

SOUTHERN

Seasons

RICHARD R. HAYS AND JUANITA
AND GREGORY BARANCO.

EUROPE
BY SEA
PERSPECTIVE
OF A JEWISH
FRENCHMAN
DINING
LE BILBOQUET

STAR-WORTHY
BUCKHEAD
ESTATE
SOUTHERN
WEDDINGS
FUNDRAISERS
STYLE

LUXURY LIFESTYLES
IN THE SOUTH

GRADY:

Medical Excellence

BY MARY BUSBY



SMITH'S STUDIO OF PHOTOGRAPHY

The 2015 Magnolia Ball Executive Committee: Decorations vice-chairs **Susan Stone Adams** and **Julia Wilson**; co-chair **Tina Reid**; decorations vice-chair **Erica Greene**; sponsorship vice-chair **Tim Warren**; co-chair **Erica Tisinger**; auction vice-chairs **Emily Garner**, **Ann Newman** and **Kristen Gill**. (Not photographed, sponsorship vice-chair Jim Gill.)

Storm Clouds with Silver Linings

A west Georgia gala that began with monsoon-like rain celebrates its silver anniversary this year. Tanner Medical Foundation's 25th Annual Magnolia Ball will take place on April 25 in support of a dedicated, inpatient Orthopedic and Spine Unit at Tanner Medical Center/Carrollton.

After an inauspicious start, few could have predicted the event would become a venerated local tradition still being celebrated a quarter century later. The inaugural ball, staged under a "big tent" in the countryside on May 4, 1991, was preempted by torrential rain. Ladies found their feet stained the color of their dyed shoes and tuxedoed gentlemen were soon drenched from pushing cars out of the mud.

Yet the rain couldn't dampen spirits, and an evening of lively entertainment and sumptuous food in the company of local

luminaries ensued. More than \$220,000 was raised for Tanner Medical Center's (then) new Cardiac Catheterization Lab. Thanks to a call placed by one intrepid guest, 25 tons of gravel was delivered before the band finished, allowing guests to easily drive home from the ball.



Since then, Tanner Medical Foundation's signature fundraising gala has raised nearly \$9 million in support of vital initiatives at Tanner Health System. With help from more than 200 volunteers, a magical world unfolds each spring under expansive tents on the grounds of the Richards' family estate in Carrollton. Committee members labor on every detail from auction preparations to decor for themes such as "License to Thrill" and "Kentucky Derby."

"Le Cirque des Rêves, Celebrating 25 Years of Magical Memories" was selected by co-chairs Tina Reid and Erica Tisinger as this year's theme. Inspired by a mystical circus that arrives unannounced in the best-selling novel *Night Circus*, this ethereal motif is a fitting backdrop to the Magnolia Ball's 25th anniversary fundraiser. And for generations of west Georgians who will benefit from the new Orthopedic and Spine Unit, it is truly a silver lining.