In recognition of Mauda Butte’s dedication to our Kiwanis Family House (KFH), a bedroom will be dedicated in her honor. To allow for maximum attendance of Sponsor Clubs and others, the time is set for 10:30 a.m. Saturday June 9th, just before the KFH annual meeting.

If you were to play a word association name by asking for people involved with our KFH, the most obvious responses would be the late Vern and Leona Bright. But if the question asked for “dedicated worker bees” involved with our KFH, the hands down response would be Mauda Butte.

If you looked up Kiwanian in the dictionary, it would list dedicated volunteers, and would cross reference you to Mauda Butte. That reference would include attributes of community service with Kiwanis, Loyal Order of the Moose, and Kiwanis Family House.

In Kiwanis, she has served as a Division 7 Lt. Governor, and member of several Kiwanian committees, Lt Governors, Loyal Order of the Moose, Kiwanis Family House Program.

President’s Message
by Bill Hooper

“...We will also thank Mauda Butte for her tireless efforts for the House by dedicating a room to her....”

First a reminder, the annual meeting takes place June 9th at 11:00 AM in the conference room at the House.

Please call the House and let us know if you are attending or if you cannot attend, please send in your proxy. We need to be able to plan for lunch and we must have a quorum of our member clubs present to conduct business.

We will also thank Mauda Butte for her tireless efforts for the House by dedicating a room to her at 10:30 a.m. that morning. Come early to participate in the dedication.

Next, a big thank you to Governor Dick and Cheryl Olmstead for participating in the 52nd Annual Creelman Francisco Golf Classic, and to all of you who participated, we raised almost $8000 for KFH, a record.

The Governors visit was also a great success with around 400 Kiwanians attending the game and the River Cats donating around $3,500 to the House.

Thanks Chris Creelman and committee, Lt Governors Bernie Bowes and Jim Kocsis, and the Sacramento River Cats especially Samantha Botari for their efforts and support.

The next large fund raiser will take place at the Yolo County Fair Grounds on June 19th, 20th and 21st. For the second year in a row our KFH Volunteers will provide labor for the Cache Creek Casino Family picnic. (See page 7).

In return the event sponsor will provide KFH with $6800. Volunteer coordinators are Gary Christensen 916-215-1469 and Emily Chirk 714-215-1460. We need 200 volunteers on June 20th so please call and volunteer if you can.

On a sad note a Past KFH Board President and a fine Kiwanian George Cotter passed away recently. George was often with Vern Bright when they visited our clubs talking about building KFH and then about how to become more involved in helping the House.

I remember him as a big friendly guy who was a very hard worker and a strong leader as President of the Board. He and Vern were a hard team to say no to.

The KFH Family wishes to going recognition to contributors.

Sponsor a Family for a Night

Donations pay for those families who cannot afford it, or supplement families who can only make partial payments.

We never turn away deserving families for lack of payment.

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. 2875 50th Street Sacramento, CA 95817-2308.

It is the source that keeps us in operation! It is that important!
Kiwanis Family House
Board meetings
Kiwanis Family House
2875 50th Street
Sacramento, CA 95817
Second Thursdays 7:00 pm

2012
June 9 (annual meeting)
Details in this issue!

July 12
Aug 9
Sept 13
Oct 11
Nov 8
Dec 13

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 12.

House Talk is a monthly newsletter published by the Kiwanis Family House, Inc.
2875 50th Street, Sacramento, CA 95817-2308. (916) 736-0116.
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 (Bill) Hooper (2014)
Vice President…………..Calvin Hara (2014)
Secretary………………..Emily Chirk (2014)
Treasurer……………….Joyce A. Blonskij (2012)
Director……………….Karen Borman (2014)
Director……………….Bob Isaacs (2013)
Director……………….George MacMurphey (2013)
Director……………….Dan Saulisberry (2012)
Director……………….Neil Strain (2012)
Director……………….Rita Beall (2013)
Director……………….Matthew J. Wehner (2014)
Past President…………William “Rick” Dwyer
UCDMC Liaison………………J.P. Eres III
Editor……………………John W. Seigal

Buy a brick!

KFH Board Member, Neil Strain, is showing the bricks.
The bricks cost $100 each. 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. They last longer than plaques.
For more information or a brick order contact editor.
See page 12.

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.

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 10) 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!

See us at:

♦ June 28-30th Kiwanis International Convention
New Orleans

♦ 92nd Annual Cal-Nev-Ha District Convention
August 16-18, 2012
Santa Clara Hyatt Regency,
Santa Clara, California
5101 Great America Parkway
Santa Clara, California,
Convention.

the 97

57

support. New Orleans is the site of the KFH has a global reach meriting their endorsement as a springboard to persuade Kiwanus and Circle K International Conventions, hope to use that endorsement to initiate Kiwanis and Circle K International President.

crowing on my part. This noteworthy achievement is an example of the incredible work that Kiwanis International.

all of Kiwanis International.

That is not just biased and boastful crowing on my part. This noteworthy claim is attributed to Alan Penn, our esteemed International President.

Those of us who will travel to New Orleans next month for the combined Kiwanis and Circle K International Conventions, hope to use that endorsement as a springboard to persuade Kiwanis members everywhere that our KFH has a global reach meriting their support. New Orleans is the site of the 57th Annual Circle K Convention and the 97th Annual Kiwanis International Convention.

Event organizers are giving us two 30-minute opportunities to address convention goers from the stage in the grand exhibit hall. From that platform, we will inform our K-Family sisters and brothers that the world-class professionals at the University of California, Davis Medical Center (UCDMC) and Shriners Hospital have treated seriously ill and injured persons from many of their communities.

For the past 28 years, patients’ loved ones have lodged at our Kiwanis Family House, allowing them to remain on campus to provide daily support. It is impossible to measure but easy to recognize the healing value of family presence during hospitalization. These families have subsequently returned to their homes in every state and in 20 countries, grateful for the Kiwanis impact about which President Alan refers. We will tell some of their stories in New Orleans.

Every guest who checks out of the KFH represents an opportunity for K-Family clubs in the home region. It could be an opportunity to provide continuing support or service after a patient is discharged. Former KFH guests are potential guest speakers at club meetings.

With a new-found appreciation for the important work of the Kiwanis family of organizations, they may even be potential club members.

The current KFH strategic plan charges us with establishing tools to make local Kiwanis clubs aware of bigger surprise with an e-mail of congratulations to Joyce Blonskij, the author and our Kiwanis Family House treasurer, that Own the Clouds hit the International Bestsellers List overnight in several categories.

Now nominated for a 2012 Global eBook Award it’s only up from here.

Download a free copy of chapter one from: www.OwntheClouds.com

I is also available on Kindle and in paperback from Amazon.

But the best part, all of the author’s proceeds are going to benefit our Kiwanis Family House.

“Don’t get left behind. This book is your road map for finding the Google’s of tomorrow – today!” – Joyce Blonskij.

“This book is the ultimate guide to learning what clouds are, how they affect you, and how to find them.” - Ivan Misner, Ph.D., New York Times best-selling author and founder of BNI, Referral Institute.

Returning guests and to make guests aware of K-Family resources in their communities.

In addition to trumpeting our global impact to an international audience, our team of speakers will highlight the KFH as an extraordinary example of a long-term, sustained commitment of Kiwanis family partners. Strong Kiwanis family relationships generate pride for all of us and form a rewarding and enduring bond of trust. Members of Key Clubs, Circle K, and Kiwanis are invested in the KFH and can often be found working side by side at the House. With considerable pride, I note that Emily Chirk, a member of the Circle K Club at Sacramento State University, serves as secretary of the KFH board of directors.

The global reach of the KFH is linked to and driven by the programmatic expansion of the world-class medical services provided by UCDMC and Shriners Hospital for Children®. In order to optimize our readiness to serve families from around the world who walk through our doors, we must compellingly and persuasively explain to our sisters and brothers that the Kiwanis Family House is not just a local Sacramento project.

We will certainly do our part from the exhibit hall platform. I hope that all Cal-Nev-Ha Circle K and Kiwanis members who attend the joint conventions will help us market our gem. dan.germain@yahoo.com

**KFH Treasurer**

**Author of best seller!**

Own The Clouds: An Overnight International Bestseller

March 6, 2012 marked the official launch of Own the Clouds, and it took off. By 5:00 a.m. that morning it was already on Amazon’s bestseller list, and ended the day #2 beating out the Suze Orman and even the “Oracle of Omaha” himself, Warren Buffett.

The next morning came an even Recycling makes cents!

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

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

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

Our KFH gets money when we turn them in for recycling.

Recycling money is “green” and spends the same way with a lessening on the KFH budget.

*Green is the color of money!*
Sacramento, California?

Kiwanis Family House, not in my backyard!

Report #122
Since October 1, 2001 to April 31, 2012, (the effective dates of this report), **10,708** families have stayed one or more nights at our Kiwanis Family House while being treated at UCDMC and Shriners Hospital for Children®.

This report covers over 11 years. Previous to October 1, 2001 the reports were tabulated in a different format.

Our KFH has hosted **835** families from **outside Cal-Nev-Ha District** (California, Nevada, and Hawaii). These **835** families come from:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Div.</th>
<th>Lt. Gov.</th>
<th>Families</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
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<td>Mower</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Dunning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Out of District</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Montalbo</td>
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<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Pisiewski</td>
<td>730</td>
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<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Smith</td>
<td>662</td>
<td>6.18%</td>
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<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Bowes-Jr.</td>
<td>644</td>
<td>6.01%</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Smith</td>
<td>419</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Siminske</td>
<td>406</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Frazier</td>
<td>334</td>
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<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Avants</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Kocsis</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Hillman</td>
<td>177</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Roberts</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Imper</td>
<td>114</td>
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<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Tidler</td>
<td>107</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
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<td>Hyland</td>
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<td>Fields</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0.13%</td>
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<td>47</td>
<td>Platzke</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Davis</td>
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<td>0.12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Brooks</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0.11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Arnold</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0.11%</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Benitez</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0.11%</td>
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<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Sargent</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0.11%</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Montaño</td>
<td>9</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Graham</td>
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<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Salgren</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>McDannold</td>
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<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td></td>
<td>10,708</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Division 7 and Division 44 are considered the “host” divisions. 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 in Sacramento, California?_
Top ten!

If you want to watch David Letterman’s “Top Ten”, you have to stay up late and watch TV.
If you want to see KFH Guest Relations Coordinator’s Mauda Butte’s “Top Ten” from the KFH Wish List, all you have to do is read it here!
If you cannot fit them in an envelope to mail, then gift cards from Sam’s Club and Costco work just fine also.

#10 Liquid dishwashing soap such as Dawn, Ajax, etc.
#9 Gloves Size Large (Costco Nitile Exam Gloves for staff)
#8 Canned meats: Spam, Vienna sausage, tuna fish
#7 Fruit and Pudding (individual sized)
#6 Canned Soups such as Progresso or Campbell
#5 Powdered Creamer for Coffee
#4 Square boxes of facial tissues
#3 Individually wrapped candy
#2 Cookies
#1 California State Flag

How sweet the treat! By Rita Beall
Representatives from Wells Fargo Bank paid their annual visit to the Kiwanis Family House on May 11 to bake cookies for the KFH guests.
The baking team spent the better part of the day producing more than 30 dozen cookies. The lady in the green pants is my good friend Denise Clark. I arranged the visit for them last year and they were hooked,
So glad they made it out again, they are a wonderful group, even if they do work for Wells Fargo. (Editor’s note: Rita is employed by River City Bank.)
Show your colors!
By Rita Beall

Would you like to show your support for the Kiwanis Family House (KFH) and stand out in the crowd? If so, you’re encouraged to purchase a newly designed Kiwanis Family House polo shirt, just like the one our new House Director, Dan Germain, sports in this picture!

Great eye catcher for the Kiwanis International Convention, Circle K International Convention, and the Cal-Nev-Ha District Convention.

These red silk-touch polo shirts are a 65/35 poly/cotton blend, sport an embroidered KFH logo, and come in Men’s and Women’s sizes S-3XL (they run true to size).

Shirts can be purchased for $23 (sizes thru XL) or $25.50 (sizes larger than XL).

To purchase, please send a check payable to KFH, along with your size information, to:

Rita Beall
C/O Kiwanis Family House
2875 50th Street
Sacramento, CA 95817

Questions? Please contact Rita Beall at sacbealls@gmail.com

Creelman-Francisco Classic Results

The results of the 52nd Annual Creelman-Francisco Classic are in, and they are record setting. The is the oldest continuously operating golf tournament in Kiwanis. Our KFH benefitted by $7,232.79.

Perhaps this has turned into a family affair. Shown are Cal-Nev-Ha Governor Richard Olmstead presenting 1st Place Scramble Team Trophy to: left to right: the late Bob Creelman’s grandson, Cody Creelman; Bob’s son Jim Creelman; Kiwanian Tom Fleischmann; and Bob’s son Chris Creelman.

The 53rd Annual is scheduled for Thursday April 25, 2013 in Davis, CA.
Anyone with a green thumb who could help us with the landscape maintenance or upgrading the landscape please call House Director Dan Germain at (916) 736-0116 or dan.germain@aol.com

KFH Board member Calvin Hara takes care of most of our maintenance needs at the House, but he could use some help from a Handyman.

Calvin Hara can be reached at (916) 812-5524 cmhara@comcast.net

Become a friend!

Want to feel good about yourself? The become a Friend of our Kiwanis Family House. It takes an annual donation of $100 (or more). Information about memberships and ways to pay, is available at our website: www.kiwanisfamilyhouse.org

Want to feel better about yourself? Consider giving your friends and relatives the “gift” of becoming a Friend of our Kiwanis Family House.

These donations keep our KFH in operation and keeping our commitment of never having to turn anyone away for lack of payment.
Our KFH Clothes Closet needs (y)our help

Guests who stay at our KFH come as a result of a family medical emergency. They show up with the shirt on their back and have no changes of clothing.

That is why we have a Clothes Closet at our Kiwanis Family House.

Earlier this year, The Kiwanis Club of Greater Sacramento "adopted" the clothes closet. At least once a month, members sort through donations and organize the closet by type and size so that guests of KFH can easily locate the items they need.

The closet is well-used and needed, as many of our guests come to the area on short notice, with little or no clothing, and may stay with us for several days, weeks, or even months.

Many Kiwanis Clubs and members generously donate their gently used items to the closet.

Some of these items cannot be used and are re-donated to other organizations.

Below is a quick list of items that are needed by KFH now:

- Pants: jeans, khakis, and light sweats/yoga pants
- Tops: T-shirts, polo shirts, hoodies, and light sweat-shirts/sweaters
- Shirts: athletic and casual shoes, sandals, and flip-flops
- Children: onesies, bibs, clothing
- New underwear and socks (all ages)

Clothing not fitting the above criteria should be donated directly to other worthy organizations, such as St. John's Women's Shelter, Salvation Army, WEAVE, Goodwill, and others, include:

- Work wear: dress slacks, suits, dress shoes, pumps
- Special occasion: party clothes, high-heeled sandals, swimsuits, beachwear
- Off-season clothing: sweaters, coats, boots, etc. (we do not have room to store off-season clothing)
- Used underwear and socks

Thank you for your generosity and helping us provide needed support to the guests of KFH!

Fun Events has invited our Kiwanis Family House (KFH) volunteers to staff a special event for the 2,500 employees of the Cache Creek Casino and their families.

The picnic event will be held on Wednesday, June 20, 2012 at the Yolo County Fairgrounds, 1125 East Street, Woodland, CA.

Our KFH is recruiting Kiwanians, Circle K members, and Key Clubbers and others from throughout the Cal-Nev-Ha District who want to have as much fun as a volunteer can have plus helping the Kiwanis Family House raise much needed operating funds.

Our KFH will receive $6,800 for our participation while we have a blast being a part of the action.

We are in need of volunteers for set up on Tuesday, June 19th (9:00 a.m. - Noon). For the day of the main event on Wednesday, June 20th (shifts listed below) and take down on Thursday, June 21st (9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.)

Volunteers can sign up to work more than one day and to work more than one shift on the day of the main event (June 20th) as an estimate of 200 volunteers will be needed on that day.

Please note that our volunteers may not bring children younger than 14 to the event under any circumstances.

The main event on Wednesday will start at 7:30 a.m. and end at 8:15 p.m.

We are dividing our work force into three separate work shifts:

- 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; and 2:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

We volunteers will help operate seven midway games and 20 fun attractions.

Special notes:

- Set up and take down will require a few volunteers who are able to do moderate lifting of inflatables and other attractions.
- Dress code: shorts are OK but no "cut-offs", no sandals or open-toed shoes. T-shirts will be provided but the quantity will be limited and may have to be shared with other shifts (wear over the volunteer's own clothing).
- Smoking is prohibited anywhere on site.
- Lunch will be served to all volunteers on Wednesday.
- Please join us, have fun, and make this event a huge success. Mark your calendars and please call or email Gary or Emily to sign up for any day and shift.

KFH volunteer coordinator contacts:

- Gary Christensen (916)215-1460, gjcsmc@aol.com
- Emily Chirk (714)213-0716, echirk@gmail.com

www.kiwanisfamilyhouse.org
George H. Cotter 1926-2012

George Henry Cotter passed away peacefully on Wednesday May 2, 2012, age 85 at Roseville Kaiser Hospital.

George was born in Prescott Arizona to Walter and Lois Cotter on August 1, 1926.

He is survived by his older brother Eugene Cotter; two sons Walter Richard Cotter (Jane) and Kevin George Cotter (Susan); grandchildren, Caleb Cotter, Jordan Cotter, and Abigail Cotter; five nieces and nephews; two step grand children and four step great grand children.

George's careers included being a pipe fitter for the Santa Fe Railroad, sales engineer for Armco Drainage and Metal Products, truck driver for Mayflower Moving Co, and for more than 30 years, owner of All-Co Drainage and Building Products in Woodland.

He was highly involved in Kiwanis as a life member with many years of perfect attendance and was instrumental in the creation of the Kiwanis Family House at the UC Davis Medical Center. Published in Appeal Democrat on May 8, 2012.

George Cotter is honored with Bright Award

George Cotter is shown above getting his first look at his Bright Award.

It was presented to him on behalf of the Kiwanis Club of Woodland, California.

The Bright Award recognizes Cotter's seven years he served on the first Kiwanis Family House Board, including three years as President (1986-1988).

Mauda Butte to be honored (Cont’d)

(Continued from page 1)

Kiwanis Clubs (at different times) including Sacramento Capitol Club; Kiwanis Family House Sacramento; Sacramento West; and West Sacramento.

She was presented with our KFH Bright Award in 2007 as the third recipient.

She is a caring person, working with adults and children.

Her skills in the kitchen are legendary.

Whatever job you think can be done at our Kiwanis Family House, she has done it. She is a hands on person. She has served as a Shift Supervisor. From 2001-2011, she served as House Director.

Currently she is Guest Relations Coordinator. In this position she puts the meaning of family in our Kiwanis Family House. She and the staff serve each guest as a family member.

On a personal side, Mauda is a widow. She has four children (three daughters and one son). She is a grandmother to seven, and is ready for this: a great-grandmother of seven. Pictured to the left is great-granddaughter: Kati Lyn Reagan Miller.

Perhaps the most asked question is how Mauda received her name.

This is her response: "It was my grandmother's name only with an “e” at the end instead. (Maude). My mother replaced the “e” with an “a”. This made certain to my grandmother that I was not named after our family's horse (Maud). "This made my grandmother happy, and that is the end of the story.”

If you cannot attend the dedication, send your greetings to Mauda Butte at our KFH (see page 2 for the address).

March in March for KFH

This march is a walk-a-thon to benefit our KFH. This third annual vent in March raised $3,000.

The day started off with a pancake breakfast and unlike the others, it rained all day.

Winners of KFH Bricks were: Kiwanis Club of Lincoln for most dollars raised, and Kiwanis Club of Rancho Murieta for most laps walked.

Individual Winners of T-Shirts with Leona Bright’s signature were Div. 7's Lt. Governor Jim Kocsis for most dollars raised, and Folsom Lake’s Muriel Brounstein, for most laps walked. See pictures above.
UC Davis offers robotic-assisted gallbladder surgery

UC Davis offers robotic-assisted gallbladder surgery which is a minimally invasive procedure reduces scarring, recovery time.

A 19-year old college student under went a new procedure which was her first operation ever.

It was done at the first hospital in the Sacramento region to use a surgical robot to remove the gallbladder through a single incision hidden in the belly button.

The student was able to go home that evening without facing as much recovery time or the more noticeable scars associated with conventional minimally invasive gallbladder surgery, which requires multiple incisions.

"I was back on my feet in just two days," she said. "And I only missed one class."

UC Davis surgeons have taken the traditional gallbladder procedure to the next level with this new, less invasive technique, which benefits from the precise control and minimally invasive capabilities of the medical center's surgical robot. The equipment enables them to remove the gallbladder through just one small incision, typically resulting in patients who have a very small scar and better recovery times.

Led by Mohamed Ali, associate professor of surgery and director of minimally invasive surgery, and Tamas Vidovszky, associate professor of surgery, UC Davis surgery teams began using the new technique for gallbladder removal shortly after the Food and Drug Administration approved the procedure last year.

The two physicians have now completed more than 40 such surgeries with the medical center's robotic-assisted equipment. A patient's belly button is the sole access point for the mechanical arms of the robot, which enables the surgeons to perform a virtually scar-less operation.

"We've been doing minimally invasive and robotic surgeries for a number of years at UC Davis Medical Center and were the first in the region to acquire the highly sophisticated equipment in 2002," said Ali, who was among the first surgeons in California to use a robot in the operating room. "What originally required four separate incisions for the surgical arms and video camera can now be done, because of our advances in equipment, through just one tiny incision that is almost invisible after it heals."

Like other minimally invasive and robotic-assisted procedures, benefits of the new gallbladder surgery can include less pain, less bleeding, shorter hospital stays and faster recovery times. The procedure, known more formally as a "single-site robotic cholecystectomy," takes about an hour in the operating room. Patients typically are discharged within a few hours after the operation.

For the robotic-assisted procedure, a surgeon sits at a console in the operating room viewing high-definition images while using hand and foot controls to move robotic arms that hold tiny surgical instruments inside the patient for cutting, suturing and grasping tissue and organs. The equipment, which is positioned alongside the operating table, translates the surgeon's hand, wrist and finger movements into highly precise, real-time movements of the surgical instruments.

Traditional robotic surgeries require three to four small incisions as access points for the robotic arms and viewing camera. New, more advanced technique and technology now allows the UC Davis team to direct its surgical instruments through a single port in the patient's belly button, through which the diseased organ can be removed.

"Most people who need to have their gallbladder removed are candidates for this new robotic procedure," said Vidovszky, who uses the medical center's surgical robot to treat diseases such as achalasia and reflux esophagitis. "It is a very advanced and safe way to treat gallbladder problems, and it enables us to perform almost scar-less surgery."

UC Davis Medical Center offers a variety of robotic-assisted procedures in addition to gallbladder removal. For more information, visit medicalcenter.ucdavis.edu.
Dear Kiwanis House Staff:

I extend to you my deepest gratitude for the extraordinary support you provided to the Westby Family, following the Lincoln Military Housing explosion on 3 February 2012. Opening your doors to the Westbys on such short notice and acting as a reliable point of contact for administrative and general follow-on actions were crucial after this tragic incident. The quick and ongoing recovery from this event would not have been possible without your help. Please know that the Training Center holds you in the highest regard.

Thank you again and Semper Fidelis!

Sincerely,

P. W. CHANDLER
Colonel, USMC
Commanding
Now you can help support the Kiwanis Family House by using Facebook. If you are on Facebook (or are planning on joining) you should “Like” the Kiwanis Family House page.

You can also click “Share” on any posting and this will share our stories with your Friends. It appears on their wall and news feed for Friends to see and spreads the message of Kiwanis Family House!

You can also “Suggest” a page to all your friends via a message. Just click on “Suggest to Friends” (the fourth link down from the logo) and choose the friends to whom you want to send an invitation to the Page.

You can post any comments, stories, or suggestions for other Fans to see, and it will also appear on your walls for your Friends to see.

If you want to reference something that is on the website, you should include a link to the Kiwanis Family House page along with your posting.

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 Sloughhouse, CA 95683-1131

With The Eliminate Project, Kiwanis International and UNICEF have joined forces to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus. This deadly disease steals the lives of nearly 60,000 innocent babies and a significant number of women each year. The effects of the disease are excruciating — tiny newborns suffer repeated, painful convulsions and extreme sensitivity to light and touch.

To eliminate MNT from the Earth, more than 100 million mothers and their future babies must be immunized. This requires vaccines, syringes, safe storage, transportation, thousands of skilled staff and more. It will take US$110 million — and the dedicated work of UNICEF and every member of the Kiwanis family.

Communication is a two way street.
- We are here to inform.
- We are here to listen.
- We are here to remind.
- We are here to answer any questions.
- We are here to offer suggestions.
- Contact information is listed above.
- If you are unsure which one to call, give anyone a call and you will be directed to the right ambassador.

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