



House Talk

Kiwaniis in Action at our Kiwanis Family House

Volume X Issue 7

January 2010

Inside this issue:

Important dates	2
Not in my backyard!	3
KFH Ambassadors	4
Skill Bank Needs	4
Red & White Ball!	5
Letters	7
Contact Editor	8

From our house,
to your house:



We wish you a
Happy and a
Prosperous
New Year!



Sponsor a Family for a Night!

- ◆ A donation of \$40 buys a day for those who can not pay.
- ◆ A donation of \$280 buys a week's worth of days for those who can not pay.
- ◆ A donation of \$1,200 would provide an account of 30 days for guests to draw from.
- ◆ See details on page 4.

Janus... as in January



In Roman mythology, **Janus** was the god of gates, doors, doorways, beginnings, and endings. His most apparent remnant in modern culture is his namesake, the month of January.

To assist Janus, with his backward and forward looking abilities a *brain trust* was established and polled. The *brain trust* could be considered the movers and shakers of our Kiwanis Family House.

The *Brain Trust* was asked: "What were your greatest

achievements in your position for the KFH in 2009? What are your personal goals for your position in the KFH for 2010?"

Here are the responses:

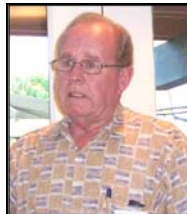
Board Member **Neil Strain** writes: "I am one of the newer board members and as such I am paying attention and trying to learn my new job. My hope for the future would be to help develop a plan that will put KFH on a solid financial footing."

"I feel honored to have been elected to serve on a board of such a worthy cause as our

(Continued on page 4)

President's Message by Rick Dwyer

Here we are at the end of another year for your **Kiwanis Family House**. Much has been accomplished this year with the help of our *Sponsor Kiwanis Clubs*, *Non-Sponsor Kiwanis Clubs*, *Key Clubs*, *Grant Sponsors* and *Friends of the Kiwanis Family House*. Thank you one and all for your generous support, time, and the wonderful gifts you have bestowed for the benefit of our guests. We could not make it without your loyal support. Thank you for your non-monetary gifts such as food, clothing, books, toiletries, ink cartridges, and paper products. These amenities are greatly appreciated by our guests. Not only that these amenities are in reality necessities. Which means the



donations ease our bottom line.

Thanks to all those clubs and friends who did contribute generously with their dollars from club fundraisers throughout the year. At least 20% of our revenue is generated through your generosity. This **Family House** would not exist without your *25 years of continuous support*.

Our goal this year was to hopefully fund all our debt and operating expenses without going into the **Red** column. We accomplished this despite the reduction in grants and fundraisers from last year. This was not without serious expense reductions authorized by your board. The board is to be commended for its work this year; we were able to break even by cutting expenses to a minimum. This has been a difficult year, but with your

New Year's Resolution!



I hereby resolve to
elevate my club to
Sponsor Club Status!

Or

I hereby resolve to
complete my
Sponsor Club re-
quirements A.S.A.P.!

"...This Family House would not exist without your 25 years of continuous support..."

help and continued blessings we will meet those goals and hopefully exceed them next year.

I hope that all of you have a great Merry Holiday and a prosperous New Year. To my fellow **board members** I thank you so much for your support, contributions and assistance. I could not have made it throughout the year without your advice, fellowship and support.

A big thank you to our great staff for all your work!. Your dedicated ef-

(Continued on page 8)

Our Kiwanis Family
House is a United Way
Certified Partner Agency!



www.kiwanisfamilyhouse.org



Important Dates

**Kiwanis Family House
Board meetings
Kiwanis Family House
2875 50th Street
Sacramento, CA 95817
Second Thursdays 7:00 pm**

2010

January 14

February 11

March 11

April 8

May 14

June is the month for annual meeting. Date and time will be announced later.

Kiwanis Family House Mission Statement

"Dedicated to providing temporary housing and support to families of seriously ill children being treated at University of California at Davis Medical Center"

House Talk is a monthly newsletter published by the Kiwanis Family House, Inc. P.O. Box 189091 Sacramento, CA 95818-9091. (916) 736-0116. The Kiwanis Family House is located at 2875 50th Street, Sacramento, California.

website: www.kiwanisfamilyhouse.org

The Kiwanis Family House is a 501 (c) 3 organization incorporated by in the State of California and recognized by the IRS.

Board of Kiwanis Family House

President.....**William "Rick" Dwyer (2011)**
Vice President...**William L. Hooper (2011)**
Secretary.....**Richard Kocher (2010)**
Treasurer.....**Joyce A. Blonskij (2012)**
Director.....**Rick Domenick (2011)**
Director.....**Jack Maley (2011)**
Director.....**Robin McIver Esq(2011)**
Director.....**Bob Tutton (2010)**
Director.....**Roni Stroud (2010)**
Director.....**Dan Saulisberry (2012)**
Director.....**Neil Strain (2012)**
Past President.....**Loring Turrell**
UCDMC Liaison.....**J.P. Eres III**
Communications Coordinator...**Frank Reed**
Editor.....**John W. Seigal**

House Talk is published monthly and sent to supporters and owners of the Kiwanis Family House. The editor is solely responsible for the content. It is the intent to be 100% accurate. Articles labeled as Editorial represent the opinion of the editor and may not represent the opinion of the Kiwanis Family House, the board, or Kiwanis International. The address of the editor is P.O. Box 1131 Slough-house, CA 95683-1131 or email: jwseigal@sbcglobal.net



Visit us at:

- ◆ **Kiwanis Cal-Nev-Ha District
Mid-year South Burbank Marriott February 20, 2010**
- ◆ **Kiwanis Cal-Nev-Ha District
Mid-year North San Jose Marriott March 6, 2010**
- ◆ **Kiwanis International Convention June 24-27, 2010**
- ◆ **90th Annual Kiwanis Cal-Nev-Ha District Convention Aug 19-21 2010
Silver Legacy Hotel
Reno, Nevada**

Subscription information about House Talk

- ♥ *House Talk is the official publication of our KFH.*
- ♥ Each Sponsor Club is emailed a copy to the designated Kiwanian.
- ♥ If you are interested in receiving the House Talk via email visit our website at: www.kiwanisfamilyhouse.org and enter your email address on the lower left-hand corner where it says "Sign Up For Our Email Newsletter".
- ♥ If you wish to receive it by US Postal Service contact Editor on page 8.

Free money



There are still areas with Albertsons Supermarkets. Keep using your Albertson's Preferred Savings Card.

**Register your card by calling
(800) 353-9002.**

Buy a brick!

The bricks cost \$100@. The lettering grid is 15 spaces across and three rows deep. Use them for birthdays, anniversaries, memorials, sponsored organizations, past presidents, honorary members, and more.

For more information or a brick order contact editor (page 8).

Would you donate 3% of your supermarket shopping to our Kiwanis Family House?

It is simple as 1-2-3

1. **Do you shop at Save Mart, Smart, Food Maxx or Lucky Supermarkets?**
2. **If so scan your S.H.A.R.E.S card and the house gets a percentage. You still get the great sale prices and the rest.**



3. **If you do not have a card contact editor (page 8) and send your name and USPS mailing address. Editor will send you a S.H.A.R.E.S. card by return mail!**

Scan the S.H.A.R.E.S. card each time you shop!



Our Kiwanis Family House earns a portion of your purchases of the above supermarket cards and Macy's, **if your cards are registered.**

From September 2008 to August 2009 our KFH earned **\$2,028.74**

If you need help registering your cards contact the editor (page 8).

The supermarket cards are the shoppers cards. The Macy's cards are the *Macy's Credit Card* or *Macy's Visa Card*.

Call (800) 254-5404 or go to www.escrip.com

- ♥ **Our Group Number is 51297.**
- ♥ **Our Group Name is: Kiwanis Family House.**

Kiwanis Family House, not in my backyard!

Report #94

Since October 1, 2001 to November 30, 2009 (*the effective dates of this report*), **7,480** families have stayed one or more nights at our Kiwanis Family House while being treated at UCDMC.

This report covers over seven years. Previous to October 1, 2001 the reports were tabulated in a different format.

Our KFH has hosted **499** families from **outside Cal-Nev-Ha District** (California, Nevada, and Hawaii). These 491 families come from:

Alabama	Montana
Alaska	Nebraska
Arizona	New Jersey
Arkansas	New Mexico
Colorado	New York
Connecticut	North Carolina
Delaware	Ohio
District of Columbia	Oklahoma
Florida	Oregon
Georgia	Pennsylvania
Idaho	Rhode Island
Illinois	South Carolina
Indiana	South Dakota
Iowa	Tennessee
Kansas	Texas
Kentucky	Utah
Louisiana	Vermont
Maryland	Virginia
Massachusetts	Washington
Michigan	West Virginia
Minnesota	Wisconsin
Mississippi	Wyoming

Also, there have been families from:

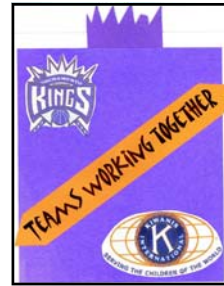
- Belgium
- Brazil
- Canada
- Federated States of Micronesia
- Guatemala
- Israel
- Italy
- Mexico
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- Serbia
- Taiwan
- Uruguay
- Venezuela
- Wales

Division 7 and Division 44 are considered the "host" divisions. Don't forget families living within 35 miles of UCDMC are **not** eligible to stay at our KFH.

Aren't you glad that there is your Kiwanis Family House at UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento, California?

Div.	Lt. Gov.	Families	%
39	Mower	1946	26.02%
14	Montna	891	11.91%
27	Greve	642	8.58%
Out of	District	499	6.67%
46	Williams	486	6.50%
44	Borman	481	6.43%
45	Peters	477	6.38%
20	Dame	299	4.00%
8	Lewis	262	3.50%
23	Mayes	255	3.41%
32	Demattei	243	3.25%
7	Frost	175	2.34%
5	Pinuelas	95	1.27%
26	Sullivan	85	1.14%
12	Montanari	79	1.06%
36	Hertzmann	79	1.06%
18	Sanchez	74	0.99%
34	Akana	71	0.95%
2	Carpenter	64	0.86%
38	Kiner	34	0.45%
28	Murphy	25	0.33%
41	Uranga	19	0.25%
43	Woodruff	18	0.24%
33	Kinsey	15	0.20%
15	Rivas	14	0.19%
22	Iida	12	0.16%
29	Mann	12	0.16%
42	Sepe	12	0.16%
24	Fisher	11	0.15%
30	Hallak	11	0.15%
6	Qualm	10	0.13%
10	Robertson	10	0.13%
1	Deering	9	0.12%
16	Ritch	9	0.12%
31	Buchenau	9	0.12%
4	Laub	8	0.11%
11	Leitner	8	0.11%
37	Hill	8	0.11%
47	Fishman	8	0.11%
25	Montaño	7	0.09%
13	Trujillo	4	0.05%
19	Love	2	0.03%
35	Miller	2	0.03%
	Totals	7,480	100.0%

Arco & KFH By Pete Arney



A sold-out arena with a double overtime game saw the Lakers squeak out a win over the Kings Saturday at our last game. Kiwanis Family House won big though: \$1215.

This will cover the cost of a guest room for more than 30 days. Thanks to all who volunteered - we needed you all.

Note that the next game on 1/9/10 is tentatively fully staffed - however, we don't have some of the volunteers confirmed yet and we are less than two weeks away.

Signups are continuing for all of the other games on our schedule.

KFH ARCO volunteer contact:

♥ **Pete Arney**, (916) 956-2870

KFHArcoNews@pacbell.net

♥ KFH ARCO Leader: **Rich Kocher**, (916) 804-2238.

Volunteer arrival time is two hours before game time.

Take your family, neighbors, and friends. Anyone 18 and older can volunteer.

- Parking is free, in Lot M.
- Wear white top (button down the front shirt) and black trousers, and comfortable shoes.

Please respond to **Pete Arney** at the email address listed if you are volunteering .

Look at the schedule below. We still need 30-35 volunteers for each game.

Take your family, neighbors, and friends. Anyone 18 and older can volunteer.

Nov 2	Mon	\$926	\$926
Nov 17	Tue	\$814	\$1,740
Dec 2	Wed	\$453	\$2,193
Dec 26	Sat	\$1,215	\$3,408
Jan 9	Sat	5:00 pm	Denver
Jan 26	Tues	5:00 pm	Golden State
Feb 5	Fri	5:00 pm	Phoenix
Feb 16	Tues	5:00 pm	Boston
Feb 28	Sun	4:00 pm	LA Clippers
Mar 16	Tues	5:00 pm	LA Lakers
Apr 3	Sat	5:00 pm	Portland
Apr 12	Mon	5:00 pm	Houston
Playoff	?	?	?

KFH Ambassadors



Joyce Blonskij
(916) 812-2378
Joyce@Blonskij.com



Jack Maley
(707) 209-6751
jmaley@sbcglobal.net



Gary Christensen
(916) 215-1460
gjcsmc@aol.com



Robin McIver
(909) 319-5749
robinmciver@yahoo.com



Rick Domenick
(916) 532-8407
rickthegolfer@yahoo.com



Daniel Saulisberry
(209) 745-6838
dsaulisberry@thebrickyard.com



Rick Dwyer
(916) 987-7633
rick@prop-con.com



Neil Strain
(916) 334-5226
Neilstrain@sbcglobal.net



Bill Hooper
(916) 988-6880
bhoopk1g56@comcast.net



Roni Stroud
(916) 501-0169
Roni.stroud@Yahoo.com



Richard Kocher
(916) 991-1344
richkoch013@comcast.net



Bob Tutton
(530) 906-3648
ctutton@sbcglobal.net

Janus... as in January (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

Kiwanis Family House for such a worthy cause with a great group of like-minded individuals.

"My hope for the future is a more stable financial position for the house, while we strive to keep costs at a manageable level. I am looking forward to the challenges ahead".

Dan Saulisberry

Roni Stroud responded:

"Personally, I feel that I was able to see, firsthand, how our dollars work at KFH, through a family that utilized our Kiwanis Family House last year. Though the stories of families who stay with us are often difficult to take in, as one who enjoys fundraising for KFH, I enjoy knowing my efforts make a difference.

"Last year, a family stayed at KFH for nearly 10 months while their daughter was being treated at UC Davis. There is no possible way this particular family, who lived down in the Modesto area, could have afforded to stay at a hotel, day in and day out ... for 10 months! By having the Kiwanis Family House available, I figure that the family saved approximately \$21,000 in the 10 months that they stayed with us. Take \$70/day x 30 days/month = \$2100 and then take \$2100/month x 10 months = \$21,000!

"Not all stories end happily, and this one did not, but I can take small consolation in knowing that \$.91 per every single dollar goes right back in to assist these families. And though we can't save the whole world, we Kiwanians truly do make a difference, one child ... one family ... at a time."

President **Rick Dwyer** writes: *"As to greatest achievements in 2009: 1) Stayed alive another year. 2) Gained on our mission to increase sponsor clubs. 3) Increased our Grant Donor base. 4) More responsive Board Members. 5) Improved Staff benefits.*

"Goals for 2010: Improve upon all the above achievements."

Board member **Robin McIver**: *"This past year, I have really enjoyed working with the other members of the KFH board. I am also very proud that the Red Bluff Kiwanis Club is in the process of becoming a sponsor club.*

(Continued on page 8)

Sponsor a Family for a Night
Before: *Nice to have...*
Now: *Must have!*



Sponsoring a family used to be a "nice to have donation" and now with the economy, the category is **"Must have!"**.

"Enable others to have room in the inn"

Send in your donation. It is \$40@ night. Send check or your credit card number with expiration date (Visa, MasterCard, and American Express only). Mail to Kiwanis Family House, Inc. P.O. Box 189091 Sacramento, CA 95818-9091. (916) 736-0116.

If this sponsorship is a gift to honor someone's birthday, anniversary, or other milestone, then provide the honoree's name and address also. It would be a great gift for the person who has everything.

It is the source that keeps us in operation! It is that important.



Skill Bank still has urgent needs

Our Kiwanis Family House is looking for Jacks and Handymen (or to be politically correct is it handy persons or handywomen).

Our board has opened a new bank, a *Skill Bank*. Board member **Bill Hooper** (shown above) is the head teller. The "trustees" of the bank meet before each board meeting to access what is to be done and set priorities.

Bill Hooper
(916) 988-6880
bhoopk1g56@comcast.net

Recycling makes cents!

Donate ink cartridges, LASER, cartridges, toner cartridges etc. to our KFH.

It helps the environment, lessens the impact on land fills, and makes cents.

If you work for a company, ask it if it will cooperated in giving you the items for to take and donate.

18th Annual Red & White Ball



*I love everything that's old:
old friends, old times, old
manners, old books, old wines.*
Oliver Goldsmith (1728-1774)

Kiwanians have been celebrating old times with old friends and toasting to new times with new friends for 18 straight years, at the Kiwanis Red & White Ball.

Pictured above is **Roni Stroud** and Red & White Chair emeritus **Dale Ingvarnsen**.

This Kiwanis annual event and long-standing tradition, benefits the Kiwanis Family House located on the grounds of the UC Davis Medical Center.

Our event, this year, will be held on February 13th, 2010 at the Carvalho Family Winery located at the Old Sugar Mill (35265 Willow Ave) in Clarksburg, Ca.

Our Kiwanis evening of semi-formal to formal dress accompanied by the soft, smooth jazz sound of the band, Marcelle, begins at 6:30 pm.

With a ticket price of \$47.50, which includes dinner (choice of prime rib, salmon or vegetarian lasagna), you can afford to make an all-night Valentine's date of it!

Listed below are a few of the nearest hotels with the Moon River Inn located approximately 5 miles from the Old Sugar Mill, being closest:

Moon River Inn

8201 Freeport Blvd. Sacramento
916.665.6550
www.moonriverinn.com

Comfort Suites

2460 Maritime Drive, Elk Grove
916.478.4000

Hampton Inn and Suites

2305 Longport Court, Elk Grove
916.683.9545

Sacramento Courtyard by Marriott

4422 Y Street, Sacramento
916.455.6800

Bright Awards to Norman and Larry Montna



Hyatt Regency

1209 L Street, Sacramento
916.443.1234

If you desire transportation, *At Your Service Limousine, Inc.* is one of several limo services in the area. Owner, **Lori Grief Alaniz**, has donated generously to our Kiwanis Family House in the past through her limo company past and is highly recommended by several Kiwanians.

At Your Service Limousine

916.485.4664
www.aysimos.net

As is also tradition for this Kiwanis event, all clubs are encouraged to provide a raffle item of \$25 or more. For those outlying clubs where it may not be convenient to send a raffle item, please consider sending a check of \$25 or more. A raffle item will be purchased in your club's name with credit for your club given at our event.

This year's host/sponsor club is Folsom Lake Kiwanis. Previous Division 44 host/sponsor clubs have been Rancho Cordova, Sunrise Citrus Heights and Sacramento Suburban.

Why not consider your club to be the next to host and sponsor this very special Kiwanis tradition that benefits the Kiwanis Family House!

Please make checks payable to:
Folsom Lake Kiwanis

Mail to: The Kiwanis of Folsom Lake c/o: Roni Stroud P.O. Box 6467 Folsom, CA 95763

The Kiwanis Family House, Sacramento Kiwanis Club presented Bright Awards to **Norma** and **Larry Montna**. The Bright Award was established by the board of directors of the Kiwanis Family House to honor the co-founders **Vern** and **Leona Bright**. It may be used as a means to honor individuals, Kiwanis Clubs, Divisions, Districts or Organizations that have exemplified dedicated service to Kiwanis, their club, or community.

The KFH, Sacramento Kiwanis Club wanted to recognize Norma and Larry for their efforts to raise the funds via fund raising dinners to support our KFH with the \$50,000 patio.

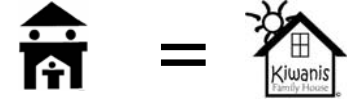
Both have also served as Kiwanis Lieutenant Governors for Division 14. They have actively promoted our KFH, especially in the Yuba City area. Larry Montna served on the KFH board 2006-07.



You need a meeting room?

Looking for an alternate meeting site? For a Kiwanis Club? For a non-Kiwanis Club? For a once in a lifetime meeting? For recurring meetings? Catered or not? Consider our KFH.

Call **Mauda Butte** (916) 736-0116



UC Davis Medical Center ranks among the top 45 hospitals on The Leapfrog Hospital Survey, the only national, public comparison of hospitals on key variables such as mortality rates for certain common procedures, infection rates, safety practices and measures of efficiency.

Thirty-four urban, eight children's and three rural hospitals have been named 2009 Leapfrog Top Hospitals, based on the results

Qualifying criteria remain virtually the same as 2008, with one added dimension: Once hospitals demonstrate top quality, they must also rise to the top of the list on efficiency.

"Delivering the highest quality and safest care for our patients always is of paramount importance for us,"

said **Ann Madden Rice**, chief executive officer of UC Davis Medical Center.

"At our medical center, excellent patient care and high efficiency are simultaneous, complementary values. Our staff is tireless in maintaining them, and I couldn't be prouder of their dedication to our patients and our community."



UC Davis Medical Center was among 1,206 hospitals that completed the Leapfrog Survey.

Leah Binder, CEO of The Leapfrog Group, said, *"This year's class of Top Hospitals not only hits the mark in areas such as medication error prevention and preventing ICU deaths, but they also use their resources wisely, providing excellent and efficient outcomes for patients. Regardless of what happens to health-care reform, these hospitals are the future."*

UC Davis Medical Center is ranked among Leapfrog's top hospitals in urban settings for 2009. Top hospitals in urban settings fulfill the following criteria:

- Fully meet Leapfrog standards for implementing computer physician order entry systems (that have been shown to reduce medication errors by up to 85%), and for passing Leapfrog's test of their system;
- Fully meet stringent performance standards for complex, high-risk procedures (such as heart bypass surgery) done in that particular hospital;
- Fully meet standards for staffing

the ICU, shown to reduce mortality by 40 percent or more;

- Score in the top decile in the country for efficiency — scored by the Leapfrog Hospital Recognition Program incorporating quality outcomes, length of stay, readmission rates, and incidence of hospital acquired conditions and infections. The efficiency standard applies to heart bypass surgery, heart angioplasty, heart attack and pneumonia patients.

"We know from research that Leapfrog-reporting hospitals are among the best in the country, and they demonstrate through Leapfrog that they set ambitious goals for their performance," said Binder, pointing to a study at Harvard Medical School, published in the peer-reviewed Journal of the Joint Commission in 2008, concluding that Leapfrog hospitals have lower mortality and better quality of care than those that don't report to Leapfrog.

"Not all hospitals make the top hospital list, but every hospital that participates in Leapfrog deserves credit. They are fundamentally changing the hospital market into one that is highly responsive to the quality, cost and value needs of consumers and large buyers of health care," said **David**

Knowlton, chair of The Leapfrog Group and president and CEO of the New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute.

UC Davis Medical Center is the leading referral center in the region for the most seriously injured or ill patients and the most medically complex cases, covering 33 counties, more than 65,000 square miles and 6 million residents.

It operates inland Northern California's only Level 1 trauma center, with comprehensive adult and pediatric emergency departments.

The center has been instrumental in keeping Sacramento County's preventable death rate at or below 1%, which is less than half the national average. Studies show patients with specific critical injuries have better survival rates and functional outcomes at Level 1 trauma centers and academical medical centers.

For more information visit: <http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/>

"Over the years"

The current series of **House Talk** (Volume I Issue 1) is dated May 1, 2001.

Seven years ago
Volume III Issue 7
January 2003



At a Gold Country Kiwanis Club meeting in November, Kiwanian Howard Knost announced that at a future meeting each attendee would have to take an item to donate to the KFH or contribute \$2.00.

Kiwanian **Sandee Van Meter** (of Citizens Bank of Nevada County) thought we have a wonderful community here, people like to pitch in and help those in need. *"Our bank has roots where other banks have branches. Those of us at Citizens Bank are great about giving. This, is what Citizens Bank is all about, 'helping people'... I'll put out the word. I got on the e-waves and asked all of my fellow employees if they would like to help and sent them the list. The donations kept coming in.*

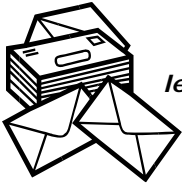
Two years ago
Volume VIII Issue 7
January 2008



Michael D. McKay, 62, of Visalia died Saturday, Oct. 13, 2007. He was just installed as 2007-2008 Kiwanis Lt. Gov. He was just installed as 2007-2008 Kiwanis Lieutenant Governors for Division 18

Governor Oscar Knight:

"People come into your life for a Reason, a Season or a Lifetime. Mike came into my life at Bass Lake and we discovered that there were a great deal of similarities of background, both from the Military experience (US Army, Airborne Ranger) and our families, we both were blessed with three wonderful daughters which meant that we lost every argument in the house hold."



"Letters, we get letters, we get stacks and stacks of letters..."

These letters are left at our KFH addressed to you. They are published to show our readers of the impact made by the staff and services of our Kiwanis Family House and UC Davis Medical Center. The letters are published as originally written and punctuated. This is to preserve the sincerity and spontaneity of the writer.

Via Email:

"To the staff at Kiwanis Family House:

"A heartfelt thank you to the entire staff for welcoming my family. We didn't know what to expect and were so incredibly and pleasantly surprised.

"The rooms were very lovely, the amenities were very convenient and the staff went out of their way to make us as comfortable as possible.

"Attending MIND institute to participate in studies for 3 days straight, Kiwanis provided us with a warm respite that made us right at home. "

Thank you again and thank you for making us feel like family. Kudos to Kiwanis for this wonderful place!

"Warm Regards"

"(Name) is still wheelchair bound but in physical therapy 3 times a week.

"He was finally allowed to come home on August 12th.

"I'll never forget your kindness.

"Thank you so much for allowing me to stay close to my son for 3 1/2 months.

"Have a Merry Christmas"

"This was a great place to stay. It gave us a place to get away from the stress we were experiencing with the sudden sickness of my daughter.

"Everyone at UC Davis made us feel at home during these trying times.

"Thanks for Everything"

"Thanks for good service to all friends and staff during our stay at U.C. Davis Hospital"



"Thank you for a wonderful experience and helping make a stressful time more manageable.

"Without exception the entire staff does a superb job.

"When I am back for any follow-ups they require, I look forward to staying in my 'Home Away from Home' again."

"Dear all,

"We cannot thank you enough for all the support you gave us during our stay in the Kiwanis Family House.

"It is so wonderful to be able to stay in a place like yours, where one get the opportunity to focus only on the family member in the hospital.

"Everyone we met was so dedicated helpful, and caring.

"Thank you so much will keep you in our hearts."

"Just a note to say how much my daughter and I appreciated staying at the Kiwanis house last year in late December and early January.

"My husband had an 8-way bypass and was in intensive care until January 12th.

"Happy to say he is doing well and almost back to his old self after spending a month in Northern California Rehab Hospital, 16 days at Marquis Therapy Unit, dialysis 3 times week.

"Now he is doing dialysis overnight at home.

"Heart is fine and we are celebrating Christmas this year.

"Thank you so much for being there for people in need."

"Thank you, everyone, thanks for your kindness, and help.

"It made our stay pleasing in this time. God Bless all of you."

*"Dear Kiwanis Family,
"We had a great stay here. Our family stayed other places but, no words can explain how much we love it here. It is nice to know that we have a second home, a place away from home.*

"Thank you very much.

"God Bless!"



What would happen if each sponsor club covered one day at month?

- **With our larger KFH we need more volunteers.**
 - **If you are a Sponsor Club consider having your members adopt one day each month and cover all of the shifts.**
 - **Work for a shift or two each month.**
 - **Flexible hours.**
 - **You can "work the desk and telephones" to free up the staff to do other chores.**
 - **You can do "handyman chores" if that is what you would like to do.**
 - **If you have a green thumb, there are projects to assist.**
 - **"Hands-on" community service hours.**
 - **Wonderful atmosphere.**
 - **Volunteer your time.**
 - **Training is provided.**
- Contact House Director Mauda Butte at: (916) 736-0116 or maudabtt@aol.com**



President's Message

By Rick Dwyer (Cont'd)

fort is greatly appreciated; we could not function without you.



A huge **Kiwanis Hug** to **Mauda Butte**, our **Family House** Director, who we all know leads this great effort at the House level to maintain our Mission with her compassionate care, dedication and leadership. Did you know that Mauda's leadership is not just confined to the House? Mauda is at every **Cal-Nev-Ha** District and Mid Year convention as well as **Kiwanis International** Conventions extolling our **Kiwanis Family House** mission. She works our **KFH** booth with **Gary**, myself and other board members getting the word out to all attending Kiwanians and spouses. This is one way we solicit grants and sponsoring club membership. Next time you see Mauda, let her know how much you appreciate her and yes it is OK to give her a hug.

To **Jack Seigal**, our **House Talk** editor: Thank you for all your years of writing, editing, and producing **House Talk**.. Also for your constant support at our **ARCO** concession stand.

It has been a real blessing for me to lead this great cause with all your support and encouragement. I trust that you and yours enjoyed a Merry and Blessed Holiday!

Till next time...

Smoke Free



UC Davis Health System is Smoke-Free. Smoking is prohibited in all outdoor areas, including sidewalks and parking areas.

For information about smoking cessation programs all (916) 734-8493.

Don't forget our Kiwanis Family House is located on the UC Davis Health System campus. Do not smoke, **do not even think about!**

Janus... as in January (continued)

(Continued from page 4)

Next year, I would like to see more Division 39 clubs become sponsor clubs and I look forward to some great fundraising events!"

Grant writer and Publicity Director **Mary Thomson**: *"I am always amazed at how many people need the help of the Kiwanis Family House. I recently met a woman from the Yocho De He Foundation.*

*"She was helping out after our wonderful contact **Karen Charney** left the foundation. This woman asked about what the Kiwanis Family House does.*

"I told her and she said she had lost her sister a few years ago in a tragic car accident. She could truly understand the need for services that the Kiwanis Family House provides. Greatest Achievements: \$23,500 in grant funding for 2009 despite the economic situation we are all facing.

"Goals for 2010: broaden awareness of the Kiwanis Family House and continue expanding our grants program".

Frank Reed (Communications Coordinator): *"Achievements - We gained 6 new Sponsor Clubs in 2009. We recognized and acted upon the need for personal contact with our Member Clubs, and created the Ambassador concept to provide that closer relationship.*

"Goals for 2010 - If we can gain 12 new Sponsor Clubs in 2010, we will have over one fourth of Cal-Nev-Ha Kiwanis Clubs supporting our Kiwanis Family House. Continue our support for the Shopping Card and United Services programs.

"Continue to find ways to save money from our budgeted items. With exception of equipment breakdown due to mechanical failure, cease presenting new, expensive 'gotta do' funds expense projects until they are programmed into the following year budget."

Kiwanis Family Open House

Our Kiwanis Family House holds an Open House on the 3rd Thursday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

In January it is Thursday January 21, 2010.

Friends of our KFH

Our KFH invites you to join *Friends of The Kiwanis Family House* to show

your support for the House and its services to patients and families in need of residential facilities. Cost: \$100 for the initial membership fee.

Annual dues thereafter are \$100. Friends are encouraged to exceed this with a larger contribution and be annually recognized by the KFH Board of Directors. The hierarchy of awards include the following:

- \$100- \$1,199 Copper Award
- \$1,200-\$2,999 Silver Award
- \$3,000-\$4,900 Gold Award
- \$5,000 or higher Platinum Award

Applications can be found at www.kiwanisfamilyhouse.org

For more information about becoming a *Founding Friend* go to:


www.kiwanisfamilyhouse.org

Friends of our Kiwanis Family House are encouraged to keep informed about the activities and needs of this charity.

Subscribe to *House Talk* by going to the website and enter your email address on the lower left-hand corner where it says "Sign Up For Our Email Newsletter".

House Talk Contact the Editor

Quick Facts about **House Talk**

1. **House Talk** is a monthly newsletter published by the Kiwanis Family House, Inc. 
2. The editor is solely responsible for the content of **House Talk**.
3. Deadline 5:00 pm on the second Thursday of the month.
4. Items are solicited. Items submitted will not be returned unless noted by the sender.
5. Errors in the **House Talk** are to be brought to the attention of the editor. Egregious errors will be corrected in a future edition.
6. Responses to the articles and authors unless indicated otherwise can be sent to the editor for forwarding.
7. Editor is **John W. Seigal**.
8. Email address is: jwseigal@sbcglobal.net
9. US Postal Service address is: P.O. Box 1131 Sloughouse, CA 95683-1131