



SONOMA WEST
MEDICAL FOUNDATION

Mission Statement

Our mission is to energize our community in support of Sonoma West Medical Center as the center of wellness and disease prevention, good health, clinical and emergency medical care, and to support medical research and education for all Western Sonoma County and beyond.

NEWS FROM THE FOUNDATION

SONOMA WEST MEDICAL FOUNDATION WELCOMES NEW MANAGEMENT TEAM FOR SONOMA WEST MEDICAL CENTER



President's Message:

The July 12 Board meeting began with the opportunity for the new management team for SWMC to meet with the Foundation Board at an informal gathering. Pipeline Health, LLC, a Los Angeles based hospital management company, began Friday, July 8, and took over management of the hospital. CEO Luke Tharasri and his team expressed their goals of working closely with all the hospital management to find and correct any problems standing in the way of financial success. Luke stated that he was happy to report that they had already begun to identify problems and implement solutions.

The Pipeline team joins new COO/CNO Barbara Borbeck in continuing the work begun with reopening the hospital. The Foundation is happy to support all the good efforts being made to improve the financial performance of our hospital which has always been known for its outstanding clinical performance. Opening Our Hospital has been a community priority and creating a "Center of Excellence" is a hospital priority we all applaud.

The Foundation has been busy with small events and providing opportunities for our community to learn more about our hospital, our research, and our doctors. As we are now into summer, it is hard to believe that all our work of two years ago has actually brought us our much-needed hospital plus our unprecedented research institute.

On the horizon are plans for the Gravenstein Apple Fair (August 13 & 14), where we join up with that long-standing community tradition and set up our 'info booth'. In the planning stage is an exciting one year 'birthday celebration' for October 1st, with live music at Ives Park. Anyone with energy and ideas to help produce a great event --- we'd love to have your help! Additionally, a spark of an idea is to create an annual baseball game, maybe in the spring, to pit our First Responders against our Hospital Team. Of course, we need to get the teams generated, but if you think a Spring Baseball event would be fun, let us know.

Meanwhile, we are busy working on the details of a campaign for getting a new CT imaging machine for the hospital. The current plan is to rent a mobile unit for 6 months while we are getting the space ready in a modular building for a CT and future MRI. Currently we have a mobile MRI unit at the hospital on Fridays and Saturdays. We will need to raise \$5000 to move a mobile CT into place and \$20,000 per month to rent it, while we are working on the permanent installation. The permanent machine and building are estimated to cost \$800,000, so we certainly have our work cut out for us!

As you read our newsletter, will you think about your friends and neighbors who might be interested in learning more about the health programs in our community and have them consider subscribing to the newsletter? We are so fortunate to have such support and, as a community member, I think we are so fortunate to have such an outstanding hospital facility to serve our needs.

If you have any interest in helping with a capital campaign, with an event, or just helping in the office with the myriad activities (including such things as this newsletter and updating our website), please let us know. Or just come by to chat...the coffee is always hot.



Gail Thomas President, Sonoma West Medical Foundation

Next Board Meeting is August 9th, at 6:30 - SWMC Conference Room.

Welcome Dr. Barbara Borbeck



On Sunday, June 12th, the rose garden in the courtyard of the hospital was the site of a warm reception for the new Chief Operating Officer and Chief Nursing Officer. She comes to us with over 20 years of experience in multiple areas in healthcare and corporate settings, developing partnership among clinical staff, as well as with the many organizations which interface with a hospital.

The program included a welcome by Gail Thomas, Foundation President, and a short speech by both Dr. Michael Bollinger and Dr. Bruce Bragonier, orthopedic surgeons, about the functional importance of imaging equipment, like the CT scanner and "Mini C-Arm", which are slated for upgrading, pending funding. Mary Ely, Foundation Treasurer, spoke about the need for community participation in helping to bring these and other equipment upgrade projects to fruition.

There was a beautiful presentation of finger foods, once again artfully displayed by Foundation board member Philena Chantha and her family and co-sponsored by Bank of the West. Many, many thanks to everyone on the fabulous 'event team'!





KOWS Radio Show

June 19th -- Foundation and Palm Drive Healthcare District Board Member Dennis Colthurst hosted his fourth talk show on local radio station KOWS 107.3 FM, 1 to 2 PM. If you missed the show, you can access it on the Foundation website.

Guests included District Board member Marsha Sue Lustig, who presented the wonderful news that the District is to receive a state grant of \$750,000 for the purpose of funding post-hospitalization in-home follow-up care for west county patients. This is an extremely important area of health care that is often not adequately tended to because of insufficient resources.

The second guest was Miller Phoenix, speaking from Cultivate Home, 186 N. Main St., (707-824-1400), a local business specializing in a wide range of quality cookware and kitchen tools. She described some great ways to prepare several kinds of beans, to take advantage of their low cost and high nutritional value. Go to our website to see some of her delicious recipes.

Dr. Steven Krome, from Santa Rosa Veterinary Hospital, 2002 4th St., (707-544-1313), gave a very informative presentation about non-toxic products and methods for controlling the ubiquitous pesky flea problem that plagues just about all pets and their owners. This veterinary clinic also has a very well-respected avian, amphibian and reptile practice.

At the end of the broadcast, some fond farewell words were spoken about the recent loss of Mel Davis, beloved retired Sebastopol City Manager, followed by a most moving rendition of "Danny Boy" by the late extraordinary vocalist Eva Cassidy. We know it brought tears to listeners' eyes!

July 3rd -- Dennis hosted his fifth show, featuring fellow Foundation Board Member Dr. Ed Bauman, founder of Bauman College, a holistic nutrition and culinary arts college in Penngrove, offering Natural Chef and Nutrition Consultant Training programs. He spoke about the integrated health services available at the Sonoma West Medical Center.

He was joined by Miller Phoenix, of Cultivate Home, who told us all we wanted to know about coffee and its benefits to our health. Dr. Bauman explained some of the chemistry behind the 'miracle food'!

Dennis is a member of the Sebastopol Kiwanis Club, who was proudly producing the 43rd Annual Music and Fireworks Event at Anahy football stadium that afternoon and evening!

The next broadcast of Community Health Matters will be on Monday, August 1st, from 5 to 6 PM. The best way to hear the show is to go to the KOWS website and click on "listen".

Solstice Blessing by Balkan Choir and Members of the Community -- June 20th



On Monday afternoon, June 20, in a picturesque setting overlooking the Laguna de Santa Rosa, at the hospital helipad, members of the Balkan Choir “Gradina” gathered with others in the community to sing and dance prayers for the success and flourishing of the hospital and its service to the community in tune with the Summer Solstice. Musicians accompanying the choir were Jana Muhar playing the tupan, a Bulgarian drum, and the accordion, and Karen Guggenheim on the Tambura and on the “Gaida”, a Bulgarian Bagpipe made of a sheep’s body. The choir, musicians, and several of the participating community members wore colorful Balkan attire. The assembled group, led by Joan Marler, danced ancient Balkan dances accompanied by the choir and musicians both at the helipad and in the Memorial Atrium garden of the hospital.

We're interested in expanding our email outreach!

Please encourage your friends to subscribe to our newsletter by going to our website: www.sonomawestfoundation.org

Smile on us, Everyone!!!

If any of our wonderful supporters shop on AMAZON, there is a great little program the Foundation has registered into, whereby .05% of the total of your purchases is automatically donated to a 'cause'. You can help OUR cause by first selecting Sonoma West Medical Foundation as your Amazon Smile recipient. Once you've originally set up that account by choosing the Foundation, it will go automatically to us, if every time you shop, you make sure you are shopping through the Amazon Smile account.

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