

# Celebration of the Women's Council



Caltech Athenaeum

Thursday, December 10, 2009

In every organization, there are people whose commitment is extraordinary and whose impact goes beyond measure. The Women's Council and its membership over the last 36 years fit that description. Your loyalty and passion for Verdugo Hills Hospital is tremendous and we are forever grateful for all that you have made possible for the hospital and the patients we serve.

Thank you for your gifts of time, talent and treasure given so freely and with such joy. Thank you for the generous spirit that you bring to Verdugo Hills Hospital.

Personally, and on behalf of all who have had the good fortune of working with you, including the Boards of Directors, staff, volunteers and physicians, thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Len LaBella, Jr.

President & Chief Executive Officer,

Verdugo Hills Hospital

L LBula



Reception

11:00 a.m.

Welcome

12:00 p.m.

Ruth McNevin

Chair, Women's Council Board of Directors

### Lunch

### Program

12:45 p.m.

**Annsley Strong** 

Chair, Verdugo Hills Hospital Board of Directors

Past President of the Women's Council

Member, Verdugo Hills Hospital Foundation Board of Directors

### Remarks

Len LaBella

President/CEO, Verdugo Hills Hospital

Bill Baribault

Chair, Verdugo Hills Hospital Foundation Board of Directors

Margaret Kean

President, Verdugo Hills Hospital Foundation

# Closing Remarks and Check Presentation

Ruth McNevin

Patron support provided by Warner Bros.

## Women's Council of Verdugo Hills Hospital

#### 2009 Board of Directors

Ruth McNevin, *Chair*Suzonne Slaughter, *Chair-Elect* 

Eileen Akers
Randy Alejo-Medina
Virginia Clegg
Sharon Combs
Jackie Genofile
Margaret Gray
Cece Hall
Marie Hansen

Sharon Harker
Pauline Hendricks
Betty Hurn
Kate Kaneko
Loretta Levy
Chris Mason
Irene Mueller
Susan O'Toole

Mary Nixon Reichley
Teri Rice
Chris Rothrock
Cindy Sawyer
Maureen Thomas
Sue Wilder
Jean Woody

### Founder Mary Jane Kidd

### Women's Council Charter Members Serving 1973-2009

Dorothy Buck Virginia Clegg Jackie Genofile Ellie Glynn Margaret Gray Pauline Hendricks

Toni Kusch Mary Nixon Reichley

### Women's Council Honorary Memberships Awarded

Dorothy Buck
Marge Green Carlisle
Virginia Clegg
Margaret Gray
Joanne Illig
Kate Kaneko

Toni Kusch Shirley Levoe Sue Lindstrom Helen Nasal Mary Nixon Reichley Teri Rice Eva Rasmussen Holly Schultz Connie Smith Hazel Warneke

#### Celebration Event Committee

Betty Hurn, Kate Kaneko and Mary Reichley, Event Chairs
Pauline Hendricks, Chris Mason and Cindy Sawyer,
Event Committee Members

Annsley Strong, Chair of the Verdugo Hills Hospital Board of Directors
Ruth McNevin, Chair of the Women's Council
Suzonne Slaughter, Chair-Elect of the Women's Council
Margaret Kean, President of Verdugo Hills Hospital Foundation

### In Loving Memory of Our Dear Friends Hilyard and Courtland Barr.

The Women's Council of Verdugo Hills Hospital and Foundation acknowledges our love and respect for Hilyard and Courtland. Each life they touched was enriched. The Barr Family has generously supported the Women's Council and Verdugo Hills Hospital for over ten years.

## Fundraising Events 1973-2009

"Robin Hood" Premiere held at the Disney Studios

Pinto Roundup *held at the Disney Studios* 

A Dinner Dance held in the gardens at JPL

"The Rescuers" Premiere held at the Disney Studios

It's a Small World — First charity auction held at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium

Christmas Boutique

First Christmas Party of the Season

Mother-Daughter Luncheon held at the Huntington-Sheraton Hotel

It's a Small World II held at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium

Western Roundup held at the Flintridge Riding Club

Western Roundup Spectacular II beld at the Flintridge Riding Club

Showboat Spectacular — First Main Event held at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium

Pomp and Polo — Main Event beld at the Polo Fields in Burbank

In the Mood — Main Event held at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel

A Magical Mystical Evening — Main Event held at the Bonaventure Hotel

Women's Council Calendar

Olé — Main Event beld at the Lawry's California Center

Prom Night Memories — Main Event beld at the Rosemont Pavilion

An International Affair — Main Event beld at the Pasadena Hilton

Nordstrom Fashion Show

Pasadena Playhouse

Star Spangled Rhythm — Main Event held at the Universal Sheraton Hotel Gift of Light Christmas Tree Safari — Main Event held at the Brookside Golf Country Club

Bluegrass Jamboree — Main Event held at the Brookside Golf Country Club

Heritage Cookbook, co-ventured with the Crescenta Valley Chamber of Commerce, Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station and Crescenta Valley High School PTA

On Broadway — Main Event held at the Oakmont Country Club

Day at the Races

Carnival De Venezie — Main Event held at the Oakmont Country Club

Rendezvous Among the Stars — Main Event held at the Tower Restaurant

> C'est Magnifique — Main Event held at the Tower Restaurant

Harvest Moon — Dinner Party

Enter The Dragon — Main Event held at the New Otani Hotel

Holiday Party Fundraiser

Friendraiser — Main Event beld at the La Cañada Country Club

Margarita Parties

Hawaii Calls — Main Event beld at the University Club

March in the Gardens — Main Event held at Descanso Gardens

Par Tee on the Green — A combination of the Main Event and Golf Tournament held at the Oakmont Country Club

Bingo Parties

Senna Ranch Summer Party

Grand Opening of the Ocean View Contemporary Bistro

Wine Party at the San Antonio Winery

Fall Dinner Party Dreams of Fall — Main Events held at the Oakmont Country Club for three years

Dreams of Fall — Main Event beld at the Glendale Hilton Hotel

# Women's Council Presidents



Founder Mary Jane Kidd, 1973



Executive Charter President Sue Lindstrom, 1973-1974



Executive Second President Margaret Gray, 1974-1975



Third President Toni Kusch, 1975-1976



Fourth President Virginia Clegg, 1976-1977



Fifth President Esther Read, 1977-1978



Sixth President Kay Frase, 1978-1979



Seventh President Joanne Illig, 1979-1980



Eighth President Dorothy Beeve,\* 1980-1982



Ninth President Judith Durff, 1982-1983



Tenth President Karen Day, 1983-1984



Eleventh President Margie Eddy-Forbes, 1984-1985



Twelfth President Judith Farrar, 1985-1986



Thirteenth President Annsley Strong, 1986-1987



Fourteenth President: Terri Mutch,\* 1987-1988



Fifteenth President Jo Loomis, 1988-1989



Sixteenth President Teri Rice, 1989-1990



Seventeenth President Dee March DeRosa, 1990-1991



Eighteenth President Alyce Russell, 1991-1992



Nineteenth President Tina Marie Ito, 1992-1993



Twentieth President Terri Mutch,\* 1993-1994



Twenty-First President Gail Balocca, 1994-1995



Twenty-Second President Maxine White, 1995-1996



Twenty-Third President Cindy Sawyer, 1996-1997



Twenty-Fourth President Paula Acosta, 1997-1998



Twenty-Fifth President Jennefer Cochran, 1998-1999



Twenty-Sixth President Kathie Fong Yoneda, 1999-2000



Twenty-Seventh President Pauline Hendricks, 2000-2001



Twenty-Eighth President Elizabeth Arnold,\* 2001-2003



Twenty-Ninth Chair Kate Kaneko, 2003-2004



Thirtieth Chair Mary Reichley, 2004-2005



Thirty-First Chair Sue Wilder, 2005-2006



Thirty-Second Chair Betty Hurn,\* 2006-2007



Thirty-Third Chair Chris Mason, 2008



Thirty-Fourth Chair Ruth McNevin, 2009

# Highlights of the Women's Council of Verdugo Hills Hospital & Foundation

Thirty-sixth Anniversary, 1973-2009

**1972-1973:** Mary Jane Kidd and Mary Nixon Reichley visited a hospital in Chicago to see how they had their fundraising volunteers and in-service volunteers organized. It was the only hospital that they could locate that had the two groups separately organized like Verdugo Hills wanted to do. The VHH CEO/President was Brian Adlington.



1973: Council Chairs (L to R) Mrs. Robert Lindstrom, Mrs. Ray Kidd, Mrs. John Moulder, Mrs. Douglas Kraus, Mrs. F. W. Gray, Jr. and Mrs. John Jordon

1973-1974: Executive Charter President:
Sue Lindstrom. Area Presidents: Sharon Gregg,
Glendale, with 62 members; Marge Greene (Carlisle),
Las Colinas (La Cañada), with 78 members;
Shirley Levoe, La Crescenta, with 33 members; and
Virginia Clegg, Las Angelitas (West Valley) with 46
members. Total membership of all four groups 219.
On June 20, 1973 prospective members met for
a garden champagne brunch at the home of
Sue Lindstrom. Fundraising events included
"Robin Hood" Premiere and Pinto Roundup, thanks
to Card Walker and Walt Disney Productions.
June donation to the Hospital: \$10,104.

1974-1975: Executive Charter President: Margaret Gray. Area Presidents: Marion York, Glendale area; June Stump, Las Colinas (La Cañada); Shirley Levoe, La Crescenta; and Roberta Veloz, Las Angelitas (West Valley). Separate benefits were held on behalf of the Hospital. All the Area Councils were unified into one group known as the Women's Council. There was a joint fundraiser with the La Cañada Kiwanis to raise funds for the thrift shop. The Women's Council was invited by the Foundation to become charter members of the new Verdugo Hills Hospital Foundation Society. Ron Davey was welcomed as the hospital's new CEO/President. June donation to the Hospital: \$2,885.

**1975-1976:** *3rd President: Toni Kusch.* New officers were installed at the Women's Council's Second Anniversary Gala Garden luncheon on June 10, 1975. On April 22, 1976 the Verdugo House Thrift Shop

opened, thanks to Shirley Levoe and her family. A dinner dance was held in the IPL garden, thanks to Dr. William Pickering, Director/CEO of JPL. The Christmas Boutique was held at Dr. Cotton's beautiful home. Iune donation to the Hospital: \$4,416.



1974: Sue Lindstrom, Dr. John Madson and Brian Adlington

**1976-1977:** *4th President: Virginia Clegg.* A Holiday Boutique was held at Verdugo House. "The Rescuers" Premiere was held, thanks to Card Walker and Walt Disney Productions. The Christmas luncheon was held at the Oakmont Country Club and the spring Fashion Show was held at the La Cañada Thursday Club. June donation to the Hospital: \$7,779.

**1977-1978:** *5th President: Esther Read.* The idea of a Charity Auction was introduced. Verdugo House continued to be a part of the fundraising effort. The Christmas Boutique was held in the Community Room of Glendale Federal Savings in Montrose. June donation to the Hospital: \$19,837.



1974: Winnie & Card Walker and Sue & Bob Lindstrom

1978-1979: 6th President: Kay Frase, 134 members. Our first charity auction, "It's a Small World" was held at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium with thanks for the help from Card Walker and Walt Disney Productions, who provided beautiful decorations. At Christmas time a mother-daughter luncheon was held at the Huntington-Sheraton Hotel. Verdugo House brought in additional funds for the hospital, and the Christmas Boutique donated funds as well. At the installation luncheon in May, Cardinal Pio of Samoa, a friend of Joanne and Victor Illig, was present. June donation to the Hospital: \$59,120.

**1979-1980:** 7th President: Joanne Illig. Shirley Levoe turned over leadership of Verdugo House Thrift Shop to Mary Morrow. Mickey Moody directed the boutique sale at the Youth House. Virginia Clegg and Shirley Levoe entered into a new endeavor: the Thrift Shop Fashion Show "Verdugo Visions". The second charity auction, "It's a Small World II"— held at the Pasadena



1974

Civic Auditorium – was under the direction of Dorothy Beeve. Thanks again for the help from Card Walker and Walt Disney Productions, who provided a lavish and exotic setting for the event. June donation to the Hospital: \$107,868.

1980-1981: 8th President: Dorothy Beeve, 155 members. The first issue of Forum, our newsletter, was published. First honorary memberships were awarded to several members who had made unique contributions to the Council over the years: Dorothy Buck, Virginia Clegg, Joanne Illig, Shirley Levoe, Sue Lindstrom, Holly Schultz and Hazel Warneke. Mary Jane Kidd received recognition as Founder of the organization by being awarded a life membership. Kay Stoever moved from being the first woman Foundation Board Chair to the Director of the Foundation. The Boutique brought in funds under the leadership of



1978: Small World Charity Auction (L to R) Mrs. Robert Nixon, Mrs. Wayne Clegg, Mrs. Anthony Orfila and Mrs. J. Morgan Greene

Dorothy Buck, Alison Carlson, Connie Smith and Hazel Warneke. Verdugo House Thrift Shop earned additional funding. "Western Roundup" was held at the Flintridge Riding Club under the direction of Gretchen Willison. The Council's friends at Walt Disney Productions again provided decorations. June donation to the Hospital: \$34,086.

**1981-1982:** *President: Dorothy* Beeve serves a second year as President, 176 members. The

membership drive produced 30 new members and 15 prospective members waiting for the next membership drive. Gretchen Willison was named to the full-time staff position of Women's Council Coordinator. Another first, "Culinary Collectables" brought in funds.



1981: WC Executive Board Seated (L to R) Jean Brown, Delores Buckles, Eva Rasmussen, Dorothy Beeve and Diane Bensler. Standing: Dee March, Alison Carlson, Judy Durff, Toni Kusch, Terri Mutch, Connie Smith, Karen Day, Esther Read, Margaret Gray and Cindy Foullon

Even with an enormous increase in rent, Verdugo House accepted consignment items and brought in additional funding. "Western Roundup Spectacular II" was at the Flintridge Riding Club under the direction of Terri Mutch. There were 649 attendees for the evening. Honorary memberships were given to Eva Rasmussen, Helen Nasal and Toni Kusch. June donation to the Hospital: \$66,472.

1982-1983: 9th President: Judith Durff, 184 members. The Verdugo House celebrated its eighth year by painting and refurbishing the thrift shop. Income was up in spite of increased rent and other costs.



1984-85

The first Main Event "Showboat Spectacular" under the direction of Dee March, raised over \$100,000. In this record-year of fundraising, funds were allocated as follows: \$60,000 towards a \$100,000 Challenge Grant from ARCO; \$25,000 towards a Lockheed Challenge Grant and \$37,000 to begin the funding of audiovisual equipment for the Community Health Education Center. New committees were established for communications, computer applications, by-laws and a five-year strategic plan. June donation to the Hospital: \$126,572.

**1983-1984:** 10th President: Karen Knudsen Day, 207 members. Verdugo House experienced another rent increase. The Main Event, "Pomp and Polo" under the direction of Judith Farrar, had 510 attendees for the evening. "First Christmas Party of the Season" sold Boutique items prior to the next-day sale, raising funds over the two days. Even heavy rains couldn't keep guests away. This year the Women's Council



1986-87

gained full membership and voting status on the Foundation Board. The President-elect position was created. June donation to the Hospital: \$95,004.

**1984-1985:** 11th President: Margie Eddy-Forbes, 222 members. Due to additional rent increases and staffing problems for Verdugo House, a paid consultant's advice for the future of the thrift shop was sought. Walt Disney Productions again helped with decorations for the main event "In the Mood". Under the direction of Carol Bilowitz and Velma Johnson,



1988: Main Event — Prom Night Memories

it was held at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel. The Community Health Education Center (Council Rooms) on the fourth floor of the hospital was completed. Kay Stoever, Director of the Foundation, hosted a beautiful dinner party in the Council Rooms. Mary Jane Kidd was honored as the Women's Council Founder. The Women's Council gained 23 new members. June donation to the Hospital: \$100,000.

### **1985-1986:** 12th President: Judith Farrar,

172 members. Hospital expansion was almost com-

plete. The Community Health Education Center was officially christened "The Council Room" in June 1986. With the passing of Esther Read, the Esther Donahoo Read Endowment Fund was created. Verdugo House was moved when the building it was in was sold. The Council continued its work with the thrift shop consultant. Ginny Cushman was hired as our Women's Council Coordinator. "A Magical Mystical Evening" under the direction of Trudy Bohr was spectacular. June donation to the Hospital: \$110,000.

#### 1986-1987:

13th President:
Annsley Strong,
150 members.
In a heartrending look at
Verdugo House,
we voted to
close it down
on June 30th.
With burn-out
being felt
among members, Women's
Council job



1989

positions were reworked to ease the workload of individuals. Re-examining the group's growth and patterns of change brought about the beginnings of a by-laws review. The production of the Women's Council Calendar was initiated with funds generated in its first year. Jean and Debby Ingram chaired the Christmas Boutique and Christmas trees were raffled off. Main Event "Olé" was held at Lawry's California Center, under the direction of Jo Loomis and Teri Rice. June donation to the Hospital: \$90,000.

**1987-1988:** *14th President: Terri Mutch, 161 members.* "Prom Night Memories" under the direction of Ardella Horsfall, was held at the Rosemont Pavilion in Pasadena, with 450 in attendance. The Women's Council provided funds to send area participants to the Stephen Glenn Training Seminar. As a result, the Education Department of the hospital began sponsorship of parenting seminars. Tamia Thunstedt



1987

and Penny Ledbetter began leading seminars this year for parents – helping parents communicate better with their growing children. "Kids on the Block", a new project under the direction of Alison Carlson and Kris Clark, was very successful. There was a gain of 18 new members this year. June donation to the Hospital: \$70,000.



1989

1988-1989: 15th President: Jo Loomis, 145 members. "An International Affair" was held at the Pasadena Hilton, under the direction of Kate Kaneko. Marge Greene and Jackie Genofile and their committee gave a spectacular First Christmas Party. Connie Smith and Boutique members presented a beautiful array of Christmas items. A display case was installed on the second floor near the cafeteria. Our annual Women's Council calendar sales brought in additional funds. Our "Kids on the Block" puppets reached out to the community. A first "Get Acquainted" Luncheon was held at several member's homes. Susan O'Toole became the Women's Council Coordinator. June donation to the Hospital: \$83,000.

1989-1990: 16th President: Teri Rice, 130 members. The Council gained seven new members. "An Enchanted Evening" was under the direction of Tina Marie Ito and Alyce Russell. A Nordstrom Fashion Show, under the direction of Jo Loomis raised additional funds. The Heritage Cookbook, co-ventured with the Crescenta Valley Chamber of Commerce, Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station and Crescenta Valley High School PTA brought in more funds. Earthquake preparation kits were sold. Connie Smith and the Boutique realized funds from the First Christmas Party of the Season and Christmas Boutique. The Board procedure manuals were compiled. June donation to the Hospital: \$101,000.

**1990-1991:** 17th President: Dee March, 185 members. "Kids on the Block" had another successful year under Sandy Hawley. Two new scripts were introduced featuring divorce and learning disabilities. Jo Loomis and Nancy Heil hosted a night at the Pasadena Playhouse. "The First Christmas Party" and Boutique were under the direction of Connie Smith. "Rhinestone

Cowboy" at the Gene Autry Western Museum, was under the direction of Annsley Strong. Ron Davey, CEO/President, retired from the Hospital. June donation to the Hospital: \$101,000.

1991-1992: 18th President: Alyce Russell, 118 members. "Broadway Challenge", a community event that brought in \$1,400, was gifted to the Ray Kidd Foundation at a special presentation to Mary Jane

Kidd at the Awards and Installation Luncheon. Two "Ladies Night Out" events were successful. Mary Reichley was in charge of the First Christmas Party of the Season and Connie Smith directed the Boutique. "Kids on the Block" did well. "Star Spangled Rhythm, under direction of Gail Balocca and Jan Lowther was another successful event. Margaret Gray and Virginia Clegg presented special awards to Eva Rasmussen and Mary Jane Kidd. Bernie Glossy was welcomed as new CEO/President of Verdugo Hills Hospital. June donation to the Hospital: \$90,864.

**1992-1993:** *19th President: Tina Marie Ito, 118 members.* The Women's Council moved from its long-inhabited office in the trailer to its new home inside the hospital. The First Christmas Party of the Season and Boutique brought in funds for the hospital, thanks to Dee March, Terri Mutch and Connie Smith.



1997



1998

Celebrating its 20th anniversary, the hospital held an all-day Open House with food and game booths, tours of the "New Beginnings" Birth Center and a special lighting of the Women's Council's "Gift of Light Tree." The Council also held a special cocktail party, inviting those individuals who had so generously supported the Women's Council. "Star Spangled Rhythm II," under the direction of Gail Balocca, was a successful fundraiser. June donation to the Hospital: \$60,500.

1993-1994: 20th President: Terri Mutch, 108 members. The office was moved to the 1818 Medical Building. Tea parties, bingo, Christmas at the Strong Castle, Spring at the Hacienda, a famous "stir fry", and a Hilton Hotel awards luncheon brought Council members together socially and productively. Mary Jane Kidd's efforts resulted in an impressive grand Women's Council plaque which now hangs outside the Council Rooms. "Safari", held at the Brookside Country Club under the direction of Tina Marie Ito, was great fun with stuffed lions, tigers, monkeys and a giraffe, adding to the atmosphere throughout the room. June donation to the Hospital: \$63,500.

made to the Executive Board job descriptions, adopting a more sharing and flexible approach to responsibilities. A five-year pledge of \$310,000 for Outpatient Surgery patient services was adopted. All Seasons Holiday Boutique replaced the Christmas Boutique of old. Later in the year came the birth of the Easter Boutique. June donation to the Hospital: \$50,000.

1995-1996: 22nd President: Maxine White. The Main Event, "On Broadway", at Oakmont Country Club, under direction of Maxine White was moved to February. Another move for the office took it back to the main hospital building. A Nordstrom Fashion Show in October was followed by the All Holiday Boutique. "Day at the Races" was held in March and the Herb Garden Tour at the Parkway Grill was held in April. June donation to the Hospital: \$77,138.

**1996-1997:** 23rd President: Cindy Sawyer, 80 members. The Main Event "Carnival De Venezie", was held at the Oakmont Country Club under the direction of Cindy Sawyer. The Council resumed traditional Board positions.

#### 1994-1995:

21st President:
Gail Balocca,
109 members.
The Main Event,
"Bluegrass
Jamboree"
was held at
Brookside Golf
and Country
Club under the
direction of
Gail Balocca.
Changes were



1999





2001

Connie Smith was given an honorary membership at the June Awards and Installation Luncheon. The Boutique brought in funds again. Mary Jane Kidd, Women's Council founder, passed away on January 17, 1997. This year marked the third year of the five-year pledge to raise \$310,000 for Outpatient Surgery. Activities included: Margarita Party in July, September Summer Luau, "Day at the Races", The Pasadena Showcase House of Design and a number of activities for the Hospital. June donation to the Hospital: \$83,000.

1997-1998: 24th President: Paula Acosta, 84 members. VHH celebrated its 25th anniversary in December and the Women's Council marked its 25th year in June, 1998. Long-time member Winnie Walker and her husband, Card Walker, received the Humanitarian Award from the Foundation. Women's Council business cards were created for use when soliciting donations. There was another successful Holiday Boutique. The Main Event "Rendezvous Among the Stars", at the Tower Restaurant, was directed by Paula Acosta. Approximately 220 guests attended through

a deluge that would have intimidated Noah. The Boutique continued to raise funds for the hospital. Assisting the Foundation with the Golf Tournament and the Annual Children's Safety Fair at the Hospital, the Activities Committee, under Chair Mary Reichley, was very busy. June donation to the Hospital: \$111,700.

1998-1999: 25th President: Jennefer Cochran, 81 members. The Main Event, "C'est Magnifique", was held at Tower Restaurant and was directed by Jennefer Cochran. The Women's Council approached the community and won support from The La Cañada Junior Women's Club and the La Crescenta Women's Club and was able to donate funds to the Dixie Lee Ratliff Breast Health Care Center. Dr. Acosta gave us a presentation about breast cancer and cancer prevention. The Boutique contributed additional funds under the direction of Connie Smith. "A Day at the Races" and a Christmas Party at Toni and Vince Carabello's home were also among this year's highlights. Marge Green Carlisle was presented with an honorary membership for her years of service to Women's Council. June donation to the Hospital: \$96,000.

1999-2000: 26th President: Kathie Fong Yoneda, 89 members. The Women's Council received the Humanitarian of the Year award from the Foundation Board. La Cañada Junior Women's Club designated funds to Women's Council for mammogram scholarships. Gail and Lou Balocca's home was the scene of the Harvest Moon dinner party. The Women's Council worked at the annual Careful Cat Kid Safety Fair. Charter member Marge Green Carlisle was



1999

nominated for the new Emeritus Council. Women's Council received a donation from the Mary Pinola Education Endowment Fund for the Dixie Lee Ratliff Breast Healthcare Center. Women's Council began a job search for someone to fill the position that Susan O'Toole had filled for 11 terrific years. The Main Event, "Enter The

Dragon" was held at the New Otani Hotel, under the direction of Kathie Fong Yoneda. The Boutique under the direction of Connie Smith brought in additional funds. June donation to the Hospital: \$95,020.

**2000-2001:** 27th President: Pauline Hendricks, 75 members including 7 new members. The Council gained seven new members. Part of the summer was spent cleaning out our outdoor bin and helping reorganize the office for our new secretary, Millie Patrick. Penny Clark and Cindy Sawyer arranged an outstanding Margarita Party at the home of Penny and Ted Clark. Members worked at the annual Careful Cat Kid Safety Fair. A special \$20,000 donation was given to the hospital. The Boutique, under the direction of Connie Smith, realized additional funds for the year. The Main Event "Friendraiser" at the



2000

La Cañada Country Club was a great success, under the direction of Liz Arnold. We gave special tribute to Mary Reichley as she retired from VHH after 29 years, donating funds to a Tribute Fund in her honor toward the Emergency Department and made her an honorary member of the Women's Council. Cindy Sawyer continued to publish wonderful series of *Forums*. Len LaBella became the Hospital's President and CEO. June donation to the Hospital: \$106,022.

**2001-2002:** 28th President: Elizabeth Arnold, 65 members including 7 new members. The Women's Council began their new season by collecting enough money to buy seven car seats for the CPSP Program at the hospital. Sam and Kate Kaneko opened their home for an evening of wine tasting and for our membership luncheon. To our new members, the





2006

Kaneko home must have seemed like the Women's Council Club House. Sadly, but on a high note, with their donation of a record donation of \$26,000, The Boutique, under the direction of Connie Smith, decided that this would be their last year. The Foundation Board honored the Boutique volunteers for nearly 30 years of service to Women's Council and Verdugo Hills Hospital with a luncheon. The Main Event, "Hawaii Calls", held at the University Club, was directed by Kate Kaneko. Continental Airlines donated airfare for our opportunity drawing at our Main Event. This was the first year for Rich Harris and Jeff Smith to act as Main Event auctioneers. June donation to the Hospital: \$76,543.

2002-2003: 29th President: Elizabeth Arnold, (2nd year), 65 members. It was a year of uncertainty regarding the future of the hospital, however The Women's Council did not let that affect their commitment to Verdugo Hills Hospital. The events of the year included a Kick-Off Lunch at Paolo Sacco, a Thirtieth Birthday Celebration of Verdugo Hills Hospital, a November Luncheon, celebrating the Women's Council and all the fabulous women who had given so much to the organization, and a fabulous Holiday Celebration at Liz and Todd Arnold's home. Kate Kaneko and Lisa Malm organized a wonderful outing at the "March in the Gardens" at Descanso Gardens. June donation to the Hospital: \$45,000.

**2003-2004:** *30th Chair: Kate Kaneko, 75 members including 6 new members.* This was the first year for the Women's Council to be without a secretary and for the president to be addressed as chair person. We gathered for our September Kick-Off Luncheon at

Paolo's and experienced the group's energy and renewed dedication to our goals and objectives. The Women's Council celebrated the "Moonlight and Music" event sponsored by the Foundation. There was a ribbon cutting ceremony in September for the expanded Emergency Department.

The "Par Tee on the Green" was a combination of the golf tournament and the Main Event. June donation to the Hospital: \$75,000.

2004-2005: 31st Chair: Mary Reichley, 75 members including 11 new members. This was a year of transition and changes that were embraced by the Women's Council. The Main Event was moved from the spring to the fall so there was not a Main Event this year. The Foundation's "Moonlight and Music" was held at the Furrey, Kaneko and Longo homes. The group enjoyed a tour of Warner Brothers Studios, thanks to Gail King. A very successful Boutique was held. Pat and Blain Anderson's beautiful home was the setting of the February meeting where attendees enjoyed a Merle Norman Cosmetics presentation. Dona Crawford hosted the luncheon at the Annandale Country Club in April. Thanks were given to Mary Reichley's husband



2007: Main Event — (L to R) Sue Wilder, Chris Mason, Betty Hurn, Mary Reichley, Liz Rusnak Arizmendi, Kate Kaneko and Ruth McNevin



2007: (L to R) Rich Harris, Margaret Kean, Betty Hurn and Mary Reichley

and best friend, Paul Reichley, for all his help to the Women's Council. The Council participated in the ribbon-cutting ceremony for VHH's expanded GI Lab to which the Women's Council had donated funds. June donation to the Hospital: \$221,037.

**2005-2006:** 32nd Chair: Sue Wilder, 62 members. The year was highlighted by fun and exciting programs that were both informative and thought-provoking. The July Margarita Party hosted by Ted and Penny Clark started the year with a bang! In September, Wynn's of La Cañada provided an upscale fashion show that delighted members. From the beginning of July, many members were busy with the Main Event planning, which resulted in a fabulous Main Event "Dreams of Fall". Kate Kaneko was the Fundraising Chair and Mary

Reichley was the Sponsor/Donor Chair. Kate Kaneko again hosted our Thanksgiving Luncheon, which is always a true delight. The Women's Council was treated to a fun backstage tour of Disney Studios in December and ended the year with a visit to Descanso Gardens. June donation to the Hospital: \$89,647.

**2006-2007:** (18 Months) 32nd Chair: Betty Hurn, 64 members, including 4 new members. The Women's Council Board served for 18 months, due to changing

our year from a fiscal year to a calendar year, corresponding with the Foundation. The 18-month period was highlighted by lots of success as the Women's Council continued to distinguish itself as a major fundraising force for Verdugo Hills Hospital. The November luncheon at Kate Kanako's beautifullydecorated home provided the perfect setting for the Thanksgiving celebration. November 2007 provided an opportunity to recognize Mary Reichley, who had been elected Volunteer of the Year by the Association of Fundraising Professionals of Greater Los Angeles. Kate Kaneko was elected as an Honorary Member of the Women's Council in recognition of 18 years of service. The Council participated in the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Digital Mammography machine. The Main Event, "Dreams of Fall" Fundraising Chairs, Kate Kaneko, Ruth McNevin, Sue Wilder and Mary Reichley produced two events. Both the 2006 and 2007 Main Events had over 200 attendees. December 2006 donation to the Hospital: \$207,858. December 2007 donation to the Hospital: \$219,308.



2008

2008: 33rd Chair: Chris Mason, 60 members. Four new members joined the Women's Council. This was a very special year for Verdugo Hills Hospital Women's Council as it celebrated its 35th year of serving our community hospital. The Women's Council donated cookies and delivered them to the nurses' stations and other departments. This simple act of kindness was gratefully received by the Hospital staff. There was a fashion show at Oakmont Country Club. Holiday Hats and Gowns provided the beautiful fashions and Merle Norman Cosmetics of Montrose donated table



2009

favors. A Bingo Party at VHH brought a large and lively crowd! The first Summer Party was held at Senna Ranch in Sun Valley. A special thanks to Liz and Andrew Arizmendi and Rusnak for the donation of tickets to the Pasadena Pops. The Women's Council was invited to help celebrate the Grand Opening of the Ocean View Contemporary Bistro in Montrose, owned by Tom and Alyce Russell. Tina Marie Ito was the Marketing Director. Alyce and Tina Marie are both past presidents of the Women's Council. The Main Event, "Dreams of Fall" was held at the Glendale Hilton. Directed by the Fundraising Chairs, Betty Hurn, Kate Kaneko and Mary Reichley, there were over 200 guests in attendance. The Live Auction was well received by all of the guests and everyone had fun watching the most excellent auctioneers for the eighth year, Rich Harris and Jeff Smith, laugh and banter with the audience. December donation to the Hospital: \$138,350.

**2009:** *34th Chair: Ruth S. McNevin, 59 members.* Two new members joined this year. 2009 was a pivotal year as the world-wide recession impacted



our community. The Foundation Board's decision to defer the Council's major fundraising event, and administrative restructuring implemented to further our goal of building a new patient tower, changed the day-to-day operations of the Women's Council. These changes did not dilute efforts to achieve the Council's mission; they strengthened the group's resolve

to develop new relationships with the community to friend-raise and to increase membership. New and innovative ways to fun-raise and fund-raise were explored with the annual Bingo luncheon, a fabulous fashion show held at Oakmont Country Club, an informative and delightful tour of The San Antonio Winery and the fantastic Fall Dinner Party, hosted by Pauline and Tom Hendricks. The Women's Council continued its tradition of delivering cookies to the hospital staff and had several informative programs highlighting special services offered by the hospital. Fundraising Chairs were Betty Hurn, Kate Kaneko and Mary Reichley; Special Events Chairs were Suzonne Slaughter and Eileen Akers.



2009: (L to R) Virginia Clegg, Eileen Akers, Jean Woody, Ruth McNevin and Rose Mary Flint

Never doubt what a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change in the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

### Memories from the Past:

Walking down memory lane with me – I am truly blessed to have met and become friends with many marvelous and benevolent ladies. I joined Women's Council in 1977. In 1979, I was fundraising chair with Virginia Clegg. We were a dynamite duo. The two years I served as President required a lot of hard work and produced many fun memorable times. The experience was most fulfilling. I felt often times like I was neglecting my husband and two sons, because of the many demands. But ultimately, our two sons must have been impressed with VHH as they are both on staff and live in La Cañada; Gregory Beeve, MD, Internal Medicine Specialist and Scott Beeve, MD, Ophthalmologist. We are all so proud to be part of the VHH Family.

— Dorothy Beeve

What a memory-kindling surprise to see the familiar VHHWC logo in my mailbox in Alabama! Solid friendships for me were created and cemented through my involvement with the Women's Council. I was reminded by Margie Forbes who was the next President, that Kay Stoever (who was the Foundation Director) had donated a fur coat to the annual auction which I bid on with great zeal only to discover that Arden Day (my husband) was not so appreciative of my overzealous participation. Not a shining moment for additions to the fundraising efforts. Our fundraiser that year was a Polo Match at the Burbank Polo Fields. William Shatner, an avid horseman, performed the role of throwing in the ball for the opening chukker for us...and he is still performing remarkably. I treasure my memories and feel honored to have served in the role of the President. Every good wish for continued future success.

- Karen Knudsen Day



1973

As the President of the Women's Council from 1984 to 1985, I have many wonderful memories of the fun times we had raising money for our beloved hospital. The ladies that were part of the council back in those days are still very much a part of the council now. That in itself speaks highly of the organization and the contributions that are still being made for the hospital. When we visit the old neighborhood, I never miss a chance to go by the hospital, so know that even though we moved to Georgia, I still have a warm place in my heart for the council and the hospital. When I followed Karen Knudsen Day as the President I remember someone saying that we should never have women that had full-time careers be the President of the Women's Council because there were certainly enough non-working women to do the job. Yet between the two of us and our wonderful energetic boards we raised over \$160,000 that was given to the hospital. I hope things have changed and that if you do have ladies that are employed full time and they can still work the WC into their schedule, that they would still have the opportunity to "lead the way". I will never forget the wonderful friendships I made, that continue to this day. You ladies are always in my thoughts and prayers.

The 18 months I served as Chair of the Women's Council was a period of fun and discovery. When Mary Reichley encouraged me to join the organization I had little reference. The Women's Council provided me the opportunity to meet a wonderful group of women who have enriched my life after retirement. Understanding the importance of fundraising for a small community hospital and the impact an organization of dedicated women can have financially was impressive. My involvement has prompted me to seek other volunteer and fundraising opportunities. Connecting with community, vendors, other charitable organization and local residents magnified my appreciation of the wonderful community I am privileged to live in.

- Betty Hurn



1998

When asked to share a memory of my year as President of Verdugo Hills Hospital Women's Council, my first thought was that I could not believe it has been twenty years! With a little more reflection and perusal of my "Highlights" which were produced for the "Green Book", I was flooded with memories of my wonderful Board. They were all so creative and supportive. We had a common goal and that was to "promote and advance the welfare of Verdugo Hills Hospital" and all of them, without exception, worked tirelessly toward that goal. There was a sense of camaraderie and purpose that I still remember so vividly, even after 20 years. Since I have this lovely opportunity, I want to thank them all again! (Betsy Bazdarich, Jackie Genofile, Susan Johnson, Nancy Heil, Tina Ito, Kris Clark, Alison Carson, Jackie Forsythe, Barbara Mello, Kate Kaneko and Teri Rice).

Congratulations to all the members of the Women's Council who have worked so hard over the past 36 years to advance the mission of the Women's Council and the Hospital, with a constant vision for the continuing success of a wonderful institution. Will Rogers put it well when he said, "Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there." The Women's Council has definitely been on the right track. I am proud and honored to have worked for 36 years with an incredible group of women who believe with great passion in our wonderful community hospital. Thank you for your commitment to "THE LITTLE HOSPITAL THAT COULD," our common goal. Warmest regards.

- Mary Nixon Reichley

When I retired I knew I wanted to do volunteer work, and since Verdugo Hills Hospital had been so kind to us during my father's lengthy stay, I thought that would be the right place for me to volunteer. Then I met Mary Reichley, the Director of Volunteer Services at that time. I began volunteering one day a week, but after a couple of weeks, Mary suggested I work two days a week. Which I did, that was 11 years ago, and I am still volunteering two days a week. When Mary retired I asked her to keep me in mind for any other opportunities. She had only been gone a month or two and she suggested to me to join the VHH Women's Council, which I did. I then served as Chair 2005 to 2006. It definitely was an active and exciting year, and Steve, my husband, was right there to help any way he could. With all my hospital activities Steve began being active with the hospital working on the annual golf tournament, and volunteering with me on Christmas Day, and now he is on the Operating Board of VHH. Verdugo Hills Hospital is OUR Hospital in so many ways!!!!

— Sue Wilder



## Projects Supported 1973-2009

Electronic Medical Record equipment Emergency Department: bedside computers, pediatric and telemetry equipment Hospice Sleeper Chairs Digital Mammography ACCESS - Digitalization of Radiology equipment Council Rooms upgrade Upgrade of the Admitting waiting area GI Lab upgrade Maternity Sleeper Chairs Upgrade of the Medical/Surgical Sixth Floor Wheelchairs Patient Beds: new electric beds for the entire hospital Telemetry equipment Emergency Room renovation Blood Pressure Machine (6th floor) Labor & Delivery bed (obstetrics)



Set of Extremity Tourniquets (surgery)

1983: Esther Read and Bill Read

Pulmonary Function equipment (Diagnostics Lab)
Infant Mannequin (nursing education)
Set of Infant Mannequins (parent education)
Mary Nixon Reichley Emergency Room Fund
Read/Lindhurst Memorials and Barkley
Honorarium



1973

Set of 24 Disney Masterpiece Videos for
emergency room visitors
Careful Cat Kid Safety Fair
X-ray Processor for ER
Gurneys, stretchers, pads, IV pumps, monitors
Critical care nursery monitor, bassinets, pads
Staff classes, teaching models, computer/projector
Dixie Lee Ratliff Breast Healthcare Center's
Mammogram Scholarship Program

Parent Education
Employee Assistance Fund
Same Day Surgery support
Cryostat (for rapid surgical diagnosis)
Nihon Kohden Monitor, Labor & Delivery
Defibrillator, wheelchairs, earthquake kits
Sentinel Node Biopsy System, Digital
Cameras (OR)

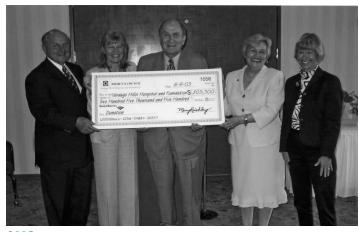
Pediatric Crash Carts, IV Warmer, V.S. Monitor (ER)

Ventilator and Blood Pressure Monitors
Newborn Educational Channel (OB)
Emergency Room Pediatrics Area
Emergency Pediatrics equipment/
Family Birth Center
Radiology Department
Patient Education, Outpatient Services,
R&C Center

Labor, Delivery and Recovery Room upgrades
Transitional Care Unit upgrades
Resource and Consultation Center
Education and Outpatient Service upgrades
Senior Services
Outpatient Laser equipment
Esther Donahoo Read Endowment Fund
G.E. Ultrasound Prostrate Probe
Xerox Mammography equipment
Funding of Education Programs
Medical Library equipment
"A Level" Expansion from Lockheed Grant
Audio-Visual Equipment, Community
Health Education Center



2003



2005

Computerized Medical Information System
Child Passenger Safety
Inpatient Education System/Polaroid Camera
CAT Scanner
Community Health Education Center (CHEC)
Emergency Room
Video Tape Cassette (ER)
Refurnish patient rooms
Griffith Memorial Chapel
Verdugo House Thrift Shop
Telemetry for Paramedics
Matching funds for several challenge grants
Unrestricted funds for greatest need

#### **Cumulative Total of Funds Raised for Years 1973-2009**

\$3,110,633



1987

## Verdugo Hills Hospital

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Vice Chair & Treasurer

Robert Develle Secretary

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Ruth McNevin\*

Terre L. Osterkamp, MD

Mary Reichley

Suzonne Slaughter\*\*

Marilyn (Mindy) Stein

Katharine M. Stoever

Annsley C. Strong

Mark Sullivan

Kevin Tsuiihara

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Margaret Anne Kean\*

Verdugo Hills Hospital Foundation Emeritus Council

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Liz Argue

Jack Attwood

Nila Barkley

Donald Butler

Brock Dewey

Eiming Djang, MD

Judith Farrar

John Hansen

Darla Longo

Robert D. Lowrey, MD

Sally Pernecky

Marilyn Pieroni

William Schubert, MD

Ashok Sharma, MD

John Spence, MD

Patrick Wade, MD

E. Jane Woolley, MD

<sup>\*</sup> ex-officio member

<sup>\*</sup> non-voting member

The purpose of the Women's Council is to promote and advance the welfare of Verdugo Hills Hospital, its staff and patients through public relations and fundraising activities approved by the Foundation Board of Directors and the Women's Council.

Since founded in 1973, the Women's Council has raised over \$3 million, thanks to wonderful friends, neighbors and sponsors who support the Women's Council.

This year, the Women's Council is celebrating 36 years of dedicated service to Verdugo Hills Hospital. We thank you for your generous support and look forward to many more years together helping the hospital continue its mission of providing personalized and cost-effective medical care for the community we serve.



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