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"Chick Against TicksSM" Fundraiser Tickles Guests and Raises \$30,000 for Research

The National Research Fund for Tick-borne Diseases, Inc. (NRFTD) hosted a first-ever special "Ladies Night" called "*Chicks Against TicksSM*" this past Wednesday at the New Canaan home of NRFTD Board member, Carolyn Buttrick. "*Chicks Against TicksSM*" is targeting women who have an interest in combating the scourge of tick-borne illnesses which so significantly affect their families and friends.

Entertaining the more than 70 women guests was comedienne, Jane Condon of Greenwich, Connecticut, who rocked the crowd with her humor. Also speaking was nationally-known psychologist and author Dale V. Atkins who talked about her latest book, *Sanity Savers*, a book that she wrote with co-author Barbara Scala to help women cope with life's challenges.

Cathy Morrissey, NRFTD Research Board Chair, spoke about the research mission. "The NRFTD is the only Lyme disease organization focused exclusively on funding scientific research for tick-borne diseases. It's an advantage to have the support and guidance of our distinguished scientific advisory board, a team of prominent, nationally known researchers. Their expertise in reviewing grants and strict selection process ensures that we fund projects with the greatest potential to advance scientific discovery and help patients."

Serena Benenson, New Canaan resident and NRFTD's newest board member explained her motivation for supporting the NRFTD mission, "Based on my own experience with Lyme, I know that peer-reviewed, unbiased research is the key to identifying, diagnosing and treating Lyme disease"

Richard Whitman of Connecticut Tick Control underwrote the event which was catered by New Canaan resident Marge Foster Catering.

About the National Research Fund for Tick-Borne Diseases, Inc.

The NRFTD is a nonprofit organization devoted to funding scientific research in the rapidly expanding field of tick-borne diseases. It is determined to advance scientific understanding of these complicated infections by sponsoring innovative research of the highest quality at premier institutions throughout the world.

The NRFTD was founded in 1999 to address the complex and critical research questions raised by thousands of patients afflicted with emerging tick-borne diseases, including Lyme disease, relapsing fever borrelia, anaplasmosis, babesiosis, bartonella and ehrlichiosis. The need for answers has grown markedly as Lyme disease has spread dramatically throughout the country and as other tick-borne infections have been recognized as public health threats.

For more information about the NRFTD, or to make a tax-deductible donation, visit www.nrftd.org.