



Wide Horizon 2015 Annual Meeting Issue

Wide Horizon's theme for its annual meeting was "*Christian Science Nursing and Healing World Thought*," which continues our focus on The Mother Church's support of Christian Science nursing. We were very grateful to John Rinnert, C.S. of Bozeman, MT, who gave the keynote address titled "*Christian Science Nursing: A Miracle on Earth*." We've included a gift of his talk with this newsletter. May you feel the impulse of Christian Science healing in your life!



*Keynote Talk Presented
at Wide Horizon's Annual Meeting
Wheat Ridge, Colorado,
September 27, 2015*



“Christian Science Nursing — a manifestation of God’s perfect, everlasting Love”

Susan T. Wood, Director of Christian Science Nursing

Every year we get together like this to consider the importance of Christian Science nursing and to let you know what your support of this work has accomplished in our community. Unsurprisingly, every year brings new challenges and new revelations of God’s care.

We read in the Bible, in Jeremiah, “Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love...” (Jer. 31:3). I like to think of Christian Science nursing as a manifestation of God’s perfect, everlasting Love that is always present, always ready to meet an individual need.

One could also think of a Christian Science nursing facility such as Wide Horizon as a *laboratory*, where the truths of Christian Science are being applied and proved, on a daily basis, in what sometimes appear as the most challenging of human situations.

One of our opportunities to demonstrate Christian Science this year has been in finding Christian Science nurses (CSNs) to help us with this precious ministry. A couple of our staff CSNs quit during the year, to go somewhere else to practice their nursing or to do something else. Others have cut back their hours. This leaves us needing to bring in several nurses every month to make up the difference. We are, of course, looking for nurses who want to join our team on a permanent basis, but meanwhile we are grateful for the ones who share their time between working in homes and helping out in facilities around the country. We have met several new CSNs this year, and each has brought new ideas, as well as appreciation for the work that Wide

Horizon is doing. If this is the way God is meeting our need today, we are grateful!

Yet we seriously want to encourage people, especially young people, to consider serving our Movement as a Christian Science nurse. We have an established training program here at Wide Horizon, and would be happy to talk with anyone who wants to find out more about the ministry of Christian Science nursing.

I want to take the opportunity right now to ask all the Christian Science nurses who are here today to stand up so that we can thank them all. They are giving so much to our Movement every day!

It would seem that careers which involve service to others are not as highly sought after in today’s fast-paced, technological world. However, wise men and women throughout the ages have known that the true light of our lives is not in grand achievements or in gaining riches, but in giving of ourselves. It is the act of being loving and giving that brings the most satisfaction! I love this quote from Mary Baker Eddy’s address to her church in 1902: “Happiness consists in being and in doing good; only what God gives, and what we give ourselves and others through His tenure, confers happiness: conscious worth satisfies the hungry heart, and nothing else can” (*Message for 1902*, p. 17).

Several times this past year we have been called on to “enlarge the borders of our tent” in order to care for an individual in need. Once when we felt like we had a pretty comfortable balance between the number of patients to CS nursing staff, we were challenged

to open our doors—not once or twice, but three times—within the week! Three different individuals called in fairly short order. Each one needed Christian Science nursing care fairly urgently. None of them would be satisfied with any other solution. It was a moment for us to take a leap of faith—and to start moving furniture and calling CSNs (at a point when we thought we had already asked all the nurses we knew). We knew it was the right thing to do, so we moved forward thanking God for His care for each of His children. “Thank you, Father for showing me your care and your plan for these precious individuals.” Not surprisingly, the needed pieces fell into place, the patients were all taken care of, and the staff felt uplifted by our total reliance on God’s care.

Some of the people who come to Wide Horizon for assistance come from their homes, spend a few days or a few weeks at Wide Horizon, make the progress needed and return to their homes. Others are working out their salvation day-by-day while continuing to reside at Wide Horizon. They are not fully able to be on their own, and so receive daily Christian Science nursing services to some degree. These people are a constant source of inspiration as they continue their habit, developed over a lifetime, of relying on God for all needs.

We have had several individuals come to Wide Horizon this year after a belief of a fall, with the need to regain mobility and independence. Some of the individuals returned to their homes in fairly short order. Some are continuing to make good progress with the additional support of Christian

Science nursing care at Wide Horizon—walking further and more independently day-by-day.

We have seen two instances of extreme back pain and stiffness healed so that the people were able to return to their normal routines. One woman spoke to me of having had a “wake up call” to more faithfully handle the belief of animal magnetism daily. She had been praying about a lot of other things—personal and world issues—but not handling animal magnetism. Once she really dug in to that task, the other healing proceeded steadily until she once again had complete freedom.

A woman was living at home. Her care needs had increased beyond what her family was able to take care of. Church members were quite concerned about her situation. Two of our CS nurses were able to visit her in her home and assist her to make a move to Wide Horizon where her needs were appropriately addressed.

I’ve mentioned several of the services Wide Horizon provides, but let me go

over them each specifically. Our Christian Science nursing services run the gamut from light care, to what would be considered full care for emergency situations. The more challenging situations may be covered by Medicare for a short time. You can check our website (widehorizon.org) for information about Medicare and about our daily rates. We offer Rest and Study in Horizon House, with meals and housekeeping provided for someone who can take care of all their own personal needs. We have “out-patient” care for individuals who can come to the facility for something quick like bandaging a wound or having a shower. Please give us a call if you feel there is some way we can be helpful to you or someone you know.

A few days ago, I took one of our “Temp CSNs” to catch the shuttle to the airport so that she could return home. As I was sending her off with a hug, she told me what she enjoyed about Wide Horizon. “There is such unity of action. No one is waiting to be told what to do. Right through to

maintenance and the kitchen and the people in the office!”

A frequent visitor to Wide Horizon wrote, “I have visited many care facilities but nowhere else have I found such overwhelming love, respect, individual care and expectancy of healing as here at Wide Horizon. So much gratitude to all of you!”

Another regular visitor to one of our patients wrote this to the patient’s family, “My compliments to the nursing staff who are always cheerful and helpful. Your Mom can be getting crotchety with me and have that attitude turned right around by a kind word or gesture from one of the nurses. They all treat her like a personal friend.”

And another comment from a former patient, “What you did for me made me feel so loved.”

Which brings me back to where we started – back to God’s words in Jeremiah: “Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love, Therefore with loving-kindness have I drawn thee.”

Important Reasons to Give

Sustainability of Christian Science nursing at Wide Horizon is the primary one! There are innumerable reasons to open one’s heart to give to Christian Science nursing organizations, so here are some to get started:

- Behold the immeasurable value of Christian Science nursing to mankind.
- Recognize the importance of Christian Science nursing to our Movement.
- Value Mrs. Eddy’s inclusion of the bylaw “Christian Science Nurse” in the *Church Manual*.
- Witness to Christian Science nursing facilities as ministries of comfort and healing.
- Help maintain the high standard of care that Christian Science nursing organizations strive to provide based on a spiritual foundation that is directly linked to Christ-healing.
- Help the many patients who receive substantial amounts of benevolence or financial aid.
- Support the Christian Science nurses who have answered the proverbial bugle call to selflessly serve mankind.
- Help increase the wages of Christian Science nurses who work for wages much less than those who nurse in secular organizations.
- See the value of Christian Science nursing organizations which are recognized as Religious Non-medical Health Care Institutions.

Our Christian Science nursing staff has been periodically asked this question, “What is the best part about being a Christian Science nurse?” What follows is a related response...

“Raise the dead...”

Katherine McElroy, Christian Science Nurse

She was still breathing, but barely. Pale and glazed over, I could tell that “the end” was near. My initial response was, “Bless her heart, she’s struggled for so long and has been bedridden and non-communicative for years. Everyone has to go sometime...“ Right?

But I caught myself.

I asked myself, “What am I assuming and accepting here? Am I accepting deathlessness? Immortality? Eternality? Life? Or am I accepting that life ends? Is finite? In physicality? In matter? That death exists and has power? That this dear one is ready to die?”

Being a practicing Christian Scientist, I knew I had to turn my thought around.

And what about accepting that this was her “time to go...” What has time got to do with eternity? Absolutely nothing!

No, my job here was to know Truth.

I wondered if she would welcome death, having been in such a condition for such a long time. I pounced on that thought with Mrs. Eddy’s emphatic statement, “Death must be overcome, not submitted to.”¹ Death is never a friend!

All of those thoughts flashed through my thinking while I deftly turned and attended to her physical needs. What then happened in my thinking was a deep meditation on knowing God as ever-present Life. All I thought about was God. I didn’t even really think about this dear one I was caring for. My only awareness was God! Life!! Good!

Eternality! Never ending, never beginning, Life! The ever-presence of Life. Right here, right now. Governing, guarding, guiding. God is All. God doesn’t stop at the skin, All without and All within. “Life is eternal. We should find this out and begin the demonstration thereof.”² “Life is the law of... being”³. Life is a LAW, it’s not optional. There is no death! My thoughts continued in this manner in silence until I finished the nursing care involved. Her natural color returned. She perked up and was alert. Her eyes tracked me around the room as I tidied up. All was well. Life was expressing itself!

Author’s note: I almost didn’t acknowledge this as a healing. It just seemed so sweetly natural and just a part of caring for God’s dear ones. It wasn’t until the end of my shift when the supervising nurse had noted the contrast between how this guest appeared to be at the beginning of our

shift and how things were at the end. She said to me, “Thanks for the good work you did in that room tonight.” That’s when it dawned on me that I needed to acknowledge a healing for which I should be grateful. We (the patient and I) were lifted into the consciousness of God as All, Life. I continued to feel that lift for a couple of weeks after this experience. We were both blessed by it, all without panic, excitement or drama. No bells, no whistles, no alarms. No fear. Just God, ever-present Life!

I am so very grateful for the Truth of being, as taught by Christ Jesus, the Way-shower of Truth, Life, and Love, and as realized in Christian Science.

¹ *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* by Mary Baker Eddy, p. 76

² *Ibid*, page 246

³ *Ibid*, page 63



Photo by Anna Mead

Board Report

by Larry Combs, Chairman

Again, a very warm welcome to you all! Thank you for coming today and sharing in the progress that has been made at Wide Horizon this past year. As you know, the theme for this year's meeting is "Christian Science Nursing and Healing World Thought."

We're delighted that Lydia Roberts has been elected to serve her 2nd third year term on the Board. With the beginning of a new term for Lydia, the Board would be remiss for not recognizing the end of 15 years of service on the Board by Bob Schoenfeld. Gratitude for his service cannot be expressed in words.

Wide Horizon has been the sole Christian Science nursing care facility for a seven-state area in the heartland of the United States since 1950. This includes Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming. Wide stands as a beacon welcoming all those that want a healing atmosphere and wonderful Christian Science nursing care.

Our sincere thanks to each of you who so lovingly support the activities of Wide Horizon! We value your prayers, your recording of articles, your reading or playing the piano at Thursday evening testimony meetings, and the time you spend with guests along with all the volunteer activities that you do.

Without the financial support that you so generously give, Wide Horizon would not continue to exist, and depends upon your continued support in the future. Also, a profound thanks to our wonderful dedicated nursing staff, for without their loving, conscientious and professional care, there would not be a Wide Horizon.

We are also grateful for the great work done by our excellent staff which includes activities, food service, housekeeping, maintenance and administrative staff members, in addition to our Business Manager, Executive Director and Director of Christian Science Nursing.

The Board thought you might like to know what we do at our meetings. We meet once a month for 4-5 hours and have special meetings when needed. We always have a metaphysical topic for each meeting where inspiration is shared. In our meetings, we review contributions received, benevolence given to those who need and deserve it, the latest financial information and reports from the Executive Director and Director of Christian Science Nursing as well as any old and new business that needs to be discussed.

Here are some of the accomplishments from the last year.

- The construction of the new facilities for maintenance and staff housing for nursing staff.
- In the spring Wide Horizon received the "Business Hall of Fame Award" for three consecutive years of the "Best of Wheat Ridge" in the Nursing Home category.
- This summer, Wide Horizon was granted a full accreditation of three years by The Commission for Accreditation of Christian Science Nursing Organizations/Facilities.
- In August, Wide Horizon sponsored the Bible Roads talk "Exploring the Psalms" by Madelon Maupin that was graciously hosted by First Church, Denver and was attended by nearly 250 people.

- And early in September, the completion of the installation of a new boiler and control system for the main building.

At the start of her *Message for 1901*, Mrs. Eddy stated, "Beloved brethren, today I extend my heart-and-hand fellowship to the faithful, to those whose hearts have been beating through the mental avenues of mankind for God and humanity; and rest assured you can never lack God's outstretched arm so long as you are in His service" (p. 1).

You are our faithful supporters, and we thank you again for your support and for being with us today.

Building Project Update

The six new housing units were fully occupied by CS nurses at the end of September. Maintenance has moved its operations to its new building. These new buildings fill both immediate and long term needs. For the first time in its history, Horizon House now has its own source of power, gas, and water. Abatement of hazardous materials in the South Building and the demolition of this revered building will be completed soon. Thank you to all those who have supported "Progress at Wide Horizon!"

Executive Director's Report

D. Brian Boettiger

Will Rogers, a man of many talents, once said, "Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there."

Well, Wide Horizon appears to be on the right track and we definitely have not been simply sitting there, (even though that venerable big brick building still sitting on the hill may suggest something to the contrary).

Many moons ago in February 2014 the membership of Wide Horizon approved a building project, for a new maintenance facility and six new apartments for housing Christian Science nurses. These recently occupied buildings show progress has been made. But not without trials and tribulations!

My favorite humorist also said, "I don't make jokes. I just watch the government and report the facts."

So I'll report a number of facts! The local government had much to do with our building project being delayed and costs exceeding expectations (though still within the budget of the construction contract). A period of unusually wet months also caused many delays but we kept on track.

Another fact is that our staff has been truly remarkable during this project. Kudos to our marvelous maintenance team who gave many hours to the project, particularly doing the landscaping and irrigation, which is still in progress! Praises on high to our Christian Science nurses who provide such loving, excellent care to our dear guests, patients and residents! Moreover, many heartfelt thanks to all our support staff (some who provided today's refreshments)! And much gratitude to a very supportive Board,

especially my dear friend, Bob Schoenfeld, who has been an invaluable resource and mentor for many years!

Other facts include a consistent utilization of the Christian Science nursing services and therefore nearly full occupancy. It's refreshing to witness an increased awareness of how essential Christian Science nursing is to mankind and to spiritual healing in our beloved Cause.

You heard that this summer Wide Horizon was granted the full accreditation of three years by The Commission for Accreditation of Christian Science Nursing Organizations/Facilities. The Reviewers remarked that inspecting Wide Horizon was a genuine privilege, and they were very impressed with the high standard of care coupled with a palpable loving atmosphere. You may be interested to know that Sue Wood and I both serve as Reviewers for The Commission, visiting other Christian Science nursing facilities to inspect them, in addition to wearing our other hats and helmets in our respective roles.

Lastly, many thanks also to each of you who so lovingly support the activities of Wide Horizon. We sincerely value your prayers, your willingness to volunteer, your time spent with guests. And thank you so very much for your generous financial support, which is essential to the continuation of our excellent organization.

Our beloved Leader, Mary Baker Eddy writes in *Science and Health*, "God expresses in man the infinite idea forever developing itself, broadening and rising higher and higher from a boundless basis" (p. 258).

Thanks to all of you who are actively nurturing and nursing this development of the infinite idea both within yourselves and through your support of Christian Science nursing. From this boundless basis, you are helping to sustain Christian Science nursing at Wide Horizon now and for future generations!

Treasurer's Report

Lydia Roberts

From the Gospel of Matthew: "...blessed are your eyes, for they see; and your ears, for they hear" (13:16).

Wide Horizon is grateful for the progress of this past year which expands our beautiful campus.

The Church Manual outlines three numbers to be reported annually for The Mother Church (Art. XXIV). We are going to provide the same three for Wide Horizon.

1. The amount of funds Wide Horizon has on hand at yearend is \$3,700,000, down from last year due to expenditures for new facilities.
2. There is no long-term indebtedness, only current payables.
3. The operating expenses for the year totaled \$2,200,000, which is approximately 5% over last year.

Wide Horizon continues to have support from various foundations. However, contributions from you in the field are critical for us to meet our operating costs.

We are grateful to all our supporters who give so generously to Wide Horizon.

Evidences of gratitude and healing at Wide Horizon

- There were calls from two of the temporary CS nurses who had been with us recently, calling to say that they “missed us” and were eager to come back. “When did we need help again?”
- A patient, who was having a hard time getting along with a couple of the CSNs, said to our DCSN, “Thanks for the wake-up call!” She felt that a discussion about one of the CSNs that she “didn’t trust” woke her up to her need to handle animal magnetism each day for herself. She prays about a lot of world issues, but apparently has been neglecting that part of her work for herself. She had been having a pretty aggressive challenge with back pain, and handling animal magnetism for herself really helped her be much freer of that claim as well.
- A guest who returned home wrote, “My stay [at Wide Horizon] was productive, you have a fine staff, and the atmosphere was just what I tell people it is – bright, warm, loving, and expectant of healing. That’s just what’s going on with me: healing. Progress has been swift. I love your thoughtfulness, and you are much appreciated, too. Much love and gratitude...”
- Gratitude from R&S Guests for Food Service Staff: “Thank you! You all work wonders, from savory to sweet. And, always serve with cheer, punctuated every now and then with seasoning of witty humor! [We] enjoyed partaking of your culinary skills as well as the round table talks when you had a few moments to [visit] with us. Again, thank you. You all were very much a part of the warmth and welcome Wide Horizon represents!”
- A couple who stayed in Horizon House wrote, “[We] very much appreciated our time at Wide Horizon. It is immeasurable to acknowledge the gracious provision of shelter, food, rest and more – expressed in a lovely atmosphere, with a beautiful view and warm greetings by the staff in all the departments; nursing, office, housekeeping, grounds and kitchen. It is with joy that we offer this donation.” – G.L. & M.L., ID
- “Please accept this donation made with a great respect and love for your staff and their hard, kind work, and in appreciation of your beautiful facility and grounds. Thank you for your loving-kindness and care for my [loved one].” – V.C., SC
- “I have visited many care facilities but nowhere else have I found such overwhelming love, respect, individual care and expectancy of healing as here at Wide Horizon. So much gratitude to all of you!”
– L. B., CO
- “Thank you all for serving the Cause of Christian Science!” – S.C., WY
- “There is a high degree of unity of action through every department. Staff members, particularly CS nurses, are not ‘waiting’ to be told what to do.” – Temporary CS Nurse

Gratitude for the “Exploring the Psalms” event at First Church of Christ, Scientist, Denver, where there were almost 250 attendees:

“Thank you for the wonderful presentation that Madelon Maupin gave on the Book of Psalms...I am sure the group enjoyed it very much. I know I appreciate the Psalms that much more and how it can relate to Christian Science.”

“This donation comes with much gratitude for Wide Horizon and the wonderful opportunity it provides for C.S. nursing and healing. Thank you for our afternoon with Madelon Maupin. It was a treat to learn more about The Psalms. Thank you for your dedicated work and care.”

Business Manager Retires – 25 years of selfless service!

Calaine Ohmert recently retired after 25 years of devoted service at Wide Horizon. Our hearts are filled with appreciation for all her good works in nursing, activities and administration. Calaine has embodied the qualities of being “a good and faithful servant” of Spirit in her consecrated support of Christian Science nursing. We are sincerely grateful!

To Infinity and Beyond!

Bob Schoenfeld “retires” after 15 collective years of service on Wide Horizon’s Board of Directors. He has been invaluable in so many ways, especially on our building projects and for decisions regarding the investment portfolio, which he will continue to help with as an advisor on our Investment Committee. His experience and wisdom have made a significant difference. It is with heartfelt gratitude that we say, “THANK YOU!”

The Commission Comes to Town

The Commission for Accreditation of Christian Science Nursing Organizations/Facilities inspected Wide Horizon during the dates of July 27 to 29.

The inspection went very smoothly. This was greatly due to our excellent staff's conscientious thought and selfless service.

These reviews/inspections are essential to show that Wide Horizon consistently and continually meets high standards of Christian Science nursing and of all the support functions thereto. Such accreditation as well as our license by the State and certification by Medicare reassures our field and the public that Wide Horizon is in good standing.

The Review Team leader stated that

“Wide Horizon is a beacon of Christian scientific practice and demonstration. Patients, staff, volunteers, Christian Science churches everywhere, and your whole community are blessed by your presence. Thanks for your hospitality and expression of grace during the time [we] were your guests.”

Review Team members made a number of positive comments about each department, including the cleanliness, order, nurturing thought, delicious meals provided, expectation of healing, and most importantly Christian manner expressed.

The Review Team recommended an unconditional full 3-year accreditation to the Independent Accrediting Committee and The Commission Board.

We sincerely appreciate our wonderful staff, our selfless volunteers, including our dedicated Board of Directors, and our supporters who help make Wide Horizon such a successful Christian Science nursing organization.



Photo by Anna Mead

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!



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Wide Horizon, Inc. is a nonprofit Christian Science Nursing Care Facility, which is federally recognized as a Religious Nonmedical Health Care Institution. It is accredited by The Commission for Accreditation of Christian Science Nursing Organizations / Facilities, Inc. It is also certified by CMS as a Medicare provider. This nonprofit organization provides nonmedical healthcare services to those of the Christian Science religious faith that are primarily from the Rocky Mountain region. The Organization in part relies upon contributions to finance its operations, and these contributions are received primarily from Christian Scientists throughout the Rocky Mountain region and from select foundations, and are greatly needed to sustain continual operations.

Board of Directors

Larry Combs – Loveland, CO

Kathryn Hoyt, CS – Highlands Ranch, CO

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Bob Reiman – Colorado Springs, CO

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Susan T. Wood, Director of Christian Science Nursing