

“A TEACHER AFFECTS ETERNITY, SHE CAN NEVER KNOW WHERE HER INFLUENCE STOPS.” - Henry Brooks Adams

by Joe Naylor

Ruth Wagner has enjoyed a lifelong influence on the quality of life for children and their families. She has been instilling values and life skills as a kindergarten teacher for over 36 years. During the school day, Ruth would not only teach children how to tie their shoes, but would encourage them to dream about their future. This passion for helping children continued at Orthopaedic Hospital where many children were confined by the walls of their hospital room, their futures uncertain. Ruth would grab a book from the cart and read stories of courage and adventure, allowing the children to dream beyond the walls and consider a limitless future. Ruth's spirit of giving soon touched the hearts of other staff and volunteers. Noticing her passion, Audrey Hollander invited Ruth to join her in the Seniors of the League for Crippled Children. Ruth and her late husband Gerry (pictured), who was quick witted, suave and a good conversationalist, were the perfect couple to chair the annual Jack O'Lantern Ball in 1984. It was one of the most memorable balls with 350 people in attendance and Betty White as the Mistress of Ceremonies. Because of her passion for children, thorough understanding of the programs at OH and strategic thinking, Ruth was invited to join the Board of Trustees in 1996 and then the Board of Directors in 1998.

Ruth believes that one reason for living is to provide a better place for future generations. Ruth and Gerry were always ready to lend



a helping hand. Ruth has created the Ruth and Gerry Wagner Charitable Remainder Trust so that their legacy continues at OH, and she can continue to have an influence on the lives of children and their families. This estate gift will be forever recognized at the new OH Research Center on the campus of UCLA as “The Ruth and Gerry Wagner Staircase to the Court of Sciences.” She has also dedicated the Three-Tiered Garden in memory of

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DONORS' WISHES FULFILLED

by Barbara Murray and Brenda Hernandez

When asked what Orthopaedic Hospital means to him, Alfonso Alfaro replied in one word, “Hope.” Alfonso - patient, volunteer, intern and now summer employee of Orthopaedic Hospital - exemplifies what the ideal Bonter Scholarship candidate would look like in the mind of Gretchen C. Bonter when she established the “John & Max Knight Bonter Scholarship Fund” in 1972. Alfonso was treated for a knee condition at Orthopaedic Hospital in 2002. He graduated from the Orthopaedic Hospital Medical Magnet High School in June 2008, where he was one of two valedictorians as well as class president. Having been awarded a Bonter Scholarship, he will be attending UCLA in the Fall.

The Bonter Scholarship is available to Orthopaedic Hospital patients and students from the OH Medical Magnet High



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KIDS COME TO PLAY ON A SATURDAY!

by Laurel Terreri

On August 2, Orthopaedic Hospital hosted the first ever Everychild Club on the fabulous universally accessible playground that is open to the public seven days a week from 9am until 5pm. Staff members from Shane's Inspiration, the group responsible for designing the playground and implementing programs for all children, were on hand to facilitate the play group. Volunteers from Las Madrecitas and Las Niñas painted the excited faces of the children, and also assisted them in making crafts, finger-painting a commemorative banner, and playing on the new state-of-the-



art equipment that is completely accessible to children of all abilities. The Everychild Club will be a monthly event, occurring on the first Saturday of the month (excluding December). The activities are offered at no cost to children or their families.



PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE MEMBER

By Adrienne Lao

On August 23, 2008, members of the President's Circle and their guests celebrated summer by enjoying a harbor cruise aboard the luxurious Hornblower yacht in Marina Del Rey. It was a picturesque afternoon on the water, highlighted by the activity of revelers in the harbor, the sound of relaxing music in the background and the company of those who support the mission of Orthopaedic Hospital.

Guests were greeted with champagne and hors-d'oeuvres while exploring the activity on various decks. Some chose to mingle and catch up with friends on deck two, while others enjoyed the panoramic views and photo opportunities on the top deck. Before lunch was served, Harold Davidson, founder and chairperson of the President's Circle, welcomed and thanked everyone for their attendance. Funds raised from President's

DONOR'S WISHES FULFILLED *continued*

School. In addition, a generous donation from Georgia and David S. Stanley established the Stanley Scholarship Program. The first award from their scholarship was made this past June to a very deserving Orthopaedic Hospital patient.

In the first two years, these donors have allowed OH to award \$142,100 to hospital patients and graduates of the high school.

Three students received the very prestigious Gates Millennium Scholarship, assuring them funding through their graduate school education. The Bonter Scholarship Program awarded 6 patients and 21 Orthopaedic Hospital Medical Magnet High School graduates a total of \$64,200 in scholarship funds for the 2008-2009 academic year. Among the colleges these bright students will be attending are UCLA, UC Berkeley, UC Irvine, UC Riverside and NYU.

Alfonso could be found happily working in the physical therapy department until school started in September. This is where Alfonso will end his last official role with the hospital, at least for now. Undoubtedly, the vision of OH donors Gretchen D. Bonter and Georgia and David Stanley has been realized, making a profound difference in the lives of so many.



A TEACHER AFFECTS ETERNITY *continued*



their son, Greg Wagner. The Wagner's gifts will certainly 'affect eternity' and have long reaching influence.

For more information on how you can leave a legacy at OH, please contact Joe Naylor, CFRE, Sr. Director, Planned and Major Gifts at 213-742-1509, or jnaylor@laoh.ucla.edu.

Please visit us at
orthohospital.org
to see all of the new features
that have been added.

S CRUISE IN MARINA DEL REY

Circle memberships and events this year will go to benefit the Cleft Lip and Palate program. Dr. Libby Wilson, Medical Director of the program, introduced two of her patients; Derek La and Karla Martinez. Derek and Karla have been in her care since they were infants. It was wonderful to hear that these young adults are bound for college and looking forward to new challenges.

Derek, who will be attending UCLA, shared his life-changing experience at Orthopaedic Hospital. "I feel that Orthopaedic Hospital has been a



Doug Prestine and Harold Davidson, enjoying the sun on the Hornblower Cruise.



major factor in helping me attain my current accomplishments. I would like to thank them for taking the time to mold the person I am today, both physically and emotionally. I feel that due to my disorder, I have become a stronger person."

President's Circle is made up of prominent members of the community who play a significant role in advancing education, research, patient care and specialized treatment programs at Orthopaedic Hospital. By joining President's Circle, you'll have a profound impact on the tens of thousands of children and adults served every year. To learn more about membership, please call 213-742-1511.

THE 19TH ANNUAL PAUL AND BERNIECE HARBERS RUNYAN MEMORIAL GOLF CLASSIC

By Melissa Malone

The proceeds of the 2008 golf tournament benefitted the Physical Therapy Treatment Program for Patients with Hemophilia. One hundred and thirty-two generous golfers and dinner guests helped the tournament gross more than \$197,000. Despite the unseasonably cold weather, it was a wonderful day of golf, food and festivities. Dan Madden, the golf tournament chairman, and his foursome (pictured), took the 1st Place Low Gross award. Michelle Hahn and Boyd Kestner won the longest drive contests, and Brendan Beasley was closest to the pin.

The Los Angeles Orthopaedic Hospital Foundation gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the Golf Committee, the Oakmont Country Club, our supporters, our silent and live auction

donors and our volunteers for helping make this a special event. Save the date – the 20th Annual Paul and Berniece Harbers Runyun Memorial Golf Classic will be held Monday, June 8, 2009 at the Palos Verdes Golf Club.



Above: Winning Team - Low Gross. From left to right - Wally Goodrick, Dan Madden, Bob Lattimore, Chris Tichy



Left: OH staff celebrate a job well done!

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

October

- 10th – International Children's Program
– Calxico Clinic
- 25th – Las Madrecitas Fall Fundraiser
- 28th – La Canada Flintridge Orthopaedic Guild
Book & Author Luncheon

November

- 1st – Everychild Play date 10:00-12:30 on the
Universally Accessible Playground
- 7th – Las Amigas de Las Lomas
– Day at the Races
- 12th – National Philanthropy Day
- 27th – Thanksgiving
- 28th – Foundation Office Closed

December

- 4th – President's Circle Holiday Party
- 12th – International Children's Program
– Calxico Clinic
- 16th – OH! Toys OH! Joy Holiday Toy Party
– Orthopaedic Hospital