### Rady Children's Hospital Auxiliary Mission Statement

“To work in partnership with Rady Children’s Hospital-San Diego and to support its mission through: advocating for the health and well-being of children; increasing community awareness of Rady Children’s; and fundraising.”

### Recipe for Healthy Kids (and parents and grandparents)

Take one winter flu season and millions of flu viruses. Add a flu vaccination for:
- All kids six months to four years old
- Anyone 65 years and older
- Women who will be pregnant during the flu season
- Anyone with a weakened immunity system
- Residents of long-term care facilities
- Any child or adult with chronic medical conditions such as asthma
- Kids and teens who take aspirin regularly and are at risk for developing Reye’s Syndrome
- Health care personnel who have direct contact with patients
- Caregivers or household contacts of anyone in a high-risk group (e.g. children under the age of six months)
- Native Americans and Alaskan Natives

The Centers for Disease Control recommends a flu shot for everyone six months of age or older, but it is especially important for the high risk groups listed above. The flu vaccine does not cause the flu, and it keeps kids, parents and grandparents from getting sick. Getting the flu is worse than having a cold and can make a person sick for a week or more. If you haven’t already, **GET YOUR FLU SHOT TODAY!**
President’s Message

Cheryl Steinholt
Rady Children’s Hospital, Auxiliary President

It has often been said that the best part of being president of the Auxiliary is visiting our units throughout the year. By January, Penny and I will have visited all but six units! (It must be a record.) We’ll admit that we may have made a few wrong turns, but so far we haven’t been officially lost while traveling all around the county. Whether they meet in a home, at a clubhouse, a church or library, members have been warm and welcoming, and are truly the heart of our organization!

We had a record number of unit events during the fall months that fundraised for the NICU, Palliative Care, Healing Environment, Emergency Department, Critical Care, and Highest and Most Urgent Needs at Rady Children’s Hospital-San Diego. Thank you to our members who collectively gave hundreds of hours of their time planning, and thank you to those who attended these events and opened your hearts and pocketbooks to support children all over San Diego County.

Our Semi-Annual Meeting was a huge success! 260 members, guests and Rady Children’s Hospital Foundation team members were on hand at the San Diego Marriott Mission Valley to help us celebrate the start of a new year. For our Unit Roll Call, each unit prepared a cheer that helped set the tone for a positive and upbeat mood for our meeting. Rady Children’s Hospital-San Diego President Donald Kearns, M.D., took off on the cheer theme and had us all laughing. He has a fun sense of humor and lots of Southern charm! We also heard from Julie Cunningham, whose daughter Kate was diagnosed with a very rare disease, CAPS (Cryopyrin-associated auto-inflammatory syndrome.) Julie credits Dr. Hal Hoffman at Rady Children’s for discovering and naming this disease and using genome sequencing to find individualized treatment that saved her daughter’s life. Steve Jennings, Senior Vice President and Executive Director of Rady Children’s Hospital Foundation, thanked the Auxiliary for its partnership and over 65 million dollars raised over 61 years for Rady Children’s.

Congratulations to Angela Wachthmann for being honored with the Distinguished Service Award! Please read Harriet Bossenbroek’s article about Angela’s accomplishments and many important contributions to the Auxiliary, and about our other award honorees. Thank you to Jan McGowan for planning a wonderful meeting and exciting boutique!

2015 is looking to be very bright for the Auxiliary! We are excited for more unit fundraising events, educational meetings, the Mabel Jessop Endowment Financial Symposium, Jersey Mike’s Month of Giving and much more.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for giving so freely and making a positive impact in the community for the children of San Diego.

Cheryl Steinholt - Rady Children’s Hospital Auxiliary President

Note from the Editor

The Auxiliary year is truly in “full swing” with so many unit and Auxiliary activities that we have a very full Winter 2014-2015 issue of Chaux Talk. From Kids’ NewsDay to the Semi-Annual meeting, from Board meetings to Education Seminars and New Member Orientations, from unit fundraisers to the Shamu & You Walk — you’ll have a busy time just checking out all the news and photos. And don’t forget to review the calendar on page 10 for more meetings and events coming up this spring.

I would especially like to thank the Fuerte Hills Unit for providing us with two outstanding articles. The story of Brittany Wnek on page 13 is both sad and heartwarming and illustrates how much the missions of Rady Children’s Hospital and the Auxiliary affect families in the San Diego area. On a lighter note, we’ve “Chauxed One UP For...” on page 6 for a delightful group of elementary school students whose resourcefulness paid off on Kids’ NewsDay.

Finally, note that this issue’s “Recipe for Healthy Kids” (and the rest of us too) on page 1 is a reminder that it’s flu season. If you haven’t yet gotten your flu shot, get it today!

And along with all of our Chaux Talk contributors, I wish you all a very Happy New Year!

Ann Desmond, Chaux Talk Editor
2014-2015 Rady Children’s Hospital Board of Directors

President: Cheryl Steinhold
Immediate Past President: Harriet Bossenbroek
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Kids’ NewsDay: Mary Reynolds
Kids’ NewsDay: Susan Atkins
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Finance Committee: Twila Godley
Finance Committee: Ann Desmond
Finance Committee: Kathleen Caffo
Finance Committee: Heather Wolff
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Chaux Talk Editor: Linda Hervey

Auxiliary Staff

Director, Auxiliary Development, Sara Moten; Auxiliary Development Officers, Amy Durazo and Rebecca Robinson; Auxiliary Administrative Associate - Gladys Cardenas
We hope you were able to share the special day with us at the Semi-Annual Meeting on November 5th at the Mission Valley Marriott. We recognized and celebrated many outstanding volunteers and showed our appreciation with our traditional service awards. Thank you to our special speakers Julie Cunningham, Dr. Donald Kearns, and Steve Jennings. We enjoyed a delicious brunch with mimosas and shopped the many wonderful vendors at the Boutique. Many thanks to Amy Durazo, Sara Moten, Rebecca Robinson, and Gladys Cardenas for their support in making this meeting and event a great success! Thanks to our many vendors who donated 20% of their proceeds back to the Auxiliary. We look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting in June 2015!

Jan McGowan - Special Events Chair

Thank you to the following Semi-Annual Meeting Boutique Vendors for their support:

- **Amici Table Top**
  - Mary Krut: Handcrafted, imported serving pieces and accessories

- **California Canine**
  - Suzie Eickhorn: Apparel and gifts for people and canines

- **Chic Mommy**
  - Khara Serrato: Boutique candles, diffusers and gifts

- **Connee J Designs**
  - Connee Johnson: Handcrafted artisan jewelry

- **Dahlia Traveling Boutique**
  - Dahlia Strong: Fashion-forward, trendy women’s clothing

- **Fil Fou**
  - Anne De Meyer: Fabulous outerwear and handcrafted leather goods

- **Glamour Girls Boutique**
  - Peggy Harris: Ladies' unique fashion and accessories

- **Jewelry by Susan Young**
  - Susan Young: Sterling silver, vermeil, copper, brass and semiprecious

- **Luci Dumas Fine Photography**
  - Luci Dumas: Custom Portraits

- **M. Boutique**
  - Michelle Horner: Unique clothing and accessories

- **Mary Kay**
  - Julie Hetherington: Makeup and skincare

- **Nexium International**
  - Marta Philips: Skincare products

- **Origami Owl**
  - Edith Smith: Origami owl living lockets

- **Rideout Bistro Oils**
  - Mary Rideout: Olive oil and balsamic vinegars featuring Big Sur Gourmet

- **Sasha and Me**
  - Michelle Woods: Affordable, fashion-forward clothing

- **Scentsy**
  - Kel-Ann Featherston: Scentsy wax and warmers

- **Silpada Design Jewelry**
  - Mary Engelhardt: 925 sterling silver jewelry

- **SoCal Jewelry**
  - Laura Stearn: Unique handmade jewelry

- **Women’s Rolling Boutique**
  - Nancy Alvarez: Contemporary, feminine fashion and accessories
And the Honorees Are...

Each year the Auxiliary has the privilege of recognizing outstanding service by fellow Auxilians, hospital staff and partners in our community. This year was especially difficult because we had so many worthy nominees. After some tough decision making, the committee presented several awards at the Semi-Annual Meeting. And the honorees are...

The **Distinguished Service Award** is the highest award given by the Auxiliary. It is given in recognition of outstanding service and accomplishments as well as continued support of Rady Children’s above and beyond the unit level. This year’s recipient, **Angela Wachtmann**, exemplifies the spirit and criteria of this award. A true leader, she served on the Board of Directors in several capacities. Beginning her first term in 1998, she served as Fantasy of Trees Chair, then Ways and Means Vice President, and ended as Center Activities Director. Returning in 2005, she held a variety of jobs, culminating in the presidency. She can be defined by being innovative in her approach to every job. For example she worked on restructuring the Board, initiated the Past President’s Council, and introduced the two-year presidency.

A member of the Fuerte Hills Unit for over 20 years, Angela has held almost every position at the unit level including chairing or co-chairing Sweet Charity at least six times. A defining characteristic is Angela’s ability to share her knowledge and creativity. After nurturing a contact with Chaparral High School Floral Class, she brought their floral projects to the Auxiliary, providing us with beautiful centerpieces and the students with an opportunity to volunteer. But it didn’t stop there. Through her contacts, she helped create the Alpine Unit and became the unit’s mentor. She now holds membership with active roles in both units! In addition, she has volunteered for other units’ events to assist with a check-out process that she fine-tuned with Fuerte Hills.

Angela has never sought accolades for her work. She quietly volunteers to take on jobs and puts her whole heart into them. A loving mother and grandmother as well as a full time delivery nurse, Angela has been named Nurse of the Year at Mercy Hospital. As a volunteer with Mercy Outreach Surgical Physicians, Angela has gone to Mexico twice this year to assist with health needs. We take pride in the achievements that Angela has accomplished both for the Auxiliary and the community.

The **Very Important Person Award** is presented to a member of the Rady Children’s Hospital staff who demonstrates outstanding support and friendship to the Auxiliary. Many Auxiliary presidents have had the pleasure of working with this very special person and all have appreciated her dedication to her job. As the Donor Services Officer for the Foundation, **Gyl Bradley** processes all of the Honoring, Remembering and Celebration donations. She makes sure that every card is special, the donor is thanked, and all is done with a personal and caring touch. Gyl also catches all of the Auxiliary donations and grants that come directly to Rady Children’s Foundation and ensures that they are credited to the Auxiliary. In addition, on Kids’ NewsDay, Gyl sells newspapers in her neighborhood and challenges herself to outsell the previous year!

The **Honorary Membership Award** is given to a member or members of our community who have given outstanding service to Rady Children’s Hospital and have demonstrated continued support and friendship to the Auxiliary. This year we presented three dedicated volunteers with this award.

What would Breakfast with Santa be without Santa! The Tierrasanta Unit has been blessed with a Santa who has delighted the children, charmed the parents, and provided genial conversation to all. His genuine warmth and interest in every child has helped create a lifetime of memories for families year after year. Many of these children have attended Breakfast with Santa for successive years, often bringing younger siblings to meet the Santa they have come to know and love. For eight years—soon to be nine—there is never a need to convince **David Akers** to participate in this event. Rather, he always makes it a priority during the busy holiday season. Santa has met the challenge of both rain and extreme heat, but so far—no snow!

Our next Honorary Member is a face well-known to all! **Whitney Southwick** has spent years promoting the Auxiliary and the hospital as an on-air talent at NBC 7. But Whitney doesn’t just give lip service to Auxiliary events, especially Kids’ NewsDay (KND). He truly believes that our organization is worthy of his enthusiastic endorsement. Whitney has been involved in KND for the last 16 years. Not only does he spend the entire morning hawking papers, first on the air, then on the street when the cameras are off. He is the face of KND in the community, and his wearing the yellow apron all morning gives the community an idea of who those ladies are in front of the Starbucks stores. For the last two years, Whitney has awarded the winners of the KND essay contest their iPad Mini prizes. He spends time with the winners finding out who they are and making them feel truly special for winning the contest. He then puts their pictures on air, giving the contest validity in the community.
And the Honorees Are...(continued)

Nineteen years ago, King Deutsch, our final recipient, was asked to help the La Playa Unit with the display set-up and signage for the Celebration of Champions event. That year King worked endless hours, day and night, to get the sponsors’ logos just right. He made sure everything was done to perfection. As an employee of Powerhouse Exhibits, King was the go-to person for ten years, helping beyond the call of duty. When Powerhouse went out of business, and King retired from day-to-day business, he did not retire from the Celebration. Celebration of Champions is now in its 20th year, and ever since that first year, King has given countless hours ensuring that the site looks professional and well done. He is the first one on-site and the last one to leave! He has been fully invested in the cause to make this event a special day for the kids undergoing cancer treatment and their families. He has one of the biggest hearts for our kids and his time spent on this event is the epitome of the term “labor of love.”

Harriet Bossenbroek - Immediate Past President

Chaux One UP For...

Fuerte Hills Unit “Chaux One UP For”
Blossom Valley Elementary

Blossom Valley Elementary School Rebounds Nicely on Kids’ NewsDay

On Tuesday, October 21st, members of the Student Council at Blossom Valley Elementary School in El Cajon gathered early for an annual tradition. For the past eight years the school had proudly participated in Kids’ NewsDay, and this year was going to be no exception. Except, it was. By 7:10 a.m. the 250 newspapers that had been requested for delivery had not arrived. By 7:20 a.m. there were no papers in sight. By 7:35 a.m. students and parents began arriving, dollars in hand, eagerly awaiting their special edition of the U-T. Teachers and Student Council members quickly realized that a “Plan B” was needed. Without hesitation, the Student Council members began collecting donations, explaining that the papers were indeed tardy, but that they would be delivered later that day, and the money was still going to a wonderful cause. Parents and students gave graciously and said they didn’t mind if they did not receive the paper at all. Without handing out a single newspaper, the students managed to collect over $100 in donations!

Later that morning the papers finally arrived. With special permission from their teachers, the Student Council members were dismissed ten minutes early so they could deliver as many papers as possible to those parents who had donated earlier in the day. In the process, they also collected an additional $50 in donations!

The 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students who comprise Blossom Valley’s Student Council chose to persevere when they could have just given up. We believe a little extra recognition for their efforts is well deserved.

Cyndi Bramwell - Fuerte Hills Unit
Our 25th Annual Kids’ News Day was a great success with more involvement, more money raised, and more community awareness for Rady Children’s Hospital and the Auxiliary.

Our three essay winners and their teachers were surprised by Whitney Southwick, who stopped by all three schools to hand out the teachers’ iPad Mini prizes, and then invited the students to receive their iPad Minis on air at NBC 7 on the morning of Kids’ NewsDay. Thanks to San Diego County Credit Union for sponsoring the essay contest this year, and for being our major Kids’ NewsDay sponsor. Our other sponsors included Walmart, Ralphs, Quick Dry Flood Services, Food 4 Less, RCP Block & Brick, and Chins. Please support our sponsors so they will continue to be involved with the Auxiliary.

To help move 58,000 newspapers around the county, Priority Moving loaned us four trucks along with a driver who took large loads of KND papers to mini Distribution Centers (DCs). They were assisted by ten West Coast Escrow staff, who moved smaller numbers of papers from the mini DCs to independent locations. It was an amazing feat!

The Starbucks coupon was doubled to $2, as was the price of the paper. Thanks to Starbucks for helping us put up posters and other materials. And did you notice the Coldwell Banker agents selling in some of the Starbucks locations the Auxiliary couldn’t cover? Our anonymous donor showed up again with another rare coin worth $1,300. San Diego Coin and Bullion once again matched the donation. City and County Fire and Police were on the streets raising record amounts this year, as were the Chargers’ Girls and the Padres’ Friar & Pad Squad. Our Day to Donate theme was well received. And of course we can’t let this note go by without thanking the U-T San Diego and NBC 7 for their advanced PR, and their hard work on the day of Kids’ NewsDay. A big “thank you” to Traci Hong at the U-T, and Charisma DeBerry and Whitney Southwick at NBC 7.

Rebecca Robinson at the Foundation was an integral part of our team. We would be lost without her and, of course, Sara Moten who gave us undivided support. But it’s the Auxilians that we most want to thank. Your organization and enthusiasm can’t be beat. You were out there in your yellow aprons yelling yourselves hoarse, fulfilling our Auxiliary mandate to raise money and to advocate for Rady Children’s Hospital. Pat yourselves on the back! We did it again.

Look for notices on how to become more involved next year. We need to make this the best event in town. What other organization has this opportunity? As a group we need to take this event and make it the grandest it can possibly be! Rebecca, Susan and Mary are off to Relaxx Dry Cleaning to drop off all of the yellow aprons that Relaxx so thankfully cleans as a donation.

Thanks to all... 

Mary Reynolds and Susan Atkins - Kids’ NewsDay Co-Chairs
**Education Corner**

Our Education Seminars are off to a great start this year. We have already had three seminars and fantastic attendance at all of them. In September we heard from Dr. Lamberti, who shared with us more about the Rady Children’s heart transplant program and that there are currently two children waiting for new hearts. The Auxiliary helped to raise the seed money for this program, which will ensure that families will not have to relocate for months on end to have their children cared for.

In October Dr. Carvalho spoke to us about cochlear implants. She was a dynamic speaker and I think everyone in the room learned something new that day. And in November we watched a DVD about immunizations filmed by the award winning Carlsbad High School Broadcast Journalism Program. We enjoyed popcorn and heard a presentation about the Center for Healthier Communities. There was no meeting in December, but we will hit the ground running in January.

At the end of October Education Committee members were part of the Auxiliary booth at the Shamu & You Walk. I spent the day at the Advocacy Wheel where we had a long line all morning. I was impressed by the kids of all ages who had to answer questions about bike safety, healthy eating, fitness and exercise, and immune system health. It was a fantastic day and wonderful turnout to support Rady Children’s.

I hope everyone is enjoying the Education Seminar topics and I am working on several interesting speakers for next spring. Please feel free to join your Education representative at any of the seminars, which will be held on the first Thursday of January, February, April and May 2015.

I wish you all a wonderful holiday season full of family, friends and good health.

**Laura Stearn** - Education and Advocacy Vice President

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**Unit Council Corner**

President Cheryl Steinholt and I have had a busy fall visiting the units and meeting the many dedicated women and men (Young Professionals Unit) working together to benefit the children of Rady Children’s Hospital.

I was delighted to attend the Southeast Cluster Unit’s Jazz & Jeans event, Del Cerro Unit’s Fall Fantasy, Bonita Unit’s Wrapped in Love, Coronado’s Turkey Trot, Alpine Unit’s Cornucopia Event and North County’s Whimsical Wonderland. Unfortunately, I missed Tierrasanta’s Breakfast with Santa. All the units did a fantastic job fulfilling their designation of funds commitments.

These events illustrate teamwork, planning, imagination, creativity, tireless efforts and satisfaction for a job well done. Congratulations to all of you.

I want to wish each of you and your families a Happy and Healthy Holiday and New Year.

**Penny Rich** - Unit Council Vice President
Membership Corner

Welcome New Members

At the end of October over forty new Auxiliary members from 14 different units attended one of two New Member Orientation meetings held at the hospital. Auxiliary President Cheryl Steinholt welcomed the group. Sara Moten, Auxiliary Development Director, and Carol Damon-Scherer, Foundation Vice President of Development, gave updates on new and exciting programs at Rady Children’s Hospital. La Playa Unit members and Fantasy on Ice Chairs Heather Wolff and Kathleen Caffo explained to the group that they had joined the Auxiliary after their young children had been patients at the hospital.

The new members learned about the Auxiliary structure, volunteer opportunities, and how funds the Auxiliary raises are distributed. Amy Durazo, Auxiliary Development Officer, and Sara Moten, Director of Auxiliary Development, conducted tours of the hospital.

Jeanie Scott - Membership VP

Calendar

January

7 – Auxiliary Board Meeting
9:00 a.m.
Plaza Suite 201

8 – Auxiliary Education Meeting
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Medical Office Building 113

14 – Auxiliary Unit Council Meeting
9:00 a.m.
Plaza Suite 201

28 – Auxiliary Executive Committee Meeting
9:00 a.m.
Plaza Suite 201

31 – Rancho Santa Fe Unit’s “Circus Nights Gala”
6:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.
The Grand Del Mar

31 – 106th Annual Charity Ball
6:30 p.m.
The Hotel del Coronado

February

4 – Auxiliary Board Meeting
9:00 a.m.
Plaza Suite 201

5 – Auxiliary Education Meeting
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Medical Office Building 113

7 – Presidio Unit’s “Luncheon and Fashion Show”
Coronado Golf Course Clubhouse

11 – Auxiliary Unit Council Meeting
9:00 a.m.
Plaza Suite 201

25 – Mabel Jessop Women’s Financial Symposium
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
La Jolla Estancia Hotel & Spa

March

20 – North Coast Unit’s “Date Night for a Cause”
5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Belly Up Tavern

24 – Jersey Mike’s “Day of Giving”
All day
San Diego County Jersey Mike’s locations

28 – Del Mar Unit’s “Heard It Through the Grapevine”
6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
Del Mar Country Club

April

2 – Auxiliary Education Meeting
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Medical Office Building 113

22 – Fuerte Hills Unit’s “Sweet Charity Luncheon”
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Sycuan Golf Course
Bonita

In the month of September the Bonita Unit hosted a Wine Auction. We had 85 wonderful guests bidding on all types of wines. Rick Bonnoront, our local wine expert, educated us on wine pairings and different types of wines. Thank you committee chairs Dana, Lisa, Pam, Teri, Rose and Wendy.

The Bonita Unit had an impressive turnout for Kids’ NewsDay. We rounded up kids at schools, friends, and unit members to help sell newspapers and spread awareness of Rady Children’s Hospital throughout our community. Thank you committee chairs Tracy, Sharon and Rosa and all the others who helped make this a successful event.

Our unit is excited to say that we hosted another very successful 26th Annual Luncheon/Auction by the Bay. The luncheon was held November 15, 2014, at the beautiful Loews Coronado Bay Resort. There were many beautiful baskets in our silent auction and several awesome trips in our live auction. Thank you committee chairs Allyson, Georgine, and Marilyn. And thank you to all the members who worked tirelessly to make such a memorable event.

To end our 2014 Auxiliary unit year we had our Annual Holiday Brunch on December 13, 2014, at the San Diego Country Club. Our committee members put on a mini silent auction with donations of baked goodies, homemade holiday crafts and other fun items to bid on. The brunch brought lots of holiday cheer. Thank you committee chairs Lisa, Rose and Wendy.

Best wishes for a happy, healthy holiday season as we continue to work together to benefit the children at Rady Children’s Hospital.

Dana Hartman

Carmel Valley

The Carmel Valley Unit is delighted to announce that we welcomed several new members to our group. Laura Lopatin, Debbie Morrell-Cady, Lori Parks, Marge Sunder, Charlene Walker, Frances Pascual, and Charlotte Flowerree are our newest members. Our first meeting of the year and welcome brunch was held at the lovely home of longtime member Dyana Brown.

The biggest news we have to report is that we have begun planning our 10th, and final, Sounds of Hope for Children concert. We have had great success with our signature concert event and we are very excited to build on that foundation. We have always tried, and succeeded, to keep the event fresh and fun for all. Our final concert will be very special and will take place in the springtime. Lynne Carlson and Edith Smith are our Ways and Means Co-Chairs and will bring their considerable experience and expertise to creating another memorable Sounds of Hope event. We will announce all the exciting details in Chaux Talk, as they become available.

Plans are also underway for our annual holiday party. Social Chair Debbie Morrell-Cady is hard at work organizing our seasonal soiree. It is sure to be a fun night for our members, their spouses and friends.

Jeanne Decker

Dana

Our traditional welcome back dinner meeting had to be rescheduled to October and it was a rousing success. Members enjoyed getting together so much that they voted to have each meeting be a dinner meeting. We enjoyed samples from Nothing Bundt Cakes for dessert and we appreciate their offer to help individual units. Food and wine hostesses immediately signed up for the November meeting with Barbara Tourtellott. Barbara is a Dana Unit member and owner of Fit to Work, an injury prevention and disability management company. She shared tips on how we can place and use our laptops and tablets in ergonomically correct ways. She also discussed placement of televisions on walls with regard to neck comfort.

Dana Unit member Maureen Summers was named Best Lawyer of the Year in Mediation by Best Lawyers, the oldest legal peer-review organization in the United States. Jerilyn Jones, a long time Dana Unit member and attorney, is also frequently honored by local attorneys for her professional abilities. We are proud of their accomplishments and honored to have them as active members of our unit.

Almost all of the committee positions for the 2015 Garden Walk have been filled and the house hunters have already signed up seven homes/gardens in the Loma Portal area for the April 25, 2015, event. The Garden Boutique and Dana Diamond Tour locations have also been selected. This is the earliest we have had this many plans in place and we are enthusiastic for another successful fundraiser.

Pam Caldwell

Jeanne Decker
Del Cerro

The Del Cerro Unit recently hosted its Fall Fantasy and what a tremendous event it was! The following day, several emails were circulating praising all of those who came together to actualize such a monumental production. I thought it was important also to recognize a very crucial component of our Auxiliary organization, the friendships that provide the foundation for why we all do what we do for the children—wouldn’t you agree?

I found this quote by Anais Nin: “Each friend represents a world in us, a world possibly not born until they arrive, and it is only by this meeting that a new world is born,” and it occurred to me that it perfectly described not only our unit, but every other unit as well! Each and every one of us has made an imprint through incredibly hard work, dedication, perseverance, commitment and last but not least, a tremendous amount of shear heart and soul. It’s those friendships; formed in good times and bad, grieving and joy, loss and renewal, that prompt us into action. I am confident that we all take our charge very seriously in devoting our energies to the valuable cause of raising money for Rady Children’s Hospital-San Diego.

Before we know it, the holidays will be upon us. One of our favorite traditions in the Del Cerro Unit is getting together for a potluck lunch in December. You can’t even imagine the spread of delicious food! Conversation is lively, interest is piqued, the year’s work is reviewed and, with 2015 on the horizon, we look to the future with anticipation. Let’s do take a moment to acknowledge, “The kids come first.”

With all that being said, I am so very grateful to be a part of the intriguing, lovable, and adherent group of individuals in this Unit. We continue to be Women of Spirit, Substance and Style…. and that, my friends, is certainly something we can all celebrate!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Kim Emerson

Del Mar

“A dollar for Rady Children’s Hospital” was the cry for support on Kids’ NewsDay. Del Mar Unit members, friends and family sold the U-T newspaper at schools, on street corners and in Starbucks. We are so proud of KND Chairs Mary Reynolds and Susan Atkins, making the 25th Anniversary of KND such a success and raising the bar to over $104,000 and still counting!

Walking a mile to make a difference, Auxiliary members were all smiles at the Shamu & You Walk, knowing that we were helping children we may never meet, but whose lives will be forever changed. Thanks to Skye, our pearl and newlywed, who organized us for the Shamu Walk.

We always go where the shopping is, and members carpooled to Shop Under the Stars at the Carlsbad Premium Stores to get a jumpstart to the holidays. We’re all looking forward to the opening of Fantasy on Ice at Horton Square, thanks to Michele Devine, our FOI rep, aka Wine sommelier for the Wine and Food Taste.

Speaking of WINE—clink, clink—we’re gearing up for Heard It Through the Grapevine scheduled for March 28, 2015, at a new venue, the famous Del Mar Country Club. For more information log on at www.rchadelmar.org or for ticket sales contact Susan Atkins at sjatkins@aol.com. Cheers!

Hope you all have a safe and happy holiday season surrounded by friends and family.

Annette Fargo
UNIT NEWS

Fuerte Hills

In Honor & Remembrance

Brittany Wnek
(1995-2014)

The Fuerte Hills Unit met 17 year-old Brittany Wnek as part of our annual Sweet Charity fundraiser in April 2014.

Brittany was a featured speaker at the luncheon portion of the benefit where we raised funds for the Integrative Medicine Program at the Peckham Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders. I remember seeing the soon-to-be high school graduate on the podium speaking with tremendous passion to the 270 attendees. Brittany shared with us her extensive medical journey, her dreams for the future, and her abundant thankfulness for the Rady Children’s Hospital medical teams of doctors, nurses and staff, her loving family and large community of friends. She took my breath away. I wondered how many of us in the audience would be nearly as composed and inspiring under similar circumstances.

When she was 12, Brittany received a diagnosis of a rare form of cancer. While her friends were having sleepovers and enjoying school, her world was turned upside down. She battled through six years of extensive treatments, countless surgeries near her brain, infections, chemotherapy, radiation, transfusions, and many long hospital stays. While her journey was full of great pain and suffering, there were also many victories along the way. Brittany always had hope and she embraced life.

Brittany attended Christian High School where she was a diligent student and played on the volleyball and basketball teams when she could physically participate. She was even part of the Homecoming Court. She persevered with great courage, determination and with strength that came through her faith. Brittany graduated with her high school class in May 2014, one month after speaking at Sweet Charity.

Inspired by the staff at Rady Children’s Hospital, Brittany planned to help others through her profession. In her speech, she said “The love they [doctors and nurses at Rady Children’s] have shown me is so unconditional, that I cannot even put it into words. Because of everything that I have gone through, I have wanted to do what all of the Rady’s staff has done for me, and that is I want to help other people. I plan on going to school to get my nursing degree; I either want to go into pediatric surgical nursing or Hematology Oncology nursing.”

Brittany was admitted to Rady Children’s Hospital twice this summer to combat further infections that took her life on Sunday, August 24, 2014. Brittany will always be remembered for her unwavering faith, tenacious spirit, and a relentless determination to embrace life, family and friends. Her family is honoring Brittany’s dreams through the Brittany Wnek Memorial Scholarship, which supports a Christian High School student pursuing a career in health care. Contributions can be made to: Christian Unified Schools, Attn: Brittany Wnek Memorial Scholarship. 2100 Greenfield Drive, El Cajon, CA 92019.

Brittany will always be remembered by the Fuerte Hills Unit, by all the participants at the Sweet Charity event and through the many children who will benefit by the funds we raised through her inspiration. Brittany’s legacy and dream of helping others will live on in all of us.

Sandra Holloway
Inland Empire

September: Hit the ground running with our first meeting as we dusted off our thinking hats, welcomed a new member, and officially began our 2014-2015 year.

October: Success was had on the 16th, at our in-unit shopping event, which was held at Chico’s at The Promenade in Temecula. I cannot thank everyone enough for their support, especially the other units that were able to join us. We attended, and much was learned at the New Member Orientation, and our October meeting brought us yet another new member…Hurray!

November: Brought much excitement as our very busy elves prepared for our holiday season and all the wonderful joy that being a part of the Auxiliary brings to each one of us.

By the time this goes to print: Magic, joy, and wonderful blessed memories were made by all as we decorated the NICU and Specialty Offices at Rancho Springs Medical Center, our children and grandchildren rode in Santa’s Electrical Light Parade in Old Town Temecula, we joined other units in helping to support their out-unit events, and with the help of our very supportive other halves, shared great food, merriment, wonderful friendships and lots of laughter at our celebration New Year Party.

Hoping much joy and many beautiful memories are had during the holiday season, and only blessings and laughter will be had in the coming year. Here’s to 2015…may it only be bigger and better.

Allie Hamlin

La Playa

The La Playa Unit is off to a roaring start with 11 new unit members voted in at our October meeting and welcomed at a New Member Tea in November. Many of these ladies have already worked with us at Celebration of Champions in the past and we are thrilled to have now made them official members of the La Playa Unit. We look forward to involving them in all of our unit activities and friendships.

We began the year with our annual potluck salad bar, which was held at Nancy Peckham’s lovely home on San Diego Bay. The friendship, laughter, delectable salad bar, and beautiful scenery made for a great kick-off to a new year. Next spring we will showcase our 20th Celebration of Champions event on May 16, 2015, at the Embarcadero. We are already busy planning a memorable and fantastic event to commemorate 20 years of this special event that raises funds for the Rady Children’s Hospital Peckham Center. Our members have also been actively engaged with Kids’ NewsDay, Fantasy on Ice, collecting clothing for patients at the Bernardy Center and toiletries for hospital visitors, and we have little elves busy writing Santa letters.

We are looking forward to another wonderful holiday celebration and social event at the home of John and Carol Landis in December. We wish all our fellow units Happy Holidays and a very Happy New Year!

June Olcott

All images are not described here but can be seen in the document.
Mountain View

Our first meeting in September was all about planning for the upcoming events in 2014-15. We organized for Kids’ NewsDay, signed up for the Shamu & You Family Walk and made an auction basket for a fundraiser event, Shop Under the Stars. Our members delivered newspapers throughout East County on Kids’ NewsDay. Many of our members joined in the Shamu & You Family Walk. It was a beautiful day to walk and enjoy Sea World!

Our fundraiser on November 3, 2014, was an event where we shopped, ate, and raised money for Rady Children’s Hospital. All proceeds, including 100% of the ticket sales, benefited the hospital. Shop Under the Stars was held at the Carlsbad Premium Outlets. What a great night! We all shopped ‘til we dropped!

Another event we support is Fantasy on Ice. The unit participated in the ticket sales and will support the event throughout the holidays.

Mountain View Unit is looking forward to increasing its membership, and to supporting the Brown Bags and Clothes Closet for the families of Rady Children’s. We are looking for inspirational and new ideas for our major fundraiser, Boot Scootin’ Bunco held in the spring!

Happy Holidays to all & best wishes for a healthy and happy 2015!

Brenda Clark

North Coast

The North Coast Unit had a blast at Kids’ NewsDay, including our youngest participant yet and her slightly older friend -- good thing you don’t need to be able to read to sell newspapers!

This fall we not only gained several new unit members, but also added a junior Auxiliary group for junior high and high school students. Under the direction of Betsy Eddy they have been helping us by putting together Brown Bags and Clothes Closet items, and are planning to support Celebration of Champions and other events in the spring.

Speaking of events, be sure to mark your calendar for Friday, March 20th, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. for this year’s Date Night for a Cause at the Belly Up. We will have lots of great auction items, food, music, and other fun activities, all to benefit the Autism Discovery Institute. You can find all the details and purchase tickets for $65 at www.radysncu.com.

December is off to a great start -- it began with decorating Carley’s Garden and continued with a fabulous holiday party hosted by Eva Schiess, our fantastic social chair. What a wonderful way to wrap up the year!

Hope everyone has a healthy and happy 2015!

Coleen Young
UNIT NEWS

North County

The North County Unit was well represented at the Semi-Annual Meeting in November, and our new members took part in the New Member Orientation meetings in October. It is wonderful to see our unit grow and to welcome new talents and ideas to the group. This has been a very good year.

Our unit went into high gear in the fall, working toward the goal of producing our best ever Holiday Luncheon on December 6th. Our bakers, craft groups, and planners were on the job for months organizing this fun-filled event. Our dazzling Boutique featuring decorative pieces, gift items, and “Epicurean Delights,” was a feast for both the eyes and the taste buds. And then a festive and delicious luncheon was served. As always, it was a wonderful chance to meet and mingle with Auxiliary members from other units and an enjoyable way to lead into the Holiday Season. We hope you had a chance to attend our Whimsical Wonderland.

Now we look forward to working together as a unit in the New Year and doing all we can to support and benefit Rady Children’s Hospital in 2015.

From the North County Unit we send each of you our best wishes for a wonderful Holiday Season and a Happy New Year!

Nancy Baldry

Presidio

The Presidio Unit has been busy making plans for our major fundraiser this year. Mark your calendars for February 7, 2015, so you can be the lucky ones to attend our Luncheon and Fashion Show at the Coronado Golf Course. Last year we had a sold-out crowd and hope to do the same this year. Chico’s will once again be providing the clothing and jewelry, and there will be many chances to win prizes with opportunity drawings. Watch for more information.

On Kids’ NewsDay many of our members were seen around the community selling their papers and acting as advocates for Rady Children’s Hospital. Thanks to Diana Hilton for an excellent job of coordinating our participation.

It was so much fun at C-Level last year, watching the Parade of Lights on Mission Bay, we decided to do it again this year as our in-unit fundraiser. Hats, gloves and scarves will keep us nice and warm while we enjoy a wonderful dinner and the company of friends.

Despite all the work going on we still find opportunities to travel and have fun. Fall adventures have included cruises through the Mediterranean and Germany, road trips in Canada with three giggling cousins, Hawaii, taking grandchildren to New York and more.

With the holiday season upon us, we once again realize how precious family and friends are to us and to Rady Children’s Hospital. Many “thanks” to all who support and do so much for us.

Happy Holidays!

Claire Dale

Poway

The Presidio Unit members, left to right: Joyce Knott, Diana Hilton, Susan Flynn, Ursula Siesel, Phyllis Horst, Linda Rains, Lynne Smith, Linda Gillett, Helena Sturgill, Claire Dale, Margaret Bartlett, Carol Williams, Sallie Height

Phyllis Horst and Susan Flynn

Presidio Unit members enjoying an afternoon together.
Left to right: Carol Williams, Sallie Height, Claire Dale, Lynn Smith, Linda Gillett, Margaret Bartlett, Linda Rains, Susan Flynn
Rancho Bernardo

The Rancho Bernardo Unit members outdid themselves for Kids’ NewsDay. Tammy Young reported that early numbers indicated our unit outsold last year’s totals! After receiving such good news we launched into our annual Poinsettia fundraiser.

We want to thank everyone who helped make our Poinsettia fundraiser a great success! The poinsettia plants were beautiful this year with many gorgeous blooms per plant. Thanks to Tammy Young for chairing this very successful fundraiser. And many thanks to our RB members for giving their time to make this fundraiser fun and exciting.

Lynn Cassidy arranged for a fun-filled wine tasting at a local winery. We enjoyed sampling the different wines while taking in the breathtaking views.

We want to welcome our new members to the Rancho Bernardo Unit. They are Rosemary Pohl, Leyla Badeanio, Jacqueline Calac, Carla Collignon, Jamie Neppl, Marcie Sands and Mary Hustwick.

Nancy Kempf

Rancho Santa Fe

The Rancho Santa Fe Unit will hold its Circus Nights Gala on Saturday, January 31, 2015, at the Grand Del Mar. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Sam S. and Rose Stein Emergency Care Center in support of its Resuscitation Room Project. The Center is the only emergency care center in the region dedicated to caring for kids and the only one in San Diego County designated as a Level 1 pediatric trauma center. Each year there are approximately 70,000 emergency care visits. Services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Circus Nights will feature a cirque-style show extravaganza headlined by the internationally acclaimed troupe “iL CIRCo” who will present for “Viaggio” (The journey). Inspired by the classical Italian theatrics of the Commedia dell’Arte, Viaggio fuses modern-day acrobatics with the popular French-Canadian circus arts into a rich tapestry of song, dance, comedy, fantasy and awe-inspiring superhuman acts of strength, grace and agility. Luminous stage sets create a world where no color is too vivid and no dream is left unexplored. The result is a brilliantly choreographed journey.

In addition to the private cirque-style show, the gala will feature live, mini-live and silent auctions. Dinner will be followed by a Happily Ever After Party for dancing, late night snacks and dessert.

Please go to www.rcha-rsf.org to purchase tickets to the Circus Nights Gala, or for information about VIP tables, sponsorships, underwriting, and donations. Those interested in reserving a select VIP table, please contact Sandra den Uijl (sdenuijl@cox.net) or Greta Sybert (g.sybert@gmail.com).

Alyssa Enwright
The Scripps Ranch Unit is back in full gear since our first meeting of the new Auxiliary year on Monday September 9, 2014. We are extremely proud that our very own Cheryl Steinholt is the new President of the Auxiliary, responsible for 21 units. In the past decade Cheryl has assumed multiple positions within our unit including unit chair and leadership of ways and means, social events and publicity. Nothing seems to tire Cheryl as she has taken the reins of the Auxiliary with an abundance of energy and new ideas.

In October, our members gathered for a Happy Hour social at Yanni’s Bar & Grill. In addition to appetizers and beverages, we enjoyed a trivia game to learn new things about one another. This was the first of several social events planned for the coming year. We also planned an early December Holiday Party, a Valentine’s Day themed dinner at Yanni’s, and an evening at Paint-N-Vineyard.

We had a very successful Kids’ NewsDay within the Scripps Ranch area. We thank the Old Pros who have volunteered in our community on Kids’ NewsDay for over twenty years. Planning has just begun for a spring fundraiser. One idea we are working on is a Brewery Bus Tour event. More details will follow as our Ways and Means Chairs Karin Whiteley, Janet Mebane, Raelee Pacheco and Elizabeth McKinnis flesh out their plans for this event.

Kami Evora
Southeast Cluster

In August we hosted our annual retreat. The room was filled with high-energy and great ideas. We are pleased with the ideas that came out of the process . . . and we are very excited about moving ahead in 2015.

October was our annual Jazz & Jeans event. Held on the Berkeley ferryboat, Jazz & Jeans was a fundraiser for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. When asked to give a few thoughts about the event, SECU member Loretta Allen captured the afternoon poetically, “A lazy hot day, hot jazz, cool fundraising event . . .” We danced to the sounds of the band S4 Jazz I R & B and our expert line-dancer Ardell Matthews noted that she enjoyed the music and the great food. Everyone agrees that Geraldine Williams and her committee coordinated a wonderful fun event again this year. If you didn’t make it this year, we know our next event will be equally as much fun.

Warmest thoughts and best wishes for a wonderful holiday and a very Happy New Year!

Carolyn Smith

Guest speaker Laura Lavoie and her son Luke

Guests raising their paddles

Southeast Cluster Unit members

Stage 4 Entertainment

MC Mark Christopher Lawrence and SECU Chair Deborah Huggins

Guests dancing @ Jazz & Jeans
Tierrasanta

The picture at right combines one past and one future fundraising activity: Kids’ NewsDay and the new Rady Children’s Hospital Auxiliary license plate frame. Cost of the frame is $15; order ASAP from Stella Weil, (858)694-0570 or 4weils@sbcglobal.net.

According to Maria Polifka, co-chair of the Tierrasanta unit’s Kids’ NewsDay fundraiser, “The participation of the schools and community was impressive.” It certainly was—we raised more than last year’s unit record.

Our unit had lots of fun sponsoring a booth at the Tierrasanta Oktoberfest. We provided a game that focused on child safety around dogs and dog bite information. We received lots of good information from the emergency room nurses at Rady Children’s Hospital. Most bites are from family pets, and it is important that children understand that most dogs do not like to be hugged or kissed. Thanks to Lynn Robinson and Chris Evans for a job well done.

We are so proud that the man who has dressed as Santa every year for Breakfast with Santa was recognized at the Semi-Annual meeting. Congratulations to David Akers for receiving this well-deserved Honorary Membership Award.

Pam Hanig
UNIT EVENTS

Save the Date!
for the Del Mar Unit of
Rady Children’s Hospital Auxiliary
54th Annual Wine & Food Taste
“HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE”
Saturday Evening ~ March 28th, 2015
at The Del Mar Country Club

Proceeds to benefit Rady Children’s Hospital ~ San Diego ~ Heart Institute

The North Coast Unit of Rady Children’s Hospital Auxiliary Presents:

DATE NIGHT
for a
Cause
MARCH 20, 2015
5-8PM
featuring Atomic Groove
@ The Belly Up Tavern
143 S. Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, CA 92075

Tickets are $65 online at www.radysncu.com
or $75 at the door

Proceeds to benefit the Autism Discovery Institute
Save the date

SWEET CHARITY

HOSTED BY THE FUERTE HILLS UNIT OF RACY CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

BRIDGE, BUNCO, LUNCHEON

WEDNESDAY APRIL 22, 2015

INVITATION TO FOLLOW

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE GENOMICS DEPARTMENT

WANTED

Awareness of the Honoring, Remembrance and Celebration Fund

One of my goals this year is to increase the income generated by Tribute Gifts. The Honoring, Remembrance and Celebration Fund provides a wonderful way to pay tribute to the lives and accomplishments of loved ones, friends, neighbors, teachers, co-workers, employees, etc. The opportunities are endless!

The honoree or family receives a personalized card telling about the donation (without the amount). In addition, the information is inscribed in handwritten calligraphy in a beautiful leather-bound book displayed in the Rose Pavilion at Rady Children’s Hospital.

All tax-deductible donations show support for Rady Children’s Hospital and will be used to provide care for the children and families of our community. Special envelopes are available in the Auxiliary Office or through your unit chair. Online donations may also be made at http://www.helpforkids.org/tributeGifts.

Thanks in advance to all of you as you find useful and creative ways to utilize the Honoring, Remembrance and Celebration Fund.

Lynne Lurie, Fund Development Vice President
Rady Children’s Hospital & Health Center
Rady Children’s Hospital Auxiliary
3020 Children’s Way
MC 5013
San Diego, CA 92123

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Sycuan Presents
Rady Children’s Hospital’s
FANTASY on ICE
A Season of Skating Benefiting the
Peckham Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders
at Rady Children’s Hospital-San Diego

Daily Skating:
(Closed Thanksgiving and Christmas days)

Skating Hours: 10am-10pm, 7 days a week

Prices: $14.00 Adults, $12.00 Children 12 and under

Season Ticket Prices: $40 Unlimited, restriction-free
skating all season-long!

The Ice Rink at Horton Square
is located at 225 Broadway,
adjacent to Horton Plaza.

Group Skating and Corporate Packages Available.
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