Dear Friends and Family,

Today, September 21, 2006, is World Alzheimer’s Day. As I am sitting at my desk writing this newsletter story in Santa Monica, California, people are taking part in events to commemorate this day all over the world. I would like to tell you about one of them.

My brother, Todd Gelfand, arrived at dawn this morning at the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Africa. He watched the sunrise from 19,341 feet above land—on the roof of Africa. He and a team of 9 other delegates from 8 countries around the world had set out to summit Kilimanjaro to raise funds and awareness for Alzheimer’s disease. What an accomplishment!

It began as many things in this decade do—with an e-mail. It came from Peter Braun, the Executive Director of the Alzheimer’s Association here in Los Angeles, who wrote of the search for a second United States delegate to join an international Ascent team.

Todd has been married for 25 years to Doreen and is the father of 3 kids: Brian, 19; Ilana, 17; and Ben, 10. He spends his days behind a desk running GR&F, a business management firm founded by our father, Marshall Gelfand, along with his partners. On weekends, Todd coaches little league (he is actually the president of the league) and enjoys relaxing with his family. He gets out for some occasional social golf and tennis—no pressures.

But when Todd received the e-mail about the ascent, he made a commitment—and that commitment changed his life forever. Todd began a life of training: hiking, dieting, and researching in preparation for this journey. When he flew to Africa on September 12th, Todd did not know the other 9 hikers who arrived from the Dominican Republic, Canada, United Kingdom, Hungary, Romania, Denmark, Hong Kong and SAR China. He only knew that they shared a determination to face this challenge and that each climber’s own life had been touched by Alzheimer’s disease.

This group raised over $250,000 for Alzheimer research and care. They returned from their summit with a photograph from the top, stories to tell and the deep satisfaction of conquering one of the world’s toughest mountains.

The climbers would agree that the great challenges they faced pale in comparison to those challenges that face caretakers of those who suffer from Alzheimer’s disease. This is the third annual installment of our newsletter and I am happy to report that the funds raised through the Alzheimer’s Association’s chapters across the country and by sister organizations around the world are helping to advance rigorous research in the battle against Alzheimer’s.

What’s left to do? A lot. We need to climb the mountain and summit together. If this disease is not taken down in the next decade, an anticipated 16 million Americans will be living in the various stages of Alzheimer’s by 2050. Today there are 4.5 million. We cannot allow this to happen. Together, with the battle against Alzheimer’s disease behind us, we can all enjoy the view from the top.

Elizabeth Gelfand Stearns
Chair
The Judy Fund
A Night At Sardi’s, Honoring The Judy Fund

by Cheryl Gurin

The stars came out for the 14th annual “A Night at Sardi’s,” on March 8, 2006, a star-studded musical revue and awards dinner benefiting the Alzheimer’s Association. The sold-out event raised $1.1 million to fight this terrible disease.

Each year, A Night at Sardi’s brings in talented celebrities who volunteer their time for free, like Jason Alexander, John Lithgow, Bea Arthur, Jennifer Garner, Kelsey Grammer, Alfred Molina, John O’Hurley, Jean Smart, Victor Garber, Wayne Brady, Megan Mullally, Peter Boyle and Eric McCormack, and pack the room and put on concert versions of shows such as Oklahoma, Hair, The Music Man and Grease. This year’s show was Funny Girl, and raised $1.2 million in support of both care and research for the battle against Alzheimer’s. The honorary co-chairs of the show read like a Who’s Who of show business. Laurie’s brother, James Burrows (director of Will & Grace, Cheers—which he also created—Taxi, 3rd Rock from the Sun, and Friends, to name a few), television star Shelley Fabares, Garry Marshall and David Hyde Pierce all co-chaired. This year’s event at The Beverly Hilton Hotel honored The Judy Fund with the Gene Raymond Philanthropy Award, television show Grey’s Anatomy with the Abe Burrows Entertainment Award, Los Angeles Board Member Herb Hirsh with the Caregiver Award and Elan Corporation, plc, with the Corporate Leadership Award.

Since The Judy Fund’s inception in 2003, it has raised more than $2.4 million.

At this year’s extravaganza, director/producer Garry Marshall presented the award to family patriarch Marshall Gelfand and daughter Elizabeth Gelfand Stearns, saying “It is my distinct pleasure to be here tonight and join in honoring the Gelfand family who I am proud to call good friends of mine.”

The Judy Fund invites everyone to please join them in the battle to end Alzheimer’s disease in this generation and for the generations to come.

2005 Alzheimer’s Association Memory Walk, The Judy Fund Team

by Cheryl Gurin

On October 22, 2005, the Alzheimer’s Association held its 13th annual Memory Walk at Hollywood Park. Thousands came out to raise money one step at a time for research and patient care. More than $550,000 was raised that day for the cause.

Yes, spirit was in the air. But, no team had more spirit in evidence than the members of The Judy Fund team. Lead by Ilana Gelfand, Todd Gelfand’s youthful daughter, the team captured the Most Spirit Team Award for the day. A whoop of joy was heard when the winning team was announced.

“It felt necessary to take the lead because Granny would expect nothing less,” said team captain Ilana Gelfand. “Granny was always a philanthropist who took charge and now it’s my turn. I am fortunate to have gained many of her other amazing qualities, why not that too?”

Each year, families, businesses and individuals form teams to raise money for the cause. This family-oriented event gives a light-hearted break from the awful reality of Alzheimer’s disease and features a wonderful mix of celebrities and remembrance.

Since its inception, the Los Angeles Memory Walk has raised more than $6 million to combat Alzheimer’s disease.
It was a magical evening with memories that will last a lifetime. Friends, family and other elite of the Coachella Valley gathered to celebrate the life of the late Judy Gelfand at the Seventh Annual Judy Fund Gala at Rancho Las Palmas Marriott Resort and Spa on November 18, 2005.

The Gala raised a record $420,000. Of this, 60 percent is designated to support local programs and services provided to Alzheimer’s patients, and 40 percent supports national research projects designated by The Judy Fund.

“Last year the event raised $370,000, and the year prior $100,000,” said Marshall Gelfand. “We are clearly making headway in providing even more much-needed care and support to local families facing Alzheimer’s disease.”

There was fabulous dancing, dining and high-powered networking taking place in the room, which glittered with beautiful gowns and gentleman dressed to the nines in their black ties. Legendary singer/actor Jack Jones headlined the evening’s entertainment, amazing the audience with his talent and passion. Monty Hall emceed the evening and provided everyone with a great deal of enjoyment.

Longtime supporters of the Alzheimer’s Association, Board members and advocates Glenn and Carol Bjorklund received the night’s Maureen Reagan Caregiver Award for their love and dedication to Carol’s mother Helen Weddle, who succumbed to Alzheimer’s disease. The award was presented by previous Maureen Reagan Caregiver award recipient, Ann Marie Byfield.

The first Judy Gelfand Community Service Award was presented to Milt W. Jones, president of Desert Publications, Inc., publisher of Palm Springs Life Magazine, for his support of the Alzheimer’s Association and the local community. Marshall Gelfand presented him with the award.

Noted philanthropist Jackie Lee Houston was the evening’s honorary chair.

Guests agreed they could not wait for next year’s event, which is set for November 12, 2006.
Dr. Philip Sloane

We are pleased to provide an update on the following advances made possible by the generosity of The Judy Fund donors.

Dr. Philip Sloane, 2004 recipient of the Alzheimer’s Association Pioneer Award, the flagship grant within The Judy Fund Research Awards, reports that he and his research team have been conducting several studies within the past year related to improving long-term care for persons with Alzheimer’s disease. “We believe that the health care needs of persons with Alzheimer’s disease are not going to go away, but that instead they will change over the coming decades,” says Dr. Sloane.

With the hope of disease modifying Alzheimer drug treatments on the horizon, Dr. Sloane is addressing the impact that these advances may have on the future needs of Alzheimer’s patients. “For example, we have used statistical modeling to predict the way that health care needs will change if and when more effective drugs are developed to slow the course of Alzheimer’s disease,” remarks Sloane. “Given the advances in basic research on beta amyloid, we think that this is likely to happen.”

Understanding the relationship between advances in drug treatment and Alzheimer patient care, Dr. Sloane and his group are hard at work to ensure appropriate care options are available when the need arises. “The interesting thing is that, if and when more effective therapies are introduced, the profile of Alzheimer’s disease will change such that there will be more persons living longer with the disease, but with more persons in the milder stages,” remarks Dr. Sloane. “This will require more sophisticated home-based and outpatient treatment options.”

Dr. Sloane’s Pioneer Award is also focusing on improvement of medical care in assisted living facilities. His team conducted interviews and focus groups with assisted living administrators and health care coordinators who identified a host of issues that they would like improved. A few topics discussed included the number of medications used, the need for better resident care plans, and trouble communicating with physician offices. “One possible solution that we are exploring is to see whether retired health professionals would be interested in helping out in long-term care,” Dr. Sloane says. “Little is known about physician retirement, or of what types of part-time roles might be appealing, so we are conducting a survey of nearly 2,000 physicians to learn more. Our feeling is that, with the baby boomers nearing retirement age, the system needs to figure out ways to take advantage of their expertise and energy.”

Dr. Sloane is the Elizabeth and Oscar Goodwin Distinguished Professor of Family Medicine at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
Alzheimer’s Association science advisors estimate we’ll know within 5 to 10 years whether anti-amyloid drugs represent one success story in next-generation treatments to slow or stop progression of the disease.

Challenges in trial design
The new crop of trials has heightened awareness of challenges in testing treatments for an illness that chiefly occurs late in life and progresses very slowly. An important effort to address these issues took place at a November 2005 meeting of the Alzheimer’s Association Research Roundtable, a consortium of Association senior science staff and advisors, pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, and imaging equipment manufacturers. The Roundtable convenes several times each year to identify common challenges in research and drug discovery and share expertise across member organizations. Over the two-day meeting, members and invited experts, including officials from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), explored ideal clinical trial design for a drug that might slow or stop Alzheimer’s disease.

Alzheimer’s & Dementia: The Journal of the Alzheimer’s Association
In another move to sustain momentum, the Alzheimer’s Association launched its new quarterly publication Alzheimer’s & Dementia: The Journal of the Alzheimer’s Association. Through a progressive editorial policy emphasizing cross-disciplinary work and open-peer commentaries on published articles, Alzheimer’s & Dementia will accelerate dialogue on key issues and promote rapid translation of insights from the laboratory to the clinic. In August, the inaugural issue of Alzheimer’s & Dementia went out to more than 4,000 subscribers worldwide.

Prevention: Our most direct route to success
Experts agree the surest path to a world without Alzheimer’s lies in preventing the disease. In Washington, D.C., over five days in June 2005, the Alzheimer’s Association hosted the first-ever International Conference on Prevention of Dementia. The event attracted nearly 1,000 attendees involved in disciplines ranging from research and treatment to public policy and health care economics. Conference coverage in print and broadcast outlets generated more than 340 million media impressions worldwide.

In addition to offering a forum for cutting-edge science, the Prevention Conference added a new dimension to the concept of a biomedical meeting when scientists were given an opportunity to carry an advocacy message to Capitol Hill: increase federal funding for Alzheimer research to $1 billion annually. Thirty-five researchers took the challenge and, after a briefing on the politics of research funding and the Congressional decision-making process, traveled to the Capitol where they met with key legislators.

Based on positive feedback from participating scientists and members of Congress, an advocacy event will become a permanent feature of future Alzheimer’s Association scientific meetings held in the U.S. capital.

Progress in treatment and care
Ensuring the best possible treatment and care for those living with Alzheimer’s today is of equal importance to finding tomorrow’s answers. In July, we introduced our Alzheimer’s Association Campaign for Quality Residential Care, a multiyear initiative to make life better for people with dementia in assisted living residences and nursing homes. Our campaign includes training for direct care workers and supervisors, consumer education on choosing long-term care, and advocacy with long-term care providers and policy makers. Evidence-based principles and recommendations agreed upon by 24 leading health and senior care organizations provide the campaign’s foundation.

We also reached out to physicians by serving as one of several proud sponsors of the Fourth Annual Dementia Congress, a two-day continuing medical education event. In general sessions and individual tracks focusing on primary care, psychiatry and neurology, the Congress aims to familiarize doctors with state-of-the-art concepts in dementia treatment, diagnosis and care, and to foster a positive clinical attitude toward individuals with dementia and their families.

Alzheimer’s Association 2005 research funding
Direct funding of research offers an important avenue for the Alzheimer’s Association to help advance the field and to influence the directions in which it moves. With set-aside grants for young investigators, our funding also plays a vital role in nurturing the next generation of talented scientists. Through the generosity of our donors, in 2005 we awarded 12 percent more funds to 30 percent more projects compared with 2004. Since beginning our research grants program in 1982, we have awarded in excess of $185 million to more than 1,400 projects.

While we are heartened by many promising developments in 2005, we recognize that much remains to be done. From the vantage point of 25 years of progress, we look ahead with a renewed commitment to our vision of a world without Alzheimer’s disease.

Advancing the Field
The Judy Fund is thrilled, through the tremendous generosity of its donors, to help aggressively advance the field of Alzheimer research. Last year, The Judy Fund became a member of the Alzheimer’s Association’s prestigious Zenith Fellows group, comprised of some of the Association’s most committed and generous supporters. Zenith members make possible the Association’s Zenith research grants—which historically have had great impact on the field of research.

Since their founding in 1990, the Zenith Fellows program has contributed over $30 million to Alzheimer research, bringing interest and support to new and emerging lines of investigations, some of which have proven significant to the field. Zenith grant recipients include leading scientists such as Dr. Joseph Rogers of the Sun Health Research Institute, one of “the pioneers” of inflammatory research in Alzheimer’s disease, and Dr. Alison Goate of Washington University who identified the first mutation that causes Alzheimer’s disease.

Each year, Zenith members select a number of Association peer-reviewed projects to receive their support. Over the next several years The Judy Fund will have the distinct honor to be recognized alongside one Zenith grant recipient. In 2005, The Judy Fund and Zenith Fellows supported Dr. Bruce Lamb at Case Western Reserve and this year, The Judy Fund and Zenith Fellows supported Dr. Ramon Diaz- Arrastia at the University of Texas Southwestern at Dallas. Through this work, The Judy Fund is proud to help the Association remain the leader in advancing cutting edge Alzheimer research.
Remembering Judy
By Sue Herzog

Remembering Judy...and I do, every day! Her picture — one of hundreds that give insight into her essence and soul, “that” smile and those dancing eyes that instantly captivate sits in a special place.

So many memories...they began one evening in 1956 at New York’s Pierre Hotel, where Don and I waited anxiously to meet Moe’s wife-to-be. Judy stepped out of the elevator alone and I thought, “wow, who is she?” Jersey girls, always look at NY glamour girls as being somebody…and Judy was a smash, in a brown satin slip-dress, spikes, blond do’ and fab makeup! We greeted one another and, unsure of who was who, “Asked are you…?” Finally, car parked, Moe arrived and a lifelong friendship began. We spent four hours getting to know each other, the guys involved in guy-talk…and she, not the glamour girl, but a warm, delightful, bright, down-to-earth being who became my dearest and most cherished friend. Little did I know of her numerous talents!

Ours was a comfortable and loving sisterhood. It was a girly-girly one, and I smile as I reminisce about time spent with the Jaffes… Harry’s song fests as Judes played our old favorites, not-so-great American novels read aloud, Loehmans shopping, unearthing unique buttons to revitalize a favorite outfit and great fabrics for Jude’s redecorating projects, quarterly closet throw-outs, hours at Beverly Hot Springs, our “girls’ trips,” afternoon movies “the guys” wouldn’t see, hours devoted to discussions about child-rearing, producing wonderful brunches and dinners in Palm Springs and Malibu while recuperating, helping her with her outstanding and legendary community activities, and being in awe at her ability to engage and involve others, making all feel valued…a real gift! A gold star for my 50th birthday sitting on my night table, a constant remembrance of the incredible star she was!

I loved our long rides, our quiet moments, our late night chats, and the time we shared with each other’s kids, on both coasts. I still giggle, remembering an evening call from Judes. Todd was six days old and while we had reviewed “the new mother’s schedule” a dozen times I realized as she asked “when do I shower and dress?” that I had left out an important task. I tear, seeing her looking at me through the glassine window of an oxygen tent, visiting the hospital each day for weeks, at home with Ella by her side, nursing me back to health with compassion, chicken soup, love, caring, chocolate pudding and devotion. But, in retrospect, this is how Judes did everything.

Judy was a gift, and losing her when and as we did created an indescribable void in my life…but the love, friendship and caring from her children, their spouses and her grandchildren has diminished that void and blessed me with more wonderful memories.

Sue Herzog is a professional problem solver, commonly known as a Consultant. She founded Diversified Resources, Inc., an international technical assistance and training corporation, in 1979, providing contract services to corporations, organizations and local, state and federal government agencies for 23 years. Presently, she is involved in grant writing and training for not-for-profit domestic violence and substance abuse prevention organizations. Sue can be contacted at suherzog@gmail.com

Save the Date
Wednesday
March 7th
Beverly Hilton Hotel
Beverly Hills, CA

A Night at Sardi’s
A Nodding Acquaintance

By Laurence Rosenthal

It started with a knock on the door. Janis Mizokami Weiss was surprised to find her neighbor, Mrs. Bryce, standing before her. Though they'd shared a nodding acquaintance for many years, Janis Weiss had never had a conversation with the well-dressed, neatly coiffed widow across the hall. Mrs. Bryce needed help with her television remote control and Janis Weiss was only too glad to assist her.

In the days and weeks that ensued the knocks on the door increased. Mrs. Bryce was forever having trouble with some sort of thing or another. But when Janis Weiss discovered the older woman's apartment full of smoke, she grew alarmed. So she asked the concierge of the building whether Mrs. Bryce had any visitors or family she could contact. The concierge knew of no visitors, no family or friends, “no one checks on her,” so Janis Weiss started knocking on Mrs. Bryce’s door – with flowers, with food, or just to say hello.

Then one day Janis Weiss spotted Mrs. Bryce walking arm in arm with two women down the street. She was relieved to finally meet people who knew Mrs. Bryce. But they didn’t. The two ladies had found Mrs. Bryce wandering around the neighborhood without any notion of her address.

Though Janis tried to discuss the gravity of the situation with Mrs. Bryce, the older woman promptly forgot their conversation the next day. Then Mrs. Bryce fell. In the street. An ambulance came. The hospital contacted the concierge. The concierge referred them to Janis Weiss.

Mrs. Bryce had been examined by hospital psychologists and had been determined “mentally incapacitated.” She was being held in restraint. Mrs. Bryce would likely languish at the hospital in that condition until the state processed her, unless Janis Weiss came to pick her up. The hospital asked Janis, “What do you want to do?”

Janis Weiss never really knew Mrs. Bryce. But she had grown up with elderly grandparents and a belief that you look out for them, inherent to her Japanese culture. When Janis called her 80 year old mother and asked “What should I do?” her mother’s response was “God put you there for a reason.”

And so began an eight year journey for the former showroom model, who tangled with the legal system, government bureaucracies and several people of less than sterling character, on behalf of a woman who never even knew her name. Along the way, she was aided by lawyers, doctors, beauticians, and “God’s angel” in the form Jeanette, a Jamaican care-taker she found to attend to Mrs. Bryce 24/7 for seven years straight.

Janis Weiss discovered that people were only too happy to be a part of such a wonderful thing. When Mrs. Bryce passed, in her own bed, in her own home – her life ended in comfort.

Janis shared her story with her friend Doris Schechter, who, in return told Janis of her friend Judy Gelfand, another victim of Alzheimer’s disease. In response, Janis Weiss decided that The Judy Fund would be the recipient of a large donation, in memory of Mrs. Bryce.

Passed from a solitary widow to a kind neighbor to a thoughtful friend to a social philanthropist, this gift inextricably links four women through a spirit of generosity.

It started with a knock on the door. Janis Weiss opened that door – to an opportunity; an opportunity to give with no expectation of return. And as she attests, “the rewards have been great.”

Laurence Rosenthal is a Los Angeles based writer. He is also the subject of the book “The Day Laurence Rosenthal Was Born” by Judy Gelfand.
Memories, Like the corners of my mind  
Misty water-colored memories 
Of the way we were 

Scattered pictures, Of the smiles we left behind 
Smiles we gave to one another 
For the way we were 

Can it be that it was all so simple then? Or has time re-written 
every line? If we had the chance to do it all again 
Tell me, would we? Could we? 

Memories, may be beautiful and yet 
What's too painful to remember 
We simply choose to forget 
So it's the laughter 
We will remember 
Whenever we remember... The way we were... The way we were... 

The Alzheimer’s Association is deeply grateful to the family, friends, business colleagues and corporations who have so generously supported the 
foundering and growth of The Judy Fund. Marshall M. Gelfand and his family established The Judy Fund in 2003 in loving memory of his wife, Judy Gelfand. 
Since its inception, this family fund has raised nearly $2.6 million in support of the Alzheimer’s Association to help prevent this disease from striking future 
generations. Your support has enabled The Judy Fund to finance various vital research grants, including the Association’s flagship grant, the Pioneer Award 
in 2004. Thank you for joining the Gelfand family in helping to advance the Alzheimer’s Association’s mission.