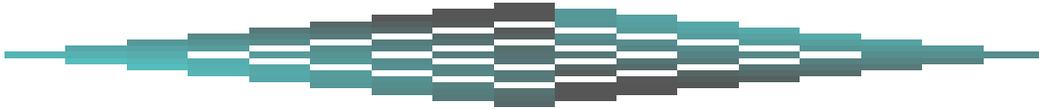


Your JULY 2017 HUG IN A MUG.....FACES in the FACETS!



Exactly four weeks ago tonight, thousands of men & women at the Albuquerque Convention were "dancing in the streets" of the aisles. NOW, I don't particularly like crowds, and especially loud noise! BUT I shall never forget the "Sat. Night 75th Diamond Jubilee Celebration Event" as long as I live. The roar, lights, undertone of the Oregon Belles ringing their wrists to numbness, cowbells, horns blasting at my ears from the rows of we Oregon Gals, seemed to be "a precious, muted wall of JOY~~ sounds coming into my head in slow motion." And it hit me: this was a celebration beyond compare. And we have millions of dollars of reasons to celebrate and dance and twirl and hug and make this **JOYful** noise.

Twenty-four hours later we were packing frantically, sleeping fitfully, and preparing to fly home pre-dawn.....and I thought of the breath-taking Convention banner, the facets of the diamond, and I saw **FACES** of the thousands of **JOYful** women in the **FACETS** of the Diamonds!!! We are the **faces** in the **facets** that made the history of the LWML so enduring.....a story played out for us upon two giant screens and on stage in bundles of decades: the early 40's wartime through 2017. Brilliantly scripted, one could not but be touched as the great-granddaughter of the founder, Clara Schmitt, appeared to remind us, those of us 75 years and older, now represent the four generations of women whose mighty Mites have made our mission goals possible. We had spent four days, as a unified body of "guests at His table" Wednesday, hearing mission speaker after mission speaker enlighten us with the lives impacted forever by the monies given freely so that others ALL AROUND THE WORLD could hear His name. Tearful stories of thousands receiving His grace unmerited, and turning around to bless others, numbers untold, for years to come. It was a celebration of setting goals, reaching goals, remolding goals to fit the 21st century...and looking ahead to this Biennium feeling so excited!

The momentum of Albuquerque must be maintained as we "dance in the streets" and give credit to the thousand plus women of our Oregon LWML for meeting goals, His Name Above All! On the plane home, my brain suddenly went down my "teacher road," to the very fact: diamonds have **58 facets**, **33 above the crown**, and **25 on the pavillion or underside** supporting the center. The smooth surface areas of a **diamond have been cut, polished and positioned at different angles** which **allow light to enter** and **reflect back** from the stone. The **depth** and **width** and the **uniformity** of the **facets control the brilliance** and the **durability** of a diamond... See these **"key words? Think on them a moment....**

WE worship our crown head God above all with humble and giving hearts and raise up Mites. We all have been cut and polished, remolded at times, and allow the Light of God to reflect our love and generosity to others. Our depth and width of mission projects come from our unity of like minds, and pour out to others all over our world.. We are durable, responsible, rock solid for 75 years! Let us rise up, make noise, dance in the rain, HIS Reign," and make some JOYful noise.

Still dancing, remembering, and privileged to have been there...Pat Reck☺