



causecarecure

IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 Stem Cell Research
- 1 Nutrition & PD
- 2 Letter from the Board
- 3 Pesticides & PD
- 5 The PI Hiking Club
- 6 Staff Highlight
- 7 Crumbs from the Cookie Jar
- 7 Clinical Trial Info
- 8 The PI Capital Campaign
- 8 Supporting The PI
- 9 The PI Community Fundraising
- 10 Honor Roll
- 11 Tributes
- 11 In Memory
- 12 Upcoming Events

STEM CELL UPDATE

The PI Successfully Grows Stem Cells from Adult Skin Cells

Here is some exciting news with great hope for future therapies. After over a year of intense work, our leading researchers have successfully grown “pluripotent” stem cells from ordinary adult skin cells! These new “pluripotent” cells have the potential to be engineered into brain,



© Kenney Images/Photography
Malini Vangipuram, CIRM Graduate Student

heart, muscle or other types of cells. All this is was made possible by Dr. Birgitt Schüle and her

team in collaboration with Stanford researchers, led by Dr. Renee Reijo-Pera and Dr. Theo Palmer. Due to the great potential and quality of our science, this research was funded by a \$3.7 million grant from the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine (CIRM), the State of California stem cell agency.

We have completed 33 patient skin cell biopsies which are growing in culture, putting us ahead of the project schedule. For this study, we have been searching for patients with specific genetic and/or familial cases of PD. In familial cases more than one close relative has PD.

continued on page 6

NUTRITION AND PARKINSON'S DISEASE

Why is Nutrition Important?

by *Melanie M. Brandabur, MD*
Clinic Director, The Parkinson's Institute

One of the most frequent questions that patients ask during their clinic visits is “**What can you tell me about nutrition?**”

While there have not been scientific studies done, we believe nutrition can be very important for the health and comfort of Parkinson's patients. There are some answers that we can deduce from what is known about the brain, nutrition in general, and research that has been done on other conditions.

Nutrition is particularly important in Parkinson's as the disorder itself often slows the transition of food through the gut which can also affect absorption of medications and nutrients. Patients with PD may have other medical conditions that further put them at risk of malnutrition.

Poor nutrition can worsen other conditions such as diabetes and hypertension, which in turn can worsen body function in PD.



continued on page 4



Letter From Our Board Co-Chairman

First, let me introduce myself — my name is Tom Follett, and I have been on The PI board for the last four years. I was diagnosed with Parkinson's in 2001 and take my original prescription very seriously — play as much golf as possible!

This past fall, Irwin Helford stepped down as Board Chair after over 12 years of dedicated service as Chairman of The PI board, and I have been invited to step in as Board Co-Chairman, alongside Dr. J. William Langston. We have all benefited from Irwin's leadership and dedication, so I extend my most sincere thanks for his time serving as chair. My current priorities are to finalize our strategic plan and recruit new board members who will actively contribute expertise, financial support and personal connections.

At The Parkinson's Institute and Clinical Center, our mission is to discover the causes, treat the symptoms and find a cure for Parkinson's disease. While we will not be satisfied until we have found the cure and closed our doors, we are proud of the progress we have made thus far — progress we owe to your dedicated support. This newsletter will share some of the breakthrough work our very talented team of researchers, clinicians and physicians accomplished in 2009, and will continue to strive for in 2010.



Thomas D. Follett, Co-Chairman of the Board

Be sure to read about Dr. Birgitt Schüle and colleagues' efforts toward the creation of new methods

for testing patient specific PD treatments. Last December our iPSC project successfully produced pluripotent stem cell colonies from adult skin cell samples. With a technology just in its infancy, we are proud to be amongst the few centers investigating this promising new science.

Our Movement Disorders Clinic offers the highest quality of care for patients and proudly provides access to the latest therapies, information and treatments. We are currently running 15 promising clinical trials, and have added an additional two free classes for our patients, their caregivers and the community — pdDANCE and Stress Management. In 2010, we hope to expand our programs to include, what else, a yoga class!

Since our founding, The Institute has published well over 500 studies, and last year was no exception. Our team was responsible for 21 publications in scientific journals like, "Archives of Neurology", "Journal of Neurosurgery" and "Experimental Neurology." See page 3 to read our Clinical Research Department's report on a common herbicide's link to increased risk of Parkinson's disease.

2010 is already proving to be a remarkable year, and I cannot wait for what lies ahead! This year, we are planning for the revitalization of our STOP PD program, a continued partnership with 23andMe to examine Parkinson's-causing genetic mutations, and much more. Thank you for sharing our vision of a world without PD.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "TD Follett".

Thomas D. Follett
Board Co-Chairman

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THE PARKINSON'S INSTITUTE AND CLINICAL CENTER
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Pesticide Exposure and the Risk of PD



Workplace use of the herbicide 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D), a key constituent of Agent Orange, is associated with an increased risk of developing Parkinson's disease (PD).

The article "Occupation and Risk of Parkinsonism: A Multicenter Case-Control Study" (Archives of Neurology. 2009; 66(9):1106-1113) by Caroline M. Tanner, M.D., Ph.D., Director of Clinical Research at The Parkinson's Institute, and her colleagues at eight PD research centers in the U.S. and Canada, is the first to identify specific pesticides that result in an increased risk of Parkinsonism and PD. This study also identified two other pesticides – paraquat and permethrin – that were also associated with a higher risk of PD.

Pesticide exposure has been suspected to increase risk of PD since 1983, when study co-author J. William Langston, M.D., Scientific Director of The Parkinson's Institute, described parkinsonism caused by intravenous injection of MPTP (1-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine), a chemical used in the manufacture of herbicides. Pesticide use for farming has been associated with PD risk in prior studies, but few have been able to identify specific pesticides.

In the current study, lifelong occupational histories were collected for 519 persons with PD and 511 persons who were the same age, sex, and who lived in the same location, but did not have PD. Participants provided detailed

information about their jobs by identifying specific tasks and chemicals used, including solvents and pesticides. For study participants using



2,4-D, the risk was more than two and a half times greater. The odds of having parkinsonism were 1.9 times higher in participants who had used any pesticides, 2.2 times higher if at least one of eight suspect pesticides was used and 2.6 times higher among those who had used 2,4-D. Two other pesticides, permethrin and paraquat, were also associated with higher risk of parkinsonism, but the association was less certain statistically. The duration of pesticide use did not affect the odds of disease, but there were few long-term pesticide users enrolled in this study. None of the occupations, job tasks or exposures were associated with having atypical parkinsonism (vs. typical Parkinson's disease), or with having a younger age at diagnosis. No job tasks or exposures increased the risk of the clinical subtype of parkinsonism with postural instability and gait difficulty.

The finding that parkinsonism risk is increased with pesticide exposure joins a growing body of evidence that environmental and occupational toxicant exposure can be significant risk factors for PD. After reviewing evidence collected in 16 studies, an Institute of Medicine panel determined that there is "limited or suggestive evidence of an association" between exposure to Agent Orange and PD [*"Veterans and Agent Orange: Update 2008"*].

On October 13, 2009, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Eric Shinseki announced that Vietnam veterans living with PD would be able to receive disability benefits based on the connection between Parkinson's disease and exposure to Agent Orange. Continuing to study the relationship between pesticide use and Parkinson's disease can help lead to increased precautions and other beneficial legislation.

FACTS ABOUT 2,4-D (2,4-DICHLORO-PHENOXYACETIC ACID)

A common herbicide used in the control of broadleaf weeds. It is the most widely used herbicide in the world, and the third most commonly used in North America. 2,4-D is also often used in laboratories for plant research and as a supplement in plant cell culture media.

Industry Task Force II on 2,4-D Research Data; www.24d.org



LEADERS IN PARKINSON'S DISEASE RESEARCH

These researchers have partnered with The Parkinson's Institute and co-authored this pesticide study include G. Webster Ross, M.D., at the Veterans Affairs Pacific Islands Health Care System, Honolulu, HI; Robert A. Hauser, M.D., at the University of South Florida, Tampa, FL; Joseph Jankovic, M.D., at Baylor College of Medicine Houston, TX; Stewart A. Factor, D.O., at Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA; Susan Bressman, M.D., at Beth Israel Medical Center, New York, NY; Connie Marras, M.D., Ph.D., at Toronto Western Hospital, Toronto, Ontario, Canada; Kelly Lyons, Ph.D. at University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS and Robert Abbott, Ph.D. at the University of Virginia School of Medicine, Charlottesville, VA.





continued from page 1

Nutrition and PD

In addition, studies have shown that good nutrition promotes overall brain health and may have some protective benefit with regard to conditions such as strokes and Alzheimer's disease. We can extrapolate that what is beneficial for one neurological disorder translates to a benefit for other similar neurological conditions.

Can certain foods decrease or increase the risk of PD?

A few studies suggest that caffeine consumption may decrease the risk of PD, though this is far from proven. Other studies suggest that excessive carbohydrates, lipids or dairy products may increase risk, but again, this is very preliminary data and is not a good basis on which to make changes in one's diet.

Do any plants or foods contain levodopa?

Fava beans contain levodopa. However, the quantity is most likely not consistent enough to be used as a form of medication. Mucuna pruriens is a seed that was used thousands of years ago in Ayurvedic medicine in India. The seeds have been shown to contain levodopa but again, the therapeutic benefit is uncertain.

What is the Mediterranean Diet?

People who live in the Mediterranean region tend to eat a diet rich in fruits and vegetables, eat fish, often drink red wine and cook with olive oil and a variety of herbs and spices. Several studies have shown this to be a healthier way of eating than a typical "American" diet, reducing blood pressure and inflammation and decreasing risk of conditions such as cancer and stroke.

Red wine, consumed in moderation with the approval of your treating physician, may reduce risk of vascular disorders. Red wine contains polyphenols such as resveratrol, which may prevent blood clots and decrease the type of inflammation implicated in some chronic diseases.

What are antioxidants and what foods contain them?

Antioxidants are substances that prevent oxidative damage, which is thought to be part of the mechanism of cell death in some neurodegenerative disorders. Research studies have suggested that a diet rich in antioxidants may

help prevent some of this damage. Antioxidants include vitamins such as A, C and E and substances such as selenium, lycopene and polyphenols.



Vitamin A is found in foods like carrots, squash, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, kale and collard greens. Vitamin C is found in foods such as citrus fruits, strawberries, cabbage, green peppers, avocado and green leafy vegetables. Look for Vitamin E in nuts, seeds, whole grains, wheat germ, vegetable and fish oils and green leafy vegetables. Selenium can be obtained by eating garlic, eggs, chicken, grains, red meat, fish and shellfish. Lycopene is in tomatoes, rose hips, guava, and pink grapefruit. In addition to red wine, polyphenols are found in tea (not just green tea!), berries, grapes, turmeric and sesame seeds.

Why is fish a good choice?

Many fish are good sources of omega-3 fatty acids, which lower blood pressure and decrease the risk of strokes and inflammation. There is also some evidence that eating fish may improve mood. Try to eat 3-4 ounces 3-4 times per week of salmon, tuna, or other cold-water fish. Keep in mind that certain types of fish may contain mercury, so don't overdo it... moderation is the key.

What about olive oil?

Olive oil contains phenols which are powerful antioxidants. Extra-virgin is less processed so retains more nutrients. Try to get 2-3 tablespoons per day. Oils may help absorption of nutrients from vegetables, so put some on a salad!

THE BOTTOM LINE:

EAT NINE
SERVINGS OF
FRUITS AND
VEGETABLES
PER DAY!
REMEMBER TO
INCLUDE LOTS
OF VARIETY
IN COLOR
AND TYPE.





Which spices are good?

We are just starting to learn about the medicinal properties of spices. Turmeric contains antioxidants and may lower cholesterol. Cinnamon may be good for cholesterol and memory. Rosemary has properties similar to drugs used to treat memory loss.

What vitamins are good for the brain?

Vitamin B12 is very important for the health of the brain, spinal cord and nerves. We tend to absorb less of it as we age because of decreased stomach acid and other factors. It is found primarily in meat, fish and milk, so people eating a strict vegan diet will usually require supplements or fortified cereals. Folic acid is also very important for the brain and is found in asparagus and green leafy vegetables as well as meat, beans, seeds, fortified grain products and some fruits.

What are some other nutritional concerns in PD?

Patients who are just beginning to take levodopa are often asked to take it with food to decrease possible nausea. Later in the disease, many patients note that levodopa does not work as well when taken at or near mealtimes. This can be because protein and levodopa compete to get into the brain. The patient may have to take the medication 30 minutes to one hour before eating or an hour after eating to avoid this.

Since some PD patients are at risk for falls, it is advisable to get checked for osteoporosis and to follow the treatment suggested by their primary care provider. Vitamin D is important for bone health and low levels of Vitamin D have recently been implicated as a possible factor in PD. Calcium is important as well. Weight-bearing exercise may also help improve bone strength.

How can I manage constipation that is so common in PD?

Drink lots of water, consume fiber, fruits and vegetables and get plenty of exercise! Senna tea may be helpful. If this is not sufficient,

consult with your doctor about the appropriate laxative therapy.

In summary, there is not a lot of definitive research about nutrition and PD. I have attempted to provide some information that may be helpful to some, but much of this comes down to common sense and wisdom of the ages: there is just no getting away from the need to eat your vegetables.

RESOURCES:

Eat well, Stay well with Parkinson's Disease by Kathrynne Holden, MS, RD

Cook Well, Stay Well with Parkinson's Disease by Kathrynne Holden, MS, RD

Parkinson's Disease: Nutrition Matters by National Parkinson Foundation (www.parkinson.org)

Brain Food: Eating Mediterranean Style May Protect Brain Cells, Slow Degeneration and Add a Few Years to Your Life by Amy Paturol Neurology Now, March-April 2008

**“I’ve had PD
for 12 years,
and I feel bet-
ter now, than
I did six years
ago because
of exercise!”**

– PI Patient



The PI's Hiking Group

Exercise is a necessity for all Parkinson's patients. The Parkinson's Hiking Group consists of Parkinson's patients and friends who like to stroll in the woods, chat and enjoy nature. Hikes start at 9:00am on Fridays near the bathrooms at Rancho San Antonio (near 280 and 85/Foothill). Hikes are led by Frank Kellers, a Teaching Docent at Deer Hollow Farm, and a visit to the farm is usually included. Hikes last about 2 1/2 hours. Walking is a great way to improve your balance and physical condition. Check with your doctor before beginning a new exercise program.

Pictured L to R: Patti Irvine, Rod Templeton, Frank Kellers and Pete Dolliver resting on a log in the Bay Grove at the halfway point of a Friday morning hike in Rancho San Antonio



“This is an exciting scientific era — giving us new techniques to make a difference in a patient’s life.”

— Dr. Schüle



© Kenney Images Photography

STAFF HIGHLIGHT

Dr. Birgitt Schüle

Dr. Schüle earned her M.D. in 2001 from the Medical University Lübeck, Germany and her doctoral degree in Molecular Neurophysiology at the Georg-August University, Göttingen Germany. During her residency in Neurology, she joined the laboratory of Dr. Christine Klein. Awarded a fellowship from the German Research Foundation and a Dean’s Fellowship at Stanford, Dr. Schüle started her postdoctoral position in the laboratory of Dr. Uta Francke, Genetics Department, Stanford University. In parallel, she enrolled in the Medical Genetics Training program at Stanford and was certified in 2005 by the American Board of Medical Genetics as a Clinical Molecular Geneticist.

She joined the Institute in October 2005. Dr. Schüle is expanding the Neurogenetics program. This includes on going genetic studies in families and sporadic cases with parkinsonism.

The stem cell team is comprised of researchers with a rich and diverse training background in developmental biology, genetics, neuroscience, and stem cell biology. This puts The Parkinson’s Institute in the premiere position to develop an ‘authentic’ model of PD in a culture dish to study and ultimately treat PD. Furthermore, the team provides training for graduate students from San Jose State (sponsored by CIRM) in stem cell techniques and biology.

WHAT ARE STEM CELLS?

Stem cells are pluripotent (pluri for many and potent for power) cells that have two defining hallmarks: the ability to self-renew and the potential to differentiate into every cell type of the human body.

WHAT ARE INDUCED PLURIPOTENT STEM CELLS OR IPSCS?

Induced pluripotent stem cells resemble embryonic stem cells and show very similar characteristics. They are generated by forced expression of specific proteins that reprogram or ‘rejuvenate’ cells from an adult individual.

WHAT ARE DOPAMINERGIC NEURONS?

Dopaminergic neurons are nerve cells that produce and release dopamine.

More information about stem cells: <http://stemcells.nih.gov/info/basics/basics1.asp>

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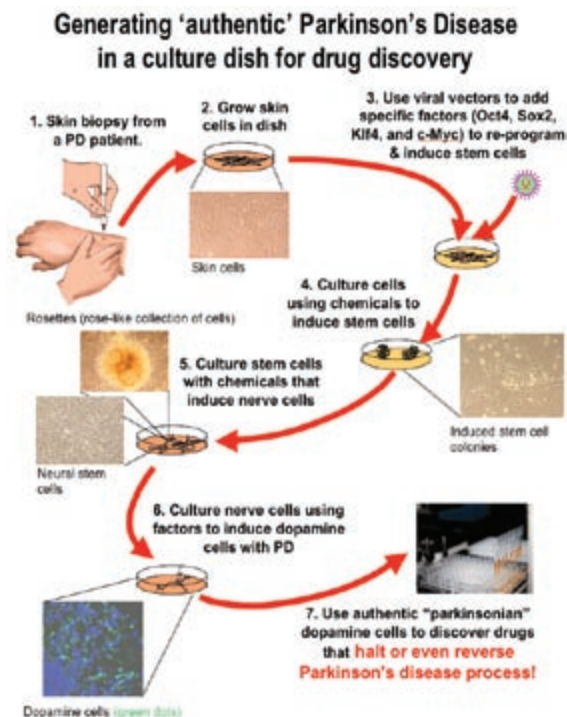
Stem Cells

Currently, at least five genes that cause some form of Parkinson’s disease have been identified. Mutations (changes) in two known genes called Alpha Synuclein and LRRK2 have been reported in families with dominant inheritance, meaning a mutation passes from one generation to the next. Mutations in three known genes, Parkin, DJ-1, and PINK1 have been found in affected individuals who have recessive inheritance; for example, siblings with the condition but whose parents did not have PD.

Our research is possible because of the discovery of a set of proteins that can rejuvenate adult human skin cells. This results in cells that exhibit characteristics of embryonic stem cells and are termed induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs). The cell lines we have generated will be used as a model to study PD. We predict that these cells will not only serve as an authentic model for PD when further differentiated into the specific dopaminergic neurons, but that these cells are pathologically affected with PD.

The absence of cellular models of Parkinson’s disease represents a major bottleneck in the

scientific field of PD, which, if solved in this collaborative effort, would be translated into a wide range of clinical applications, including drug discovery. This research is highly translational and is aimed at testing drugs that could be neuroprotective, and ultimately at developing a high-throughput cellular model to discover new disease modifying medication. This is a novel avenue to offer our patients a new therapeutic approach.





Have You Been Diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease?

JOIN A CLINICAL TRIAL!

Participants may receive:

- Study-Related Physical & Mental Exams by Movement Disorder Specialists
- Study-Related Medications
- Study-Related Laboratory Tests
- Some studies include some travel

For more information, contact Liza Infeld at 408-542-5626, Linfeld@thepi.org, or visit us online at www.thepi.org/ClinicalTrials

The PI Movement Disorder Clinic Staff



APRIL IS PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH

PATIENT SEMINAR

Nocturnal Issues in Parkinson's Disease

Healthy sleep habits, nocturnal bladder and ED issues

**April 27, 2010
1:30pm
at The PI**

Guest Speakers —
Dr. Andrew Rosenberg, Urologist, Mills-Peninsula Hospital and Dr. Angela Anagnos, Sleep Medicine and Neurology, San Jose.

Sponsored by
TEVA Neuroscience

Please RSVP with
Gloria 408-734-2800
EVENT IS FREE!

Katharine Smith, RN, Clinical Research Coordinator

*“Psychologically, I feel like participating in research is like striking back at the disease”
— PI Patient*



Gloria Goldstein

Always a Warm Hello and Smile

You can always count on a smile and warm welcome, by phone, or when you visit us. Our “Good Will Ambassador” and receptionist, Gloria Goldstein has cheered our visitors with cookies and goodies for over 12 years.

CRUMBS FROM GLORIA'S COOKIE JAR

- *I don't know who originally said this, but I definitely agree, No matter how many times I switch the TV channel, I always get a commercial!*
- *I always check the weather report before I begin filling my cookie jar, and it really gives me 'food' for thought about the 'weather', especially as I look at this gray 'matter' out my big lobby windows. I can examine the day for myself and compare it to their report of rain, or fog, or sunshine! I really think they have misspelled 'weather', it should be 'WHETHER' because no one seems to know for sure 'whether' there will be sun or showers or rain!!*
- *But, this weatherperson can always FORECAST a Full Cookie Jar Every Morning!!! So help yourselves to My Kind of Sunshine!!*



PLANNED GIVING

You can help end Parkinson's disease and protect future generations with a planned future gift. Planning your estate to include The PI can be comforting for you and your family. There are many ways to do so — bequests, charitable remainder trusts, charitable lead trusts and others — that may provide you with tax deductible savings now and in the future. We'd be glad to help. Contact Jonathan Friedman at jfriedman@theipi.org or 408-542-5606.

The PI Launches \$15M Capital Campaign

We want to expand and accelerate our search for the cause of Parkinson's disease — better treatments and the cure. Our plan includes adding the very best scientists, researchers, clinicians, therapists and caregivers, while we increase our laboratories with state-of-the-art equipment, capital structure investment, and funding for the new, exciting sciences of genetic, molecular and epidemiological research. The highly regarded Brin Wojcicki Foundation believes in this important acceleration and has generously pledged to match your donation, up to a total of \$3 million, so your gift to The PI gets double-value. Call us to be part of this effort to end Parkinson's.



Chocolatier Gives Back

Guy Birenbaum is a chocolatier in Oakland. His company, La Fleur de Lyon, donates 10¢ on the sale of each individual chocolate to The Parkinson's Institute. It shows that chocolate can be good for your health!

WWW.RAZOO.COM

Join In the Fight

MARCH GOODNESS 2010

The online donation center, Razoo, has invited us to participate in their version of March Madness. This innovative approach encourages online donations, complete with a new spin on tournament play. Each non-profit will be given 15 days to attract donors through the website www.marchgoodness.com (from there, click Western Region to find our page). If we have the most donors between March 15 – 30, we will move on to the Final Four April 2 – 6 and a chance to win \$10,000.



Consider making your spring donation online!

RUNNING TO HONOR MOM

Amy Nasaw is running in the San Francisco Marathon to honor her mother, Carol Hurvitz and raise money for Parkinson's research. Carol, a Parkinson's patient, has for many years helped raise funds and awareness for Parkinson's research in Chicago and elsewhere. There is no greater honor than to be recognized and loved by your children. We are proud of Amy and Carol and grateful for their commitment. You can visit her website at www.razoo.com/story/Running-To-Make-A-Difference. If you have a passion for Parkinson's disease research, you can make your own page to raise money through dance marathons, bicycle races, in honor of a special occasion, or in support of a family member.



A Philanthropic Twist to Casual Fridays

Talk about inspired enterprise! The law firm O'Melveny & Myers LLP in Menlo Park has developed a creative and fun way for their employees to demonstrate their fundraising spirit. "At our office, people pay \$5 a week to wear jeans on Fridays. They choose one of three charities for that money to go to," said Roberta H. Vespremi. This year, The Parkinson's Institute will receive a portion of the money raised from the O'Melveny &



Myers Jeans for Charity program. Not only is this a great way for private companies to raise money in support of The PI, but it also gives jean-wearing employees the opportunity to tell clients and co-workers about the wonderful research and patient care here at The PI. If you would like to start such a program at your workplace, please call our Director of Development, Jonathan Friedman at 408-542-5606.

The PI Community Fundraising

DANVILLE CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE

We wish to express our gratitude to the Danville d'Elegance Foundation and its exceptional committee members. The dedication and heart they committed to this year's two-day, fun-filled event really showed. The weekend started off strong with **An Evening at The Blackhawk Automotive Museum** which included a glamorous dinner amongst the museum's impressive car collection, a lively auction, and deeply moving speeches from the guests of honor, Derek Hill, the son of the late Phil Hill, and famed race care driver 'Spin and Win' Danny Sullivan.



This year's Concours d'Elegance event was once again staged in beautiful downtown Danville. The 5th annual event raised awareness for our cause and funds to fuel our research. Thank you to Jim Edlund, Former Board Member, Chris Edlund, Amelia Thorton, Bill Bauernfeind, Carol Bickett, Dave Watson, Ellen Bull, Ellen Miller, Jackie George, Kathy Benner, Kellie Hayes, Louise Baxter, Peter George, Robert Canepa,



Chris and Jim Edlund

DIAMONDS IN THE ROUGH

The fabulous Mrs. Boots Bronstein hosted her annual **Diamonds in the Rough** fundraising dinner at her extraordinary winery, Diamond Creek Vineyards. Of special note was the delicious dinner prepared by Robert Curry, Executive Chef of Napa Valley's Auberge du Soleil, and vocal entertainment by Wesla Whitfield. Our thanks to Boots and her committee for honoring her late husband Al, who battled Parkinson's for more than 20 years. Al was an



Dr. J. William Langston, PI CEO; Betty Helford; Boots Bronstein; Dr. Lisa Langston; Irwin Helford, PI Board Member

amazing man, and we are so honored to be a part of an event commemorating his life. Thank you to committee members Marsha Evans, Keren Goeschel, Ron Goldin, Colleen Harder, Larry Stone, and Mark Young.

If you want to be a part of this year's excitement, mark your calendars for October 2, 2010 and prepare to savor the dishes of Charlie Trotter, the winner of 10 James Beard culinary awards!

HOLLOWAY'S HOST PARKINSON'S EVENT EXPLORE, DISCOVER, CHANGE

As an independent, nonprofit focused on novel scientific discovery and comprehensive patient care, we are fortunate to have supporters like Anne and Jack Holloway, who created a wonderful event for our benefit this past November at the Sharon Heights Country Club in Menlo Park. The theme of the evening, "Explore, Discover, Change", highlighted the science and patient care at The PI. Amongst the highlights of the evening were the exceptional speeches by Dr. J. William Langston, PI Founder and Scientific Director who spoke on current developments at The Institute, Anne Wojcicki, co-founder of 23andMe, who reviewed the fascinating story about her company and their collaboration with us, and Dave Iverson, radio host at KQED, who gave us insight into the thoughts of a PD patient. Overall, it was an inspirational evening, and our staff was incredibly touched by the generosity and time Anne, Jack and their team of incredible volunteers committed. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank them once again!



Speakers – Dr. J. William Langston, MD; Thomas Follett; Dave Iverson; Anne Wojcicki; Anne Holloway; Jack Holloway



THE MICHAEL J. FOX FOUNDATION FOR
FOX PARKINSON'S
RESEARCH

The Parkinson's Institute
& The Michael J. Fox
Foundation for
Parkinson's Research
presents

Biomarkers & Clinical Trials in Parkinson's Disease Research

March 31, 2010
6:30 pm – 8pm
at The PI

Featuring Presentations by:

Deborah W. Brooks

Co-Founder, The Michael J. Fox
Foundation for Parkinson's Research

J. William Langston, MD

Founder, CEO, and Scientific Director,
The Parkinson's Institute

The Michael J. Fox
Foundation is launching
a national study with the
ultimate goal of overcoming
some of the roadblocks to
developing more effective
treatments for Parkinson's
disease. Come learn more
about this study and other
upcoming initiatives.

*We look forward
to seeing you there!*

Please RSVP to:
408.542.5636 or
lzachry@thepi.org

**THE BRIN WOJCICKI
FOUNDATION
PLEDGES \$3M
CHALLENGE GRANT**

We are very excited to announce the receipt of a \$3 million challenge grant from the Brin Wojcicki Foundation as the lead gift in The PI's **\$15 million Capital Campaign – A Campaign to Conquer Parkinson's Disease.** The "challenge" feature of the grant invites individuals, foundations and corporations to partner with the Brin Wojcicki Foundation in support of Parkinson's research.

"This capital campaign will allow us not only to continue cutting-edge research, but also to expand it dramatically, while at the same time ensuring that we will continue to deliver compassionate care of the highest quality to our patients. We are thrilled to be in a new expanded facility that makes all of this possible," said J. William Langston, MD, founder and CEO of The Parkinson's Institute.

"The generosity of the Brin Wojcicki Foundation is a cornerstone of our long range fundraising initiative which provides both stability and critical growth potential for The PI," says Jonathan Friedman, Director of Development at The PI. Approximately \$6.8 million has already been raised. For information about the campaign, naming opportunities, and how you can help, please contact Jonathan Friedman at jfriedman@thepi.org or 408-542-5606.

Honor Roll 2009

We gratefully acknowledge the following gifts from individuals, corporations, and foundation whose generosity enables us to carry out our mission. In advance, we apologize for omissions and improper listings. Please direct all questions and comments to Maria Chavez, Development Manager at (408) 542-5673, mchavez@thepi.org.

\$100,000+

The Brin Wojcicki Foundation
Sharron & James Clark
Estate of Alice Cook
Danville d'Elegance Foundation
Phyllis & William Draper
Mary & Ralph Drummond
Kay & Peter Nosler
Megan & Alexander Nosler
Parkinson's Unity Walk, Inc.

\$50,000 - \$99,999

Carolyn & Gerald Bronstein
DPR Construction, Inc.
Betty & Irwin Helford
National Parkinson Foundation
Oxnard Foundation

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Phil N. Allen Charitable Trust
Barbara & Mark Beck
Catherine Boshaw & Doug Edlund
Marcine & Morton Friedman
Alison & James Hengehold
Anne & John Holloway
Estate of Jean Evelyn Letsinger
Mindy & Jesse Rogers

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Aetna
Lisette Ackerberg
Nancy & Samuel Colella
Colella Family Charitable Fund
Raymond T. Duncan Revocable Trust
Dorrit Egli
Gunilla & Thomas Follett
Lysia Forno
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IN MEMORY

J. Walter Duncan Jr.

J. Walter Duncan Jr. passed away on February 21, 2009 at the age of 92 from complications associated with Parkinson's disease. He epitomized the successful businessman, had a wonderful sense of humor, participated in numerous sports, and dearly loved his family. He is survived by his loving wife, Alma (Allie) Ward Cantrell, her three daughters, his three children, and 18 grandchildren. A true advocate for Parkinson's disease research and treatment, we would like to extend our deepest sympathies to his entire family.

Jack D. Kuehler

The former Parkinson's Institute board member and President of IBM, Jack Kuehler, passed away after a long struggle with Parkinson's disease on December 20, 2008 at the age of 76. Survived by his wife Carmen, five children and 12 grandchildren, he was a wonderful husband and a magnificent father. Throughout his life he was committed to Parkinson's disease research and treatment and was a special part of The PI community. He will be greatly missed.

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MARCH 31ST

MICHAEL J. FOX RESEARCH FORUM

APRIL 24TH

UNITY WALK IN CENTRAL PARK, NYC

APRIL 27TH

NOCTURNAL ISSUES AND PD

MAY 1ST

SUNNYVALE PARKINSON'S WALK

MAY 6TH

NEWLY DIAGNOSED SEMINAR

SEPTEMBER 19TH

DANVILLE CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE

OCTOBER 2ND

DIAMONDS IN THE ROUGH FUNDRAISER