



INFORMER

MARTIN C. KAUFFMAN ONE HUNDRED CLUB OF ALAMEDA COUNTY

Winter 2014

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CLUB OFFICE:

767 Brannan Place, Concord, CA 94518

510.818.0337

MK100Club@astound.net

www.100clubalamedacounty.org

President's Message...

As we celebrate the Holiday Season, the 100 Club of Alameda County extends a heartfelt thank you for your support of Law Enforcement Officers and Firefighters in your community. Your commitment to support our HEROS and their families is truly remarkable. This is the season to celebrate family and friends. Please remember that there are families in our community that do not have all their loved ones with them this year. Reach out to them and help in any way you can. God Bless all of you!

Holiday Wish Has Been Granted!

Last year we embarked upon a new project, to seek contributions from members and supporters, annually to obtain sufficient funds to cover ALL of our Club expenses each year (including the Annual Dinner, BBQ, and all operating expenses). The goal being that in the future, ALL of our dues would be available to aid us in providing support for the surviving families of our Peace Officers and Firefighters who perish in the line of duty.

We are delighted to announce that we have reached that lofty goal for 2014 thanks to so many of you that became one of our "100 Angels" and contributions from others, e.g. Urban Shield, Oakland Police Officers Association, Oakland Fire Department Stickball Tournament and Ovations Catering. We raised over \$41,000.

Be proud of your Club and of yourselves for this great achievement and PLEASE continue to be one our "100 Angels" each and every year.

With Deepest Thanks,

Kristina Brouhard, President

Bob Byers, 100 Angels Committee Chairman

**Join us for the
Annual Membership
Dinner**

Wednesday, February 4th

5:30 pm

* See inside for details.

Sabrina Williams Speech – Winter Dinner 2014

We have received many requests for a copy of Sabrina's heartfelt speech from the Winter Dinner last year. She has graciously allowed us to print a copy for our members in this issue of the Informer.

I met Ken Mercer of The 100 Club at my tiny apartment the morning of January 10th, 1999. He came only hours after my husband's passing to introduce himself, share a few words about the club and to give me a check to help me with whatever I needed. He gave me a genuine, heartfelt hug, expressed his deepest condolences, and with tears in his eyes, handed me his card. His final words were to call on him at anytime for anything and just as swiftly as he had appeared, he was gone. Like a visitation from an angel, no fanfare, no photo op, no pretense, just real concern, real compassion and real assistance. I found out tonight that he passed two weeks ago. He was an exemplary individual and embodied all of the 100 Club values and was my introduction to the Martin C. Kaufmann 100 Club.

It's hard to believe that it's been 15 years since I walked into this room for the first time. My family & I had gotten lost on the way here and were late. I was mortified. To make matters worse, everyone was waiting till I arrived to begin. It had only been weeks since my husband Jimi had been taken from us, so to say that I was still shell shocked would be an understatement. As I walked into the room, I felt as if I were moving in slow motion. I saw a sea of concerned faces. I could feel their warmth, all searching for the right words to say to me if I happened to pass them or be introduced. Over & over I heard, I'm so sorry for your loss. No matter how many times I heard it, each condolence was as sincere as the last. Everyone I met was wonderful.

That night I met Tammy Monego who had lost her husband John less than a month prior. She made sure she reached me through the group surrounding me.

She used her CHP training to circumvent any obstacle to introduce herself and to make sure I had her number. Though she was dealing with her own grief & loss, she wanted me to know I could call her anytime to talk. That meeting led to one of the closest friendships I've ever had. She's been a friend, sister, & therapist. We have supported each other for 15 years, in good times and bad and our friendship only gets stronger with each passing year.

Over the years I've watched one television show and movie after another depicting law enforcement officers as brutal, lying, womanizing individuals and abusers of power. When one is lost in the line of duty you'll read line after line about the perpetrator. Their sad upbringing, how their family and the system failed them, how society is responsible for choices they themselves made. You're then left with a few lines about the officer who lost their life and about the family who are left to mourn them. Just once I'd like to see a movie or television show depicting an officer spending time with his family, changing diapers, reading bedtime stories, sharing birthdays, holidays, going to church, attending parent teacher night and tenderly kissing his wife and saying I love you for no reason other than to see her smile. Then to show that fateful day, not knowing it will be for the last time, he puts on his uniform, hugs & kisses his wife and family goodbye, never to return home, their lives changed forever by a sniper's bullet. That person was Officer James Williams, Jr., That was my life,

When you lose a spouse or loved one in the line of duty, you soon find out that it is unlike any other, especially if you must face the grueling years that follow participating in trial preparation and ultimately the trial.

Having to face the person or persons responsible for robbing you of your future is almost unbearable. This isn't an episode of Law & Order, this is your life and it happened to you. Somehow you dig deep within yourself, find the will you never knew you had and persevere. You do it for your children, your family & loved ones. Most of all you do it for the person you lost and loved so very much, to honor their memory and the life you shared.

It's true I've had my share of sadness & loss but I've also had many triumphs. Over the years I coached my sons basketball teams to championships, I coached my daughter's volleyball team and went undefeated, been team mom, room mother, Mrs. Claus, school board member, and driven on every field trip. I loved every single minute of it. I have been their champion and they have been mine. I have watched my children grow into loving, caring, intelligent individuals that their Father would be proud of.

They are not 10, 5 & 4 year old children but 25, 20 and 19 year old adults who make me proud everyday.

I am now married to a remarkable man, Darrell Robinson, who has never felt threatened or uneasy with the mention of Jimi's name, who accompanies us to memorials, dinners, trips to the mausoleum and listens to our remembrances we often share. He offers a shoulder to cry on, no questions asked and hugs when there are no words to say. I have been blessed.

Sabrina Williams (continued)

To the 100 Club members, thank you for remembering every birthday, & every Christmas. For the wonderful yearly dinners that we are invited to, the fun BBQ's every summer and now, help with college expenses. A special thank you to Patty Goodman and her family, who throughout the years, have always been and remain just a phone call away.

And now to you my fellow recipients of The 100 Club's generosity I say this, we are not survivors but WARRIORS. We've cried an ocean of tears and did not drown, ridden the waves of sadness and despair and found ourselves, feet firmly planted, on the shores of acceptance & hope. We fight our way through the daily battle of living without our loved ones, the empty chair at every family milestone, and seeing their image in the faces of our children. We find the inner strength to share our stories with those who unfortunately have & will walk in our shoes one day. Stand tall and proudly, know that our sacrifices and examples of selflessness have a ripple effect upon the lives of many. Our fallen heroes were not cowards and nor should we be. Live your lives to the fullest, remember that our loss does not define us, our successes and triumphs do.

From Our Family Members...

Hello 100 Club of Alameda County,

I want to thank you so much for all of your support over the past several years. I graduated from Chico State May 2014 and received my degree in Resort and Lodging Management. Currently I am working at Ruby Hill Golf Club in Pleasanton, assisting in the Special Events and Catering Department. I am so appreciative for your all of your support, it helped me finish my degree and my dreams of working in the hospitality industry.

Without the 100 Club I would not be where I am today in my life and career.

Thank You!!!! :)

Danielle Seuis

(Daughter of William Seuis, OPD eow 7-22-2004)



Thank you so much 100 Club of Alameda County for continuing to support me through school. I will be entering my junior year at Cal State Monterey. I will be continuing to study Environmental Science and I will be choosing my concentration soon. I am considering to either focus on Applied Ecology or Natural Resources. I am excited to be starting a new semester at CSUMB and to begin my upper division classes.

Thank you again! Kristen Seuis

(Daughter of William Seuis, OPD eow 7-22-2004)

Dear 100 Club of Alameda County,

Thank you so much for your generous gift. It will definitely help in the coming semester.

Love, Sienna Dunakin

(Daughter of Mark Dunakin, OPD eow 3-21-2009)

Alameda County Sheriff Supports the MK 100 Club

By Jim Knudsen

THANK YOU Urban Shield for helping us raise \$9,904.10!

Alameda County Sheriff Gregory J. Ahern is a big supporter of our club. In 2007 he founded a SWAT Team Training exercise, called Urban Shield, that has grown into one of the biggest and most respected in the Country. Teams from all over the nation come to train and compete in this event held the first week in September. In 2013 Sheriff Ahern expanded the training events to include Firefighters. The goal being to create the best training possible for police and firefighters.

This year over 500 peace officers and approximately 200 firefighters competed. Each team had to participate in competitions that included rescuing kidnapped victims, arresting terrorists, handling an airplane hijacking incident, and defusing bombs, to name a few of the over 60 different tactical situations.

In addition to the police and firefighter participants over 5000 volunteers helped set up the scenarios, manage them, and judge the different competitions. At the Trade Show our Club set up a booth and received almost \$10,000.00 in donations.

Thank you to our 2014 - 100 Angels:

John Baker
Roy Ballard
Richard & Anne Bartalini
Bruce Bauer
Neil Blumenthal
Audie Bock
Harold Boscovich
Bras & Mattos Monuments
Bob Byers
Christine Byers
Ivan Cornelius
Robert & Patricia Duey
Law Office of Robert M. Frost
Joel Geldermann
Bob Glaze/Optimist
Larry & Patty Goodman
David Hoig
Tom & Marily Johnson
Jones, Henle & Schunck, CPAs
Richard Karn
Anita Bea Kiley
Joseph Kitchen
Molly Knox

Jim Knuppe
Rod Krug/ Krug Rentals
Karlin Krug/Krug Rentals
Richard Lind
Lone Tree Cemetery
Anthony Malin
Ralph Martin
Bill McCammon
McGrail Vineyards
Alfred Mitchell
Mitchell & Leslie Mueller
Susan Muranishi
David Nakamura
Patrick O'Connell
Thomas Orloff
Ovations
Pacheco Bros. Gardening
Tim Palmer
Pleasanton Marriott
William Quirk
Craig Ragg
Dennis Reid
Henry Romero

Richard Reis/Shamrock Realtors
Jon Rudolph/Deputy Sheriffs' Assoc.
Marjorie Russell
John & Robin Santos/Pleasanton Ready Mix
Eugene & Barbara Saper
Robert Scheppler
Gary & Phoebe Schwaegerle
Kevin Scott/Bay Area Contract Carpets
John Scott/Bay Area Contract Carpets
Jeffrey Sloan
Anne Smith
Greg & Laura Stewart
Bob Trimble/ValForms
Robert Tucknott/Rotary Club of Dublin
William Vaculin/Morgan Stanley
Anthony Varni
Curtis Williams
Dale & Kris Wright
Greg Yoshii
Barry Donelan/Oakland Police Officers Assoc.
Frank Ghiglione/Rodgers Trucking Co.
Wayne Yeaw/Alpha Omega Print & Imaging
Ronald Ivaldi/Sunol Golf Club
Neil Sanders/OFD Stickball Tournament

Contact the Club Office if you are interested in becoming a 100 Angel



***100 Club Alameda County
767 Brannan Place
Concord, CA 94518***



Join us for the:

Annual Winter Dinner Meeting

**Sunol Golf Club
6900 Mission Road, Sunol**

**Wednesday, February 4, 2015
5:30 PM - No Host Cocktails
6:30 PM – Dinner**

**ALL Members and any of your Public Safety Officer Guests Are Welcome!
No charge for members. Guest price for Public Safety Officers is \$45.**

Advance reservations are required!

- YES! Count me in for the dinner – I/We am/are a member in good standing**

Name _____

- YES! Count me/us in for the dinner – Enclosed are my/our dues.**

Name _____

- Please make a reservation for my guest - (I am sending \$45 today) ***

Name of the Public Safety Employee _____

Department _____

- * **Make checks payable to “Martin Kauffman 100 Club of Alameda County” and mail to:
100 Club • 767 Brannan Place • Concord, CA 94518**

To make a reservation:

Please mail this form to: 767 Brannan Place, Concord, CA 94518

Send an email: MK100Club@astound.net

Call Christine at 510.818.0337

Fax this form to: 925.566.8590

Reservations needed by Noon on January 28, 2015