



MEETING NOTES: Aug. 15, 2018



Thought of the Day: Jackie's message was "Always continue to pursue your goals."

Happy Dollars: Merilee gave \$50 both for sad and happy. She was sad because a neighbor of hers will not stop smoking. Patrice gave happily. Harvey gave, mentioning knee surgery. President John gave to celebrate the birth of his daughter, Eliana. Bob S. was happy about a birthday and the conclusion of Zambia wheelchair donation.



Raffle winners were Bob S. (wine) and Bea (lunch).

A Red Badge was presented to Bob Hamilton. He is a former member of another Rotary. He joined the Auction Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We have about \$8,000+ with matching funds to donate to victims of the Carr fire.

We received a thank you letter was received from Healing Waters Mission that works with veterans.

PROGRAM

Our speaker was Ken Sommer, head of the George Mark Children's House, a non-profit organization that

provides respite, transitional and end-of-life care for children or young adults up to and including 21 years of age who have been diagnosed with a life-limiting illness. Located in San Leandro, California, it focuses on quality of life and continuity of care for children with illnesses that modern healthcare cannot yet cure, or for those who have chronic medical conditions.



Kathy Hull founded the first freestanding pediatric palliative care facility in the United States, the George Mark Children's House, to honor and celebrate young lives cut short.. She named it after two children, both Hull's siblings, who died of cancer. Its mission is to give terminally ill children and their families a peaceful place to say goodbye. As the first active hospice in the U.S., it was modeled after one in England. There are now several in the country.

It can be overwhelming and isolating to have a child with complex medical conditions. John Mark partners with families to bring an element of normalcy and joy into their lives. The House provides temporary residence for families of these children. Everything is free. The San Leandro location has five acres of recreational grounds surrounding the hospice including nine bedrooms and playrooms inside. They serve up to 8 residential patients at a time, and they're staffed by 80 volunteers and others. In addition to around-the-clock skilled pediatric nursing, they offer everyday activities including play, art, music, movement and hydrotherapy They also provide respite care for sick children and transitional care.

Counseling, home visits, support groups and participation in events held at George Mark are provided for as long as a family desires, allowing every person to grieve and heal in their own way, and at their own pace. Counseling assistance is available to the entire family throughout a child's illness and beyond.



Their budget is 4.5 million and is funded by foundations, corporations, individuals, and charities. They receive only 20% reimbursement from insurance.

CALENDAR

Today	Club Picnic at Sportsmans Park
Aug. 29	Krista Boscoe – AMIGOS program