

Food Pantry, LAX

Special points of interest:

- Days/Hours of Operation are Tuesday and Friday, 10:00 a.m.—12 noon.
- 355 E. Beach Avenue
Inglewood, CA 90302
310-677-5597
- Tuesday Manager:
Judie Holland
- Friday Manager:
Dorothy Nino

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Manna: Food provided by God to the Israelites during their journey to the promised land

MANNA



Volume XXVI Number 1

May 2011

Gary Murphy – Wilma Matz Volunteer of the Year



Gary shown with the board to the right of Scott Tanner who holds the plaque.

- Becky Weber -

Food Pantry, LAX could not exist in its present form without the service of its corps of volunteers. Each year the Food Pantry board of directors honors one of its volunteers with the Volunteer of the Year Award, named after Wilma Matz, a generous benefactor to the Food Pantry. Gary Murphy is this year's recipient of the award. Gary has been volunteering at the Pantry since 2000. In addition to his willingness to help and serve, he brings computer expertise.

Gary is from Iowa where he received a BA in chemical engineering from the University of Iowa. Later he received a master's degree from USC in business. Using his talent in both

areas, he worked many years for Unocal, primarily in the financial area. He has continued his education by studying Japanese at LMU and has recently been studying Spanish.

Gary has been married to Jan for almost forty years and they have two daughters. They got married in San Diego, honeymooned in Carmel and then settled in Westchester. Gary and Jan enjoy playing bridge and reading, and they have participated in AFS as hosts for foreign students before they are permanently situated.

Gary and Jan also enjoy travelling, especially to the Northwest and to the Midwest where they have roots and family. One of Gary's favorite activities is biking. Several years ago he rode

from Washington DC to Pittsburgh with a group that visited Civil War battlefields and historic sites as they rode. The ride connected him to one of his other interests, American History. He has the diary his great grandfather kept as he fought in the Union Army through Georgia and Tennessee during the Civil War. Gary also served his country in the Navy for three years during the Viet Nam War.

We are not the only ones who see something special in Gary – he was also recently honored by the Los Angeles Wheelsman Bike Club as their volunteer of the year. We appreciate Gary's talents, the energy and effort he brings to the Food Pantry, and congratulate him as our volunteer of the year. ♦

Happiness is produced not so much by great pieces of good fortune that seldom happen, as by little advantages that occur every day.

Benjamin Franklin

Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony.

Mahatma Gandhi

Joy is the simplest form of gratitude.

Karl Barth

Joy is the holy fire that keeps our purpose warm and our intelligence aglow.

Helen Keller

MEET LULA

Lula brings her five year old grandson, Cleveland, to the Pantry, once a week. She has been coming to the Pantry more than a year. Cleveland has been diagnosed as a Special Needs child. Lula's granddaughter, Tatania, is 11 years old and a straight A student in fifth grade. Both children have been awarded by the courts to Lula's custody. Lula loves both children but admits having full care of them is a challenge for Granny

Lula was born in Baseville, Mississippi

and graduated from the University of Mississippi. For 30 years she was employed in Social Services and in the Department of Corrections. She was laid off in 2009 and has been unemployed since that time. But she hasn't given up looking.

She loves gardening and has a small area where she grows carrots, cabbage, peppers, collard greens' and tomatoes. When she has a bumper crop of produce she shares with friends and neighbors.

Lula is very proud of the part her family has

played in the Civil Rights Movement. Her father participated in the march to Selma with Martin Luther King. And, again, he was in the Million Man March to Washington D.C. He was one of the first blacks to vote in Mississippi, and even ran for public office. Lula was one of the first black girls to enroll in an all white Mississippi school.

Lula remembers well Dr. King's promise that they would one day "reach the Promised Land." "But," Lula says, "We're not there yet." We wish her well on the journey. ♦

Our Newest Board Member – Donna Eggebeen

At our most recent Annual meeting, Donna Eggebeen was elected a member of the board. Donna has also agreed to be our secretary. She is originally from Peafe, Minnesota where she spent her childhood before going off to Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan to study childhood education. The two loves of her life have been music and her husband Tom, and she met him while they were both in the band at Calvin College. They have been married forty-four years.

Tom entered the ministry a few years after their graduation, and Donna and Tom lived in five different states as Tom accepted various ministry assignments before they arrived in California three and a half years ago. While Tom was being a minister, Donna was a real estate agent, a bookkeeper, and the mother of two children, a son and a daughter.

Donna loves to read, one of her favorites is biographies, and she really enjoys playing her piano although it is

currently on loan to Covenant Presbyterian. She is devoted to her family. She and her husband love people and they like to entertain, and her love of people explains why she has been serving at the Food Pantry and is willing to serve on the board.

We welcome her. ♦



Food Pantry, LAX News and Events

In October, the Westside Food Bank had its annual Hunger Walk and Guy Wauthy of the Food Pantry Board represented us there and he gathered pledges of \$80 as a result of his walking. The Westside Food Bank is a major source of the food we distribute each week.

Since our last edition of Manna, we had an interfaith service at Thanksgiving 2010, the Community Service of Thanksgiving at the Westchester United Methodist Church, and the proceeds of the offering in the amount of \$800 were given to the Food Pantry. Earlier in 2010, the Westchester Clergy Association also collected offerings at the Good Friday Service from which we received \$1,000.

We once again had our annual Bag It Up campaign in which we invite members of the community primarily through the churches associated with the Westchester Clergy Assoc to take home a

bag and fill it with groceries for the needy, per a menu put in each bag. This year we received 550 bags which were handed out at the Pantry in early December and also given to Mother of Sorrows Church to hand out.

At the Annual Meeting on March 22nd, the following were elected to serve three year terms on the board: Willie Hodges, Dorothy Nino, Bob Quinn, Becky Weber, and Donna Eggebeen. Following the election of directors, the following officers were elected for the coming year: Scott Tanner – President, Bob Quinn – Vice President, Willie Hodges – Treasurer, Donna Eggebeen - Secretary. If most of the names look familiar, they are. All of them but Donna served in the same position in the last year.

During the December holidays, we are frequently the recipient of food drives and generous financial contributions. This year Decron

Properties, who operates two large apartment complexes in Westchester Playa Del Rey and one in Marina Del Rey, held a food drive at their properties which contributed a significant amount of food to the Food Pantry. We acknowledge the many others who did the same for us last year including the Westchester Playa Del Rey Neighborhood Council.

One significant source of revenue for the Food Pantry is the Emergency Food and Shelter Program under the auspices of FEMA and administered by the United Way in Los Angeles. Because of the federal budget debate, the receipt of those funds this year is in doubt at this writing. Because we have no paid staff, we know we are one of the low cost providers of food for the needy in our area. However, if we lose that source of funding, we will need to rely even more heavily on the generosity of members of the community to meet the needs of those we serve. ◆

There is no need to get to a place of prayer; pray wherever you are.
Oswald Chambers

Do what you can and pray for what you cannot yet do.
St. Augustine

If you want God to hear your prayers, hear the voice of the poor.
St. Thomas of Villanova

We give thanks for unknown blessings already on their way.
Sacred ritual chant

The life of every man is a diary in which he means to write one story, and writes another, and his humblest hour is when he compares the volume as it is with what he vowed to make it. - J.M. Barrie, novelist and playwright (1860-1937)

But, I hope we all keep trying to achieve the former.

Food Pantry, LAX

is located at:

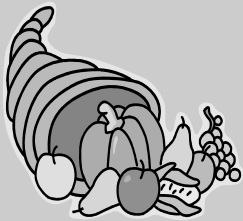
355 E. Beach Avenue
Inglewood, CA 90302
Phone: 310-677-5597

Between La Brea &
Centinela; one block
North of Florence

Mailing Address:

8726 S. Sepulveda Blvd.
Suite D PMB 741
Westchester, CA 90045

**All donations
are appreciated.**



Volunteers

are always needed at the Pantry, especially now on Tuesdays from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm each week; we also need people able to do food pick-ups as needed. If you can work one day a week, or one day a month, we would love to have you. To volunteer your services please call Dorothy Nino at the Pantry on any Friday, 11 to 12:30

310-677-5597

A Ministry of the Westchester/Ladera Clergy Association since 1985

OUR MISSION: Food Pantry, LAX is an emergency food resource for low-income clients in Inglewood, Westchester, El Segundo, Hawthorne and portions of Los Angeles. Our policy is to provide food for 2 days or six meals to our clients. Clients may come to the Pantry once per week.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

W. Scott Tanner, President
Bob Quinn, Vice-President
Willie Hodges, Treasurer
Donna Eggebeen, Secretary

Board Members:

Johnny Albano	Mary Thompson
Dorothy Nino	Becky Weber
Deacon Guy Wauthy	Hazel White

The Letter to the Hebrews *Chapter 1*

In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways to our ancestors through the prophets; in these last days, he spoke to us through a son, whom he made heir of all things and through whom he created the universe, who is the refulgence of his glory, the very imprint of his being, and who sustains all things by his mighty word. When he had accomplished purification from sins, he took his seat at the right hand of the Majesty on high, as far superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say: "You are my son; this day I have begotten you?" Or again: "I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me?" And again, when he leads the first-born into the world, he says: "Let all the angels of God worship him." Of the angels he says: "He makes his angels winds and his ministers a fiery flame"; but of the Son: "Your throne, O God, stands forever and ever; and a righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. You loved justice and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, anointed you with the oil of gladness above your companions," and: "At the beginning, O Lord, you established the earth, and the heavens are the works of your hands. They will perish, but you remain; and they will all grow old like a garment. You will roll them up like a cloak, and like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end." But to which of the angels has he ever said: "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies your footstool?" Are they not all ministering spirits sent to serve, for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?