



HOLLYWOOD HELPING IN THE FIGHT AGAINST LUPUS

West Coast Division of the S.L.E. Lupus Foundation · Member of the Lupus Research Institute National Coalition · Spring 2007

CARRIE BRILLSTEIN, SHARON STONE AND OTHER HOLLYWOOD “BAG LADIES” RAISE \$350,000 FOR LUPUS RESEARCH

What does it take to get hundreds of Hollywood’s most glamorous women to be “bag ladies” for a day? Start with a good sense of humor, plenty of fabulous accessories and a great cause—like finding a cure for the autoimmune disease, lupus.

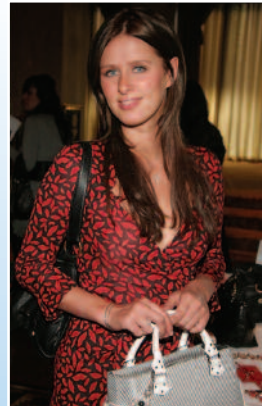
Those are the elements that make up Lupus LA’s annual “Hollywood Bag Ladies Lupus Luncheon,” now in its fourth year and one of the most anticipated fundraisers of the season. Held October 26 at the Regent Beverly Wilshire in Beverly Hills, the afternoon soiree raised more than \$350,000 for the groundbreaking research efforts of the Lupus Research Institute. Steve Edwards, host of *Good Day LA*, exuded wit and charm as Master of Ceremonies, while attendees enjoyed the spirited festivities and participated in the luncheon’s signature handbag auction, highlighted by the always surprising and ever-generous Sharon Stone.

Entertainment industry icon Bernie Brillstein presented the 2006 “Woman of Achievement” award to his wife, Carrie Brillstein. For more than 20 years, Carrie has lent her energy and enthusiasm to raise awareness of autoimmune diseases. As a founding member and vice president of Lupus LA, Carrie’s dedication has helped to put the organization on the map and make the “Hollywood Bag Ladies Lupus Luncheon” such a great success. In its brief history, the event has contributed nearly \$1 million to the fight against lupus.

Event chairs Noah Alexander, Peri Ellen Berne, Marla Paxson, Beverly Sassoon and Kelly Stone led guests in bidding on the more than 400 handbags featured in the silent auction. Bags in every size, shape and color were donated by celebrities such as Hilary Swank, Charlize Theron, Julia Roberts and Natalie Portman, as well as by designers Michael Kors, Jimmy Choo, Fendi, Badgley Mischka, and others.

“We really need a cure for lupus, but I don’t really need very many handbags,” Sharon Stone told *Extra TV*. Sharon, sister of Event Chair Kelly Stone, donated 100 bags from her own closet, showcased as the “The Sharon Stone Collection.” She also presided over the live auction, during which actress Julie Benz of Showtime’s *Dexter* and Nicky Hilton modeled many of the big ticket items up for grabs.

To see more photos from the 4th Annual Hollywood Bag Ladies Lupus Luncheon, log on to www.LupusLA.org.



Pictured above (clockwise): Sharon Stone; ER’s Linda Cardellini; Nicky Hilton; Bernie and Carrie Brillstein; Dexter’s Julie Benz

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*An Evening of Love,
Light & Laughter*

May 8, 2007 · Beverly Hills Hotel

**Honoring Shawn Ryan (Executive Producer)
& CCH Pounder of *The Shield***

**Master of Ceremonies
Actor and Comedian Jay Mohr**

**Celebrity Auctioneer
Talk Show Host and NBA Veteran John Salley**

A Benefit to Support the Lupus Research Institute

**For tickets and more information,
contact Sharp Associates at 310-652-7770**

FASHION LENDS A HELPING HANDBAG

Philanthropy marries design in this exclusive collaboration inspired by friendship

Four years ago, when Susan Farber was new to the world of handbag design, she met Kelly Stone and was immediately touched by her “zest for life, kindness, strong character and loyalty.” Since then, Susan Farber’s handbags have been worn by stars on *Desperate Housewives*, *Arrested Development* and *The OC*, and featured in the pages of *Lucky*, *People* and *Women’s Wear Daily*. Her close friendship with Kelly has also grown. When Kelly was diagnosed with lupus recently, it gave Susan the opportunity to use her success to raise funds and awareness for a disease that affects more than one million women nationwide.

In December 2006, Kelly and Susan launched the “Kelly for Susan Farber” handbag collection, to benefit the Lupus Research Institute. The plush, limited-edition messenger bags include delicately beaded tassels, a cell phone compartment and an interior zip pocket lined in soft suede. The bags are available for a limited time at top Macy’s West locations and online at www.susanfarbercollections.com. Buy one and a generous portion of the proceeds goes to finding new treatments and a cure for lupus.



Above: Susan Farber, Kelly Stone and Sharon Stone arrive at the “Hollywood Bag Ladies Lupus Luncheon”; Below: Two of the “Kelly for Susan Farber” limited edition messenger bags.



Lupus LA Offers New Support Group

Lupus LA kicked off its monthly patient support group meetings in February at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center’s Thaliens Auditorium. Set to meet the second Wednesday of each month at 7pm, the support group provides the opportunity to learn coping strategies, get advice, and talk with other people affected by lupus.

Every other month, a prominent guest speaker will discuss a special topic. February’s meeting featured Cedars-Sinai Director of Rheumatology Michael Weisman, MD, who spoke on the topic “Lupus and Blood Tests: What do They Mean?” Cedars-Sinai is located in Los Angeles at 8730 Alden Drive, Plaza Level. Complimentary parking is available. For more information on upcoming meetings, visit www.LupusLA.org. Please join us!

VISIT WWW.LUPUSLA.ORG FOR THE LATEST NEWS & EVENTS



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