

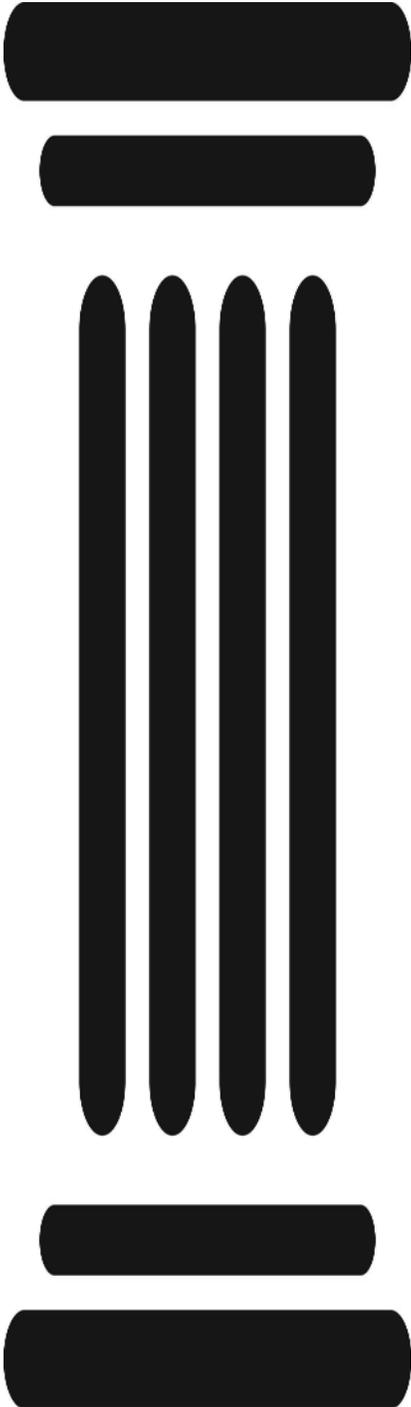
THE COLUMN

Publication of the LWML of the Pacific SW District Convention
June 8-10, 2018 SouthPoint Hotel, Las Vegas, NV

Welcome to Convention Saturday!!

This is such an exciting day! So much to do - so much to see - so many memories to make! Challenge yourself to seek out 10 friends you haven't met yet!! Find out where they are from and if they have ever been to a District Convention before! Have they been to a National convention? Have you??

Today and every day - JESUS ROCKS!



Things to Do and See Today!

To Do: +Join everyone in Ballroom B as our Convention begins with songs of praise! Meet Erik and Sandy Ohman as they lead us in singing today and tomorrow! Thank you both for your willingness to serve!

+Today we vote for those officers who have said, "yes, I'm willing to serve!" Check out the candidate bios in your Convention Manual

+It's also the day we vote for the Mission Grants and Multi-cultural Mini Grants. Check out the display in Napa D!

+Linda Stotereau will be leading our Bible Studies today - you don't want to miss that!!

+Cindy Steinbeck will be our Keynote Speaker. We look forward to hearing how "The Rock Speaks"

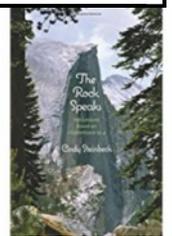
In the Mission Grant/Exhibit Room, pick up your Scavenger Hunt card (sponsored by the Board of Communications). Follow the instructions and put your completed card in the same room by 6 pm.

We have a great lineup of Exhibitors! Please stop by and say "hi"! While you are there, fill out your Bingo card (have the exhibitors sign or stamp over their organization's name). Put the completed Bingo cards in the container in the Mission Grant/Exhibit room before 6 pm!

We have an awesome selection for our Silent Auction. Come in and bid - but don't forget to keep coming in - your special basket may just be someone else's special basket!! This can be found in Napa A & B.



Don't miss out on the LWML/CPH store! There is something for everyone!! We have sale items, Bibles, tools for Bible journaling, inspirational note cards children's books and Cindy Steinbeck's book, "The Rock Speaks" she may even be willing to sign one for you!! This is found in Napa C



Overheard...

"I should have packed a lunch to go to the bathroom!"

"I don't think I've ever been to a convention before where the women were on one floor and horses were on the other!"



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*A column or pillar in architecture and structural engineering is a structural element that transmits, through compression, the weight of the structure above to other structural elements below. In other words, a column is a compression member. **Jesus carries our burdens.***

Jesus is our Column! He is our Rock!



A Look at the Future...From the Past

As we head into our convention weekend, we think of all the ways in which God has blessed our district. In returning members, in new faces, and in faithful unity towards a collective goal of glorifying our great God, we see a beautiful glimpse of our future. But before we can look toward the future, we must learn from our past! How do we do that? We look at those who have seen the growth of this district and ask for their insight and wisdom.



If you have joined us at a convention before, you may recall the memorable Mary Helen Kelly! Mary Helen is 93 years young and is a familiar face in our district. We asked her about her experiences with LWML over the years, and what advice she has for our newcomers.

When Mary Helen was a young mother, a lady in her congregation kept inviting her to LWML - "many, many times!" Finally, she just picked her up and took her to a meeting. She truly enjoyed the Bible Study, and through those studies developed her relationship with God and started home studies for herself.

Soon, she was elected to be Zone President. She remembers bringing her kids and letting them be on a blanket and play during the meetings. No one minded! Her first National Convention was in Portland, Oregon at the 5th biennial convention "Saved to Serve" in 1953. She recalls being on a charter bus where they practiced songs and skits in preparation of the Convention. As always, that Convention was "inspirational, with lots of camaraderie, and all were dedicated to missions".

In 1964, Mary Helen was elected as District President for the Southern California district, and served until 1968. As District President, one of her greatest challenges was the sheer volume of people - trying to find space to handle up to one thousand convention goers! However, along with the challenges come the great rewards. As District President, Mary Helen visited each zone in her district, and at each zone, she found a unified LWML. Each zone was dedicated to missions, to their Lord, and to serving those both near and far. The familiarity and zest for missions is unified across the board - and at the national level as well!

To this day, Mary Helen praises God for that woman all those years ago who was persistent in her mission to get Mary Helen to LWML. She did not give up, and now we are all blessed because of it.

As we continue into our convention, Mary Helen has this advice for newcomers thinking about becoming involved in LWML: "Understand that it is the Holy Spirit (not you), so pray about it and -- **don't fight it!**"