



Inner Wheel U.S.A. Foundation

"Turning Possibilities into Realities"

innerwheelusa.com



Winter 2017



2017/18 FOUNDATION OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

Chairman

Christine Becker

Vice Chairman

Janice LeFevre

Immediate Past Chairman

Yolanda Gonzalez

Secretary

Patricia Picard

Financial Officer

Connie Abram

Investment Liaison

Annelise Graf

Benefactors

Christine Becker

Project Development

Janice LeFevre

Maggie Spears

Public Relations

Claudia LaBorde

Foundation Liaison/

IWUSA Vice President

Gill Broadway

A HOLIDAY MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN, CHRISTINE

Greetings from your Foundation Chairman,

Dec.2017

I have started my term as Chairman with the wonderful and challenging theme of our IIW President Kapila Gupta **"Leave a Lasting Legacy"**. What could be more fitting than the work the Foundation provides with you, your generous contributions, and our partnership with Hanger Clinic to provide myoelectric limbs for children?

In Sacramento, the Foundation welcomed two new Board members: Annelise Graf, our Investment Liaison and Margaret Spears, Co-Chair of Project Development (Hanger Clinic Liaison). We are so happy that they are lending their areas of expertise in finance and health care. We have a dedicated and dynamic Foundation Board that stays connected between Board meetings.

You may have noticed at the top of the newsletter we have our motto **"Turning Possibilities into Realities"**. This reflects a change to a more positive voice and vocabulary that Hanger Clinic has embraced since their name changed from Hanger Prosthetics and Orthotics. We continue to make Possibilities a Reality for children, infants to age 18 who lack insurance with our newest recipient Raven. You will see pictures of her new hi-tech limb in this newsletter! Each child has a world of **possibilities** than become **realities** with your help! Oh the Places they will Go.....!! What could be a better legacy to leave than helping children achieve their dreams?

As Chairman I have adopted as a symbol a simple gear.....I want all of us to **GEAR UP – CONNECT!**

Why a gear you ask? Well, it is a simple reminder of the IW pin we wear everyday! On the back cover of our Directory, pg 47, it explains our Brandmark as the frame within which each individual contributes to and benefits from the whole organization. My **GEAR UP – CONNECT** stands for:

G – Get E – Excited A – Ask Questions R – Respond UP - CONNECT with one another

As IW Foundation Board we are already building stronger connections: I send a monthly Connections email to each Board member to keep each other informed of progress on our Foundation responsibilities, we have decided to increase our newsletters to 3 times a year, increase contact with our Benefactors and we are working to have current information on our website with our secretary Patricia Picard serving as web page liaison. I have asked at all our meetings and speaking engagements for our members to write down their favorite memory of their involvement in the Foundation on a colored paper gear...was it a child's story or picture of having just received a limb? Or the first time you handled a myoelectric limb? Or the first time you met a recipient? These stories have been written on gears and signed as we **connect** and **share** our enthusiasm and dedication to helping children **"Turn Possibilities into Realities"**.

With this our 29th year we have served over 75 children turning \$500,000 into \$1.5million of upper myoelectric limbs and prosthetic care for children with our partnership with Hanger Clinic. Working together with your support and contributions the IW Foundation will continue to grow and be able to support children in the years ahead.

Let's continue to **"Leave a Lasting Legacy"**. Let's **GEAR UP – CONNECT!**

Wishing You a Wonderful Year of Possibilities!

Sincerely, Christine



Leave a lasting Legacy
IIW Theme 2017-18



A Message to Resonate All Year Through.....



District 517 invites you to sip the bubbly at its **Champagne**

Brunch Celebration on March 4, 2018. This annual fundraiser will be hosted by the Saratoga Inner Wheel Club at the Castlewood Country Club in Pleasanton, California. For the past eleven years this event has raised \$10,000 annually to benefit our myoelectric program. Without a doubt the 2018 brunch will not disappoint with attendance and proceeds. A highlight of the Brunch is the raffle which the committee fondly refers to as "opportunity tickets" to win gift baskets valued from \$200 - \$600. Guests will meet limb recipients along with a representative from Hanger Clinic. Mark your calendar for this very special day and help our Foundation continue to *Give a Child a Hand*.



A CONNECTION
is the energy
THAT EXISTS
between **TWO PEOPLE**
when they feel
seen, heard, and valued;
when they can
give and receive
without judgment;
and when they
derive sustenance
and **STRENGTH** from the
relationship.



Virtual bouquets of get-well roses are sent to Immediate Past Chairman Yolanda Gonzalez & Project Development Trustee, Maggie Spears.

We love you ladies and wish both of you all the best. A good healthy dose of Inner Wheel friendship is sure to speed up your recovery!

Josh

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Readers may remember Josh's story featured in our June 2017 Newsletter. At that time Past Foundation Chairman, Melba Rilott reported that 10 year-old Josh, a 4th grade student in St. Petersburg, Florida, was born with an undeveloped left hand due to an amniotic band wrapped around his hand in the womb. This caused a lack of bone structure for his fingers and half of his left hand. Josh's condition was referred to Hanger to see what could be done. To date the challenge remains to find a suitable, workable prosthetic for Josh. With the enormous strides that have been made in the area of prosthetics, Hanger's slogan of "Turning Possibilities into Realities" will one day make this a reality for Josh.



Because she cares, Melba will continue to follow up on Josh's case and hopefully in the very near future, bring our readership good news.

Raven

Our latest limb recipient was referred to us by Hanger's Brock Heller who wrote our Trustees this past summer about 18 year-old Raven. At the age of 14 Raven lost the four fingers from her right hand as a result of an auto accident. The type of prosthesis she required was considered experimental by her insurance company and therefore would not be covered. Raven had just completed her freshman year at Pennsylvania State University and had a great desire to improve her daily activities and become more independent. Brock recommended the **Touch Bionics I-Limb prosthesis**. It wasn't a difficult decision to assist Raven and with Inner Wheel's approval arrangements were made to fit her for this new limb. We're anxious to learn how the Touch Bionic has improved Raven's life with more details in the next Newsletter. In the meantime, we thought you'd like to see the results of her first fitting.



Not difficult to see the challenges Raven faced with 4 missing fingers.



Driving, typing and a part-time job at JC Penney will be made a whole lot easier with the use of the Bionic I-Limb.

tinsel in a tangle?

Did holiday shopping get your tinsel in a tangle? Were you just too exhausted to enjoy your family and friends because your eyes were blurred from online shopping or your feet were ready to fall off from walking the malls?

We'll take a deep breath and relax. Put your feet up, sip your favorite hot toddy and consider planning ahead for holidays 2018 and any occasion when you're gifting. For the person who has everything, make a donation in their name to the IWUSA Foundation. It's fast, it's painless, and most importantly, it's the sure fire way to assure that the Foundation can continue to make a difference in the lives of children in our own communities and beyond. It's a feel good moment that will be with you all year long!

IDEAS WORTH SHARING

Chairman Chris reminds us in her letter that since the inception of the Foundation 29 years ago we have served over 75 children. Quite an accomplishment! So with Foundation Month fast approaching let's **GEAR UP** and be sure we can continue the incredible work we're doing in partnership with Hanger Clinic. Our Trustees want to be sure our Districts and Clubs have the tools necessary to share our Foundation story with Inner Wheel members, potential members and friends. To that end Foundation Coordinators in each District and Club will be receiving an update on our most recent recipients that include pictures and stories. Hanger Clinic will also loan sample prosthetics which bring your presentations to life. If you're interested in borrowing these devices contact either Janice LeFevre (janicelefevre@yahoo.com) or Maggie Spears (spearsmm@gmail.com).

Don't forget our partnership with Rotary. Nurture it. Here's an idea - Rotary District Conferences host a House of Friendship where Rotarians and guests can mingle and learn more about club projects. District 517 used this opportunity to tell our Foundation story at Rotary District 5170's 2017 Conference in Santa Cruz, CA. Rotary recognizes the enormous accomplishments that can be made through partnerships and what better partnership than with Inner Wheel!

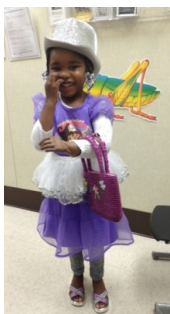


Janice LeFevre (Saratogo IW) and Jeanetta Arenott (San Leandro IW) in the Rotary House of Friendship. Behind them sits a 16' display of the children who have been "Given a Hand" with the assistance of our Foundation.

Annual October Friendship Luncheon

Foundation Vice Chair Janice LeFevre reported that last October's Friendship Luncheon was a rousing success for District's 517 and 519. This event has been co-chaired by Janice and Citrus Heights' Sue Kasper for the past six years. Clubs from both Districts donate raffle prizes, the proceeds of which are shared between both Districts and donated to the Foundation. Last October's event netted \$621.

Perfect weather and a beautiful marina setting brought guests to Zio Fraedo's in Vallejo, CA. Hanger prosthetist James Caywood was guest speaker and accompanying James was a name familiar to our readership - Unique. At the age of two Unique was fitted with a right arm thanks to our Foundation. Now five years later she was recently re-fitted to accommodate her growth and development. Hats off to a remarkable little girl!



At the age of two Unique proudly showed us her age-appropriate limb.



Welcome!

The Inner Wheel Officers and Trustees would like to take this Newsletter opportunity to welcome our newest members of the Foundation team - Annelise Graf and Maggie Spears.

Annelise Graf has been a member of the Orangevale club for 11 years. During this period she has also served as District 519 Treasurer for 3 years and is currently serving in that same capacity for 1 year. Annelise writes that her club may be small but their projects are mighty.



Annelise was born and raised in Denmark so attending the IIW Convention there in 2015 was a special treat. She put her familiarity with the country to good use as a natural tour guide to her travel mates. Now retired from banking and public accounting, Annelise continues to manage trusts and partnerships for a local family. Annelise and her husband Bill, a retired Lutheran pastor, have been married nearly 50 years. They have a son and daughter and four terrific grandchildren.

In between her hobbies of knitting, cooking and a bit of golf Annelise is excited about serving as a Trustee. Her professional background will serve the Foundation well as our Investment Liaison.

Maggie Spears, is a recently retired Nurse Practitioner. "I absolutely loved my career and being able to treat patients and families", she recently wrote. Of her new position as a trustee Maggie states that, "a young man being able to fish again, a little girl being able to pick up M&M's, seeing the smiles of these children says it all."



Maggie is a member of the Newton-Conover club and serves as her club's Foundation Coordinator. She volunteers with Hospice and Unique World Gifts, a non-profit offering fair trade hand-crafted products from third world countries. Maggie and husband Joe have been married for 40 years. Joe is a member of Rotary e-club One, Rotary's first web-based Rotary club. He's also a Red Cross volunteer and a master gardener. Maggie says their yard is a testimony to Joe's horticultural talents. Ah...the envy of the neighborhood! Their travels have taken them all the way to the United Arab Emirates where their daughter Ann is living. While there they were able to visit a falcon hospital. Interestingly, there are only ten falcon hospitals in the world.

Maggie's medical background will serve the Foundation well as she co-chairs Project Development.

Thank you Annelise and Maggie for sharing your time and special talents with the IWUSA Foundation!