



Ojai Valley Hospital
Foundation Guild

President's Letter

Spring has finally arrived in the Valley, and I'm sure many of you share my feeling that there's nowhere quite like Ojai at this time of year. Pixies are in season, our farmers' markets are buzzing, and our calendars are once again filling with social and philanthropic events. It's a magical time to be part of this unique community.

It's also a special time to be a Guild Member and supporter of our Hospital and Continuing Care Center. Last year — thanks in large part to your fundraising efforts and generous donations — the Ojai Valley Hospital Foundation funded the purchase of the former Lutheran Church property adjacent to our Hospital campus. This milestone purchase has launched an exploration of what the future of healthcare looks like in the Ojai Valley — and it's very bright.

Our Continuing Care Center also recently received its second consecutive 5-Star designation from the Centers for Medicare Services (CMS)! This designation reflects the commitment of our physicians and staff to quality and safety, and the outstanding care they provide our patients and residents on a daily basis. It also highlights the difference YOUR contributions to our Continuing Care Center make — the regular flower deliveries, various activities throughout the year, and extra holiday cheer you provide truly make an impact. Our community is lucky to have the Continuing Care Center right here in the Valley, and we should all be incredibly proud of the work being done there.

As I approach the end of my term as Guild President, I want to thank you all for your continued support of our Hospital and Continuing Care Center. The Guild is a shining example of what makes Ojai so extraordinary, and it's been my pleasure to serve for the last year.

All the best,

Ashley Phelps

Ashley Phelps



2 YEARS IN A ROW!

Quality Rating
from CMS



COMMUNITY MEMORIAL
CONTINUING CARE CENTER



The Nightingale Ball 2025 — A Night to Remember

Community Memorial Hospital - Ojai's friends, advocates, and the Ojai community rang in the New Year with a ball. Literally, a Ball. Our Hospital Foundation Guild's Legendary Black & White Nightingale Ball took place on January 11 at The Farmhouse at the Ojai Valley Inn. Almost 300 guests arrived in their finest black and white frocks and tuxedos for the 24th annual fundraiser. This year's theme was fashioned after novelist Truman Capote's famous masquerade Black and White Ball in 1966 at New York's Plaza Hotel.

Chairs of the event and long-time Guild members Ron and Linda Phillips and honorary hosts Dr. James and Robyn Halverson welcomed guests to the enchanted evening. Guests enjoyed cocktails under the stars and dinner inside under a stunning canopy of white lights. Dr. James and Robyn Halverson were honored as co-hosts of the elegant soiree for their unwavering contributions to healthcare and the community of Ojai.

The evening continued with the Lucky Devils Band entertaining guests with colorful and upbeat music to dance the night away. Prizes at the Ball included a VIP ticket package to a Los Angeles Rams home game, a diamond-clasped double strand of pearls, a stunning pair of diamond and cinnamon zircon earrings, and a weekend extravaganza at the historic Bel Air Hotel. Many talented Guild members worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make the event a success.

A huge thank you to all guests, sponsors, and Community Memorial Hospital - Ojai's stalwart supporters. Your dedication to healthcare in the valley and support of the event helped generate nearly \$220,000 to benefit our local hospital and its Continuing Care Center! A portion of the proceeds from the event funded the purchase of six medication and workstation carts. These new carts enable our nursing staff and other team members to work just outside patient rooms and easily access their computers, patient records, medications, and other supplies.

Thank you for your continued support of our Hospital. You make a difference!



Foundation Guild General Meetings

Foundation Guild general meetings
4:00 pm on Mondays
Ojai Valley Museum
130 West Ojai Avenue, Ojai
(unless otherwise noted)

May 12 — Introducing New Community Memorial Health Centers Specialists in Ojai

June 9 — Annual Gathering at Sarzotti Park, Ojai

July & August — Dark

September — Introducing MyChart – Your New Patient Portal!



Endless Summer

LAKE SIDE September 13, 2025

Just when you were yearning to be surrounded by 250 or so of your closest friends enjoying another fun Hospital event — voilà! Endless Summer - Lakeside appears! Mark your calendar for Saturday, September 13, 2025 at Lake Casitas.

The Ojai Hospital Foundation Guild is gearing up for a repeat of last year's lively outdoor party, chaired by Guild member Cathryn Krause.

The goal for the 2025 event is to generate enough funds to purchase 15 new beds for our Ojai Hospital patients. Join us in reaching – or exceeding! – the goal, all while enjoying the party of the season with friends and fellow supporters of our Hospital and Continuing Care Center.

Last year's Endless Summer – Lakeside event made a big splash with 250 guests. Friends gathered under the white tent on the shore of Lake Casitas for a barbecue, music, drinks, dessert, silent auction, and dancing. Prior to sunset, the Rotary Club of Ojai West offered guests an informative and exhilarating boat tour of Lake Casitas, complete with fun facts to know and tell about Ojai's nature, environment, and the history of the man-made lake.



The 2024 event grossed \$150,000, which contributed to the purchase of the church property adjacent to our Hospital campus. Thank you being part of this special event.

Look for your Endless Summer – Lakeside save the date, arriving by mail soon!

Guild Volunteers are the Best

Taking the lead from Ann Scanlin, the Guild Continuing Care Center (CCC) coordinator, many Guild members jump at the chance to volunteer at our CCC.

From providing flowers for the dining room on a monthly basis and helping patients with arts and crafts; from leading a sing-a-long at the holidays, to lending a helping hand on nail spa day; from giving a gift or two at the holidays, to helping at a theme party — our Guild members are eager to assist.

Additionally, a group of our pet owners spread joy at the CCC by sharing their furry companions with patients and residents. These gentle four-legged friends are welcome visitors for everyone – including our CCC team members.



Thank you to all the Guild members who offer rays of sunshine in their own special ways to the patients and residents at the 75-bed skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility located on the Community Memorial Hospital – Ojai campus.

You're the best!

Hooray for Our Local First Responders

A round of applause (figuratively) could be heard throughout the Ojai Valley last October for our local heroes — the men and women we call our First Responders. Guild members Peggy Melton, Peggy Russell, Jane Weirick, Elma Austin, and Ron Spencer put together boxes of baked goodies and delivered them as a way to show appreciation to our local law enforcement, firefighters, and EMS personnel on First Responder's Day. Dave at Westridge Market in Ojai also contributed gift certificates for local first responders.



The Sculpture Garden Blooms at the Continuing Care Center

Tranquility is the word that comes to mind when sauntering through the Sculpture Garden at our Continuing Care Center (CCC). The stunning pieces — which were generously donated by Libbie Agran — are a reminder that art and healing go hand in hand. The CCC Sculpture Garden, installed in 2024, is a reflection of the dedication of Guild member and past Operation Picasso curator Barbara Hirsch, along with many talented artists and other volunteers who helped the Sculpture Garden bloom.

Ever notice the beautiful artwork throughout our Hospital, CCC, and local Health Centers? The collection is the vision of the Ojai Hospital Foundation's Operation Picasso program, which is led by Hirsch and current curator Richard Amend.

Such vision is truly a work of art. Thank you.



Welcome Briana Kallas to Ojai Valley Hospital Foundation

There's a new face at the Foundation Guild office — Briana Kallas. She's stepping into the Foundation Executive Director Chris Rock's position. These are certainly big shoes to fill, but Kallas is up for the task.



Kallas may be new to the Ojai Valley Hospital Foundation, but she's not new to Community Memorial Healthcare, or to Ojai, for that matter. She grew up in the Valley, and her expertise and experience include

recently holding the position of Director of Marketing for Community Memorial Healthcare. She's familiar with our hospital and the Ojai Valley. Welcome. And, welcome home.

Rock who has held the Executive Director position for the Ojai Valley Hospital Foundation Guild for 20 years will continue on as the Foundation's Donor Relations Specialist as she phases into retirement. Lucky her. Although Rock's talent and expertise will be missed tremendously, we wish her all the best on her new adventure.

The names may have changed, but the phone number stays the same — 805-948-2317 for the Ojai Valley Hospital Foundation Office. Or, you can reach Kallas directly at 805-948-5492.