

# TWIGS

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 @ CHORI  
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Welcome back to an exciting launching of our Branch Fall events. I hope you all had a great, restful and fun summer – I know I did! I also hope you're looking forward to our wonderful fund-raisers.



I started our busy September by attending our hospital's Board of Director's retreat where we studied and discussed our hospital's future in today's crazy world!

The following Sunday I had the pleasure of speaking and celebrating with 300 attendees of Hill Branch's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its fabulous Winter Debutante Ball.

The next day seventy-five of our members enjoyed the hospitality of CHORI and a delicious lunch, compliments of our super Foundation! Dr. Bert Lubin, Dr. Julie Saba and HEAL's Dr. Lydia Tinajero Deck gave excellent presentations. Many thanks to Bert and to the Foundation - it was a splendid way to start our Fall season!

Mulberry had a beautiful luncheon the following Wednesday in Livermore. Dr. Howard Rosenfeld of Cardiology was their guest speaker. They also asked me to say a few words and afterwards presented me with a squawking toy turkey: Yes, I did take it personally because you know, I have no sense of humor!!

Now we come to Thursday night: I attended the Foundation's beautiful Legacy Dinner in Lafayette. Thankfully, I wasn't required to speak that night and could fully enjoy being a guest. The next night I was Acorn's guest at its big annual, wild, crazy and delicious "Italian Dinner!"

I came away a little sad, though, because they had great raffle prizes and I didn't win a thing. But the fun I had made up for it! Yes, I'm still going strong. Cacao had its auction-luncheon-card games event the following day – it's always so beautifully done. Although I didn't win a raffle prize here either (nor at Mulberry's event, but who's counting), the auction was fun and their auctioneer could easily have been a stand-up comedian! After a friend's wedding the next day I was sure I'd soon be in the hospital myself - but, thankfully, wasn't!

I thank all of the above for inviting me to their lovely events. I especially thank our Board member and liaison to Cacao, Orvie Pamp for accompanying me to the Mulberry and Cacao events and Marilyn Zecher, the Vice President of our Board, who accompanied me to the Acorn and Cacao events. ("I want to introduce you to our Branches' Board Vice President. She can't skin a moose and she can't see Russia from her kitchen window, but she's still a terrific VP.")

I'm sorry I couldn't get to the Lilac and Blossom Garden events - also held on October 4 - the reports are that they were both spectacular! I'm now resting up and looking forward to Rowan's always magnificent Gala! This letter could have been titled "Dear Diary!"

Hope to see you at our October 27<sup>th</sup> General Meeting.

With love,

*Betty Jo*

## Board of Directors

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

P.S. I am so thrilled we have a new Branch, due in part, to the tutoring and mentorship of our Rowan Branch and Board member, Debbie Civello. They have chosen the name "Magnolia Branch" and have truly brought our magnolia tree symbol back to life! Congratulations and welcome aboard!

## Fir Branch offers Almonds, Seasoned Salt

The 2008 crop of Nonpareil almonds has been harvested from the Lohman Ranch in Arbuckle, CA. A portion of the crop has been donated to Fir Branch for sale, to benefit Children's Hospital Oakland. The price is the same as last year, and a bargain

at that...\$5/lb! It's been shown that there are many health benefits derived from eating almonds



Fir Branch is also selling jars of the Chef Howald's Seasoned Salt at \$6.50/jar. A jar of this seasoned blend makes a wonderful hostess gift in time for the holidays. Anyone interested in placing an order may call Jackie Bertillion (510) 782-4874 or Dee Farkas (925) 284-2169. We can arrange to have the items ready for pick up at a Branches' General Meeting.

## Family House

There's been lots of activity at Family House this past summer. The census for June and July shows the number of room occupancies averaged 12 per day (maximum availability is 16), comprising 24 adults & 8 children per night. Breakfast guests averaged 12, with highs of 25 and a low of 5. Family House is in need of



individual-sized portions of canned soups and snacks. Also needed are paper goods: paper plates, towels, cups and plastic containers for left-over food. And, of course, those gift cards from Safeway, Lucky's, Trader Joe's and Costco. It's located at 5222 Dover Street, Oakland. (510) 428-3100. Thank you!



**SAVE THE DATE! ANNUAL MEETING/LUNCHEON**  
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2009**  
**ORINDA COUNTRY CLUB - DETAILS IN NEXT TWIGS**

Remember  
to

**VOTE**

on Nov 4!



...from the Branch Office

Community Service Hours for the period ending June, 2008 are still missing from these Branches: Cacao, Chestnut, Hill, Lombardy, Mulberry, Rowan. CSH hours for the remainder of the year are due on January 15, 2009. Letters will be going out after the first of the year, again asking each Branch to list its donors who contributed \$500+ between January and December of this year for inclusion in the Foundation's Spring issue of *Hand in Hand*.





# Garden's Holiday Party

Yes! It's happening! Members of Garden Branch, CHB, Inc., will be having their traditional annual Holiday Party again this year. We urge you to hold the date of Wednesday, November 19, 2008. The event will be at the Hilton Oakland Airport Hotel, 1 Hegenberger Road, Oakland.

You can look forward to the kitchen bake, boutique sale, raffle, door prizes and cheers at 11:00am. Luncheon will be served at 12:15pm. You will surely be delighted with fashions presented by Dress Barn of Oakland, plus added surprise entertainment! All for \$45 per person.

Reservations should be made by Friday, November 14, through Marilyn Zecher, (510) 521-2049 - 3263 Washington Street, Alameda, CA 94501-5567, or you may contact any Garden Branch member.

Looking forward to seeing everyone again!



\* \* \* \* \*

## Magnolia Branch - Welcome!

Already touting 18 members, with hopes to increase that number, is a group of women from the Walnut Creek/Concord/Clayton/Pleasant Hill/Brentwood area.

Last spring, Debbie Civello (Rowan) was asked to speak at a meeting in Contra Costa County. Lucky for us, she chose as her subject Children's Hospital Branches and how the Branches support the hospital. Showing a video made by Kristina Smith, also a Rowan member, she spoke of ways in which people could be involved, not only in raising money for the Hospital but also in raising public awareness.

Debbie shared information on Rowan Branch and its annual Gala and Spring Spree, as well as events held by other Branches. This presentation sparked interest, and Kelly Bloat and Lori Hagge stepped forward to become co-chairmen. Following their example and lead, a group of interested ladies met and decided to take the steps necessary to become a Branch.

They've met a couple of times, came up with their name, developed by-laws and designed a super membership application! Other officers are: Rebecca Dixon, Treasurer; Patricia Virgallito, Secretary; and Roberta Healy, Membership. At this time, additional members are: Lauren Damman, Sheri Dixson, Barbara Fogerson, Sylvia Gall, Gene Gracey, Wendy Hallett, Diana Ichikawa, Ann Kumar, Alice Ponti, Michele Snider, Marlene Svensson, Pat Svitenko and Kathy Whalen. Their first event will be a luncheon on Saturday, December 6. Details were not available as this was going to print, so please call the Branch Office at (510) 428-3355, to be referred to the person handling reservations.

If you didn't get a chance to introduce yourselves at the September General Meeting at CHORI, please do so at one of the upcoming General Meetings. Make our newest members feel welcome and glad they've joined us!

# Bambino Thrift Shop Holiday Boutique

HOLIDAY SONGS ARE IN THE AIR AT THE  
BAMBINO THRIFT SHOP

With their pointy little ears to the ground, our Bambino elves have begun to hear that familiar tune, "Santa Claus is Coming to Town," and they plan to be ready. All year long, like "The Happy Elf", they have been hoarding holiday gifts and decorations generously donated to the shop by friends and neighbors. With all their artistic skill and dedicated effort, they will work to transform the shop into a holiday boutique. You are invited to come "Walking in a Winter Wonderland" at 5290 College Avenue from November 12th to December 20th during regular store hours—10:00AM to 3:00PM Tuesdays through Fridays and Noon to 4:00PM on Saturdays. Come shop with us and "December Will Be Magic Again."

## General Meeting Speakers: November 2008 - January 2009

October 27: Peggy Pearson, MFT (Center for the Vulnerable Child) - Encore Progra  
Kimberly Scrafano, Goodwill Industries

November 24: Sports Medicine Center - Dr. Scott Hoffinger / Dr. Kaleb Friend /  
Michelle Cappello, Chief RehabTherapist

December: No meeting

January 26: Doug Myers, Chief Financial Officer, CHRCO





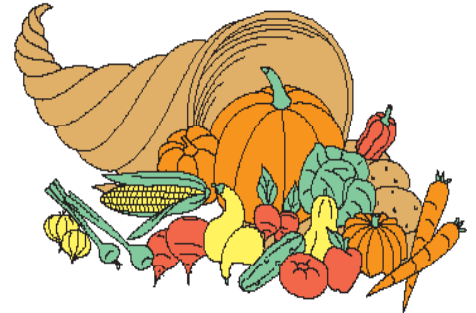
# Children's Hospital Branches, Inc.

@ CHORI Campus

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: 11/15/08

## UP-COMING BRANCH EVENTS

<b>November 1, 2008 (Saturday)</b>	<b>Coral Holiday Boutique</b>	<b>Coral</b>
9:30am - 2:30pm - no admission direct questions to Marjorie Miller (510) 471-3970		The Fireside Room, Rossmoor
<b>November 12 - December 20, 2008</b>	<b>Holiday Boutique - Bambino Shop</b>	<b>All Branch</b>
10:00am - 3:00pm Tuesdays - Fridays 12:00Noon - 4:00pm - Saturdays		5290 College Avenue, Oakland
<b>November 19, 2008 (Wednesday)</b>	<b>Garden Holiday Party</b>	<b>Garden</b>
11:00am - Boutique, raffle, cheers 12:15pm - Luncheon with fashions by the Dress Barn of Oakland \$45		Hilton Oakland Airport Hotel, Oakland
<b>November 13, 2008 (Thursday)</b>	<b>Dinner &amp; Theater Evening</b>	<b>Live Oak</b>
6:00pm - Dinner at Hotel Mac 8:00pm - Masquers Theater reservations: Eva Hall (510) 233-2870 \$40		Both venues are in Pt. Richmond
<b>December 22, 2008 (Monday)</b>	<b>Winter Ball</b>	<b>Hill</b>
9:00pm - Presentation of Debutantes (510) 547-4604 - questions Nov - Dec		Westin St. Francis Hotel, San Francisco
<b>January 18, 2009 (Sunday)</b>	<b>Archery Shoot</b>	<b>Live Oak</b>
9:00am, 11:30am, 2:000pm \$10 contact Wini Buss (510) 524-0519		The Bow Rack, 701-B Escobar Street, Martinez
<b>April 29, 2009 (Wednesday)</b>	<b>Annual Meeting &amp; Luncheon</b>	<b>All Branch</b>
11:00 no-host cocktails Orinda Country Club, Orinda 12:00 Noon - luncheon & meeting		