



Crane Connection

The California Clubhouse Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 3

May-June 2016

Just the Facts!

April 2016

- Total number of enrolled members: **75**
- Total number of unduplicated members served this month: **40**
- Active member participation rate: **68%**
- Total # of member hours in Clubhouse: **1125.5**
- Average number of hours members spend in the Clubhouse per day: **55.16**
- Average daily attendance: **14**
- Attendance Most Days (Mode): **16,18**

Taking Flight Through Recovery: Our First Gala by Jennifer M.



Special thanks to our hardworking crew in running our big event!

Our Gala was a smashing success! It was well attended. Our goal was 125 people but instead we had about 200 people. The night went off without a hitch. Everyone seemed to be in high spirits, really pushing for our first Gala to be a sensation. People were dressed to the nines and we had hors d'oeuvres, champagne and sparkling apple cider. People were also able to enjoy beautiful music provided by The Peninsula Symphony String Quartet while waiting for the evening program to begin. Guests

perused 30 auction items and made generous bids. The main event began at 7:00pm with a sit-down dinner of guest's choice of chicken, salmon or mushroom risotto.

Warren Slocum from the Board of Supervisors gave the opening remarks, praising the four women who went to the Board of Supervisors to promote the idea of Clubhouse. He stated that it was a celebration of members not of an organization. After Supervisor Slocum's opening remarks, Putnam



Warren Slocum

Clubhouse Band entertained us with the song "Learning to Fly" by Tom Petty which livened everybody up. We are very appreciative of the support of Putnam Clubhouse, our sister Clubhouse (in Concord, CA)



Juliana Fuerbringer

Juliana Fuerbringer, Founder and Board President, gave a warm, heartfelt welcome to all, and honored those whose efforts were able to bring the California Club-



Erica Horn

house, hit the stage running with the same personable presence she always brings to the Clubhouse with a few jokes, of course. Appropriately, the Putnam Clubhouse sang a rendition of "Thank You for Being a Friend," during Erica's stage time. She proudly introduced her colleague Jonathan Beard. Jonathan Beard is the son of John Beard, who served as the executive director of Fountain House in New York City (the first Clubhouse) for almost 30 years and the person responsible for introducing employment in the model. Jonathan grew up witnessing the benefits of the Clubhouse model, visiting and volunteering at Fountain

House. Presently, he is the Project Manager with the University of Washington's School of Medicine in

the Department of Psychiatry. He also has experience establishing/leading different Clubhouses across the US.

Feeling that Clubhouse members could speak better about the benefits of Clubhouse than he could, Jonathan let members tell the audience themselves—he read the quotes of members whom he had encountered during his years in Clubhouse.

The testimonials of the night continued with the testimonials by the California Clubhouse members who were featured in the video presentation entitled "Finding our Way to Clubhouse." The video was created by



Jonathan Beard



Agnes Coric

Harry Shum and Shelby Rabara, our member Priscilla's uncle and aunt. Hopefully people got a taste of the California Clubhouse, its community of members and its occasional silliness.

The highlight of the evening came when founding member, Agnes, spoke about her life before and after joining the clubhouse and—wow! Agnes blew everyone away with her speech. There was laughter. There were tears, and in the end she received a standing ovation.

At the end of a very emotional evening, Dr. Brendan Scherer,



Dr. Brendan Scherer

psychiatrist at Central County Mental Health, and Erica facilitated "Fund-A-Need," where the audience held up their programs to support one—or—more of the many programs at the California Clubhouse, from our social and recreational program to our young adult program. In addition to "Fund-A-Need," the Silent Auction brought in more generous donations. The next day we found that we raised over \$60,000 (gross), which exceeded our expectations.

Thanks to everyone's participation, including the gala committee, volunteers, members and staff, our partner organizations and attendees, we would not have been able to celebrate our first year as a clubhouse. We're looking forward to next year's event.

Prepare for Take Off: Getting Ready for the Gala by Riley M.

California Clubhouse held a fundraiser Gala on May 5th, 2016. In the weeks leading up to the Gala, preparation tasks became part of the Work Ordered Day. As part of the Clubhouse routine, each morning after breakfast and each afternoon after lunch, at the Unit Meeting, we run through the usual ongoing tasks, from daily kitchen cleanup to monthly payroll, until each necessary task is assigned to a member, staffer, or small team. Meetings in April and early May also included a round of special Gala tasks. Some of those were simple, such as cutting out the cardboard tickets indicating meal choice; almost anyone could do that, whether as their main activity of the morning or afternoon, or as a break from a more complex task. Sitting around a table, working side by side, snipping with scissors and chatting, can combine useful work with a feeling of comfortable connection!



Amaal and John assembling one of the silent auction items.

More complex tasks included soliciting donations for the Silent Auction, writing the program book for the event and adding graphics, sending promotional emails to our current list of supporters, and so forth. We started with a goal of 125 guests, so we budgeted accordingly and hand-made signs for 23 tables. Then we had reservations from 150 guests, and scaled up all our preparations: more table signs, more meal tickets, contact the caterers.

Then reservations reached two hundred, and we scaled up again. This was, as they say, a good problem to have. Balancing the ongoing routines with the Gala preparations became a challenge, and some of us felt stretched thin. On one hand, we encourage each member to do as much as they felt comfortable doing, to pace themselves according to their limits; some of us never know, on any given day, how energized we'll be; and on another hand, we had a communal goal which required showing up and pitching in. Together we rose to the challenge, dividing the tasks according to our varied abilities, and our preparations resulted in a well-produced, posh event.

Reflections on the Gala by Yvette A.

The Gala, our first and not the last. It's hard to find words to describe it but "Fantastic" and "Wonderful" come to mind. The Gala was a great experience for all of us Clubhouse members and staff. The event gave us a chance to meet a lot of new acquaintances and old friends from different organizations in the community. We wish to thank them all for attending our event. Jonathan Beard who was the keynote speaker for the evening gave me great advice as an educator. I gave him a tour

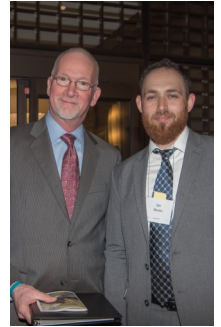


Jennifer and Yvette

of our clubhouse and even got him to sit and work before our Gala; it was great! Most of all, I was very impressed with the members, how we all came together and did a lot of prepara-

tion. Work was intense but it was all purposeful and worthwhile. Thank you to Putnam and HERO Clubhouses who have given me the opportunity to learn more about how programs become a "clubhouse." The stories were wonderful and very useful. For me it was a member-to-member night to remember!

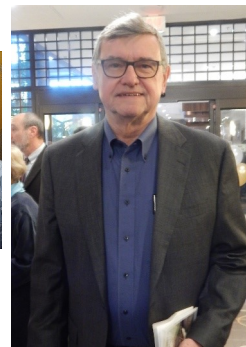
Gala Photo Album



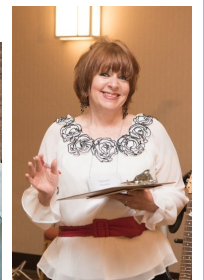
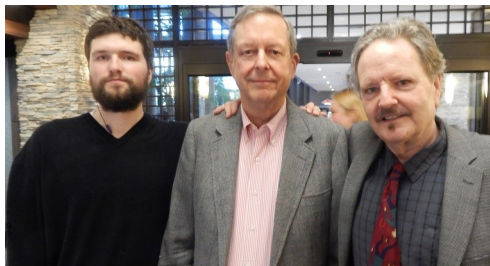
Gala Photo Album



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Gala Photo Album



DONATION INFO

California Clubhouse is a non-profit organization. Every contribution, large and small, helps California Clubhouse continue our mission to create opportunities for people living with mental illness to be respected members of society by providing rehabilitation programs that facilitate their recovery.

For donations please contact **Erica Horn** at 650-539-3345 or visit <http://californiaclubhouse.org/donations/>



California Clubhouse

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Contributors

Gala Materials: Print Copy Xpress

Gala invitation: Neil Murphy

Video produced by: Harry Shum and Shelby Rabara

Photographer: Susan Monroe

Wine donated by: Don Sebastiani & Sons

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Silent Auction

Lillac Kaminski Step-By-Step Connection	Willie Turner	Weimax	Morning Glory
Michelle Ortalda Lemon and Lavender	Carol Labarthe	Sheri Frumkin- Peninsula Symphony	Debbie Waters- Carlmont Ace Hardware
Monte Keleher Runners Mind	Pam Gehrke	Carmen Blair San Mateo County Historical Museum	Academy of Science
Pam Rennert Onyx Salon	Matt Hsu Upright Health	Alex Anderman Block 34 Restaurant, San Mateo	Lori Silverstein
Pat Kelleher	Susan Munroe	Pamela Keith	Paulette Beto
Rukhsana Hafeez Mattel	San Francisco Sym- phony	Nick Kosturos- Patronik	Michelle Ortalda
Trader Joes	Sam Koritz	Pomegrante Seeds	Debbie & Karl Bakhtiari's
Francesca Tashjian/ Teresa Lindhartsen	Sur la Table	Larry & Suzanne Turley	Lunardi's