



The Informer

Winter 2009

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Letter from the President

Nancy Kury



Even though we are facing the gray months before spring brings the symphony of color and light to Sewickley, everything's coming up roses for CHA! I feel nothing but pride and optimism about what Child Health has done in its first 85 years, and what it continues to do.

We are on a roll! We kicked off the year with the 85th Anniversary Party at the Edgeworth Club in August, with 140 actives, associates and friends in attendance. We welcomed six new members in September. With extraordinary efforts on the catalog, the 9th Annual Sewickley Valley Antiques Show in October yielded a similar profit level to last year, even as the economy began to plummet. After a 2-year hiatus, the Play returned, and "True Love's Kiss" played to sold-out crowds on Thursday and Friday, and a very full house of 372 at the exquisitely decorated Ball on Saturday. The wonderful mix of associates, actives and husbands, coupled with the incredible talents of Marguerite Park and Katie Cawley contributed to the huge success of the play.

And 2009 started with a BANG as we welcomed 11 new members! We hope you can join us on February 6 when we welcome Diana Bucco, President of the Forbes Fund. Diana will speak about non-profits in these turbulent times, and we have also invited other area non-profit leaders to hear her message. Preparations are underway for the 34th Sewickley House Tour on Thursday, April 30 and Friday, May 1. We have lined up 6 beautiful homes in Edgeworth, Sewickley and Sewickley Heights. We hope you can help out and work a shift or two in one of the houses.

And there's more good news. We have four underwriters this year including *Esmark*, *Trib Total Media*, *Allegheny Petroleum* and first-timer *Clearview Federal Credit Union*. Child Health joined the Sewickley Valley Chamber of Commerce and we have or will benefit from three merchant initiatives: *Good Deeds Day* in October with 18 merchants donating; Sewickley Gallery and Frame Shop presenting local artist Risa Moldovan in a show through January 31; and Sewickley Café featuring dishes from *Three Rivers Renaissance Cookbook IV* on Mondays and Tuesdays in January and February.

I am deeply indebted to all the hard working women of CHA, both past and present. I am always amazed at the great things we do and have done. I am very proud to serve and am constantly delighted by our good works.

We do make a difference!

Dates to Remember

February 6th—Guest Speaker, Diana Bucco, Forbes Fund.

Every Monday and Tuesday in February, the Sewickley Café will offer a dish from the Three Rivers Renaissance Cookbook.

March 6th—Actives & Associates Party at Susie Kopf's home.

April 30- May 1— House Tour

May 2nd- House Tour Post Party.

Good Deeds Day / Curb Crawl

In October the proceeds of *Good Deeds Day* donated \$1,300 to Child Health. Good Deeds Day is comprised of Sewickley Chamber of Commerce businesses who agree to donate a portion of sales revenue from that day. Child Health would like to THANK all of the businesses that participated in this event.

Last summer's *Curb Crawl*, a community wide consignment sale and yard sale organized by the Mom's Club of Sewickley, raised \$5,750 that was donated to Child Health. The Mom's Club will choose one of the fall's grantees to receive this donation.

CHA History Question:

Why do we serve ginger snaps at the House Tour??

Let us Know.

The 34th Sewickley House Tour

Mark your calendars for the 34th Sewickley House Tour

Thursday April 30th and Friday May 1st, 2009

Six of our neighbors have kindly offered their homes for this wonderful tradition, so let's make it a big success, not only for them but also for the children we impact.

Guided Bus Tour: Thursday, April 30th, 9am-4pm. Tickets: \$84.
For reservations, please call Lenzner Bus Tours at (412) 761-7000
Special online pricing at www.coachride.com

Candlelight Tour: Thursday, April 30th, 6-9pm. Tickets are \$30.

Self-Guided Tour: Thursday & Friday, 9-4pm. Tickets are \$30.

For more information on the Candlelight or Self Guided tours please call (412) 741-2593

Historically, the Membership has always looked forward to working with the Associates and the many other women in our community that volunteer to help make the House Tour a success. This year is no different. Beth Rom and Tringa O'Hara, volunteer co-chairs, can assist you and work with your schedule. Feel free to contact Beth at (412) 848-4837 or email to rombgraden@aol.com. Tringa may be reached at (412) 417-3726, email; scottandtringa@comcast.net.

Provisional Members

The women of Child Health would like to welcome all of our new Spring 2009 members.

Jane Bablak

Fawn Chang

Debbie Coonelly

Gaylan Cordell

Jayne Eckel

Marianne Gardinier

Susanna Greene

Gina Mercurio

Rhonda Parda

Mary Scalercio

Ann-Marie Terry

The Antiques Show

On October 17, 18 and 19 *The Ninth Annual Sewickley Valley Antiques Show* provided a wonderful opportunity for our members and guests to browse the beautiful furniture, silver, china, jewelry and fine arts. This year's show included 25 highly respected dealers from Massachusetts to Virginia. Jack Squires, our Show Manager, worked with great dedication to provide a quality show. Mr. and Mrs. Dick Simmons were our honorary Chairs. The Simmons opened their home on Saturday night with a cocktail party to warmly greet the dealers.

The door prize was an original watercolor by John Herring titled *Herrings Fox Hunting Scene*. It was published in London in 1867. It's value was \$400- \$450.

The Preview Party was, as usual, a wonderful event for the entire community and our "antiques family". Approximately 100 people attended the festivities. This included 5 Silver Circle Packages and 12 Patron Packages. There was a decrease in attendance from the previous year. In 2007, 167 people attended the party.

The total profit from the Ninth Annual Antique Show was approximately \$20,000.

We would like to thank everyone who attended and spent time at the show.

An Enchanted Evening

On November 22, 2008, Child Health Association of Sewickley held its annual ball at the Edgeworth Club. This year's theme, "An Enchanted Evening" tied directly to the play, "True Love's Kiss" written by Marguerite Park and choreographed by Katie Cawley. A portion of the proceeds from both will be given to The Good Samaritan Counseling Center.

The ball, itself, attracted 372 attendees! The total profit exceeded \$30,000. The Child Health and Sewickley community came through in many ways to make this possible...through donating silent and chance auction items. The ball committee particularly appreciates the support of *Esmark*, *Trib Total Media*, *Allegheny Petroleum* and *Clearview Federal Credit Union*.

The play was a wild success, performing to three sold out nights of fans. Eight Active members participated in the play as well as many Associates, Spouses and Community Theatre lovers. All-in-all it was a community effort to put the play together and we thank everyone of them.

The State of the Endowment

At this time last year, the value of the endowment was \$907,000.00. However, considering the state of the economy, Child Health has too been affected regarding it's future. Currently, the Endowment's value is about \$605,000, this is an increase of \$37,000 from one month ago. Dick Worth is striving to carefully manage the financial future of Child Health. Elisa DiTommaso is working with him to ensure the continued security of our future.

Betty Galey Vision Screening

This program is always greatly appreciated by the parents and pre-schools of our community. During the fall of 2008 382 children were screened in 12 different preschools of the area. We referred 15 children and 5 were found to be color deficient. A committee of 11 dedicated active members successfully carried-out most of the screenings for the first time this year. We still could not have done it without "a little help from our friends"!

Two of our fall provisionals bravely jumped in the effort. Thank you Dana Fields and Kirsten McCormack! Three associates also joined us this year: Eliza Nevin, Caroll Logsdon and Mary-Louise Scholl. Thank you for all your help. It is always a pleasure to see Nancy Tolfa who every year travels from Wexford to help us screen. Thank you Nancy! A big thank you also to Jane Boies who for the second year in a row has helped us screen (her children are no longer in preschool but she is a great supporter of the program).

We look forward to seeing all of you again next fall and new faces too! This is a wonderful and rewarding opportunity to volunteer hands on with children and a fun way to get to know other members. Our efforts help many children get an early treatment for their vision problems, problems that are quite often first detected by our volunteers.

Marie Schumacher & Georgi Fishter

THE THEATRE



Star Talent from left to right; *Charlie Gross, John Bunce, Peter Tedesko, Carolyn Bouchard, Reg Henry, Gary Schurman and Mike Orsini*

AGH Premie Tote Bags

The Premie Tote project at Allegheny General Hospital has assisted the lives of many families that need to endure the difficulties of giving birth prematurely. At this time, the project is needing donations from the members and associate members. Items needed are:

- Small tissue packs
- Snacks (that won't crush)
- Bottled water

These items may be dropped off in the office.

Thank you.

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Fall Allocations

Alexandra McCabe

In November 2008, the members of Child Health Association approved the following grants for the Fall session. Grants totaling \$50,612 were awarded to eight non-profit organizations serving children and their families in western Pennsylvania. The following are the recipients.

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Family Resources | QV Midget Football Scholarships |
| Focus on Renewal | The Learning Tree Preschool |
| Glade Run Foundation | Wesley Spectrum Services |
| Gwen's Girls | Youth Connect |

Although Child Health will not be funding CASA this year, gas cards for their volunteers would be greatly appreciated. Alexandra will be happy to collect and forward those sent to her.

Alexandra