



W I D E H O R I Z O N

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Science Nursing*

Wide Horizon Herald Annual Meeting Issue

Fall 2008

Gratitude Expressed

From a former patient:

There was no time for fear or 'what if.' I was taken to Wide Horizon as I had lost all mobility after a car accident. Such a precious place! I felt welcomed into truly a "haven of Soul" where I could focus each moment on my Father's view of His creation—the only view of creation.

While I focused on my fusion with good and my creator, I was so gently cared for through Christian Science nursing. Every need was so tenderly met.

Thought by thought, without fear, consciousness was filled with a

mental restoration of peace and harmony. In 10 days I was able to walk again and head home. Inspiration continued to ripen in thought for a full and complete healing. Mary Baker Eddy wrote, "Into His haven of Soul there enters no element of earth to cast out angels, to silence the right intuition which guides you safely home" (*Miscellaneous Writings*, 152).

From a family member of a guest:

I want to thank you for the wonderful care that my mother received at Wide Horizon. It is comforting to know that a loved one resides in a spiritually uplifting atmosphere. I have always admired Christian Science nurses' ability to look

beyond the material picture and keep their spiritual poise.

But recently I have come to truly appreciate the way they meet the practical needs of their patients as well. Between visits, I made it a point to call my mother every day and often spoke to the C.S. nurse on duty [who was helping her answer the phone]. This gave me an opportunity to get to know some of them individually, and I was struck by their love and attentiveness in caring for my mother. In addition to reading to her and singing hymns, they went out of their way to try to think of special things she would like to eat and have them specially prepared for her. This meant a great deal to me....

Donations can be made online: via our website at www.widehorizon.org, where you can also learn about Wide Horizon and its Christian Science nursing activity. Thank you!

“God’s Ways...”

Board Chairman Rick Davis began the Annual Meeting reports with these words by Mary Baker Eddy, “God’s ways are not as our ways; but higher far than the heavens above the earth is His wisdom above ours...All God’s servants are minute men and women. As of old, I stand with sandals on and staff in hand, waiting for the watchword and the revelation of what, how, whither. Let us be faithful and obedient, and God will do the rest” (*Misc. Writ.* 158).

This describes the desire of all at Wide Horizon to seek the best way to provide the Christly care of



Christian Science nursing that facilitates healing, including the best use of property and buildings.

The Chair mentioned that Horizon House is dedicated to rest and study or spiritual renewal and is open year round for spiritual retreat from the world. One guest recently remarked, “It’s A-plus accommodations!”

After years of prayer and clarification of thought, goals, and purpose, an architect and general contractor have been hired to expand the North building. They have developed a design and provided an estimated cost

for the North Building Expansion Project. This new design will enable Wide Horizon to provide more rooms, a better environment for our guests, and more efficient operations.

There’s a need to better address caring for those who appear to be confused and tend to wander. The C.S. nurses must be alert and active to care for these individuals and to keep them from either leaving the building or disturbing other guests in their rooms.

An additional wing with eight new rooms should improve the Christian Science nursing care for everyone involved. Additional Christian Science nurses will be needed for an expanded population.

Many design features of the presented plans for the North Building Expansion Project include:

- A larger commercial kitchen
- Larger dining and living rooms
- A more visible reception area
- A larger and centrally located multi-use library
- An employee break room that is more centrally located on the main floor
- New offices for the Director of Christian Science Nursing and shift supervisor
- Two additional restrooms
- An upgrade of audio and visual services to each guest room
- All business functions moved to the North building

(continued on page 3)

Employee Recognition

At the Annual Meeting we were pleased to be able to recognize the contributions of several of our staff members who achieved landmarks in their service to our Christian Science community.

For 25 years:

- Sue Wood, Director of Christian Science Nursing

For 15 years:

- Henry Nicol, Christian Science Nurse
- Sharon Nicol, Christian Science Nurse

For 5-plus years:

- D. Brian Boettiger, Executive Director
- Judy Fryberger, Activities
- Alisa Greiner, Receptionist & Activities
- Christina O’Leary, Christian Science Nurse

Annual Meeting Talk: We are genuinely grateful to have had Christine Irby Williams, C.S., of Houston, TX, be the keynote inspirational speaker at Wide Horizon’s annual meeting. A handout of citations from her talk titled UNIVERSAL LOVE; INDIVIDUAL DEMONSTRATION is available upon request.

Progress is God's Law

In a year when we celebrate the 100th anniversaries of our beloved Leader's inspired vision to provide for both the *Christian Science Monitor* and the by-law CHRISTIAN SCIENCE NURSE in the *Church Manual*, 2008 has been a year of much growth at Wide Horizon.

We have been able to hire five new or returning Christian Science nurses in 2008:

Kelli Dison from Tenacre in New Jersey, Kathy McElroy who previously cared for seniors in her home in Buena Vista, Teresa Claro from the Philippines, where she received introductory training in foundational concepts of Christian Science nursing, and Judi Smith and Carol Zietlow.



Teresa Claro

One reason we have been able to hire more Christian Science nurses is the commitment we made in the last two years to provide beginning level Christian Science nurses training at Wide Horizon. We have also been near capacity for most of this year.

This year I am going to tell you about one healing experience that really stands out.

A young man was visiting his family in another state when a pan of grease on the stove caught fire. He was only wearing a pair of shorts and he received severe burns over most of his body. He was taken to the burn center at a large hospital in that area where he was told that among other things that he would need 6 months or more of skin grafting. His wife encouraged him to discharge himself from the hospital and come to Wide Horizon.

Somehow he convinced the hospital to let him go, and he flew across the country on a commercial airline,

wrapped up like a mummy wearing sweat pants and a jacket.

Working with him that first day, I realized that I was witnessing a level of courage I had not seen before. At one point, we were in the shower with him removing the bandages and washing off the "gook" that came with him from the hospital. He was singing Mrs. Eddy's hymns while the tears rolled down his face. We were singing and praying right along with him: "Shepherd, show me how to go... Shepherd, wash them clean..." He was covered in bandages from the soles of his feet to the tips of his fingers. He rested uncomfortably on the bed, while his wife read to him, fed him, and kept in frequent contact with the practitioner.

Their desire was to get him back to their home, several hours away, as soon as possible. But there were some human footsteps to be taken before that desire could be realized. A certain amount of progress needed to be made; a clear sense of how to care for his wounds needed to be established—even a large supply of bandaging material provided for. His wife needed to be trained to care for him, and we needed to locate at least one other Christian Scientist in their area who was "full of faith" and could help his wife with the practical care of the wounds.

In less than a week, sufficient progress and preparation had been made, and the young couple returned to their home. We heard from them occasionally over the next few weeks, and were able to make some suggestions for his care. It was not easy going for him for a while, but he stuck with the Truth.

My path crossed his twice in the summer. He was working at his

by Susan Wood,
Director of Christian Science Nursing

regular job—a very active, outdoor job. He looked great, even *radiant*—you know, the way you feel when you have had a Christian Science healing. When he spoke about the importance of Wide Horizon to him, it was in terms of it being a spiritual refuge for him, a place where he felt safe from the intrusion of medical beliefs so that he could listen to God and feel His comforting care and love.

We are all grateful for Wide Horizon—a vision that began in the hearts of a handful of Christian Scientists over 60 years ago. A vision which continues to unfold in our hearts today, but whose mission has remained unchanged through the ensuing years and the numerous changes to its outward structure: to be a refuge from the impositions of the material world and a support for



individuals who are relying wholeheartedly on Christian Science for healing. Much thanks to each of you for your support of this mission. Your prayers and your financial contributions help continue to make Christian Science nursing care at Wide Horizon available to Christian Scientists in a seven-state area and beyond.

NOTE: At Wide Horizon you may listen to this and other annual meeting reports, as well as the keynote inspirational talk, "Universal Love; Individual Demonstration" by Christine Irby Williams, C.S.

(continued from page 1)

- Conference room for staff meetings and training, and board meetings
- Remodeled lower level rooms for temporary staff housing
- Maintenance garage

Estimated costs for this project are \$4 million. We ask that all donations be in addition to present contributions for benevolence. The Board has discussed the possibility of taking out a loan that could be repaid as donations are received but prefers not to do this. The Board discussed the possible sale of land to fund the project and has not ruled out this option. However, there are no immediate plans to sell land.

Ways to support the North Building Expansion Project, aside from financial donations, include prayerful support of this progressive step. We would also welcome your help to set up meetings at branch churches or in homes to share aspects of Wide Horizon's Christian Science nursing activities and development plans.

A motion was passed unanimously allowing the board to proceed with the project as sufficient funds are secured to meet all construction costs.

All contributions are welcomed!

Charitable Distributions from your IRA

The tax-free IRA Charitable Distribution has been extended by Congress for 2008 and 2009. This extension of the Pension Protection Act of 2006 permits you, if you're more than 70½, to give directly from your IRA to a charity without claiming any increased income or being required to pay any additional tax. To use this provision to benefit both you and Wide Horizon for this year, you'll need to act before December 31, 2008.

Treasurer's Remarks

Ted LaMontagne read from *Science and Health*, "If you venture upon the quiet surface of error and are in sympathy with error, what is there to disturb the waters? What is there to strip off error's disguise? If you launch your bark on the ever-agitated but healthful waters of Truth, you will encounter storms. Your good will be evil spoken of. This is the cross." (p. 254)

He reported that while Wide Horizon's financial picture is dimin-



ished due to recent activity in the stock market, it is faring well, with equities, bonds and cash close to \$2.2 million at the time of the report. Prayer and prudence continue to guide the Board and our investment advisors.

He affirmed the operations of Wide Horizon are continuing in a predictable manner with the administration controlling expenses in the

most effective manner possible, noting that Christian Science nursing care demands a low care-giver to patient ratio. Although the rates for guests are fair in relation to Christian Science nursing facilities, varying numbers of our guests are unable to pay all of their fees. This shortfall of between \$300,000 and \$500,000 a year is made up through our benevolence policy and contributions.

The Board has concluded that it is time to go to the field for assistance in a major commitment to fixing, improving and expanding the Wide Horizon facility... "Should we wait until the waters are calm, or should we launch our bark now?"

Wide Horizon can devote some of its financial assets to this cause but needs to maintain a cushion to provide the required funds for benevolence and to have the liquidity for a smoothly functioning enterprise. There are real estate assets that might be a source of additional funds for the project. This is a very important step in the history of Wide Horizon and will allow it to continue to be a vital part of our multi-state community of Christian Scientists.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Wide Horizon's Christian Science nursing activity. This year has seen progress in our ability to serve our Christian Science community through the addition of several new and returning Christian Science Nurses, increased use of our facilities (they have been full or nearly full most of the year), increased financial stability, the design of our proposed expansion of the North building, and many healings through reliance on God and Christian Science

We could not serve as a vehicle for countless healings if not for our numerous donors, who give generously and unselfishly to help their fellow Christian Scientists in their time of need.

We hope that you will take some time to prayerfully consider how you might best support our continued efforts (metaphysically and financially) to meet the needs of all Christian Scientists in Colorado and our neighboring states.

If you would like to discuss any giving options, please contact us at 303-424-4445 ext. 3040 or write to us at: Wide Horizon, Inc., 8900 West 38th Ave., Wheat Ridge, CO 80033.