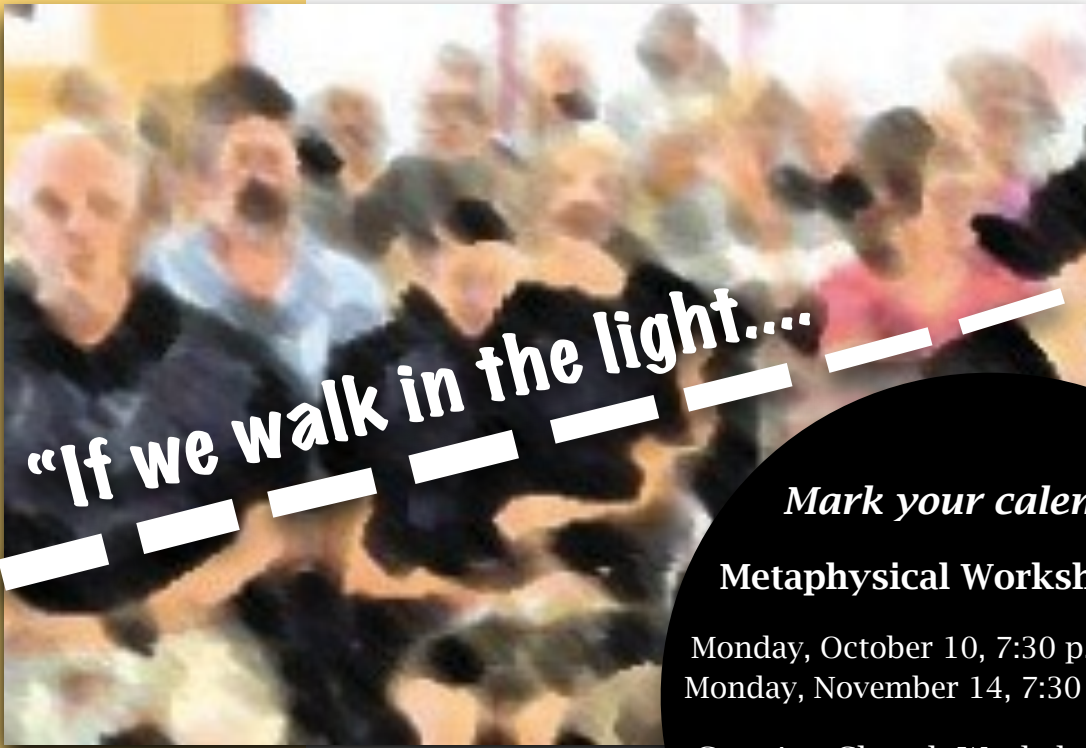


September/October 2011

# THE SOCIETY PAGES



*"If we walk in the light...."*

**....we have fellowship with one another". I John 1: 7**

For those who attend our services via teleconference, church doesn't always end with the final hymn or closing blessing. After the line to the Society in San Juan has been disconnected, the phone host greets those who have remained on the phone, inviting everyone to join in fellowship.

Our fellowship usually begins with the normal greetings, similar to what is also taking place on the patio in SJC after church. Some folks check in just to say hello and then leave. Others engage in deeper conversation or listening, which provide opportunities to ask for or share information with one another, about Christian Science, SJC Society, healing and how to get help. Members and participants alike are humbled and grateful to be part of individual healings and progress.

*Mark your calendar...*

## **Metaphysical Workshops...**

Monday, October 10, 7:30 p.m.  
Monday, November 14, 7:30 p.m.

## **Growing Church Workshops**

Monday, September 26, 7:30 p.m.  
Monday, October 24, 7:30 p.m.

## **From some of our recent fellowship gatherings....**

One participant says that phone fellowship "opens her thought for loving more." Because there is no physical picture, there are no preconceived ideas about people. This sets the stage for pure love and healing.

Another caller told of her deep love of Christian Science and a remarkable physical healing she had

experienced. Then she asked how she could share Christian Science in her local community. The conversation resulted in literature and equipment soon shipped off to her to begin her sharing mission.

Another fellowship participant shared that she is extremely shy and felt she could not give a testimony to the entire Society. Then she shared an incredible healing that left us moved and inspired ...no shyness evident.

There is a spirit of unity that is evident between the attendees at the Society in San Juan Capistrano and those on the phone. During a recent Wednesday evening meeting a first-

time caller made a request for support with an in-progress healing. A member of the in-room congregation picked up on the request and asked all in attendance---room, phone, Skype ---to take a few minutes in prayer to address this. During phone fellowship a supportive conversation continued with an offer from a member to meet with the new caller; as it turns out they live near one another. It was a rich experience that left us feeling love, humility and gratitude.

In her definition of Church, Mary Baker Eddy states that Church is *“that institution which affords proof of its utility....”* Our phone fellowship clearly demonstrates this proof.

She also writes that Church is *“the structure of Truth and Love; whatever rests upon and proceeds from divine Principle.”* Our phone fellowship truly is the statement of Truth and Love, based on Principle. We find that twice a week just the right people stay for fellowship to meet the needs that are expressed in each instance. Some speak, others listen and pray. And each healing comes from divine Love. This fellowship provides out-reaching expressions of Love. And we are grateful!

(Contributed by **Bev Ledwith**, Los Gatos, CA....with **Marjorie Farrell**, Duluth, GA, and **Derra Moyers**, Edmonds, WA)

**Christian Science can and does produce universal fellowship.** My 275:3

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**Loving Hugs Presentation,**  
September 18, after church service prior to concert

**NewSong Concert....**

Sunday afternoon, **September 18, 2:00 p.m.** at Laguna Niguel church.... the talented **NewSong Group** from Great Britain will perform. (As an added bonus they will provide the music for our Sunday morning service that day. Featured at

last year’s Annual Meeting Hymn Sing, the NewSong musicians have contributed hymns to the new hymn supplement.)

**Second Sundays...**

A monthly discussion group for 20-Something held at 7:30 p.m. on the second Sunday of each month....new participants always welcome to join this inspiring activity.



### A Big Welcome to Kristin

**Palkoner** as a new member of our Society. You may know that Kristin served this summer as a Sunday Reader, blessing all in attendance. Here's what Kristin shares with us to help us get to know her a little better:

"My first introduction to our Society was in 2004 when I came out from New York for Class Instruction. I immediately felt a sense of home and community that I had never experienced with church before. I felt invited right in. When I went back to NY I felt I was leaving something behind and couldn't wait to come back for Association. By my second Association I had moved to Los Angeles to pursue my acting career, visiting the Society as often as I could."

In the summer of 2006 Kristin auditioned for a Shakespeare festival here in San Juan Capistrano and thinking how wonderful it would be to spend the season here in SJC and have more time to come to the Society. She had also started attending our newly formed Second Sundays young adult group which she says "continues to help me grow in my understanding of Christian Science and feel supported by my

### Management

#### Team Meetings...

As the communication hub of our church, our Management Team welcomes your questions, and topics for discussion and action. Communication can be directed to any member of the team and will be responded to at periodic Management Team meetings.

fellow peers, something I never had growing up." Kristin was cast in the Shakespeare festival which she says "brought an even greater blessing when I met my husband during auditions!" Their first date was at the Mission where they talked all about Christian Science and he, too, soon began attending Second Sundays and "quickly embraced Christian Science into his life."

For the next few years, Kristin went through Christian Science nurses training at Broadview and continued to have the desire to live closer to our Society. When her sister gave Kristin a camera for a wedding present for her honeymoon, little did she know then she was moving in this direction. She shares, "I had always loved photography but it had taken a second place to my acting career.

When I picked up this camera, I couldn't put it down....pardon the expression but things just 'clicked'!" She found she could take her "love and compassion for people and blend it with my inner most passion for creativity. I felt such joy and satisfaction in capturing the

soul of my clients and creating something they would cherish forever.” Last year she and husband Mark opened their photography studio in San Juan Capistrano, which Kristen says was “lovingly passed on to us by fellow Society member, Bob Hansen, who was my mentor and teacher at the time.” (It was also where the very first group discussions that lead to starting San Juan Society were held!) And they finally made their move to SJC a few months ago to their home just a few miles down the road from the Society.

Being close by is “such a blessing,” Kristin says. “We feel we can do so much more to help. We’ve felt so grateful for the opportunity to be Readers for the month of August, something I’ve always wanted to do and has given us such an opportunity to grow.”

What’s ahead? “I would love to work more with the youth in our Society and to find new opportunities to work with other organizations in our community and the world. I’d like to travel....it would be incredible to document the ways Christian Scientists are helping others around the globe. Most important I am so grateful for this church family that is a constant, loving support in my life. Infinite blessings to each of you!”

Welcome Kristin! We are blessed to have YOU in our church family!

*One in  
fellowship of Mind....we  
our bliss and glory find....In that  
endless happy whole....where one  
God is Life and Soul....Hymn 83*

## Introducing recently

new member **Carole Griggs** who joins us from San Diego. Carole tells us that she first became acquainted with our Society when she took class instruction with Deborah Huebsch. “I so appreciate the open thought and expansion of how ‘church’ has traditionally been experienced.” Carole adds that it is this open thought that drew her to join us and support our church mission. “I am really enjoying the wonderful community of kind and supportive folks.”

Raised in Christian Science, “I attended church since I remember and had the privilege of going to Camp Kohahna [in northern Michigan] as a kid for 12 years.”

Carole grew up in the Chicago suburbs with her parents and “two wonderful older brothers. I played on scholarship for the women’s soccer team at Eastern Illinois University and moved out to San Diego for graduate school for a Masters in Education: Teaching. I am currently pursuing a Doctorate degree with hopes of completing the PhD by summer of 2012. And when she is not working or studying, Carole shares what she loves: “I love to play soccer, run on the beach, read, spend time with family and friends, travel internationally, and explore

the depths of Truth and spirituality.

“I have backpacked through over 20 different countries, exploring various cultures and experiencing the innumerable ways people live life. Currently I’m looking forward to a catamaran cruise with my family at Christmas time.”

Welcome, Carole! We’re delighted to get to know a fellow explorer!

And...a **very warm welcome** to **Joyce Artman Smith**. Joyce usually joins our services and workshops from her home in Valencia, California. She shares that she was raised in Christian Science and grew up in the Fox River Valley, Aurora, Illinois, “an idyllic, farm-and community, in a small close family. My father ran a local advertising agency. My grandmother brought Christian Science to Aurora....kind of a big deal...I have an article from the local newspaper about it.”

Joyce attended the Ringling School of Art in Sarasota, Florida. She became a housewife and mother of two... moved to California and got into set decoration for TV commercials, helped design interiors for a few celebrities and expanded her creative endeavors through floral, wedding and garden design. “I’m never far from a Mac. I’ve designed and maintained websites for several clients.”



Joyce shares that she would love to help with flowers at the Society but “I’m too far away!” She also is offering her talents and expertise to our Website Team.

It was through CS Directory and a former informal CS group in Valencia that Joyce first learned of the San Juan Society. She says she was drawn to “the dynamic way the Society works, constantly looking to expand its outreach...its ‘out-of-the-box’ thinking. I am enjoying the enthusiasm of the membership, the love they have expressed to me...some individually when I joined.....your willingness to support non-traditional causes....interest in the community and the world. I am fascinated with the amount of Skype and teleconference attendees we have and their locations.”

What does she currently devote her time and talents to? “I am privileged to be the Chairman of the Principle Foundation of Greater Los Angeles, which is as much a gift to me as it is to all we are able to assist. I love gardening...always designing something...making things beautiful...dancing! I’m in a state of constant amazement and gratitude...always aware of God’s presence in my experience.”

Joyce adds this exclamation: “I love the thrilling adventure each day becomes through the study of Christian Science!”

Thank you, Joyce, for including us in your adventure.....and welcome to ours!



### **Brand NEW member!...**

Welcome to **Mark Pierce** who officially joined our Society in August. Mark lives in Long Beach so will be attending both via teleconference as well as in person. He's interested in becoming an active member and would like to participate on the Host Team when he can be in San Juan Capistrano. Introduce yourself to Mark if you haven't already!

### **Meet our congregation beyond walls....**

**Marjorie Farrell** has been attending our services by phone from Diluth, Georgia, since June of 2010. She was introduced to Christian Science in her 20's while living in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, where her physician husband, Robert, was in residency and daughter Marjorie was a toddler. Having majored in music at the University of North Carolina, Marjorie taught piano. When her husband's Army service brought them to Atlanta, Marjorie joined Third Church, taught Sunday School and welcomed a second daughter, Heather (who is the one who introduced her to our church services last year!)

"I immediately felt like I was part of a happy family, both on the phone and in the room", recalls Marjorie. "There are no strangers in San Juan." She especially admires SJC's munificent giving, abundant and inspiring music, and canine welcome mat. Marjorie shares that she has loved creatures since childhood and

currently feeds a variety of possums, raccoons, felines, finches, and an oft-visiting "granddog Earl Grey."

With her daughter, Heather, off at Principia Upper School, Marjorie resumed serious piano study with a coach, became a soloist with two orchestras, and performed recitals in numerous Southern states as well as in Germany and Great Britain. "Getting up to speed wasn't easy," she says, "but Christian Science came to my rescue and as a result I made progress in each performance." Marjorie shares that her most cherished memory is the day Heather called to announce: "Mommy, I'm listed" as Journal listed practitioner.

(Contributed by **Susan Clay**)

### **Tithing....**

Our **September** tithing recipient is the **Joint Media Committee for Southern California**, a coalition of Southern California Christian Science churches that provide weekly El Heraldo radio broadcasts in Spanish, advertising for Spanish language CS lectures, and the weekly Christian Science Bible Lesson 24/7 on the telephone. The Committee is currently working toward the expansion of the website [www.PrayerThatHeals.org](http://www.PrayerThatHeals.org) to include information about Christian Science activities occurring in all Southern California counties. Our

tithing support for this communication outreach is both financial and metaphysical as we have responded to specific requests for prayer.

In **October** we celebrate and support the global outreach of **Loving Hugs**, founded and directed by Wendy Clarke, a Christian Scientist from Southern California now living in Colorado. Working with the US military and non-profits around the world, Loving Hugs (also known as new and gently used stuffed animals) are delivered to orphans and refugee children in war zones and disaster areas where much needed hugs bring comfort and joy to thousands of children. If you missed the September 18 presentation after church by Warren Gruenig, visit **LovingHugs.org** for more details and check YouTube for several inspiring videos of "hugs" being delivered to children all around the globe. Listen throughout October during our services for specific prayer requests in support of this outreach of Love.

### ***Opportunities for giving, serving, learning, growing, praying....!***

**Donations to F.A.M...**Our friends at Family Assistance Ministries are grateful for our ongoing contributions of non-perishable food items for distribution to families in need in south Orange County. Please put your donations in the container located near the parking lot entrance. We have joined with other local churches for several years in support of this important humanitarian outreach in our community. One of our members notes that a trip to the Dollar Store now and then to fill up a grocery bag is a cost effective contribution that blesses many.

### **Lecture opportunities on**

**ChristianScience.com.....**If you missed the the Sunday 9/11 lecture by Marta Greenwood, the full presentation in video is available at ChristianScience.com. Note, if you haven't already, that there are several full length video lectures available on the website, more opportunities for inspiration beyond walls.

**Joining one of our Teams....**A reminder that all participants are welcome to join and contribute to any of our Society's Teams. The Team list is available from our administrator if you do not have one. Each Team has a coordinator and a liaison to the Management Team. Just ask anyone of them, or someone on the Team, and you will be welcomed and put to work. Don't wait to be invited to be a member.....you already are! You do not need to be a member of the Society to serve on a Team.

### **CS Books and Literature....CS**

Directory.com (now PrayerfulLiving.com) has begun a service for those looking for a home for any Christian Science related books/ literature you may have from family members or friends and are seeking a way to get them to those who are looking for them. Members **Mark** and **Marilyn Mohlenbrock** invite you to utilize their new clearinghouse designed to distribute CS materials where they are needed. Contact them first with a description of what you have and alert them to when a box will arrive. They should be sent USPS Media Mail. You can get full instructions from Mark:

[mark@prayerfulliving.com](mailto:mark@prayerfulliving.com) or  
602-635-1987....Prayerful Living Publishing  
....PO Box 74248, Phoenix, AZ 85087

Grateful hearts...

**Loud applause** for **Susan Clay** for her ongoing dedication to making our teleconference participants feel at home before and during our services and meetings and helping us sail through periodic technical challenges....**Standing ovation** for **Joy Aldrich** for the inviting graphic design created for each issue of *The Society Pages*....a labor of love that touches many. **Thank you** to **Warren Gruenig** for his presentation on behalf of Loving Hugs, our October tithing recipient.....**Huge thanks** to **Paul Garman** and all others who helped in the orchestration of the **September** concert featuring NewSong from the United Kingdom....To **Kate Teel** we so appreciate your tender loving care for our patio garden which we all enjoy after our church services....Thanks to **Bob Hansen** , who loans his nature photographs to adorn our walls at church....Our **heartfelt gratitude** to the many **humble, quiet givers** supporting our services and outreach efforts behind the scenes and never seeking credit....**we appreciate you!**....**And many thanks** to our **Lecture Team** and others who worked so hard in support of the August Spanish language lectures and outreach events featuring **Pepe Rodriquez Palaez** from Spain.



**The Mentor Team**

...sure to let us know if you spot anyone of us (on the "net".)

**FYI...**  
**Reminder:** If any team wishes to place an announcement or short report in the newsletter, let us know. This is a way to reach more of our congregation than just through church meetings.

**In the news and on the Internet....**

The August 29 issue of the *Sentinel* features a timely and encouraging article by member **Nancy Battey**, "**When opportunity knocks**"...Don't miss it!.....and for especially inspiring comments from **Cathryn Rathsam**, see "Letters" in the September 12 *Sentinel*.

Walk in the light so thou shalt know  
that fellowship of Love...His spirit  
only can bestow who reigns in light above....

## **The Book Report....**

### **When Hummers Dream: A Milford Haven Short Story and...**

**What the Heart Knows** (Hardcover Edition available September 2011) by **Mara Purl**



**Mara Purl**, one of our members, is a writer with a long list of credits, including "Floating Mirror," an essay published on the Home Forum page of the *Christian Science Monitor*. Mara has been a journalist with the *Financial Times of London*, *Rolling Stone* and the Associated Press to name a few. She was also an accomplished actress with her best-known role as a regular on *Days of Our Lives*. Mara created *Milford-Haven U.S.A.*, which became the first American radio serial drama broadcast by the BBC with 4.5 million listeners in the U.K. Now she's a novelist, writing a series of books based on her radio drama.

"My stories are essentially about moral choices and spiritual progress," Mara commented, "though these qualities may not seem obvious. On one level my books are designed to entertain. But on a deeper level they ask questions and invite the reader to reflect. Book One is titled *What the Heart Knows*. What does our heart know that we

might not be hearing? Do we pay attention to our intuitions? Or do we override them with intellectualism?

*What the Heart Knows* will be published in September in both hardcover and e-Book formats and will be available at bookstores, amazon.com, bn.com and other online sellers. But Mara also has a short story prequel to the novel available right now as an e-book. "The short story is a fictionalized version of a healing that took place several years ago. Shortly after I'd received Class Instruction, I was visiting a beautiful outdoor garden and a hummingbird had been killed flying into a glass wall. Using what I'd just learned in Class, I picked up the bird and found a quiet place to declare some healing truths, such as 'There is no matter in the first place that can be dead or alive in the second place; Life is All, and is fully expressed.' I was so grateful and touched when the bird was healed and flew away.

"*When Hummers Dream* is the story of a painter who's convinced the bird is not dead, only dreaming. She accomplishes her healing mission by painting for him a garden that will reawaken him. Though this is a fanciful tale in some ways, it marks a moment that will later prove for the character the beginning of her own spiritual journey."

For those who do not use e-Readers, Mara's publisher has posted a special page where you may download a PDF of the story. Visit <http://bellekeepbooks.com/bonus/> and use the code: BKbonus.

(Do you have a book to recommend that has enhanced your spiritual journey? Let us know.)



***Attending our church without walls...***

**Joining us by conference call...**

**IMPORTANT NEWS: THIS IS OUR NEW CONFERENCE CALL NUMBER...**

**DIAL 1-805-309-2350**...then punch in this **ACCESS CODE: 12111#**. You may begin calling in fifteen minutes before any meeting or join any time after the service or meeting is in progress. A host will greet you and answer any questions, or you are welcome to just listen in.

**Meetings by Skype**...We are now using the Skype room of members Mark and Marilyn Mohlenbrock. They have generously donated this service to us in the past, and to help us defray operating expenses, have offered this free to us again.

Instructions: For all services, meetings and workshops, the Skype number to dial: **+9900827047040344**.....or to call in by phone: **1-201-793-9022** ACCESS CODE: **7040344**. There is no charge for the Skype connection through your computer, but there is a regular phone charge if you call into the Skype number by phone. Call in a few minutes before the service or meeting is scheduled to begin. You need your own free Skype account which you can sign up for at Skype.com.

***Your Management Team...***

Our members comprise the governing body of our Society, and our Management Team serves as the communication center, handling ongoing administrative and organizational tasks. Please note the new contact information.

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