

A Grateful Heart for our Membership

by D. Brian Boettiger,
Executive Director

“Thankfulness is the beginning of gratitude. Gratitude is the completion of thankfulness. Thankfulness may consist merely of words. Gratitude is shown in acts.”

—Henri Frederic Amiel

Action for me often comes in the form of writing, so this is an opportunity to express genuine gratitude, particularly for each Wide Horizon member who supports this important work of Christian Science nursing. Your support, financially or prayerfully, via volunteering or just “being,” makes a real difference.



*View from the Annual Meeting room
— a perfect Colorado day*

Mary Baker Eddy wrote, “Gratitude is much more than a verbal expression of thanks. Action expresses more gratitude than speech.” (*Science and Health*, p. 3)

As I think about and plan for the future of my family, I find it necessary to make time to reflect on all of the blessings that already abound from divine Love. I do this too regarding the family of Wide Horizon, which is made up of staff, volunteers, and members throughout the Rocky Mountain region. Indeed, Wide Horizon has been blessed by divine Love many times over during the past year and previous 60 years.

Christ Jesus directs us, “Freely ye have received, freely give.” The approaching Thanksgiving holiday reminds us how important it is to be grateful every day throughout the year. We can be grateful to live in such a great country and beautiful states. We can be grateful for our safety. We can be grateful for the peaceful atmosphere that is ever-present. We can be grateful for other spiritual facts of happiness, harmony, and health that God has bestowed upon us as His beloved sons and daughters. We can be grateful for our friends and families who express God’s love. We can be

grateful for the simplest form or symbol of our heavenly Father’s creation. We can give freely!

Swiss theologian Karl Barth once stated, “Joy is the simplest form of gratitude.” So I simply wish that your consciousness and home be filled with joy, that this

Thanksgiving brings the blessings which you so deserve, and that your hearts be filled with gratitude and love.

As my beloved mom used to say, “Thank you for being!”



D. Brian Boettiger

The Annual Meeting talk, “Blessed to be a Blessing” was given by Tom Blair, C.S.

This talk and all Annual Meeting reports are available on our website at:

www.widehorizon.org

“Gratitude is riches...”

by Sue Wood, Director of Christian Science Nursing
– Report given at 2009 Annual Meeting

And we have so many things to be grateful for this year. We have felt such a sense of progress as we prayed to know how to better serve our guests at Wide Horizon. What kind of activity should we provide to help awaken and stimulate thought?



Sue Wood (r) with
receptionist Jan Aswad (l)

One activity we launched is our group Bible Lesson Study. Three days a week we gather to read and discuss two sections of the current Christian Science Bible Lesson. Guests and staff bring ideas from different translations of Bible texts, personal experiences, and even questions. Participants feel the exchange of ideas is valuable, encouraging each to dig deeper into the Lesson and to think about familiar passages in different ways. In fact a couple of our former guests have told us how much they miss this opportunity now that they are at home! We realize other Christian Scientists might enjoy being part of a community of like-minded spiritual thinkers and participating in stimulating activities rather than living alone. Our

Board of Directors made the decision to open Horizon House to Supervised Residential Living, in addition to

continuing its use for short term visits for Spiritual Renewal. We expect active, alert individuals who want to participate and contribute to our community – who find that not having to fuss about meals and housekeeping frees their thought for more important things like praying for the world and learning about new ideas.

Another area where we've had some progress this year is in our desire to meet the need for Christian Science Nursing Care in homes. Here's one example:

A woman, whose family members were not Christian Scientists, felt pressured to return home, even though she still needed daily assistance for the care of a wound. Several of our Christian Science nurses considered how they could meet her needs. They planned a schedule so one could go to her home every day after their regular nursing shift. It was evident that the woman was not progressing the way she had while at the facility and that she was not getting the right kind or quantity of food at home. We asked our kitchen staff to prepare an extra dinner meal each day for the nurse to take to her. After about 3 months,



Fall dahlias blooming in front of Horizon House at Annual Meeting

she no longer felt she needed our services. It was an important experience for our staff, because it helped

us learn how to stretch ourselves to accept calls for home care.

If you would like to have a Christian Science nurse come to your home, please give us a call.

Another service we have is “out-patient care.” For adults or children who come to Wide Horizon, we can take care of cleansing and bandaging of wounds or burns, slings, toenail care, assistance with bathing, and instruction in use of mobility aides such as crutches, walkers, etc. This service is much more appropriate for a Christian Scientist than a visit to the Emergency Room – and what a great way to teach children about Christian Science Nursing.

The core of our work is Christian Science Nursing Care provided by our dedicated staff of excellent Christian Science Nurses. Christian Science Nurses are charged with not only having a “demonstrable knowledge of Christian Science practice,” but expressing the “practical wisdom” needed in order to give the “proper care” that lifts thought off of the body and promotes healing. This may mean dressing a wound, modifying food, or assisting with mobility after a fall or some other false belief.

For some, it is help with simple activities such as getting showered and dressed. And for others, it is gentle reminders and “shepherding” through their days.

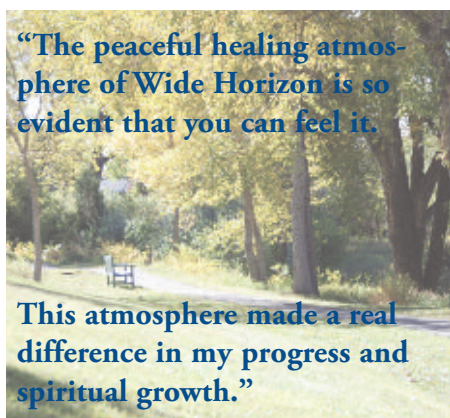
This year we have been able to assist several different individuals as they have worked to regain their ability to walk and return to their homes. What a joy it has

been to see them start walking around the facility and eventually right out the door and on to their

*“Gratitude is Riches...”
Continued from page 2)*

homes! One individual was faced with what appeared as a serious set of challenges—the individual was too weak to get out of bed. Bodily functions were not operating properly. Dressings had to be changed many times a day. This person returned home, after many weeks of spiritual growth, telling us: “You people have literally saved my life. I do not have the words to express my gratitude...”

We thank each of you for your support of Wide Horizon’s activities that makes it possible for us to meet the needs of so many Christian Scientists year after year.



“...Who touched my clothes?”

by Mary Culberston

We all know Jesus’ healing of the woman with the issue of blood (Mark 5). What interests me most was Jesus’ comment, “Who touched my clothes?” Yes, the woman had touched the border of Jesus’ garment, but as the disciples point out to their Master, “Thou seest the multitude thronging thee and sayest thou, who touched me?” It was the Christ that received the call for help and of course instantly responded with the truth which healed this woman of her illness. And, this healing took place when Jesus was on his way to attend the need of Jairus’ daughter, who according to false belief, was “at the point of death.”

I love thinking about how Jesus was tuned in to the mental call for aid. He was utilizing spiritual perception while his disciples were taking in what they saw going on around them. As Christian Science nurses, we often respond to whatever the need is whether at Wide Horizon or perhaps when on a home care

situation or even when we’re driving home and we see that someone has a sudden need and we stop to give aid. It’s again that sense of spiritual preparedness in meeting mankind’s need that helps us effectively continue Jesus’ healing mission.

In Article VIII, Section 31 in The Church Manual, Mary Baker Eddy included the by-law on “Christian Science Nurse.” It establishes principles which when understood and complied with serve to guide, protect and support us in our work. These inspire ideas of care that are safe, compassionate, practical. This by-law, along with our training and experience, helps us to respond to that mental call for aid and attend to every aspect of the patient’s needs with regard to cleanliness, communication, comfort, rest, activity, mobility, nourishment, and his/her surroundings... all without any one element being compromised. These are often done mentally in an instant and in compliance with giving, “...practical care in a sick room.”

But of course, the other part of this Bible story points out how, “virtue had gone out of him,” and there is the love and compassion that are an indispensable component to being led to meet the human need. As Christian Science nurses, we are playing a part in “Christ’s mission” as Mrs. Eddy writes in Science and Health on p. 233, “...how much more should ye discern the sign mental, and compass the destruction of sin and sickness by overcoming the thoughts which produce them, and by understanding the spiritual idea which corrects and destroys them. To reveal this truth was our Master’s mission to all mankind...”

Wide Horizon 2009 Wish List

Pickup truck with snow plow	\$35,000
Vehicle or van with wheelchair lift	\$30,000
New additional walking path	\$25,000
Repaved walking path	\$15,000
Water heater plus labor	\$12,000
New wheelchairs (5)	\$ 2,500
New Toto commodes (5)	\$ 2,000
Ipods or MP3 players (4)	\$ 600

We are very grateful to a family member of one guest who recently donated a brand new Sharp AQUOS 52” LCD TV for the residents.

“My accommodations in the Colonial room (in Horizon House) were absolutely perfect. I rested and rested in every way. The food is extraordinary. Thank you All for everything.”



W I D E H O R I Z O N

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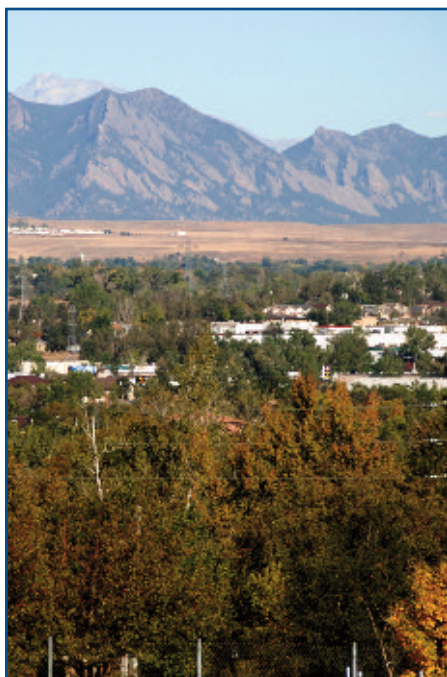
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Susan Wood, *Director of Christian Science Nursing*
Calaine Ohmert, *Business Manager*

**“Wide Horizon is a haven on the hill.
I’m so grateful for it being there when
we needed it.”**



Year End Gratitude

Those who work and live at Wide Horizon could not be more grateful. In this, one of the most fiscally challenging years in our Country’s history, Wide Horizon was able to weather the storm and meet all of its expenses during the past fiscal year!!

Why? Because of many generous donors such as you who continue to support our efforts. During the past year about 40% of our expenses had to be covered by donations. Despite the economically hard times, we were able to meet these needs and to provide benevolence for those who could not themselves afford the costs of being at Wide Horizon. We and

our guests are extremely grateful for this support.

As you consider your own expressions of gratitude as 2009 draws to a close, we hope you will continue to keep Wide Horizon in your prayers and as a recipient of your generosity. We project a need for nearly \$600,000 in contributions this fiscal year for operations, in addition to the funds we must raise towards our \$3 million capital campaign.

Any amount you can contribute towards our needs this year are much appreciated. Wide Horizon’s guests, staff, and board members thank you in advance for your generosity!

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!