

Published quarterly by CHB, Inc.

@ CHORI

5700 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way T-2

Oakland, CA 94609

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# TWIGS



Usually I think of January as a rather dull, unexciting month - all Holiday festivities over, there's nothing really pressing. Well, this January did not fit the description.

Recently we saw on TV the miraculous plane crash where 155 passengers survived! Unbelievable! I had just flown down to Woodland Hills a couple of hours before that crash to attend my grandson's high school Jazz concert (it was spectacular!). The concert ended with a trio consisting of a bass and drums and Sean soloing on the piano. Two of the tunes you might recognize were "Stella by Starlight" and "How High the Moon" (my favorite!). It was a real thrill - I'm a very proud grandmother.

When I decided to fly down there, I told my son I definitely had to return on Monday as I needed to be back for our Branch Board meeting on Tuesday. That Saturday night, during my son's dinner party, I got a call from Orvie Pamp saying, "Are we crazy? Thinking we need a Board meeting while history is being made? Can we cancel?" My response was "Good God, yes!!" According to Viki, the Board members were overjoyed by our decision. What a thrill that day was! Made you so proud to be an American...I'm still on a high!

So, our Board will meet in February. As you know, at our January meetings we get a "Wish List" (items desired by Hospital departments that didn't fit into the next year's budget). But, as you also know, two years ago we pledged our proceeds of the next three years to enter a fund to be used for our new hospital - allocations which will be made in 2010. Yes, plans are in the works for our new building. I had scheduled Doug Myers, our hospital's CFO, to speak at our January General Meeting to show and present these plans to you. Unfortunately, he had to be out of town, so we're hoping to have him with us at our February meeting. I was just informed that Doug has accepted a job at National Children's Hospital in D.C., starting in May. We will sorely miss him, wish him the best of luck and will keep our fingers crossed that he'll make our February meeting!

January 10 was the big Grand Opening of Children's Specialty Care Walnut Creek at Shadelands. I love the name "Wellness Wonderland" and the slogan "Healthy Kids - Healthy Community". According to Brad Barber, they estimated around 500 attended this event, many of them young families. I want to thank Debbie Civello, Cyndi Santaella, Belinda George & Kristina Smith for setting up and staffing a booth representing the Branches. Also involved in promoting the Branches and recruiting new members for their own Branch were members from Magnolia Branch.

Incidentally, every other Tuesday morning at 11:00am, KRON (Channel 4) programs various aspects of children's health care called "4 Your Child's Life." This show, which began airing in September, runs through early 2009 and featured Dr. Lubin and Dr. Saba in its premier episode.

I also want to congratulate our new Magnolia Branch for their enjoyable luncheon held in December, and Hill Branch for another beautifully successful Debutante Ball!

Since I started this with a family story, I will end with one, too. My daughter, Elizabeth, informed me that my five-year old granddaughter, Emily, had cleaned out her room and decided she wanted her outgrown toys to go to the children at Children's Hospital. I had to explain to

## Board of Directors

Betty Jo Olson.....	President
Marilyn Zecher, VP.....	Garden
Cyndi Santaella, Treasurer.....	Teak
Barbara Demmon, Secretary.....	Lilac
Cece Werson, Parliamentarian.....	Hawthorne
Joy Faussner, Thrift Shop Liaison .....	Teak
Debbie Civello.....	Rowan
Joan Deuel.....	Hill
Catherine Dieterich.....	Lombardy
Belinda George.....	Rowan
Jeannie Graham.....	Garden
Joanne Knapp.....	Rowan
Orvie Pamp.....	Teak
Pam Pauletich.....	Lombardy
Kristina Smith.....	Rowan
Lynne Wilson.....	Acorn
Mary Ann Suva.....	Emeritus

Elizabeth that they couldn't go directly to those in the hospital, but I brilliantly remembered when Peggy Pearson from the Center for the Vulnerable Child spoke to us at one of our General meetings and mentioned the need for such donations for their "homeless" patients. I called Peggy, and Emily literally dragged her bag into Peggy's office. Peggy also took us across the street to the clinic where some of Emily's things will go. All the departments located on Claremont Avenue are fantastic. It was a wonderful experience for all three of us and once again a surge of love and pride in our hospital and its caring staff filled me with joy.



Here's to 2009!

With love, *Betty Jo*



Emily Leonard packs up her toys



Getting some direction from Peggy Pearson of the Center for the Vulnerable Child



Betty Jo, Emily and Elizabeth gather at the Encore Clinic

## Opening of Shadelands in Walnut Creek on January 10,

photography by Gene Gracey



Branches' display created by Cyndi Santaella CHB Board Treasurer and Teak member



Walnut Creek Shadelands facility



Community Partners



A little helper for volunteer and new Magnolia member Patricia Virgallito

### SAVE THESE DATES:

Friday, April 24, 2009 - Acorn's Spring event - Dinner and a Floor Show with Rick Ellis as Frank Sinatra! 6:30pm - cocktails; 7:30pm - dinner. For reservations, call Patti Fadelli (510) 526-2107. \$60

Saturday, April 25, 2009 - Bud's Spring Fashion Show at the Jack London Aquatic Center in Oakland, 6:00pm - 10:00pm. The theme is Hollywood in the 20's. RSVP to Hannah Cooper: hcoop09@gmail.com/510-409-3319 (cell). Price TBA

### ... from the Branch Office

We need to wrap up 2008, gather Branch information, and put together the Annual Report to be presented at our Annual Volunteer Recognition Meeting and Luncheon on April 29. All outstanding monies need to be sent in and several Branches have not yet submitted their Community Service Hours. In order to report accurate information, letters will be sent to Branch treasurers to verify our records against theirs and to correct any discrepancies. Likewise, letters are being sent to the Branch chairmen who, together with their members, can nominate their group's Volunteer of the Year - all nominees will be honored. If applicable, fourth-quarter reports are due, and any other year-end information that you want to have acknowledged. If you have any questions regarding this, or if we can be of help in any way, please give us a call at (510) 428-3355.

### EMERITUS MEMBERS:

Reminder: Annual dues of \$50, payable to CHB, Inc. may be sent to 5700 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, T-2; Oakland, CA 94609. Please include any updated information and indicate the name of the Branch which should receive credit.

# Children's Hospital Branches, Inc.

INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE AT THE  
Annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

**Wednesday, April 29, 2009**

## Orinda Country Club

315 Camino Sobrante  
Orinda, California (925) 254-4313

**No-host cocktails 11:00 a.m.**  
**Luncheon 12 Noon**

\$ 37 per person

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From the West (S.F./Oakland area): Take HWY 24 toward Walnut Creek, go through the Caldecott Tunnel and exit at Orinda. At bottom of ramp, turn left onto Camino Pablo. At second stoplight, turn right onto Camino Sobrante. Pass Safeway, cross over Orinda Way and bear left up the hill (still on Camino Sobrante) – it will dead end at "El Ribero"; Lake Cascade will be in front of you. Turn left, pass tennis courts on your right. Turn left at stop sign into the Clubhouse parking lot.

From the East (Concord/San Jose Area): Take HWY 24, exit at Orinda; bear right toward Orinda Village. At bottom of ramp turn right onto Camino Pablo. At the second stoplight, turn right onto Camino Sobrante. Pass Safeway, cross over Orinda Way and bear right up the hill (still on Camino Sobrante) – it will dead end at "El Ribero"; Lake Cascade will be in front of you. Turn left, pass tennis courts on your right. Turn left at stop sign into the Clubhouse parking lot.

PLEASE RESERVE BY APRIL 15

Number of guests \_\_\_\_\_ at \$37 per person = total of check \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check(s) payable to Children's Hospital Branches, Inc. or CHB, Inc. and mail to:  
CHB, Inc., 5700 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way T-2, Oakland, CA 94609

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Branch \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

List your seating requests below:



## Lilac Branch's Successful "Affair" ...

Guests at Lilac Branch's 2008 Fall event, "An Affair to Remember", were welcomed with a glass of sparkling wine as they were greeted at the Napa Valley Country Club on October 4th. The weather was perfect for sipping wine or cocktails which were served on the terrace in this fabulous setting.

Dinner was announced and members with their guests entered the dining room to see stunning table centerpieces designed by Lilac member Pat Tubbs and arranged by Pat and member volunteers. The sophisticated black and white centerpieces, which included top hats, white gloves and fresh flowers, created an elegant atmosphere in which to reminisce about any affair!

Guests enjoyed dancing to the music of "Struttin" - we think the band had as much fun as members and guests! Lilac was thrilled to receive generous donations for the event's raffle and silent auction. This year we were fortunate to receive donations of wine from a number of local wineries and vineyards, including a case of marvelous Mueller & Mueller Cabernet Franc produced by member Nancy Mueller and her husband Al from grapes grown on their spectacular property, Villa de Provence, in Rutherford. We are so fortunate to be in the wine country, receiving donations from vintners in the Napa, Sonoma and Suisun Valleys.

We raffled and auctioned over twenty prizes and consider the event a smashing success. We hope you will join us next year!

Guests were greeted with captivating black & white table settings



Jeannie Mackie and her husband Ken on the terrace at the Napa Valley Country Club

## ...and their upcoming Spring Fashion Show - "Masquerade"

- Date:** Wednesday, March 25, 2009  
**Location:** Hilton Garden Inn, 2200 Gateway Court, Fairfield  
**Time:** 11:00am - No-host social hour, 12 Noon - luncheon, 1:00pm fashions by Helen Lyall  
**To Reserve::** through Jeannie Mackie, (707) 422-0573 - \$65/person - check payable to Lilac Branch, mail to 3225 Riviera Court, Fairfield, CA 94534

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## Revisiting Magnolia's first event - a luncheon in December

*photography by Gene Gracey*



Diana Ickikawa and co-chair Lori Hagge check final details for the luncheon



Speakers Thea Daniels & Chris Johnson from the Family Education & Resource Center



Co-Chairman Kelly Bloat holds up a necklace she hopes to win...and does!



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Advertise your upcoming event or share information with members

Next Deadline: 3/11/09

## ***UP-COMING BRANCH EVENTS***

### **March 25, 2009 (Wednesday)**

11:00am - Registration & Cocktails \$65  
12:00 Noon - luncheon, 1:00pm Fashions by Helen Lyall

### **Fashion Show & Luncheon**

Hilton Garden Inn, Fairfield

**Lilac**

### **April 24, 2009 (Friday)**

6:30pm - cocktails; 7:30 - dinner \$60  
RSVP - Patti Fadelli (510) 526-2107

### **Dinner & Floor Show**

Mira Vista Golf and Country Club, El Cerrito

**Acorn**

### **April 25, 2009 (Saturday)**

RSVP - Hannah Cooper, email: hcoop09@gmail.com  
(510) 409-3319 - cell Price TBA

### **Spring Fashion Show - Old Hollywood**

Jack London Aquatic Center, Oakland

**Bud**

### **April 29, 2009 (Wednesday)**

11:00 no-host cocktails \$37  
12:00 Noon - luncheon & meeting

### **Annual Meeting & Luncheon**

Orinda Country Club, Orinda

**All Branch**

### **May 4, 2009 (Monday)**

10:00am - 2:30pm \$65  
RSVP - Sharon Dodson, sdodson@srvusd.k12.ca.us  
(925) 937-2729

### **Spring Shopping Spree & Luncheon**

Roundhill Country Club, Alamo

**Rowan**

**The Ducky Derby will be held on Sunday, August 30, 2009, at Waterworld - Please watch for exciting new money-making opportunities for your Branch!**

**\* FYI - Attendance at General Meetings averaged 26 members per month \***