

# TWIGS

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 @ CHORI  
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We are here today, first and foremost, to celebrate another year of our fund-raising accomplishments. We're also here to spotlight and salute each Branch's 2008 outstanding volunteer and to honor our Alice

Bullard Lifetime Achievement Award winner. Yes, 2008 was another banner year for the Branches, and here's a little review of our success: Live Oak kicked off the year with its annual Archery Shoot; Lilac hosted its famous Spring Helen Lyall Fashion Show; Acorn Branch went with a Hawaiian Luau; and Bud, our high school Branch, put on a very successful teen-age fashion show. An always sold-out Spring Shopping Spree & Fashion show was sponsored by Rowan members.

Summer found us with Lombardy's popular evening cocktail party, and we can't forget our Rubber Ducky Derby, ably chaired by Rowan members.

Our Fall calendar was full of exciting events. Once again, Live Oak launched the season with its Miniature Show and sale and was busy again in November with its famous dinner/theater evening. We held our September General Meeting and Luncheon at CHORI hosted by Dr. Bert Lubin and Brad Barber's Foundation Staff. Hill Branch celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its Debutante Winter Ball with a luncheon at the Claremont Hotel – home of its first Ball. "Carnivale" was the theme of Rowan's big Fall extravaganza. Cacao's luncheon is always a hit with its exciting auction, and another grand success was Blossom Garden's first annual "Moonlight Monte Carlo". Our attractive Bambino Thrift Shop hosted a deliciously fun holiday shopping boutique. Its main in-shop worker bees are from Chinquapin/ Foothill and Teak, with several other Branches well-represented, all under the capable leadership of Carol Maes and Joan Vasilauskas. Garden Branch kicked off the holidays by hosting over 300 guests at its annual fashion show luncheon. In December, our exciting new Branch, Magnolia, held its first event with a luncheon and silent auction. They featured both a Grateful Parent speaker and speakers from our Family Education and Resource Center. 2008 was topped off with Hill's beautiful Debutante Winter Ball. It was bigger and better than ever, bringing in over \$200,000!

One of the joys of my job is attending as many of these outstanding events as possible. It would be even more fun if, once in awhile, I'd win a raffle prize! When asked to say a few words at these events, I had the opportunity to spark the audience to Vote "Yes" on Prop 3. I also had a fun time introducing Marilyn Zecher saying, "She can't skin a moose or see Russia from her Alameda kitchen window, but she's still a great Branches' Board vice president!"

As your president, I attended other hospital events that didn't involve fund-raising: Hospital Board of Directors' meetings and retreat, Foundation Board of Directors', Board of Trustees' and one-on-one coffees and lunches. I had the pleasure of being a guest and speaker at Mulberry's Fall Associates' luncheon, Teak's "Cinco de Mayo" and Christmas parties, and Hawthorne's Holiday luncheon. After mentioning our wonderful diverse fund-raisers, it's now time to salute all the people who played a part in their success. Behind all of you ambitious, energetic, talented Branches is the best office staff ever in Viki Cebers and Renu Pal. We

## 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
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



Board member, Joy Faussner with her nephew, Thomas, at a preview showing of Pixar's newest hit "Up."

wouldn't know success without our wonderful donors, underwriters and the generous people who attend our events. We need and appreciate the support of Frank Tiedemann and his Administrative staff, our Foundation partners led by Brad Barber, and Dr. Bert Lubin and his staff at CHORI. We thank the doctors and the department heads who took time out of their busy schedules to speak at our monthly Branch meetings.

We are a terrific organization working for the greatest cause of all, "Helping a sick child get well". So, today raise your glass and toast yourselves for a job well done.

With love,  
*Betty Jo*

## ANNUAL MEETING AND VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION LUNCHEON

We returned again this year to the beautiful Orinda Country Club for our annual luncheon to hear from grateful parents and to honor the Branches' outstanding members for their work, in their Branches, during the 2008 calendar year. (photos courtesy of Audrey Chiang of the Foundation)



Garden's Evelyn Graham and Susie Chapman following Betty Jo's suggestion.



Outstanding Branch Members for 2008



Cece Werson (Hawthorne, Emeritus) coordinated the efforts to make this such a memorable occasion.

Receiving certificates and Bambino charms for their dedicated service this year are: (pictured above)

- |                     |                      |          |                         |
|---------------------|----------------------|----------|-------------------------|
| Blossom Garden      | Heather Beales       | Live Oak | Pat Mosher              |
| Cacao               | Lufina Wilcox        | Lombardy | Carol West              |
| Chinquapin/Foothill | Fredora Darmstadt    | Magnolia | Kelly Bloat & Lori Hagg |
| Coral               | Jeannette Kattelmann |          | Susan Scott             |
| Garden              | Susie Chapman        | Mulberry | Sheila Challey          |
| Hill                | Pamela Stefan        | Rowan    | Eva Pardee              |
| Lilac               | Judy Neal            | Teak     |                         |



Lifetime Achievement award winner Wini Buss, with Diane Walter and Betty Jo Olson



Dr. Rose Ellen Morrell, physician and Grateful Parent of Children's Hospital Oakland



Speaker and Grateful Parent, Emily Bishopp

A Live Oak member for many years, Wini has served as its Branch Treasurer for 20 years, and their Thrift Shop Treasurer for 18. During her tenure, she has launched and chaired all of their events and has seldom missed a General Meeting, while never missing an opportunity to speak to groups about Children's Hospital Oakland and to spread the word of the many miracles that happen here on a regular basis. A true and enthusiastic ambassador!



Acorn & Magnolia



Chinquapin



Lombardy's Meg Pauletich and Carol West with Ann Tucker, past chairman of the Branches



Pam Pauletich, Sara Nelson, Katie Kosturas and Nancy Marvin, all of Lombardy



Lilac Branch



Hill Members



Mulberry



Cacao Branch



A two-table turnout for Garden



Rubber Ducky Derby  
PRIZES!  
WATERWORLD California



18TH ANNUAL RUBBER DUCKY DERBY  
AUGUST 30, 2009 • WATERWORLD CALIFORNIA  
BENEFITING CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL  
& RESEARCH CENTER OAKLAND



Doors Open 10am  
FUN FOR ALL!  
Duck Race 5pm

There are a lot of changes for this year's Derby – one of the biggest is the Grand Prize of \$5,000. Additionally we have Southwest Airlines tickets, sports tickets, vacations and more. The Derby will begin at 5:00 p.m. on the Lazy River at Waterworld in Concord. Proceeds will benefit the Specialty Clinic at the Shadelands in Walnut Creek and the Pediatric Oncology Psychology (POP) Program. Many of you heard Emma Bishopp speak at the Annual Recognition Luncheon about the POP Program. The energetic POP volunteers are co-sponsoring this year's Derby.

Please support the Derby by:

1. Hosting a "Cheese & Quackers" Party
2. Selling tickets for Children's Hospital Day at Waterworld – the day of the Derby – the tickets sell for \$19.99/person and the Branches receive \$5 for each ticket sold
3. Promoting Duck adoptions – there are lots of ways – email your friends, provide names for the mailing list, make some phone calls and ask for support.
3. Volunteering to work a Derby sales Event

Credit will be given to your Branch for any money that you raise for the Derby.

Please call Belinda George (925)855-1245 if you have any questions or would like to help.

## Are You Good Ambassadors for our Children's Hospital?

At last April's Annual Meeting, one year ago, you heard me say, "We not only donate a million dollars to our hospital, but we also give our hospital a million dollars' worth of publicity!" We do great PR at our events, but outside of our fund-raising, do we tout ourselves as ambassadors of Children's Hospital?

How can we be ambassadors if we don't have a clue as to what's going on in our hospital? In other words, do you, as a Branch member, keep up-to-date on its happenings?

When your neighbor leans over the back fence and asks, "Are you still with Children's Hospital," do you say, "Oh, I still belong to a Branch," or since you have attended the last General Meeting, are you able to answer, "Yes, and I just learned they have gone into an electronic system for keeping children's records and also the patients are now getting "Smart TV in all their rooms. You see, we have a representative at all our monthly meetings who keeps us knowledgeable."

I hope all of you Branch Chairmen out there do get this General Meeting information to your members. This report should be first on your agendas. You can't sell a product if you know nothing about it!

How great it is to recognize our doctors in the newspapers and on T.V. Let me add - if a neighbor or friend says, "We love donating to your event, but George and I have been thinking we'd like to do more," do you answer, "Oh, you and George are so dear" or do you jump in and say "Let me put you in touch with our Foundation. Brad Barber and his staff are great. They'd be happy to take you on a tour, and I'll go with you if you'd like." Now, that's being a good ambassador!

We Branches aren't an island on our own. We are a branch of our mother tree. So, let's take our ambassadorship as seriously as our fund-raising. Continue to uphold our hospital's mission in all ways possible!

## Family House

NEEDED: POWDERED LAUNDRY SOAP - any and all brands. It needs to be powdered so that it can be divided into baggies for distribution to the families.

Also, breakfasts remain a big hit and are well attended, so there is a need for breakfast-related items:



fresh fruit, breads, muffins, eggs, pastries, English muffins, frozen waffles, etc.

If you can help out, please bring your items directly to Family House. It's located at 5222 Dover Street, Oakland 94609. Questions? Please call (510) 428-3100.

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## Acorn's Guests Enjoyed Stepping Back in Time with Sinatra



Sinatra (Rick Ellis) sings some of "his" hits

It was a fun night for all - 205 Sinatra fans showed up to enjoy the festivities. Mira Vista Country Club was transformed into a nightclub atmosphere. The weather cooperated - showing off the beautiful view of the San Francisco Bay and both bridges. "Rick Ellis Sings Sinatra" was a big hit, making \$7,000 for the hospital!

## SUCCESSFUL SPRING FUND-RAISER FOR LILAC BRANCH

Lilac Branch held its annual Spring luncheon and fashion show at the Hilton Garden Inn in Fairfield on March 25. With a perfect Spring day as the background, members welcomed attendees to "Masquerade", a theme reflected in the event's stunning staging and table decorations, and in the Helen Lyall fashion show.

Mary Lou Carter, this year's Lilac Chairman, greeted guests as they were seated for lunch with a tribute to Lilac sister Dorothy Lundin, by toasting Dorothy's "generous and joyful spirit" which had inspired the Branch for many years. Dorothy passed away earlier this year. Members agreed that Dorothy is sure to be managing the ultimate fund-raiser in heaven. After lunch, masked models took over the runway and attendees saw a show only Helen could produce.



Stunning Models take to the runway in "Masquerade"



Lilac's Nancy Mueller and her granddaughter, Taylor Fultz

and Laura Susskind. Mary and Laura work with crystal, beads and semi-precious stones to create one-of-a-kind bracelets and necklaces and Ruth is famous for her hand-crocheted and beaded purses. Lilac is going to "claim their fame" once they are discovered by the stars! (photos by Patty Sprinks at [www.tocelebratelife.org](http://www.tocelebratelife.org))

We were delighted to see Betty Jo in the audience as well as Board members Lynn Wilson and Jeannie Graham who joined Board and Lilac member Barbara Demmon at her table.



Event Co-chairs: Betty McMahon, Joyce Spinelli, Jeanne Mackie



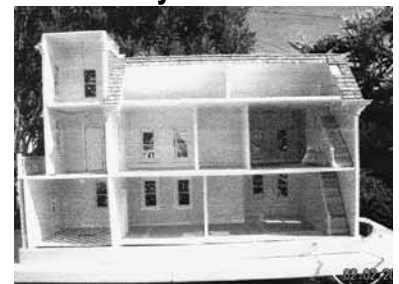
Hard at work the night before - Angie Willback, Mary Lou Carter, Lilac Chair, and Jeanne Mackie, Event Co-chair

We encourage all Branch members to watch for news of our future events, including our Fall Fundraiser, **Harvest Soiree**, to be held on **September 26** at **Villa de Provence in Rutherford**, the spectacular home of member Nancy Mueller and her husband Al. Send reservations and check (\$150/person) to Betty McMahon; 2772 Seminole Circle, Fairfield, CA 94534 - (707) 426-4292. Attire: Napa Elegant.

### Live Oak Miniature Show & Sale - September 11 and 12 - El Sobrante Boys & Girls Club



Beautiful 10-Room Victorian Dollhouse - includes electrical, light fixtures, flooring and more.  
 Tickets \$5/each or 3/\$10 - Drawing on Sept. 12 (need not be present to win).  
 Call Diane Walter (510) 724-0587 or mail to Wini Buss, 67 Norwood Avenue, Kensington, CA 94707.





# Children's Hospital Branches, Inc.

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5700 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way T-2  
Oakland, CA 94609

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Advertise your upcoming event or share information with members

Next Deadline: 6/11/09

## UP-COMING BRANCH EVENTS

### July 11, 2009 (Saturday)

Contact Pam Pauletich (925)253-4897  
or pam.hamel@comcast.net

### Summer Garden Party

Private home, Orinda

### Lombardy

### August 30, 2009 (Sunday)

Doors open at 10am - Derby race at 5:00pm

### Rubber Ducky Derby

Waterworld - Concord, CA

### Rowan

### September 11 & 12 (Friday & Saturday)

Contact Diane Walker (510) 724-0587 or  
Wini Buss (510) 524-0519 \$5/day - \$8 2-day pass

### Miniature Show & Sale

El Sobrante Boys & Girls Club

### Live Oak

### September 26, 2009 (Saturday)

6:00pm - 10:00pm Buffet & Open Bar \$150/person  
Reservations to Betty McMahon (707) 426-4292

### Harvest Soiree

Villa de Provence, Rutherford (private home)

### Lilac

### October 17, 2009 (Saturday)

6:00pm - Midnight Price TBA  
For info call Kathy Hennigh (510) 814-8153

### Moonlight Monte Carlo

Officer's Club, Alameda

### Blossom Garden

### October 17, 2009 (Saturday)

11:00am - social; 12:00 Noon - lunch Price TBA

### Bridge/Whist Party

Hilton Garden Inn, Emeryville

### Cacao

### November 5, 2009 (Thursday)

Dinner 6:00pm / Show at 8:00pm  
Contact Eva Hall (510) 233-2870 - Price TBA

### Dinner & Theater (The Rocky Horror Show)

Hotel Mac & Masquers Playhouse  
Playhouse has been remolded - 80 plush seats

### Live Oak

### November 7, 2009 (Saturday)

10:00am - 3:00pm; Marjorie Miller (510) 471-3970

### Holiday Bazaar

Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont

### Coral

### November 7, 2009 (Saturday)

### Jazzed at the Cotton Club - Gala des Enfants Rowan

Go back in time to the 1920's New York City jazz scene at The Cotton Club! The 21st annual Gala des Enfants will be held at the Blackhawk Country Club on Saturday, November 7, 2009. Come and enjoy fabulous live jazz music, sinful vices, superb food and wine, a live band for dancing, plus silent and live auctions. This promises to be THE event of the year! \$175/person. Questions? contact Eileen Caponio - (925) 837-6592 or eyesdeuce@hotmail.com