



# Forum in Focus

WINTER 2005

## President's Letter

Dear Forum Members,

Happy New Year and best wishes to each of you and your families in 2005! The new year is sure to be a busy one for the Forum. As we all come together – our Board, friends of the Forum and our many new members – may we all keep in mind that our mission is to raise awareness and funds for the very talented group of scientists at SFBR who are dedicated to making a healthier tomorrow for people today and for generations to come.

It was another sell-out Fall Lecture luncheon at The Argyle on November 17 where we honored **Dr. Frank Ledford, Jr.**, President of Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research (SFBR). Dr. Ledford shared with us how his 12 years as President of the Foundation has enabled him to continue fulfilling Tom Slick's vision to improve people's lives through biomedical research. Thank you to First Vice President and Lecture Luncheon Chairman, **Kathryn Dehlinger**, and Assistant Lecture Luncheon Chairman, **Nancy Barnes**, for planning such a wonderful event. And our most heartfelt thanks to Dr. Ledford for his vision and strong leadership, as well as for establishing a legacy that will stretch far into the future.



**Francie Calgaard**

This coming spring is certain to have Forum members buzzing about town! To begin with, the Forum will host the annual Foundation Evening Tour on Wednesday, March 9. This informative evening, chaired by **Melinda Young** and **Anne Johnston**, will include a cocktail buffet catered by **Don Strange of Texas** as well as a rare and exciting opportunity to tour SFBR laboratories and discuss current research projects with Foundation scientists. Be sure to mark your calendars – this is an event you surely do not want to miss!

On Wednesday, March 23, the Forum will host the Spring Lecture Luncheon at The Argyle, where the winners of our Science Education Awards will be announced. Through the generosity of the **V.H. McNutt Foundation**, the Forum is able to

provide grants to participating high schools in support of their scientific studies. Award Coordinators **Joy Fuhrmann** and **Suzanne Marlar, M.D.** will be sending additional information regarding the awards at a later date, so stay tuned regarding this much anticipated event.

We are so excited about our gala, "A Medieval Knight," to be held on Saturday, May 14, 2005, at The Argyle. Thank you to **Terry Gouger** for hosting the Kick-Off Brunch for the Gala Committee on October 6. The talented team of **Karen Heydenreich**, **Phyllis Viola** and **Jenny Gibson** have been working for months to make this a "knight" we will never forget! The evening will feature old and new friends, fabulous prizes, amazing music and dancing all accompanied by the delicious cuisine prepared by the culinary geniuses at The Argyle. So, mark your calendar and get your table together, as all proceeds benefit SFBR!

And to our growing membership – thank you! The dedication of your interest, time and energy are so greatly appreciated. More important, your involvement is making a difference in improving people's lives across the globe.

Warm Regards, *Francie*

# “A Medieval Knight”

## An Evening to Remember

On October 6, the Gala Committee gathered together for a lovely brunch at **Terry Gouger**'s home, where they were welcomed with authentically painted shields on the terrace leading them inside to a knight laden fortress.

More than 85 ladies attended this celebratory occasion and enjoyed mixing and mingling with friends, as the gala specifics were unveiled. The theme for the 35th annual gala is *A Medieval Knight* and will be held at The Argyle on Saturday, May 14, 2005.



“We will have medieval ambiance unmatched before in San Antonio, including living, breathing knights to greet you as you arrive, as well as a feast fit for a king, magical music and phenomenal prizes,” said Gala Chair **Karen Heydenreich**.

Karen and her Co-Chair, **Phyllis Viola**, and Gala Assistant, **Jenny Gibson**, are most grateful to the more than 100 committee members, all of who are dedicated to organizing a spectacular gala to benefit Southwest Foundation or Biomedical Research.

More than 20 committees have been established and volunteer positions are still available for anyone who wishes to donate their time and talents to this worthy cause. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact **Phyllis Viola** at 930.7100.

Corporate table sponsorships are currently being secured at the following levels:



**King's Table at \$10,000, Lord's Table at \$5,000 and the Knight's Table at \$2,500.** If you are interested in buying a corporate table or if you would like us to send information to a friend, please contact the Corporate Sponsorship Chair, **Carolyn Thornton** at 822.6111.

As this is one of the most anticipated and well-attended events in the city, we also encourage each of you to secure your individual tickets now. Tickets are \$175 per person and it is fun to put five couples together to make your own table. Please contact **Joy Furhmann** at 828.2576 for more information.

The opportunity to win great prizes playing games during the cocktail hour is a fun activity for the guests. If you would like to donate prizes or assist in garnering prizes, please contact **Kristin Ernst** at 930.5538.

Karen, Phyllis and Jenny extend their most gracious thanks to **Terry Gouger, Kathryn Dehlinger** and **Anne Johnston** for their hospitality in hosting the Kick-Off Brunch. They are also grateful to each and every committee member and look forward to lots of fun, hard work and a sell-out gala!

We will have medieval ambiance unmatched before in San Antonio, including living, breathing knights to greet you as you arrive, as well as a feast fit for a king, magical music and phenomenal prizes, said Gala Chair **Karen Heydenreich**.

# 2005 Gala Committee

## Gala Chair

Karen Heydenreich

## Gala Co-Chair

Phyllis Viola

## Gala Assistant

Jenny Gibson

## Advisors

Barbara Dreeben  
Cari Hill  
Priscilla Kent  
Kim Peacock  
Martha Steves

## Amusements

Kelley Frost, Chair  
Andi Rodriguez, Co-Chair  
Jeanette Buffkin  
Lisa Krenger  
Tina Magness  
Sarah Quirk  
Jennifer Sparr  
Sally Sullivan

## Booth Sponsors

Tara Richardson  
Bunkie Shed

## Communications

Heather Hunter

## Corporate Sponsors

Carolyn Thornton, Chair  
Leigh Ann King  
Lisa Blonkvist  
Jenifer Brown  
Lisa Clingman  
Cynthia Miller  
Jean Mitchell  
Maggie Singer  
Sally Smith  
Shari Stankey  
Sharon Thurmond

Melinda Young

Julie Zacher

## Decorations

Brandi Hollingshead, Chair  
Tisha Beck  
Kris Bissmeyer  
Sharon Bray  
Eileen Cochran  
Pam Cohen  
Audrey Curl  
Molly Ellwood  
Terry Gouger  
Karen Harrison  
Estee Kellogg  
Kelly Kennedy  
Brit Kleberg  
Francie Mannix  
Paula Mays  
Susan Meyer  
Ann Musgrave  
Courtney Schultz  
Caroline Schupbach  
Buffy Shackelford  
Diane Shaw  
Kelly Strange  
Julie Whitaker  
Lisa Wolff

## Entertainment

Kathy Biedenharn  
Debbi Chesney  
Jill Rosenthal

## Favors

Allison Hayne  
Arlene Kinsel  
Anne Rochelle  
Laura Zachry

## Invitations

Brooke Connolly  
Ann Lakey-Reeks

## Mailing

Catherine Comeaux, Chair  
Norma Barloco  
Lynn Berryman  
Jackie Cameron  
Meredith Campbell  
Colette Edwards  
Cheryl Freed  
Nancy Fuller  
Elizabeth Hale  
Anita Henson  
Elizabeth Hetrick  
Susan Machell  
Katie McDonough  
Kitty Palmer  
Ellie Phelps  
Billie Rabke  
Samantha Rodriguez  
Laura Schumacher  
Martha Smith  
Jane VandeBerg  
Karen Lee Zachry

## Menu

Walton Gregory  
Gail Smith  
Tricia Steves

## Photography

Julie Dubrof  
Lisa Rosenbloom  
Elizabeth Snow

## Prizes

Kristin Ernst, Chair  
Anita Allison  
Sally Clayton  
Deb Ferguson  
Bonnie Gray  
Reagan Guenther  
Jennifer Harper  
Susan Heinemeyer  
Natalie Ingram  
Susan Janes  
Diane Kahan

Kristen LeVoyer  
Suzanne Marlar  
Michelle Piper  
Lorrie Uhl  
Amy Wagner  
Ann Word

## Publicity

Francie Calgaard  
Karen Mitchell  
Margie Rust  
Lynn Thompson

## Reservations

Lisa Sechler  
Jodi Wood

## Special Effects

Kathryn Dehlinger  
Anne Johnston  
Kathy Nicolson  
Lisa Wallace

## Table Sales

Joy Fuhrmann, Chair  
Jill Azar  
Nancy Barnes  
Jill Burke  
Linda Blount  
Nicole Nugent  
Beth Plummer  
Michelle Shetler  
Sandi Taylor

## Tokens

Christy Gulley  
Liece Hollis  
Alexa Person  
Stacey Rubin  
Diana Schmidt

## Treasurers

Kim Winton  
Allison Zeller

# 25 Years Later: A Personal Forum Reflection

By Heather Hunter

Life has a funny way of showing you things at just the right time – a time when it really means something. I was recently pulling out all my winter clothes in preparation for the cold weather, when I came across a file my grandmother kept which contained the newspaper clippings, articles, mementos, quotes, stories, etc., that featured, exemplified and personified her daughter's life.

This was just after the Thanksgiving holidays and I took the opportunity to reminisce and reflect on my mother's short 48 years. I had done this many times before, but each time something different affected me. It is always amazing to touch my mother's life on paper – from childhood to adulthood – and personally experience her joys and pains as well as successes.

I relished seeing a picture of her and her friends enjoying an Albert Nipon style show in San Antonio, and when I opened the paper further, I was taken aback when I realized it was a *Forum in Focus* newsletter from 1979.

As a Forum board member, and one of two people responsible for the newsletter, I had no idea my mother was a Forum member and it brought a smile to my face knowing that our affiliations are contiguous. It's strange how life brings you back around and touches you in a very poignant way – just when you least expect it.



## FORUM IN FOCUS

September, October, November, 1979

### REFLECTIONS OF THE STYLE SHOW AND GALA '79

(SEE INSIDE)

A LITTLE ABOUT  
OUR NEW PRESIDENT



Peggy Mays



Albert Nipon fashion.

**PEGGY MAYS – NEW FORUM PRESIDENT**

We are fortunate to have as our president Peggy Mays, an extremely dynamic and special lady. Her past Forum activities include: executive chairman, publicity chairman, gala chairman and future chairman.

Gala items not shown a listing of 45 of Peggy's many other community volunteer efforts. But a few highlights have been past presidents of the Voluntary Action Center, past treasurer of the Junior League, past president of the Green Hill Garden Club and past chairman of the Garden Pilgrimage.

Peggy will include in this year's annual gala evening event. She is also presently enrolled in graduate school in accounting.

The Mays' have two children, Kathy (middle school) and John (high school). Kathy attends St. Mark and Robert schools in Houston.

Peggy says, "I look forward to working with each of you and am most confident "A Decade of Dedication" will produce a memorable year for the Forum."

### AN EVENING AT THE CASBAH - GALA '79




Gala chairman, Mary Beaman, from left, with Jane Scott, past Forum president, and Jane Pritch.




Chairman Mary Beaman and husband, Lloyd Beaman.




Black Eyed Pea opening. From left, Cathy, was on hand for the opening with Martha K. (left), and Peggy Mays, Forum President.

# Four New SFBR Initiatives Funded By 2004 Gala

Forum members are always hard at work planning and promoting the annual gala, but we seldom take the opportunity to reflect and discuss how our year-long efforts are working to improve human health.

Held last May, the gala enabled the Forum to donate \$80,000 to the Foundation, of which they determine how to utilize the proceeds. This generous gift is being used to fund the following four new initiatives:

- **Dr. Andrew Hayhurst** in the Department of Virology and Immunology has generated a library of synthetic human antibodies, and this grant will allow him to screen for these antibodies for effectiveness against viruses that cause SARS and hemorrhagic fevers.
- **Dr. Loren Havill's** new project focuses on the genetic determinants of a major risk factor in osteoporosis, osteon remodeling pattern, in the baboon model.
- **Dr. Liz Tejero** will initiate a project to identify the variation present in the resistin gene influencing the production of the hormone resistin in fat tissue. Resistin is associated with insulin resistance and diabetes.
- **Dr. Guowen Cai** and her colleagues have previously localized a gene influencing change in blood pressure over time to a region on chromosome 11. The Forum grant will now be used to help identify the specific genes that are involved in determining patterns of change in blood pressure using fine mapping techniques.

Through the years, more than \$2 million dollars has been donated by the Forum to fund pilot studies at SFBR. Since 1999, scientists who have received seed monies from the Forum have been able to apply for federal grants and to other granting organizations that have resulted in more than \$8 million dollars for SFBR. Clearly, the impact of the Forum's fundraising efforts through the annual gala is a valuable component in furthering SFBR's life-saving research. Our thanks to each and every one of you who has helped make this a reality!



**REFLECTIONS:**

**OUR VINTAGE YEARS  
STYLE SHOW  
AND LUNCHEON**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** (Back row, left to right) Peggy Shih, president, Kathy Roberts, third vice president, Cheryl Killion, second vice president, Shari Lee (left to right) Lois Tracy, first vice president, Laura Gifford, corresponding secretary, Doree Wilkins, recording secretary; Jane Yellin, fourth vice president, and Alison Cook, treasurer.

**BULLETIN BOARD**

November 5, 6, 7, 1999: Christmas and Holiday, 9:30-12:00 at 150 County Law West of Mt. Shasta, 611

January 21-22, 2000: Family Reunion - The Year of New Year's, Friends in the Mountains, followed by dinner at 150 County Law West of Mt. Shasta, 820-4141, or 820-5501

February 27, 2000: Luncheon and coffee hour on the 150 County Law West of Mt. Shasta, 820-4141, or 820-5501

**A DECADE OF PRESIDENTS**

The past decade of presidents, from left, Lois Tracy, Amy Coleman, Pam Shih, Peggy Shih, Doree Gifford, Shari Lee, Alison Cook, and Jane Yellin. Next to them: Jane Yellin and Pam Shih.

Barbara Aron, Shari Lee, Doree Wilkins, Jane Yellin, Kathy Roberts, Cheryl Killion, Alison Cook, and Peggy Shih.

## SFBR Tours Inspire Students and Forum Members

Each year the Southwest Foundation Forum invites San Antonio area high school advanced placement biology and chemistry science teachers to submit applications for their students to tour the internationally renowned facilities at SFBR. And each year, we are besieged with many more applications than time will allow. (Last year, there was one teacher who had submitted an application for four consecutive years before she was finally selected and you could sense how privileged the group felt for the opportunity to tour SFBR. Clearly, the teacher's enthusiasm and excitement was contagious.)

Schools received an invitation to apply during the first week of December and, to date, **Caroline Schupach** and **Jane VandeBerg** have already received 15 applications, with more than half having been submitted via our new website at swff.net.

For 10 weeks, beginning January 19 through March 30, a tour will be conducted each Wednesday morning from 9:30 to 11:00. The tours, limited to only 20 students, are lead by a staff member at SFBR, but two Forum members are needed each Wednesday to serve as a hostess and accompany the tour group.

These tours are both educational and extremely rewarding. The tour commences with a video about SFBR and a brief question and answer period. Then the group walks over to tour the SBC Genomics Computing Center – the world's largest computer cluster devoted to statistical genetic analysis – where they learn about the purpose of the 1,500 computers. The students then get on the school bus and tour the grounds, while listening to the SFBR tour guide, **Amy Abdalla**, talk about the history, purpose and successes SFBR has had with the primates. Throughout the tour, the students also enjoy laughing at the primates' performance acts.

The tour is concluded with a presentation by a scientist on his or her area of expertise and followed-up with plenty of provocative questions by eager and excited students on the subject matter. It is truly a memorable experience to see these young students in action – wide-eyed and full of energy and enthusiasm. If only one of these students is inspired to become a scientist through our collective efforts, we have accomplished great things.

If you would like to serve as a hostess or if you would like more information on the student tours, please contact **Caroline Schupach** at 210.826.8331 or [ckschupbach@yahoo.com](mailto:ckschupbach@yahoo.com).

## Forum Bids Farewell to Dr. Ledford at Fall Lecture Luncheon



Nancy Barnes, Kathryn Dehlinger, Dr. Frank Ledford and Francie Calgaard

On Wednesday, November 17, the Forum was honored to have as its guest speaker, **Dr. Frank Ledford, Jr.**, President of SFBR. During his fascinating presentation, Dr. Ledford chronicled the many advances made by the Foundation during his 12-year tenure.

At the end of 2004, Dr. Ledford will retire after the second of two amazing careers – the first in the Army and the second at the Foundation. His dedication to the Forum and support of our work for the Foundation is a wonderful legacy. We are grateful for his friendship and leadership and wish him the very best in the next chapter of his life.

# Calling all Saints to the Spring Lecture Luncheon

Mark your calendars for the Forum's Spring Lecture Luncheon scheduled for 11 am on Wednesday, March 23, at The Argyle, when our featured speaker, psychologist **Dr. Madeleine Reichert**, will speak to the topic, "Can We Be Sainly and Still Be Sane?"

Dr. Reichert (pictured at right) tests her own sanity with a boa while on vacation in Mexico. Obviously, this is a luncheon you won't want to miss!

Her presentation promises to be fun, interesting and informative and we look forward to another sold-out occasion. The cost is \$35 per person and we encourage you to book your reservation now, as seating is limited.

If you need additional information or would like to make a reservation, please call **Kathryn Dehlinger** at 210.829.1257.



## Area High Schools Rise to Scientific Challenge

Each spring, the Forum, in association with the generous support of the **V.H. McNutt Memorial Foundation** and **L.D. Ormsby Foundation**, bestows monetary awards to the top five San Antonio area high schools demonstrating excellence in science education.

In the preceding fall, notices are sent to the science department chairmen and principals of both public and private high schools in the San Antonio area delineating funds available for both developing and teaching science education and research programs.

The Science Education Award applications, due no later than February 1, are then evaluated by a

panel of judges comprised of Forum board members, V.H. McNutt Memorial Foundation members and SFBR scientists.

The winners are selected and, typically, prizes are awarded for first through fourth place with one honorable mention for a total of up to \$14,000 – with first prize consisting of \$5,000!

The prizes are awarded to the students and/or programs with the most innovative, progressive projects that benefit the students and enhance their science programs. In providing financial support to the area high schools budding scientists, a new generation of SFBR scientists may be born to develop the cures of tomorrow.

# *Forum Members Receive an Exclusive Tour of SFBR*

The Southwest Foundation Forum will host a reception and tour of Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research, an internationally renowned biomedical research facility, on the evening of Wednesday, March 9, 2005. This annual event, held for Forum members and major SFBR donors, provides a glimpse inside SFBR and an opportunity to meet with scientists, learn about their area of study and how their research can positively impact human health.

The evening begins with a cocktail buffet and remarks from Forum President **Francie Calgaard** and a guest speaker. Attendees are then taken on a tour of the facility and enjoy three brief presentations from scientists who talk about their area of expertise.

Invitations for this amazing event will be forthcoming. If you would like additional information about the evening tour, please contact **Melinda Young** at 210.826.7408.

## Southwest Foundation Forum Board Members 2004-2005



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- Mrs. William Dehlinger (Kathryn)**  
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- Mrs. Michael J. Viola (Phyllis)**  
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- Mrs. Luke Kellogg (Estee)**  
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