

King's Servants ROCK!

Under the Big Top

Hammers and drills and miter saws hummed and pounded under the Thrivent Habitat for Humanity tent, where King's Servants worked hard at a construction site right here at the LWML convention!

Servants constructed 6-yard sheds that will be delivered to Habitat for Humanity homes in nearby Brookings, South Dakota. Sherry Rumpeltes, Utah-Idaho District, knows how to hold a hammer. "God tells us to use our gifts, and here I am with a hammer!"

Orphan Grain Train

Picture this: 3 shifts of 65 servants who sorted, boxed, taped, and marked; a semi full of used clothing from Nebraska and Kansas. All ages were busy being servants for our Lord. Servant Pauline Calwell from the Kansas District said, "There isn't anything you can't do from a wheelchair."

Called by name

"I have called you by name... You are mine." Isaiah 43:1 This beautiful promise is boldly proclaimed on a white banner just waiting for a newly baptized child's name and baptismal date. Crafty King's Servants gathered to create 120 baptismal banners. The banners will be sent to 10 different American Indian missions across the country.

Gift of life

"Give the gift of life!" That is what hundreds of women did on Thursday during the blood donor servant event. The Community Blood Bank of Sioux Falls provided Bloodmobile units, where women like Diane Schulz from



Dubuque, Iowa, gave blood. She shares: "My local blood donor group recently called and asked me to give blood ... I told them that I couldn't, but that I needed to give blood for the LWML!"

Heart pillows

Heart pillows were completed and donated to post surgical heart patients in nearby hospitals. Heart or "cough" pillows are used to help nurses make a patient cough to clear their lungs after abdominal or chest surgery, and also protect the incision area. More than 180 pre-made pillows were stuffed and hemmed by LWML servants!

Happy hearts

Happy hearts & busy hands — that's what happens when LWML quilters fill a dozen tables and assemble 150 quilts for Orphan Grain Train. Table talk centered around quilting stories: one group makes quilts for children removed from abusive homes; another gives one to graduates; and many others go to Lutheran World Relief.

'A Safe Place'

Inspirational worship on Thursday focused on building lives on the solid foundation of Christ the King! President Linda Reiser opened the 32nd LWML Biennial Convention, and Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy, LCMS 3rd Vice President, was the worship designer and proclaimer for the service. His address, "A Safe Place," was based on Psalm 31:1-3, the convention theme verse. Rev. Nadasdy said: "The safe place that finds us is our Father's arms. God comes and He is like a rock, strong, steadfast, sure and solid." An original drama, entitled "The Rock," was incorporated in the address. Rev. Nadasdy proclaimed: "Grace welcomes us home; home where we belong; home where we are safe; home, our Refuge!"

Exhibit Changes

Following the printing of the list in Thursday's newspaper, several booths in the Prairie Park Exhibit Hall were changed:

- **Ongoing Ambassadors for Christ** – cancelled due to illness
- **Lutheran Deaconess Association** – moved to booths 519, 521
- **Lutheran Heritage Foundation** – moved to booth 109
- **Orphan Grain Train** – moved to booth 107

Hurry! Hurry!

Don't delay! You have until noon today to turn in your Gifts from the Heart (next to registration). Check on page 2 for how many Gifts from the Heart we've gathered so far!



Heart to Heart Sisters reach 81!

What do you get when you add up Oklahoma City + Tampa + Sioux Falls? Eighty-one Heart to Heart Sisters who have been a part of our LWML conventions! Be sure to share a smile and a hello with our sisters in Christ! Nineteen new Heart to Heart sisters are participating in this convention.

Wednesday evening found these sisters in Christ from around our nation joining as one in faith to share about the LCMS in ethnic ministry. Dr. Robert Scudieri led the Bible study and discussion, based on Acts 17:36.

The Heart to Heart Sisters will



be introduced to the convention body on Sunday. This is the third convention for Heart to Heart Sisters to gather for pre-convention programs developed specifically for the ethnic women of our church.

Gifts from the Heart

The following are Gifts from the Heart totals from Wednesday and Thursday. The recipients of your gifts were overwhelmed by the response and even cried as they loaded the trucks.

- Hand Towel Sets – 1,140
- Health Kits with Towel – 72
- Health Kits without Towel – 1644
- Children's Clothing – 257 items
- Children's Underwear & Socks – 1,642
- Twin Sheet Sets – 855
- Quilts – 647
- Shampoo – 486
- Toothbrushes – 1,707
- Miscellaneous Items - 1,417

Giving thanks for those with servants' hearts

Thanks to everyone who contributed to Thursday's servant events. Many hands across South Dakota pieced quilts and made pillowcases for this event. Thrivent donated not only all of the supplies for the six storage sheds but also many tools and 1,000 bottles of water for the workers. Orphan Grain Train brought their semi full of used cloth-

ing to sort as well as containers for Gifts from the Heart.

Participants in the Mission Pledge Walk will receive water donated by Jim Friedrich of Dakota Splash, Sioux Falls, or Gary Worth, Coca-Cola, Huron. Beren's Grocery, Milbank and members of Emanuel Lutheran, Milbank, donated granola bars.

South Dakota potter made communion ware

Dave Heubner of Buschnell, South Dakota, is the artist who designed and made the 39 sets of communion ware for the convention.

Dave is a traditional potter who works with new and old forms. You can get a better look at the communion ware on the following two Web sites: www.brookings.com/dsp or www.madeinsouthdakota.com.

Banners on display

Hoping to see the beautiful banners in this morning's processional up close? Check out the Prairie Park Exhibit Hall all weekend where the banners will be on display. Grab a friend and have your picture taken next to your district banner!

Come play Tic-Tac-Rock

Stop by the Christian Life Department booth, sit a while and play. While you're there, examine all the great new products available for your service to the Lord. If you have not signed up for the drawing for the gift basket filled with new Christian Life products, today is the last chance to enter. Look for the winners in tomorrow's issue of *ROCK Solid News*.

Evaluation Survey

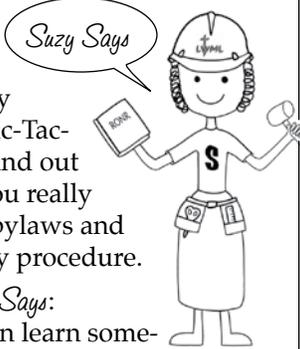


Do not fold, bend or mutilate this form! The magenta and white survey form in your convention packet is important! The convention planning committee wants to hear your opinions as they evaluate this convention and make plans for the next. Please complete the form and give it to an usher at the door or place in the box marked "**Convention Evaluation Surveys**" located in the arena lobby, the rear of the arena floor, or the Convention Center Information Booth. Thank you for sharing your time and opinions. Additional comments may be added on the back of the form.

Have YOU gotten your piece of the Rock?

Come to the Structure Committee's "A Firm Foundation A Strong Structure" exhibit and get your piece of candy rock. Play "Tic-Tac-Know" and find out how much you really know about bylaws and parliamentary procedure.

Suzy Structure Says: "Everyone can learn something new. Don't forget to have your Rock Hound Passport stamped. You don't want to miss out on a chance to win those fantastic LWML prizes!"



Teens Ready to Hang Out

Teen Girls ages 11-17 are invited to the Teen Hangout on Saturday at 3:00 p.m. in Rooms 9 & 10.

Come for fun, fellowship, and new friends!

Visit the Friends Into Serving Him Booth in the Exhibit Hall for more information.



District Announcements

- Chesapeake District Photo: Friday, 1:30 pm by the flag poles.
- All members of Iowa District East and Iowa District West meet at 1:15 p.m. today under the flags outside the arena for a short briefing.

Purple praise pebbles!

From whence cometh the rocks?

The rocks cometh from all over the country! Each district president was invited to bring a rock from her own area to fill up the cross on the stage, which was made by Decorations Chairman Martha Smith's husband, Vernon. The center rocks are from the districts, and the outer ones are from South Dakota. *But when is a rock not a rock?* When it is a coquina, a composite of shells. (Rocks are hard to come by in some states!) Can you spot the *non-rock rock*?

Rock or not a rock?

That is the question. Look again! The large "rock" altar and the smaller rocks on stage are not really rocks at all! They are "faux rocks" — the creation of Host Committee Chairman Pat Reichert's husband, Don, and family.

Who's on 1st? Who's on 2nd?

Willa Brinkmeyer and Dorothy Bauer (both who hail from President Linda's home district, Nebraska South!) were the first two women to register for convention. You may recognize Willa's name: She was disguised as our lively Mite Box at the San Jose 2001 convention. Willa shares, "I was sold on the LWML after my first convention in 1997 (Charlotte), and I haven't missed once since!"

What a daughter won't do!

Especially if her mother is Host Committee Chairman Pat Reichert! At this convention Pat's daughter Marie Boetel serves as Host Committee Publicity Director, working with LWML PR Director Bev England to arrange local TV coverage of Thursday night's worship procession and on-air interviews with President Linda Reiser. At her first LWML convention (Rapid City, 1989), Marie worked as a page — but she arrived without her official

page outfit! Her sister pages solved the dilemma by forming a circle around her so she could change her clothes right in the arena!

Who's that in the white hat?

They may not ride a white horse, but those good guys in the white LWML baseball caps are the husbands of LWML Executive Committee members. Four-time LWML Convention Manager Jan Reuter dubs them "Mite-y Men." We tip our hats to them — and all the LWML men among us who help out behind the scenes.

The face behind the voice!

Each Tuesday and Thursday afternoon since March, Carol Ianelli has waited by her phone to field your registration questions. Carol says about her third time serving as LWML Convention Registrar: "I truly enjoy what I do, and I can't wait to see people face to face! What fun people we have in the LWML!"

And they're off!!!

Scores of eager convention goers lined up outside the Exhibit Hall, ready to be among the first to enter Prairie Park and shop the LWML Store! *Surprise!* The very first shopper to check out at the LWML Store was a *man* — Richard Peters of Poughkeepsie, N.Y., husband of *Lutheran Women's Quarterly* Editor-in-Chief Nancy Graf Peters.

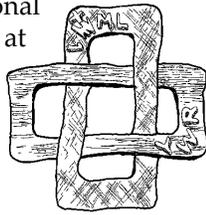
ROCK Solid News†

ROCK Solid News is published during the convention by the LWML Communication Department. Bring news items to Room 6 by 3:00 p.m. each day.

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Calling All Past YWRs

Were you a Young Woman Representative at a national LWML convention? Come and share your YWR story at a **YWR Rockin' Reunion**, to be held during lunch today on the green between the Sheraton and the arena. Pick up your pre-ordered boxed lunch or purchase your lunch from the concessions, and look for the GOD ROCKS signs. Bring your experiences and bond with other YWRs. Fun and fellowship provided. The location of this event is to be announced.



Booth winners

- Oregon District Booth: **Sarah Reinstadtler** from Pittsburgh, Pa., from the English District.
- Lutheran Deaconess Association winner: **Lucille Norem**, Wahpeton NC, Emmanuel Lutheran Church
- Fairtrade Chocolate: **Linda Harke**, Oklahoma City; **Paulette Rose**, Eustace, TX
- Deaf Lutheran Missions: **Kurin Theil**, Aberdeen OH; **Florence Ric**, Misswa, MN
- LCMS World Mission: **Gloria Bredehoeft**, Indianapolis, IN; **Carol Drager**, Anchorage AK; **Mary Harrington**, Shell Lake, WI; **Linda Kre-meier**, Okarche, OK; **Rev. James Wilber**, Flint MI
- Concordia University Wisconsin, Women's Leadership Institute: **Dani Jones**, Potter NE; **Pat Shelton**, Newton, IA. Come to the WLI booth, #308, to pick up your selection.
- Gift Planning Counselor: **Elaine Nelson**, Kent WA, is the winner of an original watercolor print. To enter the two drawings, complete an entry form for a personalized Gift Annuity illustration at the Gift of Love display.
- MOST Ministries: **Marilyn Brandmire**, **Kathy Bohnet**, **Mrs. E.O. Voelkers**, **Lori Steele**, **Lynn Wacutel**, **Cathryn Smyth**, **L. Christenson**, **Lynnetta Campbell**, **Betsy Kurth**, **Karin Poppe**, **Alyssa Kirby**, **Jan McClellan**, **D. Karlen**, **Sherry Bell**, **Betty Kappel**, **Art Risse**. Stop by the MOST Ministries booth to pick up your polo shirt.
- Lutheran Special Education Ministries: **Judy Hibbard** of Arnold, MO

'Daughters of God'

Stop by the Women's Leadership Institute booth and chat with Donna Streufert, former *Quarterly* Editor-in-Chief, and Marlys Taege, LWML author and historian. Donna's passion for educating, encouraging and equipping women and men to work as leaders is contagious. Founder of WLI, Donna explains that her desire to begin this educational organization "grew out of my leadership experience in LWML." Ask to hear the original hymn "Daughters of God," text by Donna, and pick up a copy for use in your churches!

Signing for the Lord

Hearing impaired LWML sisters have benefited from the services of deaf interpreters, overseen by Rev. William (Bill) Wrede, Deaf Ministry Field Developer in the Atlantic LCMS District. Pastor Wrede has participated in the deaf ministry at seven LWML conventions. Convention attendee Earnestine, a hearing impaired woman from Elmhurst, New York, attended the Tampa convention and couldn't wait to come back. She says she "loves all the women together and the emphasis of the LWML on missions and mission grants." She is looking forward to singing in the choir "with hearing sisters."

Past presidents to sign LWML history

The PR Booth will feature Pat Bilow, LWML Director of Planned Giving, and our past LWML presidents at the times listed below.

Pat will be happy to answer questions on the Gifts of Love program, and our past presidents are available to autograph Marlys Taege Moberg's book, *Women in League With the Lord*, which you may purchase at the booth. If you would like a photo with them, bring your camera! Do stop by and say hello; they will love seeing you!

Friday

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Alberta Barnes
Betty Duda
Gloria Edwards
Helen Gienapp
Ida Mall
Virginia Von Seggern

Saturday

8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.

Betty Duda
Gloria Edwards
Helen Gienapp
Ida Mall
Virginia Von Seggern

Rock Hounds!

Have you become a certified Rock Hound yet? Hopefully you've found your Rock Hound Passport in your registration packet and are visiting all nine LWML department booths.



When you have all nine spaces filled in, take your passport to the exhibit hall hostess table near the doors to be entered in the daily drawing.

Thursday's Rock Hound winner is Lisa Johnson from South Dakota. Come by Room 6 to pick up your gift, which includes a \$25 gift certificate to the LWML Store.