



# Newsletter



## President's Message

## CARES, Celebrating "48 Years of Service"



Dear CARES members,

On behalf of the CARES Board of Directors and the LAC+USC Medical Center patients whom we serve, it is my pleasure to extend my most sincere appreciation for your ongoing support. CARES provides many important services, helping to improve our patients' experience during difficult illness, while also continuing to help them in accessing the healthcare that they need. We applaud each and every one of you, and thank you for your continued willingness to help others in need.

We are pleased to announce a new Board Member for CARES, **Dr. Alexandra Levine**, who has been a long time friend of LAC+USC. She started out as a Candy Stripper at LAC+USC before she embarked on an illustrious career in medicine. When calling to reconfirm her desire to become active in CARES once again, she said "I love it at LAC+USC. I love what we do. I love the patients we serve, and I love CARES. I want to come back!" I am pleased to announce that Dr. Levine will be our speaker at the CARES Annual Meeting on April 25th (see details [↗](#)). We hope you will be able to attend this presentation by a knowledgeable and compassionate physician.

Best wishes,

*Mindy Halls* President

[CARES Website: lacusccares.org](http://lacusccares.org)

## Dr. Alexandra Levine will be the Keynote Speaker for the CARES Annual Meeting



**Dr. Alexandra Levine** graduated from the USC/Keck School of Medicine. She did her internship and residency in Internal Medicine and fellowship in Hematology at LAC+USC Medical Center. She spent over 45 years as a physician in leadership positions, as Chief of Hematology at USC, as the Medical Director of USC/Norris Cancer Hospital for its first 20 years, and for the last 10 years, as Chief Medical Officer at City of Hope. Along the way, she was asked by President Clinton to serve on his Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS where she was chosen Chair of the Research Committee. She did extensive research in both HIV/AIDS, and in the field of cancers of the blood system, publishing over 350 articles in the peer reviewed literature. She speaks nationally and internationally on topics as diverse as the immunotherapy of cancer, and the importance of emotional caring as part of any therapeutic regimen. CARES is very honored to welcome Dr. Levine back to LAC+USC and to the podium.



## CARES Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon

**Wednesday, April 25, 2018**

The Valley Hunt Club  
520 S. Orange Grove Blvd., Pasadena  
10:00 a.m.

**Speaker: Alexandra Levine, M.D.**

**"Back to the Future: The Power of the Art of Medicine"**

The CARES Annual Valentine Mail Appeal features amazing LAC+USC staff who testify to the positive impact that CARES programs have on their patients. CARES met



**Dr. L. Julian Haywood** in the LAC+USC Outpatient Cardiology Clinic and saw first hand how patients and young doctors benefit from his experience. The LAC+USC Coronary

Care Unit was renamed after him as recognition for his more than 60 years of service to patients, medical students and cardiology fellows. He is highly regarded for his research into the racial disparities in cardiovascular disease and medicine. His generosity toward his patients has been extended to CARES. We hope his caring will inspire others to give from their "hearts" in honor of Valentine's Day.

**CARES is honored to be the moving force behind the Holiday Giving Program. Thanks to you all for providing a personalized sharing of the December Holidays with so many patients' families.**



CARES partnered with the **National Charity League of San Marino, USC Town & Gown**, and many other individuals from the community who worked together to create a season of giving for many of the patients who come to the LAC+USC Medical Center for care. These families have many things in common: All the families have children; at least one of the family members is suffering from an illness or injury that has impacted their ability to provide adequately for their family's needs; they have no resources to provide gifts to their children for the holidays; and



NCL volunteers spreading joy!

all of them need to know that others care about them during this difficult time in their lives.

Many wonderful ★ ☆ donors reached deep into their pockets to donate specifically for the gifts and food cards, and others volunteered to coordinate and work to dispatch the gifts to the families. This collective effort made a tremendous difference. 1336 children received a bag of treasured gifts and all the parents in these 462 families had a genuine morale boost because of their children's added happiness. This program is an inspiration to all involved!

**“Young Marines” assist CARES with Holiday Giving**



CARES has developed so many wonderful partnerships with LAC+USC Medical Center staff. **Martha Navarro, RN**, is one of those partners. Martha is the Nurse Manager for the Surgical Intensive Care Unit 5A. CARES has found her to be a dedicated staffer who always goes that extra mile for the patients. Like many of CARES partners, she has extended that willingness to help patients by involving her son, thus making it a family activity. Martha's son

**Anthony**, member of the **Southland Young Marines**, came with his group to assist with the CARES Holiday Giving Program.

The Young Marines program focuses on character building and leadership and promotes a healthy lifestyle that is conducive to being productive members of society. Their mission is to positively impact America's future

by providing quality youth development programs for boys and girls that nurture and encourage their members to become responsible citizens.

The Young Marines were so willing to give of their time and energy. CARES and the patients were very grateful for their help. Thanks to Martha for sharing her family and friends to enhance the holidays for the patients and their families.



Martha Navarro, RN





"I believe, I believe, I believe!"



# "You Made the Magic!"

Heartfelt thanks to the following generous supporters who have donated between 9/6/17 and 2/13/17:

### Special Recognition

- \$50,000: *Anonymous LAC+USC Physician*
- \$2,525: *Georgia Ford with Perkins Eastman, Architects for LAC+USC* ★
- \$2,500: *Dr. Alexandra Levine*  
*The Morrison & Foerster Foundation*
- \$2,002: *Susan Currin* \*Isabel Milan, RN, for LAC+USC Nursing  
\*James Buxbaum, M.D., GI Dept.
- \$2,000: *Sue & Jim Femino* \*Weta & Allen Mathies ★  
*Self Realization Fellowship* ☆

This heart next to donor indicates donations made in memory of special persons. An \* indicates donations made "in honor of."

- 🎵 CARES Music Program
- ★ Holiday Giving
- ☆ Patient Crises Fund

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- Elsa & Efrain Munoz* ★
- Paul Murdoch* ★
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- Sina & Daniel Yerushalmi* ★
- Norma Zagorsky* ★
- Gloria Zappaterreno, Ph.D.*
- Stephanie Zill* ★

An envelope is enclosed for your convenience to continue the "Magic" by the generosity of your donation to CARES. Thank You!

## In Memoriam: Thomas Van Cleave Berne, M.D.

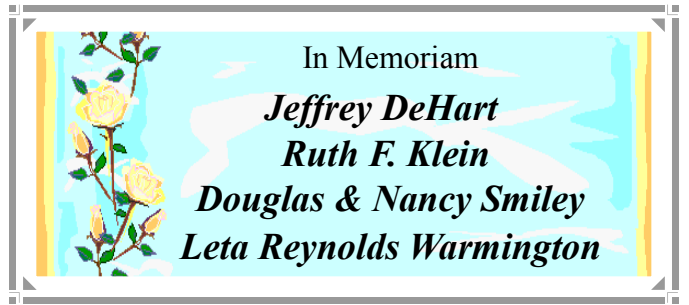


★★★ “When I think of Dr. Berne, I have this vision of drops in a pond and the ripples that go out from that because those that he touched have done amazing things and are helping people and are changing medicine.... So those ripples go on forever and they’re far-reaching, not only in this country but truly around the world.” *Dr. Nathalie Johnson*

*Dr. Thomas Berne* dedicated his life to surgery: teaching, patient care, and research. A graduate of USC Medical School in 1960, he completed his surgical residency at the now LAC+USC Medical Center. After serving as a Fellow in renal transplantation at Guys Hospital in London, he established a renal transplant program and performed the first kidney transplant operation at LAC+USC, and was also instrumental in establishing the Level 1 Trauma Center here at the Medical Center. Through his mentorship, he has inspired doctors now working throughout the world.

Happily married to his wife Cynthia for 60 years, they met in high school and he proposed on the bank of the Seine in Paris. Tom (W6TAG), a ham radio operator from his teens, combined this passion with his concern for public health and safety to coordinate disaster preparedness activities in Silver Lake and Royal Oaks. An expert on “Historic General Hospital,” Dr. Berne toured memorable areas of the building with Huell Howser of KCET. The DVD is still on sale in the CARES Gift Shop (Title: #1705 County USC Medical Center).

He and Cynthia, CARES’ dedicated Vice-President of Fund Raising who has volunteered her time to CARES for over 20 years, loved spending time with their children and grandchildren, scuba diving, skiing and cheering for USC football.



LOS ANGELES COUNTY/USC  
MEDICAL CENTER AUXILIARY



1200 N. State St., Room 1900  
Los Angeles, California 90033