

President's Message

As I listen to the words sung by Steve Green, "O may all who come behind us find us faithful," I am filled with appreciation for those who developed and sustained this Medical Auxiliary over the last 90 years. "May the fire of our devotion light their way" certainly describes those who founded and enlarged our unique ministries to our missionaries, our students, and our community.

Today, I remember many who have inspired us through their lives and particularly three who have left us in just the last few months. Patricia (Pat) Foster, 1996-1997 President, enthusiastically supported the Medical Auxiliary in numerous roles, including Scholarship Chair from 2004-2008, in addition to raising six children with her husband Glenn Foster SM'57. Marianne Walter, 2002-2003 President, was currently serving as Cookbook Co-Chair. During her term as Auxiliary President she helped raise funds for Dr. Gordon and Alphie Hadley at the medical school in Kabul, Afghanistan while at the same time supporting her husband General Michael Walter SM'73-B as commander's wife for his Medical Brigade unit in Tennessee. Geraldine (Geri) Gaines, President 1992-1993, was also Auxiliary Woman of the Year in 2010. She commuted frequently to our office from her home in Simi Valley, and with her husband Elvin Gaines SM'61 brought us a great interest in supporting our missionaries based on their own dedicated short-term mission trips.



Patricia Foster
1996-1997



Marianne Walter
2002-2003



Geraldine Gaines
1992-1993

Our Little White House, Tree of Angels, DUO, scholarships and support of missionaries would not be possible without the past and present leadership of hundreds, and the support of all of you, our constituents. As we seek to maintain and further enlarge the ministries of the Medical Auxiliary I am moved to deep gratitude for "their lives a stirring testament to God's sustaining grace."

Yours faithfully,

Merle Hildebrand



Maria Alejandra's Story

as told to Janette Allen

I was born in Oxapampa, a city located in the jungle of Peru. Due to my parents' divorce and economic struggles, I spent a significant portion of my childhood with my loving, God-fearing grandparents. However, I sometimes questioned if God truly existed and if he cared about me. Despite feeling angry and resentful, I held onto hope and faith that a better tomorrow was possible.

My life changed when I moved to Lima to live with my father and enrolled in the only Adventist university in Peru to study environmental engineering. As I delved deeper into my studies, I began reading the Bible and gradually came to know God as a friend, despite feeling unworthy. In my second year of college, I made the decision to be baptized.

I volunteered in the Geoscience Center on campus, where I learned about the creation story and acknowledged God as the Creator. One day, the Director told me about a grant to participate in a DinoDig, an archeological dig in Wyoming. Although I was nervous because I couldn't speak or write basic English, the Director encouraged me to step out in faith and to apply for the grant. To my surprise, I was chosen and received a tourist visa and an airline ticket.

My experience in Wyoming was wonderful. With Spanish-speaking friends at the Dig, I did not need to learn English. I wouldn't need it again anyway, I thought. I would never leave my beloved Peru. Unfortunately COVID devastated my family and my financial resources dwindled. But some of the scientists I met in 2019 offered to help me apply for a scholarship to pursue a Master's degree in geology at Loma Linda University. Despite facing obstacles like acquiring the correct documents, taking exams and caring for relatives with COVID, I decided to trust in God's plan. *(continued on page 6)*



Cookbooks



Open Table

Hardbound, with beautiful full-color photographs
\$34, pickup or ships for \$6.

An Apple A Day cookbook series available!

Order by mail or online at www.lumedaux.org



From the Editors

With the arrival of spring, we are reminded of the beauty of renewal and new beginnings. As Song of Solomon 2:11-12 reminds us, "For the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers are springing up and the time of the singing of birds has come. Yes, spring is here." (Living Bible)

Just as flowers bravely face the elements of nature, we too can use this season to face our challenges and embrace growth. Let us take this opportunity to refresh ourselves and start anew, leaving behind any negativity or difficulties we may have faced in the past. As we move forward, let's keep our faces towards God, who makes all things beautiful in His time. Like tiny sprouts and blossoming buds, we too can flourish in the warmth of His love and guidance.

Wishing you blooms of blessings,

Lynda Chan and Karen Wat Nielsen

Auxiliary News Sponsors

Friend

Lynda and Raymond Chan
Marianne Walter

Partner

Merle and Steve Hildebrand
Darilee and Elmar Sakala
Karen Wat Nielsen



In Loving Memory

Ella Bishop
Widow of Carl Bishop Jr. SM'51
Shallena Crouse
Wife of James Crouse SM'07
Geraldine Gaines
Widow of Elvin Gaines SM'61
Florence Hardesty
Wife of J. Kinzie Hardesty SM'57
Marian Henning
Wife of Carl Henning SM'63
Ann Hoxie
Widow of Russell Hoxie SM'61
Barbara Smith
Wife of William Smith SM'68
Marianne Walter
Wife of Michael Walter SM'73 B

New Life Member

Kelly Murray



The Auxiliary News is the newsletter of the Loma Linda University Medical Auxiliary.
11245 Anderson Street, Suite 230
Loma Linda, CA 92354
Phone: 909-558-4639 • Fax: 909-558-4638
contact@lumedaux.org • www.lumedaux.org
Facebook: lumedaux • YouTube: Auxiliary TV



Table of Contents

President's Message	1
Maria Alejandra's Story	1
Mission Vespers.....	3
Homecoming Luncheon	4
JMA Update	6
Scholarship Naming	6
LWH Spring Fling.....	7

Mission Vespers

By Patti Batin Hall

Medical Auxiliary hosted APC Homecoming Sabbath Mission Vespers at the University Church on March 4. Becky Murdoch, DUO Chair, opened the program with a warm welcome and Janette Allen, Tree of Angels Chair, gave the opening prayer. Dr. Richard Hart SM'70, President of Loma Linda University Health, provided a program that celebrated 25 years of Adventist Health International.

The staff and alumni who have worked hard to provide global services for LLU medical outreach were introduced and the LLUH Global Service Award was presented to Bob Frost who continues to volunteer with AHL even after retirement. An inspirational video was shown that highlighted some poignant stories of medical work. Dr. Tiffany Priester SM'04 offered the Mission Appeal and prayer. She also announced the recipients of the AIMS Global Service awards: Dr. Rachel McLaughlin SM'05 and Dr. David McFadden SM'73-B.

Music for the worship service was provided by students from the schools of Medicine, Pharmacy, Dentistry and Allied Health. First-year medical student Quinn Kalmansson played a cello solo with his wife Anna Yukho accompanying him on the piano for a virtuoso offertory performance. Dr. Lamont Murdoch SM'63, a retired LLUSM professor of endocrinology, spoke the benediction while Dr. Steven Hildebrand SM'80-A ended the program with a postlude arrangement of hymns used in praise worship.



Dr. Tiffany Priester



Dr. Richard Hart



Cellist Quinn Kalmansson SM'26



Becky Murdoch and Janette Allen



Members of the AHL team with Dr. Hart, far right

All offerings will be used for Medical Auxiliary's mission projects which include a six-bed ICU in Kenya, a new trauma bay in Liberia, refurbishing exam rooms and a new Xray machine in Belize, village outreach in India, and an EKG/Lab machine/ambulance for Sierra Leone.

We have been truly blessed to witness the marvelous hand of God touch each heart for His missions!



Dining room at the Victoria Club



Cheryl Hayton, Donna Hadley, Jolene Hilliard & Annette Frykman

Auxilliary Homecoming Luncheon

By Karen Wat Nielsen

The annual Homecoming Luncheon was held at the Victoria Club in Riverside on Sunday, March 5, 2023. Upon their arrival, guests could bid on silent auction items as well as purchase edible treats and jewelry while enjoying piano music provided by Dr. Steve Hildebrand. Danielle Hoxie welcomed attendees before Merle Hildebrand presented the Nominating Committee’s report for the 2023-2024 Board. Merle thanked all who had worked so hard on this event and later gave the blessing for the food.

Dana Brockmann introduced Tad Worku, a multi-talented musician, songwriter and emergency department nurse, who inspired us with songs both before and after the buffet meal. His song, *“Love Remains,”* reminded us that even as life throws challenges at us, *“Love remains through the stains.”*

Colleen Vercio, who has known our featured speaker for over 25 years, introduced Cheri Fletcher, an alumna of the LLU School of Dentistry/Dental Hygiene and host of the podcast *“Your Spiritual Game Plan.”* Cherie’s husband Todd Fletcher worked at the Kirkland Life Care Center in Washington state at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. Cheri recounted how an outbreak of “pneumonia” at the nursing home made headlines and morphed into the tragedy that we have all known ever since.



Musician Tad Worku



Colleen Vercio with speaker Cheri Fletcher

But she also encouraged us with the message that even though the enemy has twisted God’s plan for our “togetherness” via personal isolation, canceled activities and lost connections, we can still find community through comfort. Our God is a God *“who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.”* 2 Corinthians 1:4. (NIV) Her plea is to reach out to strangers and neighbors to make us all family.

The afternoon concluded with more music by Tad and a benediction by Dr. Yami Bazan, Associate Dean for Student Affairs, LLU School of Medicine.





Dr. & Mrs. David McFadden
(AIMS Global Service
Award recipient)



Danielle Hoxie, Dana Brockmann & baby Colette



Carmen Walters, Alicia Murray, Mellissa Rouhe, & Sharon Stewart



Carla Lidner Baum & Louise Schneider



Rita Bailie & daughters



Tablescape

JMA Update

By Martha Riggs

The JMA is wrapping up what has been a great year of fellowship and spiritual growth in community. This year we welcomed two babies to our community, with more on the way. Three of the four current JMA board members will be leaving California for various residencies. A new leadership board of rising MS2 and MS3 wives will be taking over soon! We have two more evening vespers planned. We are also wrapping up our weekly book study on creating and maintaining healthy, Biblical boundaries. The JMA is grateful to the Medical Auxiliary for their continued support this year. Thank you to our dinner hosts and to those who bought sourdough bread to support our dinner expenses. We are grateful for the work of the Medical Auxiliary and the example they set of service and generosity.



The Junior Medical Auxiliary (JMA) had a booth selling sourdough bread at the luncheon. Left to right, Lauren McKinney, Kaitlyn Reimer & Rachel Sheperd

Scholarship Fund Naming

By Karen Nat Nielsen

In 1987 Georgia Hodgkin, then President of the National Auxiliary, proposed that as part of their philanthropic mission the Auxiliary could grant tuition scholarships to medical students. She and Dixie Watkins, the 1988-1989 President of the National Auxiliary, met with LLUSM Dean Lyn Behrens who supported their proposal which was then approved by the Auxiliary Board of Directors in 1988. Georgia began a campaign to raise monies for an endowed scholarship fund from the School of Medicine Classes of 1964 and 1965 to honor those classes' Silver Anniversaries. She recruited her three children to stuff envelopes for mailings. The first scholarships were awarded for the school year 1988-89.

This scholarship endowment has now grown large enough to fund a \$10,000 award annually from the account's interest. Dozens of worthy medical students have been the recipients since 1988. With the recent passing of Georgia's son Steven SM '90, husband of past Auxiliary President Sheila (Atiga) Hodgkin, the Auxiliary Board voted to re-name the Scholarship Fund the Steve E Hodgkin Foundation Fund to honor both Georgia and Sheila's amazing support of the Medical Auxiliary over the years.



Steven, Georgia & Sheila Hodgkin

Maria Alejandra's Story

(continued from page 1)

At first I was unsuccessful in obtaining a visa to the US. I prayed for guidance and decided to do mission work instead of pursuing the scholarship. I found a youth camp that needed volunteers. The camp started in two days, I had two days travel time. I threw some clothes into a backpack and headed to the camp. Upon arrival, I checked my email and saw that the US embassy had granted me an appointment for the next day at 2 pm. After letting the camp organizer know, I immediately traveled back to Lima. Other interviewees told me they had waited months for an interview. But soon the officer gave me the visa approval. I was told it would take three months to process, but 10 days later with visa in hand, I traveled to the airport to start an incredible journey to Loma Linda University.

I had nothing when I arrived, but after meeting Janette Allen at church, she told me about the Little White House. It was such a blessing to get things for my dorm room before winter. These included a comforter, pillows, plates, forks, spoons, blender and containers, as well as plants and food. Since then I have had my share of ups and downs. My dear grandparents passed away and I was heartbroken. However, I love my studies, and I continue to walk in faith and trust that God has a plan for my life. I am grateful to all those who make my stay at Loma Linda University possible, from the anonymous scholarship donors, to professors, classmates, friends, church members and the community. Everywhere I look, I see God's countless blessings.

Little White House

Students lined up for the LWH Spring Fling Easter event on Monday evening March 27, 2023. They met fellow students and enjoyed a popcorn “bar” and sodas, while playing games and browsing the rooms and yard full of household goods, clothes, small appliances, furniture and more. Many treasures were happily carried to homes, apartments and dorm rooms. Notes of thanks were left for the hard-working LWH volunteers who meet regularly on Monday mornings and afternoons.



“THANK YOU! I’m graduating med school this year & the LWH has been a blessing in so many ways. Financially - I could furnish my apt. Socially – my friends and I looked forward to LWH so much b/c we knew it was a time we could fellowship with a good meal. The kind staff always made us feel welcome. As a shopper this was so fun... & free. Amazing ministry.”

“Thank you all so, so much for everything you do. The Little White House not only provides needed and fun items for our homes, but a sweet time to get together with classmates and friends to socialize and eat amazing food. Your generous gifts of time, love and everything else has been a highlight of our time here.”

With gratitude, Dianne, MS4

“Hello! Little White House has been *such* a huge blessing in my life! The warm, kind, generous people here were my first impression of Loma Linda– your generosity made my mom and I cry during move in! All the needs I was praying about were provided for. Thank you for all you do and the love of Christ you share!”

Joelle, SM '26

“4 years of food, furniture, and fellowship was an enormous blessing! Thank you to all who give their time and money to make this possible.”

Caleb, SM'23



Become an Auxiliary News Sponsor

The News doesn't happen without your support. With postage prices always going up, we invite you to help us connect with alumni families and friends around the world.

Friend	\$100	Angel	\$500
Partner	\$250	Benefactor	\$1000

Your tax-deductible contributions of any amount may be made online at www.lumedaux.org or mailed to the National Auxiliary, 11245 Anderson St., Suite 230, Loma Linda CA 92354. Please indicate Auxiliary News Support.



Loma Linda University Medical Auxiliary
11245 Anderson Street, Suite 230
Loma Linda, CA 92354

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
San Bernardino, CA
Permit No. 1278



SAVE THE DATE

- 🌸 **FALL EVENT**
Tuesday, October 17, 2023
- 🌸 **CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE**
TBD
- 🌸 **APC HOMECOMING LUNCHEON**
Sunday, March 3, 2024

Pay Your Dues Early!

**Dues Reminder –
July 1 through June 30**

- Regular Dues \$55
- Retired, Widowed, or Divorced \$35
- Life Membership \$1,500 or
4 payments of \$375



Postscript to Maria Alejandra's Story

(See page 1)

A generous couple donated their car to Maria because they were moving away. God continues to shower down blessings on His children.

The mission of the Loma Linda University Medical Auxiliary is to demonstrate God's love through benevolence and shared service. **The Auxiliary promotes the mission work of its Alumni; the education and welfare of medical students, residents and their spouses; and the intellectual and spiritual growth of its diverse membership.**

The Auxiliary is committed to continuing a heritage of unselfish dedication to service, beneficence and healthful living, as well as to responding to humanitarian needs in today's changing world.