

# La Jolla Focus

FALL 2007

## Betty Knight Scripps Welcomes Guests to Spectacular 78th Annual Candlelight Ball

As the premier social affair heralding the beginning of San Diego's holiday season, the 78th Annual Candlelight Ball will take place Saturday, Dec. 1, 2007, at the elegant Del Mar Country Club in Rancho Santa Fe.

The Candlelight Ball is lauded as one of the oldest and best known charity events in San Diego – raising millions of dollars to support Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla.

Betty Knight Scripps, philanthropist and newspaper heiress, will once again serve as General Chairman of the event. Her commitment to the success of the event, with a challenge grant of \$1.5 million, exemplifies the spirit of philanthropy that continues to be a cornerstone of the hospital.



Betty Knight Scripps

## Betty Knight Scripps Challenge Grant Supports Care

To continue the tradition of excellence, Betty Knight Scripps, newspaper heiress and wife of the late Edward W. Scripps, great-nephew of Miss Ellen Browning Scripps, established a new challenge grant in the amount of \$1.5 million to benefit Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla.

Areas of the hospital benefiting this year from these matching funds include cardiology, Scripps Mericos Eye Institute, electrophysiology lab expansion, Scripps Polster Breast Care Center digital mammography equipment and cardiac treatment center equipment.

The Scripps family has been instrumental in supporting Scripps La Jolla since its very beginning with Miss Ellen Browning Scripps' 1924 investment in a small community hospital and clinic.

For more than 80 years, Scripps La Jolla has cared for the health of San Diego. We have expanded services and increased capabilities in a number of our specialty programs to support the growth of the community.

Join us at Candlelight Ball. For more information, please contact Sandy Liarakos, director of special events, at 858-678-7357.

*"The most important gift one human being can give to another is, in some way to make a life a little better to live."*

—Ellen Browning Scripps



Bernice and Leonard H. Lavin

## A Legacy of Giving Back

Leonard H. Lavin, founder and chairman emeritus of the Alberto-Culver Company, and his wife Bernice, recently gave a \$500,000 gift to help fund the addition of a \$5 million electrophysiology lab remodel, which includes leading-edge magnetic imaging equipment for the treatment of arrhythmias (abnormal heart rhythms).

Through his distinguished 50-year career, Mr. Lavin turned Alberto-Culver into a multi-billion dollar company, manufacturing a line of personal care products and household items. Although his success now gives the couple the means to donate to worthy causes, charitable giving has always been their interest, even when money was tight in the early days.

“I was very impressed with the care and the innovative spirit that Dr. Steven Higgins and his team were putting into their work on atrial fibrillation,” says Mr. Lavin. “From personal experience, I know how important this can be, and I want to both express my confidence and help to move their work along.”

The Lavins spend their summers in Rancho Santa Fe and rely on the quality care they receive at Scripps La Jolla.

“The Scripps Regional Cardiac Arrhythmia Center has developed an international reputation for the treatment of complex arrhythmias,” says Steven L. Higgins, M.D., director, Regional Cardiac Arrhythmia Center. “The other nine electrophysiologists and I are delighted with this gift that will allow us to expand our treatment opportunities. The Stereotaxis robotic magnetic navigation system we hope to acquire will be one of the first in southern California. Thanks to Mr. Lavin’s generosity and that of others, we will be able to provide state-of-the-art ablation therapy of the utmost safety and effectiveness for our patients.”

“I value Scripps’ focus on the individual patient, and their innovative and entrepreneurial spirit. Those are the keys to success in building a great company or a great health care provider,” says Mr. Lavin. “As technology improves, health opportunities must, and will improve too. It’s exciting to be a part of helping that.”

## Day At the Races

More than 70 guests enjoyed a day at the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club hosted by Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla and Scripps Health Foundation on Aug. 6. The event was held to say ‘thank you’ to friends of Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla for their dedication and support. Those attending were treated to a gourmet buffet luncheon and an exciting afternoon watching the horse races.



Jeanette and Bryon Webb, Jr.

Guests included Patti and John Messerschmitt; Denise and Jeff Bowman, chairman, Scripps Health board of trustees; Bob Tjosvold, Scripps Health board of trustees; Dorothy and Bill Menish; Jeanette and Bryon Webb, Jr.; Sue and Joseph Copp; James Sinclair, M.D.; Dee and Pete Eller; Julie and George Bronstein; Brooke Koehler; Ruth and Paul Jacobowitz; Nancy and Jim Williams; Armon Mills; Michael Porter, M.D.; Julie Barone, M.D.; Copper Gillmann; Cheryl and Cyrena Potenziani; and Barbara and Tony Palmeri and family.



Patricia Butler

## Patricia Butler Still Leads By Example

Patricia Butler was always a leader – and still is. With a long list of accolades and accomplishments in her career, and in philanthropy, she continues to give to help others.

Pat was the only female law student among 40 men in her 1931 graduating class at Emory University of Law, Atlanta. Then, not being able to find a job as an attorney in the genteel south, she was recruited to be the first female attorney to work in the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. She retired after 40 years with the department, having worked for 16 U.S. attorneys general, with such notables as Robert Kennedy and Elliot Richardson. Little did she know then that her most passionate work was about to begin.

After moving to San Diego in the early 1970s, her husband, Bill, who was from San Diego and active in the community, suggested she get involved. She told him that she had come out West to get away from the hustle and bustle of Washington, D.C. That soon changed, and her involvement with Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla has continued to flourish ever since.

As a member of the hospital's community advisory board, Bill had been the deciding voter to move the original Scripps Memorial Hospital in downtown La Jolla to its present location in the early 1960s, inspiring Pat to take on worthwhile projects. After being instrumental in researching eye centers in major U.S. cities, she and Bill helped established what is now the Scripps Mericos Eye Institute. She also helped build the Scripps Polster Breast Care Center and create the hospital's community advisory board, just to name a few noteworthy accomplishments. More than 30 years later, she is still involved with Scripps La Jolla.

“In all I do here, it's in memory of Bill. His heart was here,” says Pat, who will soon celebrate her 100th birthday. “The satisfaction of helping others has been uplifting and I'm thankful for that.”

## Acura Classic Benefit All Aces for Scripps Polster Breast Care Center

Some of the world's most famous female tennis stars – including Maria Sharapova and Jennifer Capriati – were in full swing as they helped raise \$256,000 for Scripps Polster Breast Care Center at the Acura Classic Benefit for Breast Cancer. The event held at La Costa Resort and Spa on Aug. 2, 2007, supported breast care prevention, treatment and early detection. Guests enjoyed a dinner and auction amidst the excitement and thrill of women's professional tennis.

This was the final year for the event underwritten by Acura and Promotion Sports, Inc. Next year, the tournament will find a new home in China. Over the past five years, the event has raised a total of \$1.5 million to benefit Scripps Polster Breast Care Center, located on the campus of Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla.



Kim Fletcher and Conchita Martinez

## Contact Us

If you would prefer to receive our mailings, including this newsletter, via e-mail, please send an e-mail to [nichols.vivian@scrippshealth.org](mailto:nichols.vivian@scrippshealth.org). If you do not wish to be contacted in regard to fundraising needs, please notify Scripps Health Foundation in writing, Attn: Vivian Nichols, P.O. Box 2669, La Jolla, CA 92038-2669.

If you would like additional information on the programs and services offered at Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla, please contact Pamela Whitcomb, sr. director of development, at 858-626-6357 or [whitcomb.pamela@scrippshealth.org](mailto:whitcomb.pamela@scrippshealth.org). *La Jolla Focus* is a publication of Scripps Health Foundation, Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla.

## Calendar Of Events



# 78<sup>TH</sup> Annual Candlelight Ball

*Benefiting Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla*

**Saturday, Dec. 1, 2007**

78th Candlelight Ball  
Del Mar Country Club

*Benefiting Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla*

# Journey of Healing

17TH ANNUAL SPINOFF: AUCTION FOR LIFE



**Thursday, May 8, 2008**

17th Annual Spinoff: Auction for Life, Journey of Healing  
Hyatt Regency La Jolla at Aventine

*Benefiting Scripps Cancer Center, Stevens Division*

## Scripps Health Foundation

Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla  
P. O. Box 2669  
La Jolla, CA 92038-2669

*Address Service Requested*