

Mission Trips



Eye glass clinic

Making A Difference in Nicaragua

Thirty-nine donated sewing machines plus boxes of material and sewing notions hitched a ride on the buses taking **Michigan District LWML** convention-goers to Sioux Falls last June. But that wasn't the end of the journey! Thanks to Orphan Grain Train, the supplies reached their final destination — **Nicaragua!** — where a team of Michigan women met up again with the sewing machines and taught sewing workshops at the **Chinandega Mission Center.**

Fifty Nicaraguan women, many single mothers needing to earn an

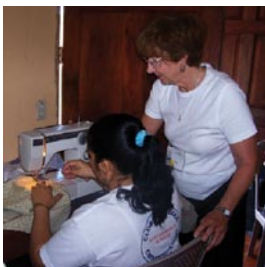
income, attended classes to become certified seamstresses. Most had used only treadle machines and were amazed that these machines could sew in reverse! The women practiced their skills by making clerical shirts and stoles, altar paraments, and undershorts.

At the same time, a second mission team of LWMLers from Michigan held eyeglass clinics at Lutheran churches in two neighboring towns, and, defying all expectations, distributed nearly every pair of eyeglasses at their disposal.



Sharing God's Love in Puerto Rico

Over 1,500 people received news of Jesus' love for them, along with nearly 2,000 pair of donated eyeglasses, when the **South Wisconsin District LWML's** MOST Ministries team conducted eyeglass clinics in **Puerto Rico** last fall. Attendees had their vision tested and, before receiving their free glasses, spent time with members of the local LCMS congregation who explained the Gospel message by using beaded witness bracelets. Everyone received invitations to the church's worship services and other activities. The following Sunday, eleven



Pat Carlson, MOST Ministries sewing team leader, and one of the students.



of the clinic attendees worshipped with congregation members!

One woman who received eyeglasses to clarify her close vision

was amazed at finally being able to read fine print. She was so awestruck to receive a Spanish Bible that she clutched the book tightly as team members helped her find Psalm 23.



Donna Burton, left, is shown with her daughter, Korte, and Dr. Robert Roegner.

“And the Winner is...”

“The trip of a lifetime,” is how **Donna Burton** of **Kansas District LWML** describes the free mission trip she won at the Tampa LWML convention. Traveling with **Dr. Robert Roegner**, Executive Director of LCMS World Mission, and others on the 1700-mile, eight-day trip to **Alaska**, she saw not only the beautiful landscape of Alaska, but also the beautiful hearts of the people.

Because many Alaska residents do not have church structures of their own but share buildings with other groups and other churches, Donna observed: *the people were happy to get the opportunity to worship and did not care what kind of*

building they were in. She calls Alaska not only the “Last Frontier” but also a great mission frontier.

Resources and Ideas for You to Use

Where Are They Now?

“Trust Me” (see *LWQ Summer 2007*) is what missionary **Beth Heiney** continues to do, as she and her family have returned to **Guinea, West Africa.** A DVD is now available of the presentation, “God’s Work in Guinea,” they made while home on furlough in 2007. For more information, check out www.guineamission.com/media.



Linda Reiser and Gloria Edwards

“How to Be a Servant Leader” and “Programming Ideas That Work” are presentations past LWML presidents **Gloria Edwards** and

Linda Reiser will lead in **Milwaukee** at *Sharing the Love of Jesus: How-to's of Christian Leadership*, a conference sponsored by the Women's Leadership Institute of **Concordia University Wisconsin** on April 4-6. The event also features a workshop, “How to Write a Devotion or Bible Study,” by former *LWQ* editor-in-chief and WLI founder **Donna Streufert**. For more information or to download a conference brochure, go to www.wlicuw.org.



Cross at Ground Zero — that LWQ Editor-in-Chief **Nancy Graf Peters** received from the Atlantic District Mission Society at ceremonies in **New York City** last fall. Past recipients of this award include LWML leaders Alma Kern, Betty Duda, and Gloria Edwards.

Texas District LWML member **Margie Arp** was honored with the 2007 Wom-

ROCK On!

“Women ROCK” has been the year-long theme of the LWML society at **St. Paul Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills, Michigan**. Each month’s meeting featured a different aspect of this theme: “Prayer ROCKS” (a devotion, Bible study, and a craft activity of rocks tied in cloth with a ribbon and a poem that emphasized the importance of daily prayer); “Christmas ROCKS” (stone soup for an Advent supper); “ROCK Around the Clock” (new beginnings for January); and “Resurrection ROCKS” (Jesus’ tombstone for Lent).

Snacks at each meeting include rocky road ice cream and rock candy!

Honoring Servant Hearts



Terry Kieschnick congratulates Nancy at the awards luncheon.

“For her contribution and commitment to missions” reads the inscription on the Witness in the Public Square award — a replica of the Twin Towers and the

an of the Year Award from **Concordia University Austin**. Margie is active at **Redeemer, Austin**, and a member of the Dorcas Society. Their vicar said of Margie: *[She] has displayed an overwhelming kindness and sweetness that leaves you experiencing the very same kindness and sweetness that is found in Jesus.*

LWML President Jan Wendorf met **Viola Lueck** at the **South Wisconsin District** fall retreat and was impressed to learn that Viola has been a member of the LWML for 65 years! As a 19-year-old bride whose pastor husband served in Chicago, Viola joined the LWML after the founding LWML convention in 1942. Viola currently serves the Lord with gladness by volunteering at a nursing home and reading the Bible and devotions to residents. Jan said: *What a blessing to talk with her and see the joy of the Lord sparkle in her eyes! It’s an encouragement for all of us.*



Margie Arp



Viola Lueck



Mission Church on the **Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota**. At the dedication service, Rev. Robert Utecht delivered a sermon based on the convention theme, “Rest on Christ the King.” Each of the sixty people in attendance placed one of the rocks in the lighted cross.

Mission team member **Diane Falin**, who teaches Sunday School at the church several times a month, reports first-hand how much the cross is appreciated!

News Update

Sioux Falls ROCK Cross in Its New Home

Those of you who were privileged to attend the LWML convention in **Sioux Falls** will remember the beautiful cross at the foot of the stage. Designed and constructed by decorations chairman Martha Smith’s husband, Vernon, the cross featured rocks from each of the 40 LWML districts surrounded by rocks native to South Dakota.

After the convention, the cross was donated to **St. Alban’s Indian**



Children made cross necklaces of wire and beads wrapped around a rock to help them remember that Jesus is our ROCK!

News! News! News! Please send us your News!



News and pictures of events and projects from your society, zone, and district are needed! The

Fall 2008 *Quarterly* focuses on “**joy has come to me.**” What is your definition of *joy*? Where do you find it? Does it find you? Has your group held joyous events? How does

God surprise you with joy in unexpected places? Share your joyous news, including photos (electronic photos in the highest resolution possible are preferred; prints are also acceptable) to: **Carolyn Blum**, News Editor, 911 Tara Hill East, Hartford, WI 53027; newseditor@lwml.org. Deadline is **March 15, 2008.**

Together in Prayer

Pray with the LWML every Monday at noon