President’s Message

As announced in the October and November issues of this newsletter, your invitation to the January luncheon will be sent to you via e-mail, unless you have directed us otherwise. Members who do not own a computer will continue to receive their invitations via U.S. Mail.

In case you miss your e-mail notification, here are the instructions for registering online:
1. Go to the Town and Gown of USC website and click on the “Members Only” link
2. Login with your e-mail address and temporary password of TG2017$
3. Upon login you will be prompted to change the temporary password to something else
4. The next screen you will see is the Membership Portal Dashboard
5. Click on the “RSVP Now!” button of the event for which you wish to register and go through the steps
6. You will pay via Paypal as normal
7. You will be brought back to the site to see your confirmation.

You can register for all future events by going to the “Members Only” tab on the website and going through the steps listed above. Don’t forget to write your password down somewhere for future reference!

I hope you were one of the sold-out crowd of members and guests (537 persons) who attended the December Luncheon. Members outdid themselves with this year’s table decorations. We have included pictures of several of them for your enjoyment.

Author Wendy Sue Knecht to Speak at January Luncheon

Wendy Sue Knecht always had a passion for travel, even as a little girl. She later became a flight attendant for the world’s most iconic airline, Pan Am. At our January 9th meeting, she will share her memories of aviation history’s most glamorous era from her book, Life, Love, and a Hijacking: My Pan Am Memoir, which divulges the hilarious, seat-gripping and entertaining stories of her 20-year career as a flight attendant. Hope to see all of you there!

Benefit Co-chairs Looking For Auction Items!

Jill Behrle and Kelley McBride are continuing to look for auction items for the April Spring Benefit. If you have gift cards, a stay in a vacation home, restaurant certificates, theater and sporting event tickets, unique experiences, or small basket items, please contact Jill Behrle at jillbehr1@yahoo.com or (714) 319-4172 for questions, donations, or pick-up of gift items.
Scholarship Vice Presidents Amp Up The Role of Ambassador

It takes “A Village” of dedicated Town and Gown of USC Scholarship Committee members to attend to the various tasks of the committee. We read and score scholarship applications and conduct interviews of potential candidates. However, we have another role for committee members that often goes unnoticed. That role is Ambassador. In this role committee members are asked to do the following:

- Ambassadors greet the scholars and donors at monthly luncheon meetings.
- Ambassadors welcome donors, scholars, and parents at the February Scholarship luncheon. The ambassadors step up to ensure that scholars and their family members meet and become acquainted with their donors.
- Ambassadors may encourage Town and Gown of USC members to establish a scholarship by speaking with the Town and Gown of USC Vice President of Investments or the President of Town and Gown of USC.
- Ambassadors also participate in activities where scholars are asked to volunteer in order to fulfill their scholarship obligations, such as the USC Day of Service.

Be sure to say hello to our Town and Gown of USC Scholarship Committee members and to the Ambassadors when you attend the January Luncheon!

Gifts For Wait Staff

You may have noticed that, at the December 5th Luncheon, our wait staff was decked out in black aprons with Town and Gown of USC prominently displayed on the bib. The Town and Gown of USC Board of Directors gave each of our wonderful wait staff a Town and Gown apron as a holiday gift. Here are a few of them decked out in their aprons!

Back row from left to right: President, Pat Whitman, Vice President of Scholarship, Janeane Dimpel, Ambassadors Susie Rhodes, and Connie Cashin.
Front row from left: Ambassadors Elle Feldman and Joyce Fadil, & Vice President of Scholarship, Debra Bradley

Call for Wine Donations for the Spring Benefit

As members of Town and Gown of USC, we are all focused on supporting our mission to raise money for Town and Gown scholarships. We are asking our members to contribute a bottle of premium wine to our Spring Benefit Surprise Wine Draw. By premium wines, we mean those with a minimum retail value per bottle of $25. If you can contribute one selling for even more, so much the better. We sell these Surprise Wines for $20 per bottle guaranteeing our buyers that they will receive a wine valued at over $25. You will receive a donation receipt for your contribution. We will be receiving wine donations at the Town and Gown General Luncheon Meetings scheduled in January, February, and March. Please contact Sara Pfirrmann, on her cell at (949) 697-0157 or sara.pfirrmann@gmail.com for additional information.

Pat and the Board of Directors wish each and every one of you a Happy Hanukkah, a Merry Christmas, and a Wonderful Holiday Season!