the creativity in action, stretching yourself to trying new things, and then seeing it all fall into place on Event Day! But... for me I am always so proud of myself and our group for doing everything we can think of to make the most money possible for our charities. If I'm feeling tired, I just make sure that I keep my eye on the prize... food for hungry kids or a bed for a homeless family! **Karen Stockbridge**

LIFE, LEISURE, & LOVE -- 2021 SPRING EVENT



As we write this, we are 40 minutes into our auction going live and already have 40 bids in! Thank you to everyone who contributed or commandeered prizes, it truly takes a village!

So far, the hotly contested items are:

Hotel.com gift card x 7 bids
Van Gogh exhibit x 6 bids
Bird Haven starter pack x 3 bids
Red Onion gift card x 2 bids
Beauty Bliss x 2 bids

Lots of the other gift cards have single bids on, but it changes minute by minute which is what makes the online auction so exciting!

The auction closes at 8:00pm Sunday 2nd May. If this newsletter reaches you before you still have time to bid! The site link is www.biddingforgood.com/lascandalistas/spring2021

Thank you to the ladies who have volunteered to deliver and mail the auction prizes and “Buy it Now” items – Hollidae Brown, Cheryl Deppe, Marlyn Franklin, Cathy Howard, Lorri Mino, Judy Moorhead, Anne Nelson, Paula Redmond and Karen Tucker.

This lock down year has reminded us all how precious *‘life’* is and how much our *‘leisure’* time is enriched with *‘love’* of our family and friends. We have all had to adapt our lives. But think how hard that has been for a lot of the families that we support through our charities. For so many *‘life’* has become very strained with loss of jobs and/or income and the worry that causes, which then impacts their mental health, so they lose motivation to enjoy any *‘leisure’* time.

COVID has had a very real impact on mental health. The pressures of living 24/7 in a small family home with children not being at school, mums, and dads either both trying to work at home or suddenly not going to work has created huge pressures and torn apart any *‘love’* shared, often resulting in domestic violence. The LA Domestic violence hotline saw significant increase in 2020.

Some of us have struggled, but nothing compared to so many others that had so little in the first place. It is time for us to dig deep, girls!

Thank you all for your help and support!

Karyn Farris, Sue Soldoff, Laura Henson, and Debbie Sampson

SPRING BOUTIQUE

The Boutique was a success! Everyone wore a mask, we never had to restrict the number of shoppers who were on the patio, and we made money to help our cause!

I would like to thank all the members that made or contributed items or plants to sell at the Boutique: Michelle Joye, Carla Smith, Monika Bauer, Susan Sanborn, Lynda Black, Paula Tuckerman, Janis Davis, Janie Woodburn, and Janie Hasselman. We had a great variety of items to offer our shoppers.

Thank you to Belinda Krekorian for all her help schlepping, setting up and taking down the displays and tables on the patio. And thank you to Judy Armstrong for being our greeter and cashier.

Thank you also to our members and their friends that came to shop. I hope all had fun buying a special item or just looking. Thanks for stopping by.

Great job everyone!

Ann Goodhart

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS SALE

The sale was held April 22 at Sustainer Mary Sloper's home. The day before the sale volunteers met at Ladera Linda at noon and loaded Found Treasures boxes into the large U-Haul that Suzanne and John Manavian had rented. Most of the volunteers followed the truck and helped unload and unpack the items onto tables. We covered the tables with plastic to keep them dry.

The next morning our volunteers arrived at 7:00 am to take the plastic covers off and artfully display our items. A light drizzle turned into steady rain and many of us were drenched and had to go home and change into rain gear. It didn't dampen our spirits and in true Las Candalistas spirit we carried on. Karen Stockbridge had put an ad in Next Door, but for some reason it was taken down. The neighborhood is usually full of walkers, but because of the rain we did not get many people walking by. The Good News is we made \$2000.

Clean up- Paula Tuckerman loaded her car with items we thought would sell at the Farmer's Market. Some of the items that have not sold in previous sales were taken to the Salvation Army. Other items were boxed up and loaded onto the U-Haul and driven to Ladera Linda. It was a race for time because the staff at Ladera Linda leave at 5:00 pm and the Manavian's had to return the U-Haul or pay for another day. Volunteers arrived with their husbands and one son and we unloaded the truck in record time. Our storage area at Ladera Linda looks so much neater.

Our Team would like to thank our **21 volunteers** who helped make our event a success.

Hollidae Brown, Paula Redmond, Judy Moorhead

FARMERS' MARKET---MAY 2ND

We made a great start in selling our Found Treasure's items at the Members' Sale on April 22, despite drizzle, rain, and COVID uncertainty! As you know, we have been accumulating our Treasures for more than a year now, and haven't had many opportunities to sell them. Board Chair Polly Goodman followed a lead (from her daughter) and looked into selling at the Palos Verdes Farmers' Market.

It is located at 27118 Silver Spur Road (in the parking lot at the High School). Brian Weiss, the manager, has been very welcoming, and we are getting the spot gratis as a non-profit organization.

Paula Tuckerman and Judy Moorhead have agreed to transport the items and the popup, tables and chairs. Members have signed up to help set up, to staff the booth and then to pack up when it is over.

YOUR JOB is to come and bring your friends! We all love to shop Las Candalistas Found Treasures, and this is one of the most popular spaces when we have our luncheon. We are bringing a smaller version to a more available place.

**Las Candalistas will be at the Palos Verdes Farmers' Market,
27118 Silver Spur Road (at the High School) from 8 until 1 on Sunday, May 2.**

Bring all your friends and neighbors!

PHILANTHROPY NEWS

INVITE FROM TOBERMAN

Dear Las Candalistas,

I hope this finds you doing well! I wanted to send a quick update on what Toberman has been up to since the pandemic started just over a year ago. We pivoted immediately and started to provide many of our programs virtually so that our community members were able to access the much needed services. We are constantly updating our programs based on the needs of our clients. To meet the challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic, Toberman Neighborhood Center has adapted and expanded in the following ways:

- Went from seeing an average of 152 clients a month before the pandemic to seeing 423 per month through our Family Source Center.
- Created a new WiFi Club, supporting students with distance learning through free onsite internet access for all students. In addition, we have given out 75 hot spots for youth to access the internet at home. Toberman assists students with access to technology by offering laptop lending for 50+ youth along with computer classes for parents to support their children.
- Distributed 52,000+ meals since the onset of the pandemic through daily Grab & Go community meals to combat increased food insecurity.
- Transformed our food pantry to a Mobile Food Pantry, delivering weekly groceries directly to the homes of 500+ families.
- Distributed COVID relief funds in partnership with the Mayor's Fund. Awarding over two million dollars to 2,500 families for rental and utility assistance, debit cards, and grocery cards, to ensure children will have access to food and be able to stay in their homes amidst record unemployment.
- Pivoted after-school programming to provide virtual tutoring, mentoring, enrichment classes, and civic engagement to continue supporting students' educational goals and provide a needed social outlet.

- Purchased a 90 foot canopy to cover our parking lot so that we may continue to safely meet clients and offer classes. The weather has been an issue and has damaged the poles and tarp numerous times however with a commitment to safety we continue to fix and replace the parts so that we may continue to see clients and offer classes.

We've partnered with Providence Community Health who has not only provided flu shot clinics for community members, but most recently, they brought a COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic for our friends 65+. We have partnered with Heal360 Urgent care who is at our campus daily, providing community members with free Covid-19 testing, Rapid Antigen testing as well as Rapid Antibody testing!

During the month of January, our Gang Prevention staff work with their youth to educate them on MLK Jr's "I Have a Dream" speech. They then asked the youth to write their own "I Have a Dream" letter. Youth wrote everything from wishing to have their own bike so they can get out and exercise with their friends during the pandemic, to wanting to travel the world as a DJ and write about their travels. One young man wrote that he wished he had a streaming camera as he's learning how to stream and thinks that could be a source of income so he can help his mom! In February, Toberman staff wanted to make those dreams come true in a magical way! Youth and their families were invited to campus to read their letters. They staff asked the youth to come to Toberman to read their letters. Unbeknownst to the youth, upon reading their letters, they would be presented with a gift that represented their dreams. It was an amazing event that put smiles (and tears of joy!) on the faces of everyone which was nice to see after the year we have all had!

It's been quite the year! We are now preparing for the day when we can welcome youth and their families back on campus for in-person programming and services. I'll be sure to send an update once that happens.

Best,

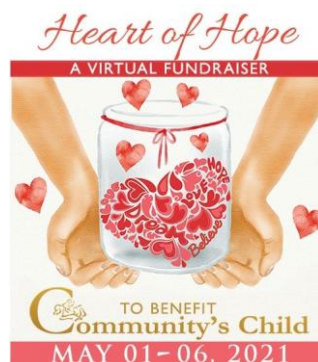
Cathy Cesarz, Director of Development, Foundation and Government Grants

COMMUNITY'S CHILD

This organization has many programs other than the food donations. They are committed to offering women and their infants with healthy alternatives by providing safe living environments, training and education to end poverty, neglect, abuse, addictions and hopelessness.

Their Hungry Bags program which delivers groceries to needy families through their local schools continues to improve the health and nutrition of children in need. Studies have shown that children that receive better nutrition have a better chance for educational success.

You can volunteer in many ways by downloading their volunteer application and selecting jobs you would be interested in. You have the opportunity to choose the time/days and length of job, so think about it.



HARBOR INTERFAITH SERVICES

I'm excited to announce that you can now register for our free **Seventh Annual Evening of Fun(d)raising!** This virtual event will support the great work of **Harbor Interfaith Services (HIS)**, which serves the working poor and homeless of the South Bay. I've been working hard to help the South Bay Auxiliary of HIS make this a successful event, so I hope that you will join us!

The event will take place on **Wednesday, May 12th at 7:00 PM.** *Note – this isn't Zoom! You won't be on camera!* It will include a live auction and will be hosted by acclaimed comedienne and author, Judy Carter. We have some great items lined up for our **silent auction, which begins on May 5th and ends on May 16th.** Funds raised will support The Children's Center of HIS, which provides a safe and loving space for kids to learn and grow while their parents work and/or go to school.

I hope you'll attend and have fun supporting this great cause! You can **register now – no purchase necessary** – at <https://his2021.givesmart.com>. If you're not able to attend, I hope you'll consider donating at that link! Thank you so much!

Suzanne Manavian, Susan Sanborn, Cathy Howard

MEMBERSHIP

It's that time of year when we are gearing up for the close of the 2020-2021 season. Here is some important information:

- The final date for **notification of status change** must be emailed to us by **May 15, 2021.**
- It's time to pay your dues. We would appreciate you turning them in as soon as possible in order to have your name included in our roster. The **dues must be paid by June 30, 2021.** It would be helpful if Actives and Associates **would include the supply fee on the same check as your dues.** The dues form is attached.
- Please let us know if there are any name, address, email and/or phone number changes that need to be made for the 2021-2022 roster.
- We are excited to announce that we currently have 3 new Provisionals! It's not too late to turn in names of potential new members. At this time, we are looking for mentors for our new Provisionals. If you are interested in becoming a mentor, please contact us. We found these mentor guidelines in a membership book that we are also attaching. We will be working on cleaning them up but in the meantime, this gives you an idea of what is involved.

Mentor and Co-Mentor Guidelines

1. Introduce yourself if you do not already know your Provisional.
2. Invite her to have coffee, or give her a phone call to get to know her.
3. Get some information about her, # children, interests and hobbies, background

so that you can introduce her at the June Luncheon and again at the September General meeting.

4. Have her sit with you at the June Luncheon and September meeting.
5. Touch base with your Provisional during the summer just to say Hi.
6. Call or e mail her to be sure she knows where the September meeting is, to bring a chair, to bring a potluck dish, etc.
7. Be sure to say hello, offer to sit together, introduce her to other members, etc. at the meetings.
8. Answer any questions regarding Las Candelistas through the year.
9. If she has a problem and needs help, find that help from someone in the group and alert the Membership Chairmen.
10. If possible (strongly recommended), try and coordinate the time that you and your Provisional will both be at event bake days and Friends and Family bake days to guide her through the process. We are hoping that a buddy system will make the provisional feel more comfortable in getting to know our routine.
11. Be a friend!

Thank you so much for volunteering to be sponsors and aiding in the growth of our membership.

Last, but definitely not least, we want to wish these fabulous women a very happy May birthday!



Cheryl Gutierrez 5/1
Marcia Butler 5/17
Susan Creed 5/21
Janie Hasselman 5/30

Sue von Nordenflycht 5/1
Karyn Farris 5/18
Belinda Krekorian 5/26
Laura Henson Broussard 5/30

Paula Tuckerman 5/16
Anne Nelson 5/19
Jan Raymond 5/27

Any questions or concerns, please contact us.

Lorri Mino and Lisa Nesicolaci
Membership Chairs

LAS CANDALISTAS DUES FORM

Name: _____

_____ Active \$55.00

_____ Associate \$75.00

_____ Sustainer \$100.00

_____ I am an Active or Associate and am paying my \$20.00 Supply Fee now (on same check)

Total Amount: _____

Make check payable to Las Candalistas and send to Lisa Nesicolaci, 24288 Ward St., Torrance, CA 90505 or you can pay with Venmo @Lisa-Nesicolaci. Please submit before June 30th to be included in our printed Membership Roster.

_____ Check here if there are ANY changes to your information and ONLY fill in if you have CHANGES.

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____ Spouse's Name: _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PAYMENT

THRIFT

Our charities are still **not** collecting items so there will be no collection in May.

If you have been purging closets and are looking for places to donate items, you can take to **Palos Verdes Resale**, 2321 PCH, Lomita, 310-534-1722. They donate to many of the same charities we support.

Also, **Beacon House Thrift Shop**, 812 S. Pacific Ave., San Pedro, 310-514-4940. Beacon House is one of our charities. Call first to check hours.

Additional place accepting donations during COVID is –

Salvation Army Thrift Shop, 4310 PCH, Torrance.

Also, if any toiletries or cosmetics have been collected, we will accept and keep for our holiday gift giving to our charities. They can be brought to Jan's home, but call/email/text first to let her know to expect them.

Thank You,

Donna and Jan
Thrift Co-Chairs

AMAZON SMILE/RALPHS

The AmazonSmile contributions have been received now from October-December 2020 and total \$79.94. Much thanks for all of you who used AmazonSmile for purchases!!!

No news on the Ralphs Community Program as we receive funds in June. Not yet a member that contributed to Las Candalistas via your purchases at Ralphs?? Just call 1-800-443-4438 to register. To designate Las Candalistas as the charity, provide them with our number, NPO #SH584!!

Mary Ross
Community Contribution Program Coordinator

MAY 2021

May Birthdays

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						01
						Cheryl Gutierrez Sue von Nordenflycht
02	03	04	05	06	07	08
			Officers Meeting Via Zoom			
09	10	11	12	13	14	15
			General Meeting Via Zoom			Paula Tuckerman
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Marcia Butler	Karyn Farris	Anne Nelson		Susan Creed	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
			Belinda Krekorian	Jan Raymond		
30	31					
Janie Hassleman Laura Henson-Broussard						