



Inner Wheel USA Foundation

"Turning Possibilities into Realities"

www.innerwheelusa.com



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Annelise Graf

Investments

Lynnette Flusche

Benefactors

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Gay DiGiovanni

Foundation Liaison/ IWUSA Vice President

Gloria Vasconcellos

A MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN MAGGIE SPEARS

We have all been caught off guard with the events of the last 2 years. I am looking forward to my term as Chairman of the Inner Wheel USA Foundation, and I know the next two years will be very busy and rewarding.

I would like to share some information with you about me and my family. Joe and I have been married for 43 years and have a daughter, Ann. Ann worked in the Middle East and luckily came home in 2019 just before COVID-19 hit. She became an Inner Wheel member at age 18.

In 2016 after 50 years, I retired as a Nurse Practitioner in family practice. I truly loved my profession and feel fortunate to have retired when I did. Many of my colleagues worked long, hard hours caring for those with COVID-19. Since retirement, I have volunteered at Hospice and Unique World Gifts and played catch-up with other hobbies like sewing and reading. Joe is a Master Gardener, a Rotarian in the first e-club, Rotary eClub One, and an amateur radio operator. He talks with an 8th grade classmate each morning on morse code. We both are active in our community. Prior to COVID-19, we traveled extensively, including: The United Arab Emirates, Europe, Canada, Australia, and throughout the United States. I especially enjoyed Nova Scotia and hiking the East Coast Trail.

I joined the Inner Wheel club of Newton-Conover, NC in 1986 at the suggestion of Frances Sinnett Rose and Kathleen Shuford, never imagining what I would experience. I have held multiple positions at the club, district, and national level. I have thoroughly enjoyed my Inner Wheel community over the years and have made many friends. I am grateful to so many Inner Wheel members who have been supportive of me as incoming Chairman of the Foundation. A big thanks to Patricia Picard, Christine Becker, and all the current and past Foundation Board members. I know that I will be calling and seeking advice.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Foundation. We certainly have made an impact on many children "Turning Possibilities into Realities".

Thank you,
Maggie



In This Issue

Foundation News

- ♦ New Leadership
- ♦ New Trustee-Lynnette Flusche
- ♦ Foundation Name Change
- ♦ Camp No Limits
- ♦ Amazon Smile

Hanger Clinic Update

- ♦ Did You Know?
- ♦ Borrow the Limbs

Club and District Activities

- ♦ Slidell Community Donations
- ♦ Saratoga Walkathon
- ♦ San Leandro Member Honored
- ♦ Foundation Coordinators

Up-coming Events

- ♦ Fall Board meeting
- ♦ Spring Triennial Conference

In the Spotlight

- ♦ Vicky Magas

Editor's note:

Happy New Year! We start the new 2021-2022 Inner Wheel year with new energy, new district and board officers, a new Presidential theme from the International Inner Wheel President, Ebe Pannitteri Martines, and her new three-year social project. Her themes bring forward the value of women helping women. In introducing her themes, IIW President Ebe writes that poverty, discrimination, and violence against women and girls are still strongly present. Her focus to achieve a more just and equal society are to work in the four areas of health, education, opportunity, and empowerment. I know many of you experience the valuable connections of women in our Inner Wheel clubs, and many also work (paid and unpaid) to improve the lives of women and families in our communities. We have missed each other, and it feels as if our connections have frayed. As we come back from our break over the Summer, let us recommit to the essential truth encouraged by President Ebe that by empowering women to come forward where women help women, we will also make the world stronger.

Are you ready to begin again with new ideas, new projects, and

new friendships? Check out the new cool logos, as you read through our Foundation news.

Gay DiGiovanni
phillychick26@gmail.com



Foundation News

NEW BOARD LEADERSHIP

The Foundation Board, along with many district and club leaders, met via Zoom on June 2, 2021. As Chairman Patricia Picard led her final meeting, we approved the 2021-2022 Budget, and said thank you and farewell to Past Foundation Chairman Christine Becker, and to incoming Inner Wheel USA (IW USA) President Linda Daniel, who will no longer be members of our Foundation board. Both women have been invaluable to our working board as they lent their considerable talents and time to us. Thank You!

We also welcomed and installed new trustees to our board and seasoned trustees to new positions. Congratulations to Deloris Donnelly (IW Club Ft. Myers, FL), who will become our Vice Chairman, Sherry Harris (IW Statesville, NC), will assume the vacant secretary position and share the duties of Hanger Liaison and Project Development with Deloris, and new board member Lynnette Flusche, (IW Club San Leandro, CA). Lynnette will assume the investment duties from our Financial Officer Annelise Graf (IW Club Orangevale, CA). Finally, we welcomed the incoming IW USA Vice President, Gloria Vasconcellos (IW Club San Leandro), as the governing body liaison to our board. We know that they are dedicated to Inner Wheel and to making our Foundation the best!

HEAR YE, HEAR YE!



We are now officially called Inner Wheel USA Foundation. We amended our Articles of Incorporation in order to be consistent in what we call our organization. All printed material, social media, email, and our website should reflect only this name. Please note that any references to the Foundation that your club or district use through email, flyers, handouts, etc., must be checked and, if needed, changed.

WELCOME NEW TRUSTEE—LYNNETTE FLUSCHE

It started four years ago with an invitation to the Inner Wheel Club of San Leandro, CA. After her first introduction by Gloria Vasconcellos, Lynnette started on her Inner Wheel leadership path. She became the club Treasurer in July 2018, then District 517 Treasurer the following year. She was appointed to the Foundation Board as our newest trustee and will be helping with the financial and investment tasks.

Lynnette comes to us with over 35 years grocery business management experience, which includes implementing the computerized receiving and billing program. She also worked at the management level of the UFCW Union Local 5 as a health and welfare manager, international reporting clerk, bookkeeper, supply clerk, and computer technician.

She and her husband, Tony, have raised two daughters and now enjoy five grandchildren and three great-granddaughters. Her loyal companion (dog) Scrappy joins her in some of her many hobbies and community activities. Lynnette has a ham radio license, a private pilot's license and is Past President of Chapter 99's, a women's pilot organization founded by Amelia Earhart. Other community leadership roles are the Past National President of the Phi Epsilon Phi sorority, a non-profit philanthropic organization, and Past President of the American Businesswomen's Association-Livermore chapter. Her varied extracurricular activities include: photography, scuba diving, water and snow skiing, playing cards and bunco, and chasing solar eclipses. Welcome to the Board, Lynnette!



amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Just in time for school shopping! The Foundation is registered with Amazon Smile. It's easy to log in and register one time at www.smile.amazon.com to set it up. Choose Inner Wheel USA Foundation as your charity to support. From then on, shop from that website and Amazon will donate .5% of what you spend to us, at no cost to you!

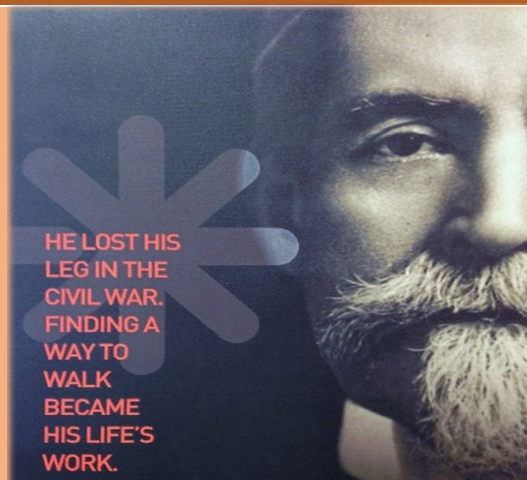


Camp No Limits said Thank You and acknowledged our donation, thereby becoming a Gold Sponsor. In 2004, No Limits Foundation created Camp No Limits to educate and empower young people with limb loss to discover and develop a healthy, happy, and independent lifestyle. Hanger Foundation is their major sponsor.

Your fundraising efforts do make a difference in children's lives.



Hanger Clinic Updates



Did you know ?

Civil War Veteran James Edward Hanger founded Hanger Clinic. It has grown to over 800 clinics nationwide.

Hanger Clinic is our sole partner for the Myoelectric Limb Project. Together, we have helped 90 children receive upper limbs since the project's inception in 2004, including five new children in the last two years alone. Upper limb prosthetics cost anywhere from \$8,000 for a Hero Arm to \$112,000 for a prosthetic hand. They involve a time intensive process with multiple visits for the initial fabrication and yearly follow-up fittings and adjustments. In addition, as a child grows, that process may start over with a new myoelectric limb.

As with many other businesses, the pandemic essentially closed the clinics and employees worked from home except for those who performed limb repair. This resulted in little interest in new pediatric upper limbs. Through our partnership, that is now changing. Hanger Clinic is increasing visibility and awareness of our Myoelectric Limb Project with more focused marketing. The Foundation board approved a partial donation of \$20,000 to Hanger Clinic this fiscal year. This allows the remaining budgeted funds to grow through our investments which we will make available to them when it is needed.



Hanger Clinic will loan myoelectric limbs including the Hero Arm to anyone in our organization to showcase at a community meeting or event. As we move back into group meetings in person, please consider showing off the work of the Foundation and Inner Wheel. Your important voice is magnified, and those you reach may know of another child we can help. The process to request limbs to exhibit is easy but plan ahead as the delivery may take a few weeks. You may contact Deloris Donnelly at deldula@comcast.net, or Sherry Harris at mrssherryharris@yahoo.com.



Deloris Donnelly (IW Club Ft. Myers, FL) presents myoelectric limbs at the Fort Myers East Rotary meeting



Club and District Events

COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS—IW CLUB OF SLIDELL, LA

The Inner Wheel Club of Slidell expanded their community outreach for donations that resulted in two \$500 donations to the Foundation. One was from the local Elks Club, and the other was from the Rotary Club of the Westbank, which was their third donation to our Foundation. These donations are an example of local community groups with their own foundations that may have money available to donate. The process to request a grant or donation may take some time and effort, but the reward is in the faces of the young recipients; aptly put by Corey Dunbar of the Westbank Rotary Club. See his article below.



From Corey E. Dunbar

The Rotary Club of the Westbank Foundation supports projects and groups which make substantial contributions and change lives in our communities. The Inner Wheel Foundation, along with the Inner Wheel Club of Slidell, exemplify this goal with the Myoelectric Limb Bank Project, "Give a Child a Hand". This project, which provides children with myoelectric limbs, has proven

results. The results are shown, not on paper, but on the faces of the young recipients. Rotary Club of the Westbank Foundation and Inner Wheel expand our service goals by working together to help those in need. The board and members of the Rotary Club of the Westbank Foundation thank Inner Wheel for bringing light to this need and allowing us to join in supporting this worthy endeavor.

PLANNING FOR SUCCESS—SARATOGA WALKATHON

Submitted by Jan LeFevre, IW Club Saratoga, CA

In January we discussed a variety of new ways to fundraise for the Myoelectric Limb Project in 2021 during 'lockdown'. We got ideas from Rachel Gan (IW Club Niles-Fremont, CA), about their virtual Bingo fundraiser and Gay DiGiovanni (IW Club Slidell, LA), with examples of their annual Foundation Walkathon.

Our small club decided to have a 'Walk' Sunday, February 28th at 9:00 AM, virtually or safely distanced in a lovely park--walkers choice. Each member was asked to raise at least \$100 each, through donations or sponsorships with our goal of \$1,000. The club also created a flyer with a 'Go Fund Me' link and an email was sent to family and friends. An article in the Saratoga Spotlight Magazine was printed in the April issue.



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Half of our active members are new this year, so we presented a Hanger Clinic power point at our February meeting to learn about their children recipients. All this resulted in...Success! We were delighted to have some Rotarians, friends, and fifteen teenagers join our members to walk on a beautiful day at the lovely Saratoga Kevin Moran park. And we raised \$4,210 . . . Hooray!!

San Leandro Club Coordinator Honored

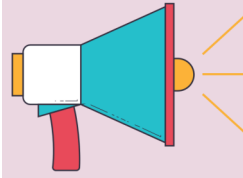
At a recent Inner Wheel Club of San Leandro, CA meeting our amazing member JoAnn Cornelius was honored with the Inner Wheel Excellence Spirit Award.

JoAnn has been a contributing and dedicated member for over thirty years. She serves as a Foundation Club Coordinator promoting information about the Inner Wheel USA Foundation. She is an excellent role model of the ideals of Inner Wheel, and has shown outstanding leadership and dedication to community service. JoAnn is a highly respected and much loved member of the IW Club of San Leandro. Her never ending encouragement and friendship continues to inspire and make a difference. Congratulations, JoAnn on your selection for the IW Excellence Spirit Award!



JoAnn Cornelius
IW Club of San Leandro, CA

Attention Foundation Coordinators



You know who you are! You are the club or district officer responsible for spreading the good news about the Foundation. Whether you coordinate club foundation fund raisers, or just

keep the picture book of children we have helped over the years, you are a VIP. Our Foundation relies on your word of mouth; from your club leaders to club members; to members of your community.

We encourage you to talk to other people you know about our Foundation. Many of you wear other hats in the club and the community. Some of you are also the Club President, a Rotary club member, or active in your church or another non-profit. All these connections are opportunities to talk about Inner Wheel and what our Foundation does.

The new Hero Arm is big news, and the Resource Manual and our kids' picture book are your tools. We appreciate that you use these tools to spread the word. You just never know when the parent of a limb deficient child will be listening. Thank you!

Up-Coming Events



The IW USA Spring board meeting will be held from October 18-21 at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory, NC. This beautiful setting in the Appalachian foothills is a perfect place to conduct our Foundation and Inner Wheel business. If you are on the Foundation or Governing Body board, make your plans to be there!

**SAVE THE
DATES**



The Inner Wheel USA triennial conference will be held in Nashville, TN, from April 27th through May 1, 2022. We look forward to planning all the details for a great time in the Music City! Save the dates and stay tuned for more information!

IN THE SPOT LIGHT—Vicky Magas

"We are a team and together we can move mountains and make a difference to some kid we don't even know."- Vicky Magas

Vicky Magas personifies the love of family, and she takes that love to amazing heights. She grew up in Metairie, LA with her extended family literally within a stone's throw of each other, and so her family did everything together. From them she learned about hard work, honesty, determination, and generosity. With her family's love all around, she said she had the perfect childhood.

She recently heard a family story with a Rotary connection about her father who passed away several years ago. Her parents grew up during The Depression and her father and uncle were the oldest of five children. Vicky's grandparents, trying to make ends meet, agonized over the decision to take the teen boys out of school to support the family. Rotarians came by one night and offered her grandparents scholarships that would allow the two boys to finish school. Her dad later graduated second in his class. Vicky decided to "Pay it Forward" with an annual scholarship to the outstanding Interact (Rotary sponsored high school club) student to honor her father. When her beloved mother also passed away, she added a second Interact student scholarship in her honor.

Vicky joined Rotary in 2001 when she moved to Slidell and met building contractor Pete Dammon. He was also the Slidell Rotary Club President who convinced her to join Rotary. She was looking for an opportunity and the vehicle to give love back in gratitude for what she had as a child. Rotary offered that. She accumulated leadership roles with Rotary, as Past President, Assistant District 6840 Governor, and RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award) program leader. Her associations with Interact continued as she oversaw two Slidell high school clubs. In 2017 she brought 25 Interact students to the Rotary International Conference in Atlanta.

Vicky didn't just stop with Rotary. She joined Inner Wheel in 2011. It gave her yet another way to help children. In 2019, as the IW Slidell Club President, she started a reading program for 3rd graders at a local school, and visited several Rotary clubs giving presentations about our Foundation. Vicky is the current President-elect and a board member of several other local non-profits benefiting women and children. She is also known as the Great Pumpkin at Halloween as she entertains youngsters, or as Santa giving out presents.

Vicky has been a prodigious fundraiser for our Foundation. She has used her Rotary connections to garner substantial grants and donations from local Rotary and Elks clubs, (see the article on page 5). The last two years for Vicky have meant transition. She downsized to a smaller home and semi-retired from her own insurance practice. With both parents gone, she was left with a large amount of excess household and office items. She sold much of it with proceeds sent to our Foundation in the name of her IW club. With significant help from club members, Vicky has personally contributed or garnered contributions of nearly \$10,000!



Vicky Magas and Corey Dunbar,
Rotary Club of the Westbank, LA



Vicky spreads love far and wide, but she shuns the limelight. She lives by the philosophy of the poem 'The Dash' by Linda Ellis. The premise is that on a tombstone, there are two dates: a birth date, a dash, then a death date. What we do with our time between the dates (where the dash is), is especially important. Vicky strives every day to be proud of how she lives the dash. www.thedashpoem.com