

## CELEBRATING LIFE IN 2008 ONE FOUNDATION, THREE MAJOR FUNDRAISERS

What a year! *To Celebrate Life Breast Cancer Foundation* offered a trio of spectacular events starting with a stellar day of golf at *Tee It Up*, followed by an inspiring tennis event with *Rally*, and for the grand finale – a soaring *Stepping Out to Celebrate Life*. Thanks to our many volunteers, sponsors and supporters who made it all possible and helped us raise funds for people and their families living with breast cancer.



Photo by Patty Spinks



Photos by Patricia Finn



Photo by Lee Freedman

### GOLFERS SWING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Nearly 140 golfers came out to play under the warm Sonoma sun as *Tee It Up To Celebrate Life* hosted our fifth annual event on June 23. Once again, the tournament was held at the beautiful Sonoma Golf Club, the final stop for the PGA Champion Tour's Charles Schwab Cup.

Not only were the players challenged by the course, but they had the opportunity to win a \$20,000 cash prize or a new car lease by getting a hole-in-one. Although no one achieved this golfer's ultimate dream, there were multiple prizes for closest to the hole and longest drive contests for women and men.

*continued on page 2...*

### RALLY GOES GREEN IN 2008



A sunny morning in mid-September found over 200 women celebrating the 17th year of *Rally To Celebrate Life*. This event raises funds for local nonprofits that provide non-medical services to those living with breast cancer.

Held at the Marin Tennis Club, the day began with a round-robin tennis tournament. As each guest arrived, she received a highly valued gift bag with items donated by local businesses.

This year's theme, "Rally Goes Green," was in evidence by the "green" products in the canvas tote gift bag. Guests

*continued on page 6...*

### SPIRITS SOARED AND DREAMS TOOK FLIGHT



Hundreds of elegantly dressed travelers answered the call to "Come Fly with Us" at the 13th annual *Stepping Out To Celebrate Life* gala. The fundraiser, held on September 27, featured a fashion show with breast cancer survivors as runway models.

The evening's uplifting theme was both visible and palpable at Marin Center, as smiling guests followed multilingual signs into "Stepping Out International Airport". Volunteer flight attendants in vintage uniforms offered a warm welcome as people came aboard.

*continued on page 4...*

## TEE IT UP TO CELEBRATE LIFE 2008

continued from cover...



Photo by Patty Spinks



Photo by Patty Spinks



Photo by Patty Spinks



 TEE IT UP  
SAVE THE DATE  
JUNE 22, 2009

*"This was my fourth year playing in Tee It Up – a great tournament, at a great golf course, for a great cause!"*

– Terry DiCarlo, guest

The golfers and guests who attended the post-golf awards dinner were generous beyond their green fees, with over \$53,000 raised through the silent and live auctions, raffle tickets and donations.

The success of the day was due to the many hours and dedication of the volunteers led by event chair and auctioneer John Randazzo and an executive committee including Rick Barbaria, Mike Belling, Chuck Wood, Sallie Wood and Tom Yacko.

Through the generosity of the sponsors and players, funds from the tournament are used to support the grants of *To Celebrate Life Breast Cancer Foundation*. "Every year it seems to get better. The players have a lot of fun and they really look forward to our event," said John Randazzo.

We thank the sponsors, donors, volunteers and the *Tee It Up To Celebrate Life* committees for making the event such a success. You have helped to create an annual event that is eagerly awaited and makes such an important contribution in the success of the *Foundation's* grants programs.

# TEE IT UP 2008 SPONSORS, DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

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*Donations received after October 30, 2008 will appear on the Foundation website [www.tocelbratelife.org](http://www.tocelbratelife.org).*

**SAVE THE DATE FOR THE  
VOLUNTEER KICKOFF MEETING  
ON JANUARY 28, 2009**

*details on page 11...*

## STEPPING OUT TO CELEBRATE LIFE 2008

continued from cover...

Mingling in the cockpit, party goers enjoyed delicious hors d'oeuvres and ordered cocktails from bartenders in pilot's caps at a blue-glowing translucent bar. A dramatic sky-printed wall made up of dozens of mirrors reflected the heightened mood of the evening.

In the main cabin, Wine Valley Catering presented a sumptuous meal in the heavens – at least it looked that way on sky blue tablecloths scattered with billowing white clouds. Gently swaying paper airplanes imprinted with inspiring words adorned the tables. Guests added their own supportive wishes on the planes which will be presented to grant recipients at the *To Celebrate Life Foundation* grants reception next spring .

*"It was one of the most emotionally amazing events I've ever attended."*

– Tom Lumsden, guest

Brayton-Purcell and The Marin Cancer Institute, a program of Marin General Hospital, a Sutter Health Affiliate co-sponsored the evening's festivities. Joining them were many other generous businesses and individuals. Bidders at the rousing live auction went home with a new Jaguar, trips to exotic locations including Alaska and South America, golf and sailing packages and a fabulous assortment of vintage and award-winning wines donated by *Foundation* volunteers. Guests generously supported Fund A Need, raising their paddles to contribute to programs that will support early screening and diagnostics for women and men under the age of forty. (Please see article on next page for more information).

The smartly choreographed fashion show highlighted sportswear, formalwear, and everything in between, from Bay Area retailers. First-time attendee Kent Schwartz said he enjoyed "the energy and excitement of the models – they were radiant."

The exuberance on the runway and in the audience spilled over to the dance floor. As the Fundamentals played their funk, disco and R&B tunes, family and friends boogied their hearts out and celebrated life with the true stars of the evening, the spirited women overcoming breast cancer.



STEPPING OUT  
SAVE THE DATE  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2009



All photos by Patty Spinks

## A MODEL'S STORY

Photo by Patty Spinks



### Letting Our Light Shine

by Martha Domont, *Stepping Out* Model, 2008

*"And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same."* Nelson Mandela

The women who were first inspired to create *Stepping Out To Celebrate Life* had an admirable vision: to help fight the battle against breast cancer. Yet, I don't think they had an inkling of the greater impact they would have on so many of its scarred and weary warriors. As a model for this year's *Stepping Out* event, I was privileged to experience and witness the transformation of many of these women into elegant and self-confident beauties. From the volunteers who committed months of countless hours to the new recruits – models who had no clue of what lay ahead—I saw and felt nothing but love, encouragement and light shine on and for each other. Who could have foreseen that a diagnosis of breast cancer could bring such a rich and rewarding renewal of life and friendship? We truly do not know what lies ahead when the diagnosis is given, but we do control how it personally affects us. All of us who shared the laughter and tears and freedom of the *Stepping Out* experience are forever changed and challenged to let our light shine, so that those just starting their battle or who are still in treatment may be encouraged and led out of the dark days into a surprising future. We thank each and every one of those who support and give to *Stepping Out* because it truly is "stepping out" into a new day and a brighter future for us all.

## STEPPING OUT GUESTS RAISE THEIR PADDLES TO FUND A NEED

*For the first time, the Stepping Out To Celebrate Life live auction included a Fund A Need to raise funds specifically for diagnostic services for women under 40 in Marin and other bay area counties served by the Foundation. This powerful addition to the Stepping Out event generated an extraordinary response.*

Unbeknownst to many, young women can and do get breast cancer, and their cancers are generally more aggressive and result in lower survival rates.

Unfortunately, many of these women are underinsured and don't have the money to help pay for the diagnostics

needed to confirm and to identify the cancer source. While California offers an important "Every Woman Counts" program to provide diagnostic services for uninsured women 40 and older who show indications of breast cancer, women who are under 40 and at risk, or have suspicious symptoms and need early detection, are left out.

One hundred and twenty-five individuals raised their paddles and donated over \$54,000. Among them were Susan and Jack Hetherington, who responded generously. Susan talked about how cancer touches so many: "Last June I lost my sister to cancer, and also her son—my nephew. I've lost my father, aunt, and grandfather to cancer. The money raised at *Stepping Out* goes straight to the women who can't afford treatment. That's why I raised my paddle."

Amy Moody, Executive Director of Breast Cancer Connections in Palo Alto, a *To Celebrate Life Breast Cancer Foundation* grant recipient, spoke at the live auction to underscore the need. "This money goes farther than people know," she explained, "because organizations that administer these grants contract with physicians who donate significant percentages of their services, charging us only a fraction of the standard costs."

As part of the annual grant-making process for *To Celebrate Life*, a separate grant will be published to identify the appropriate agency or agencies to administer these funds. The diagnostics provided will include mammograms, sonograms, and ultrasounds.

Since they are too numerous to mention here, our generous Fund A Need donors are listed at [www.tocelebratelifelife.org](http://www.tocelebratelifelife.org).

# RALLY TO CELEBRATE LIFE 2008

continued from cover...



Photo by Patty Spinks

exclaimed over the reusable shopping bag, a deck of cards with 52 ways to go green, plant stand "surface saver," florescent light bulbs and more. The *Rally* committee did their share by reducing paper documents, emailing "save the date" announcements and insuring all cardboard, plastic bottles and glass were recycled from the day's event.

While the tennis tournament continued through the morning, guests browsed and bid on the silent auction



Photo by Patricia Finn

items donated by Bay Area businesses and individual donors. Following the tournament, attendees were treated to a pro-am featuring two pros, Helle Viragh and Pam Nelson, who partnered with the top two

amateur winners, Linda Roland and Fern Ruth. The crowd watched while munching on delicious hors d'oeuvres and sipping sparkling wine donated by Gloria Ferrer Caves & Vineyards. At the conclusion of the pro/am match, guests enjoyed a lovely al fresco luncheon provided by CaterMarin, Inc. An informal fashion show was part of the festivities, with tennis and golf apparel offered by LinkWorks at Town Center, Corte Madera and Smash Tennis Shop, Novato.

"After two consecutive years at *Rally*, I am impressed by the quality of the event and the efforts put forth by the volunteers who make this possible," said guest Patty Karabatsos, who traveled from San Jose to attend. "The enthusiasm and pleasure of all those involved made for an enjoyable day all around."

We acknowledge the dedication of our volunteers and thank our generous presenting sponsors: Jackson's, Julie Kertzman and The Marin Cancer Institute, a program of Marin General Hospital, a Sutter Health Affiliate. We are also grateful to our title sponsors John and Vicki Kryzanowski and Wine, Women & Song.



 RALLY  
SAVE THE DATE  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

# RALLY 2008 SPONSORS, DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

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## Pros

Pam Nelson  
Helle Viraght

## Event Photographers

Patricia Finn  
Jo Moser  
Patty Spinks

## Models

Nini Lion  
BJ Moehnke  
Virginia Mylenki  
Donna Parker  
Cathy Rosekrans  
Lisa Seiler  
M. Kelly Tyler  
Elizabeth Wilmore

## Bottled Water

Bay Area Distributing

## Wines

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Donations received after October 30, 2008 will appear on the Foundation website [www.tocelbratelif.org](http://www.tocelbratelif.org).

## OUR GENEROUS COMMUNITY

*To Celebrate Life Breast Cancer Foundation gratefully acknowledges the hard work and generosity of these community donors whose efforts help us enrich the lives of women and men living with breast cancer.*

### ac\*cent's / Solarium

A special shopping event to benefit our Foundation will be held in spring. Fabulous handbags, clothing, gifts and jewelry will be offered, along with refreshments and raffle prizes. 815 Grant Street, Novato.

### Acqua Hotel

Acqua Hotel in Mill Valley, part of the Joie de Vivre boutique hotel chain, has an ongoing program in which hotel guests are asked at check out if they'd like to make a \$1 donation per room, per night. This donation directly benefits *To Celebrate Life*.

### Best Buy – Colma

During the month of October 2008, the Best Buy store in Colma featured *To Celebrate Life Breast Cancer Foundation*. The store held a raffle to raise funds and encouraged private donations to the *Foundation*.

### Hair Solutions

Caren Miranda at Hair Solutions in Sausalito announced that for every woman who, as a result of cancer treatment, purchases a wig at the salon, Caren will gift 10% of the price for the benefit of *To Celebrate Life*.

### Harbor Point Charitable Foundation

The *Foundation* hosted its fourth annual, fun-filled tennis weekend, the Esurance Tennis Classic, in October 2008. Once again, *To Celebrate Life* was a beneficiary of this wonderful event.

### Jonathan Marks, At Home in Marin

In a program he calls "Beneficence," Realtor Jonathan Marx continues to donate to our *Foundation* for real estate agents who visit an Open House.

### Kaspar Roth America

Carola Detrick of Kaspar Roth America held another exceptional sale in early May. "Purses, Pearls and Paintings" featured exquisite hand-crafted leather goods, beautiful pearl jewelry and unique paintings. For the third year, our *Foundation* benefited from this sale.

### LaCoppa Coffee

While continuing to be the official coffee provider for all *Foundation* events, during the month of October their stores also featured and sold some *To Celebrate Life* items. Additionally, the *Foundation* continues to receive \$1.00 from sales of every pound of LaCoppa's La Donna blend coffee.

### Meadow Club Women's Golf Association

For the third consecutive year, the women at Meadow Club organized a golf tournament, "2 Jacks and 2 Jills," with all sponsorship and entry fees benefiting *To Celebrate Life*.

### Nini Lion, Open Studios

This spring, Marin Arts Council held their annual Open Studios event. Artist Nini Lion, an award-winning Mill Valley artist, pledged 10% of any sales during the event to the *Foundation*.

### Pilates Studio Tiburon

Stephanie at Pilates Studio arranged a promotion where a percentage of clothing sales during the month of October would benefit *To Celebrate Life*.

### San Rafael Chevrolet

Greg James, Owner and General Manager of San Rafael Chevrolet (across from Home Depot), has announced an ongoing program for the benefit of *To Celebrate Life*. For every test drive or purchase of a Chevrolet, Cadillac, Hummer or Saab, a contribution will be made to the *Foundation*.

## RALLY 2008 SPONSORS, DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

CONTINUED...

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## MARY PAT MANNING, RADIATION ONCOLOGY NURSE SPECIALIST, RETIRES AFTER 40-YEAR CAREER

On October 10, 2008, Mary Pat Manning retired from her full-time role at Marin General Hospital's

Cancer Institute. Over the years, she counted many *Stepping Out* models and volunteers among her patients. In fact, nearly half of the models in this year's *Stepping Out To Celebrate Life* fashion show have been her patients.

An experienced nurse, Mary Pat came to California in 1977 and was instrumental in establishing Oncology Nursing Services at Samuel Merritt Hospital (today's Sutter Oakland), where she taught staff, worked directly with patients and ran support groups.

In 1997 she joined the Marin General Hospital Cancer Institute as lead nurse in radiation oncology. During her time there, she saw most of Dr. Francine Halberg's patients and had great admiration for all the women who received breast or chest wall radiation.

Mary Pat was a recipient of the MGH Stellar Nurse Award in 2007 and was a Nurse Week Excellence Award finalist in 2008. When asked to share the most vivid milestones of her career, she recalled two important events that occurred in her first year as a nurse. One was when a close friend died of breast cancer and Mary Pat had to remove her engagement ring. "I felt like a puddle on the floor because I was helpless to heal her," she says. The other

was when a 19-year-old patient died of lymphoma. "She taught me to listen to patients, and to keep their sentiments in an imaginary journal, in a make-believe backpack, in order to pass their wisdom along to other patients."

When asked what has been most fulfilling in her career, Mary Pat explains, "I'm like most people in this line of work, we are not there for the paycheck but for the people. I have done my job well if each patient feels supported through the process. I have wonderful, heroic patients, not one of whom stood in line and said 'Give me this, Lord.' The past eleven years have been a little bit of heaven."

### SAVE THE DATE VOLUNTEER KICKOFF MEETING

Join us on January 28, 7 p.m., at the Acqua Hotel in Mill Valley to discover how you can make a difference in the lives of women and men living with breast cancer. You'll learn how you can participate in our organization, including volunteering for our three major fundraisers.

We have unlimited opportunities for you to get involved in whatever area you wish, and all skills are valued. You can work on planning committees or help at the events – whatever your schedule permits.

Volunteering for *To Celebrate Life* is fun, gratifying, and you'll make friends for life. We hope you'll join our team in 2009!

Both long-term friends of *To Celebrate Life* and new volunteers are welcome. This evening is for you! For questions, please email us at [www.info@tocelebratelife.org](mailto:www.info@tocelebratelife.org).

### THANK YOU

In gratitude for service as Wendy Barbara, Phyllis Evans and Sandy Truex, valued Board members, step down.

We salute all of our volunteers for helping us to enrich the lives of women and men living with breast cancer. Your dedicated participation allows *To Celebrate Life Breast Cancer Foundation* to generously provide grants each year to those nonprofits providing support programs, early detection screening, emotional and educational services.

### THINKING OUTSIDE THE FUNDRAISING BOX

*To Celebrate Life Breast Cancer Foundation's* grant funds have historically been derived from its three annual fundraising events: *Rally To Celebrate Life*, *Tee It Up To Celebrate Life* and *Stepping Out To Celebrate Life*. As the *Foundation* grows, we continue to pursue additional sources of income. *To Celebrate Life* is fortunate to be the beneficiary of generous donations from many community events including the Harbor Point Charitable Foundation's Esurance Tennis Classic, as well as fundraising drives sponsored by Joie de Vivre Hotels, koze, LaCoppa Coffee and others.

This year, for the first time, *Stepping Out* featured "Fund A Need" as part of the gala's live auction (see story on page 5). Other ways to give are being expanded: The Legacy Society, major gifts and *Foundation* level sponsorships to name a few. For more information on any of these programs please contact us at [info@tocelebratelife.org](mailto:info@tocelebratelife.org).

In these uncertain economic times, charities are continually confronted with the need to raise more funds to meet increased demand. By expanding our fundraising sources, *To Celebrate Life* expects to meet these challenges and continue to carry out its mission, a mission that will not falter, even if the economy does.

PO Box 367  
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We accomplish this by:

- Providing grants for support programs, early detection screening, emotional and educational services
- Securing resources for Bay Area organizations, including those supporting underserved communities
- Offering healing opportunities through our events for those living with breast cancer

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