

# PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE-REVIEW

## Sickle Cell Society roasts Jim Roddey

By Kate Guerriero  
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"Jim would attend the opening of an envelope if you sent him an invite," mused **Ken McCrory** (with **Pam**), who, along with Co-chair Linda Dickerson, began the toast 'n roast of honoree **Jim Roddey**, the man du jour of the Sickle Cell Society's special recognition dinner held at the Marriott City Center on Thursday

"Someone once asked my wife (Elin) if I get nervous when I'm asked to speak," he quipped. "She said, 'No, he gets nervous when he isn't asked to speak.'"

Having become one of our favorite (and most entertaining) emcees on the social circuit, he's solidified an infamous reputation as an auctioneer extraordinaire with a penchant for convincing us to up the ante, while also possessing more one-liners than Jay Leno. But more importantly, it's his steadfast dedication over the years to countless non-profits (including 20 years with SCS) that had us all raising a glass.

"If my mother had been here she actually would've believed all of the nice things everyone is saying about me," he laughed.

We saw board Prez Dr. **Frederick Sams**, director **Neddie Hollis**, **Augustus Brown Jr.**, **Cecile Springer**, **Jay** and **Ranny Ferguson**, Drs. **Loren** and **Ellen Roth**, **Jackie Dixon**, **William Thompkins**, **Valerie** and **Saihou Njie**, and emcee **Harold Hayes** of KDKA.

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