

## Dublin Rotary Readies for Top Chef

On Friday May 29, 2009 the first Top Chef event was held at the Wedgewood Event Center in San Ramon under the leadership of Serean Kimmel under the presidency of Bob Tucknott. It was very successful. On Sunday night the eighth annual Top Chef, under the leadership of Kamal Della, will be held at the Mercedes Benz showroom in Pleasanton. Photos from last year are shown on top, while photos from the first four years are shown below.







Mona Dunlop Co-President • Bo Carvacho Co-President • Rich Boschetti President - Elect • Larry Damaser Past President Parvin Manuchehri Stephany Jenkins Co-ChairTreasurer • Alan Brown Youth Services • Beverely Herrera Social Chair Kamal Della Foundation • Rich Bennett International Service • Michael Kyle Seargent at Arms • Rich Boschetti MC Kulick Co-Chair Membership Don Price Secretary • Melissa Strah Community Service • Ron Mazur Club Service • Lee Denlinger Vocational Service

### Around the Room



Today we heard from **Tinarsha Brown,** the recently inducted into membership Broker Owner of Intero Real Estate located at 7950

Dublin Boulevard, the office building near where we park when we sell fireworks at Hooters. The name **Tinarsha** is a contraction of her mother's two best friends Tiny and Marsha. Drop two letters and slide them together: Tinarsha! She is the mother of four boys, two are in the military and one about to graduate from college. She has been in real estate for 14 years; she currently has 17 agents and expects to build to 35. She loves to dance and has written a book on overcoming your obstacles that is due to be published in about two weeks.Welcome, Tinarsha, to Dublin Rotary.

#### President Elect Rich Boschetti

led a discussion on club finances for

his upcoming presidential year. We have had two main fund raisers each year, both of whom require lots of hours of preparation by the same group of Rotary volun-



teers, says Rich, potentially causing major amounts of burnout. Can we do without one of them for that reason? Also, the fireworks combine that includes Rotary, DPIE and the Wells band this year was awarded three fireworks booths, one more than we usually get. There were mixed reviews on whether we can handle one more booth this year, given the difficulty of coercing Rotarians to volunteer for sales shifts at the fireworks booths. We'll be searching for partners to help, but we will also consider only staffing two locations. To be continued...



**Larry Damaser** announced and began to take signups for this year's demotion night. He said that since we are demoting two Presidents this year, he is planning a program that will be twice as nice as in the past. Once again, Cattleman's is the venue, with the event to be held on the last Tuesday evening of the Rotary year, June 28. The City of Dublin honored some of its volunteers at a recent luncheon. Janine collected the loot on behalf of volunteering club members and passed them on in this photo. You guessed it, the loot was certificates and umbrellas!



We participated in an event to recognize a local young lady, **Camille Chabot**, who just received a bone marrow transplant to aid in her recovery from lymphoma. This is a very serious scenario so Camille is being encouraged by people all over and beyond the country to urge her to continue to fight her battle. The show of support includes photos of followers with special T-shirts, wrist bands and scarves. The photo helps to show our support for Camille.



Coming Events

May 12

Sunday, May 15 – Top Chef Event, 5 to 8 p.m. See Kamal Tuesday, May 17 – Richard Wexler, Intelligent Aging. Meet at On The Border Tuesday, May 24 and 31– Meet at Dublin Library Tuesday, June 28 – Demotion Night! See Larry Damaser



## School of Imagination to Be Honored at Top Chef



Dublin Rotary's Top Chef event on Sunday will recognize the School of Imagination, located in the extreme western hills of the City of Dublin. Charlene and Mitch Sigman, the co-founders of the school that focuses on care for autistic children, talked to us recently.

Charlene, a speech-language pathologist with an MS in Education and Communication Disorders, opened a licensed day care in their Pleasanton home in 2001. She began with four "happy talker" children who had autism and speech development problems. The Sigman family and their neighborhood were soon overwhelmed with as many as 120 children a week knocking at their door, desperate parents asking for help. They moved the daycare 8 times over the next 5 years, seeking an adequate facility. By 2009 they *continued on page 4* 

The last four Mayors of the City of Dublin -- Guy Houston, Janet Lockhart, Tim Sbranti and David Haubert -- convened at Valley High School a couple of Fridays ago to provide a pancake breakfast to the students and faculty of the school. One in a series of Friday morning breakfasts prepared under the direction of Jan Kinzel of CityServe, the breakfasts provide an outreach to the students that is tasty and highly appreciated. Dublin Rotary has sponsored four of this year's breakfasts, which run every other Friday for the entire school year. The Mayors enjoyed themselves so much that they vowed to make it an annual event and expect to include the only other ex-Mayor, Pete Snyder, next year. Jan has a committee of about a dozen that prepares the food offsite on Thursday afternoons (no kitchen is available at the school) and brings it to the site where it is warmed and served.

#### Future Top Chefs?



Yes, we think so! Dublin High School Culinary Instructor Jackie Lawson brought three of her students to speak to us on Tuesday, immediately following a great lunch prepared by the students. The students spoke of their love of both cooking and Mrs. Lawson, but not necessarily in that order. Jackie is in her second career, wanting an occupation that kept her closer to home than her previous sales career did. She helped out for a while at Dublin High as the cooking teachers retired, then was enticed to start at then-new Dougherty High.

She was coerced back to Dublin when the school was being rebuilt with a fancy kitchen that she could help design and set up. Now, after 5 years at DHS, it sounds like she has the best possible equipment – she calls it a commercial kitchen -- to teach her many classes of food preparation, including the invitation-only catering class. She invites about 30 students from her other classes, based on their skills and passion for cooking. To give the kids real world experience, she arranged for catering gigs for them; literally dozens of events serving hundreds of meals. She charges about a third what commercial caterers do - it's wonderful when you don't have to pay the help or for the equipment - no less a connoisseur of fine food aka Bob Tucknott claims Rotary has bounced from the best lunch in Area 4 to the worst and now back to the top with the DHS-supplied lunches. He is a fan of Jackie and her kids. The catering makes money; it is all plowed back into the class for facilities, supplies, charity events, and even scholarships for her students as they move on.



Jackie's kids move on to culinary schools all over the country, plus as students and graduates work locally. Her students have worked in such places as Nothing Bundt Cakes, Whole Foods, Wente Restaurant, the Cheesecake Factory, and others. The students pictured were very enthusiastic and obviously are passionate about cooking.

# School of Imagination cont'd from page 3

had 250 children a week seeking help, coming from as far away as Gilroy and Sacramento.



Thanks to advocates such as lanet Lockhart, they now have a beautiful 12,000 square foot facility in west Dublin. Autism is evident in some children as early as six months of age. The school begins care for kids with development disabilities as early as ages 2 or 3. The staff includes 24 educator/teachers and 14 clinician/therapists. The teacher student ratio is lower than at other preschools. It's a 2:1 ratio for two year olds, and 4:1 for children over two. Funding is tough, and no one gets turned away due to a lack of funds. Tuition is about \$1,000 per month and they appreciate the community support from folks like us. They have one major league all-star supporter, catcher Stephen Vogt of the Oakland A's and his wife Alyssa Vogt who participated in a recent fund-raiser.

#### Around the Library Room



the Dublin Library and all seems well. The food and arrangements seem to be working well (see accompanying article on DHS food providers) and retired Dublin Librarian Pat Zahn's car is back on autopilot. Betty Ojo is back in town after spending her 70th birthday in Dubai. Lots

Two more weeks in

of good remembrances from the District Conference – **Alan** reported that Area 4 Speech Contest winner **Rachael Sylwester** of Livermore's Granada High won the top prize at the District!



Kamal was awarded the prize for the District's best Public Image effort, reflecting his work on the Top Chef fundraiser last year. Bob Tucknott and Don Price were acknowledged for receiving recognition for their Paul Harris Society membership, reflecting a \$1,000 annual contribution. Don Sullivan's name wasn't mentioned but he is also a perennial big giver. Ron Mazur was so taken (again) by the quality of the conference and in particular the aging Rotary warhorses – Rick King and Cliff Dochterman - whose Saturday night speeches were superb and inspirational. Ron also led an intimate bike outing on the IHT. Other

credits go to Mona for flawlessly leading the opening event's Pledge of Allegiance, for **Rich Bennett** for continuing in his role of handling hotel arrangements



(remotely, we should add!), for **Bob Tucknott** for assisting in promotions, and to **Mayor Dave** for representing his City and his club during a panel session with three other Tri-Valley Mayors. And let's not forget **Chris** for modestly accepting the door prize at the Saturday lunch, rightly claiming he actually did nothing (but register) to deserve the prize.

Shamekka Paulette Marty was inducted into membership by Rich Boschetti. Shamekka is an IT professional with JP Morgan Chase who also describes herself as a life coach and

motivational speaker. She has three kids – 18, 15 and 8 – and an 11 year old dog. She started the "Project Smiles Foundation" for chemother-



apy people. She is a volunteer for the Lupus Foundation. The tag line on her business card proclaims her philosophy: "If you can change your mind, you can change your life." Welcome to Dublin Rotary, **Shamekka**!



## Where to Make up Missed Rotary Meetings

Tuesdays

- Livermore Valley 7:15 a.m.
  Beeb's Sports Bar and Grill, 915 Club House Drive
- Danville/Sycamore 7:00 a.m.
  Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silver Lake
- Castro Valley 12 noon Redwood Canyon Golf Course, 17007 Redwood Road

#### Wednesdays

- Livermore 12 noon
  Elks Lodge, 940 Larkspur
- Dougherty Valley/San Ramon Canyon View Banquet Hall, 680 Bollinger Canyon, San Ramon
- San Ramon Valley 5:10 to 6:40 p.m.
  Blackhawk Country Club,
  599 Blackhawk Club Drive

Thursdays

- Pleasanton 12:15 Hap's, 122 W. Neal
- San Ramon 12:15
  Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silver Lake
- Tri-Valley Evening 6 p.m.
  Castlewood Country Club, 707 Country Club Circle

#### Fridays

 Pleasanton North, 12:15 Handles Gastro Pub, 855 Main St.





ROTARIANS, ROTARACTORS, INTERACTORS, AND GUESTS







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The Rotary Club of Dublin welcomes visitors! We meet on Tuesdays at 12:15 p.m. at the Dublin Ranch Golf Course at 5900 Signal Hill Drive at Fallon Road. (The club is in the process of relocating to a new facility; contact Co-President Mona Dunlop at <u>mdunlop@pacbell.net</u> for the current meeting location.) The Dublin Rotary Shamrock is published bi-weekly; the editor is Chris Kinzel who can be reached at <u>ckinzel@tjkm.com</u>. Contact Chris to be added to the mailing list.

Sheet Metal

#### **Dublin Rotary Membership**

dcackley@ackind.com

\*Ackley, Dennis '97• Anyosa, John '14 \*Bennett, Rich '95• Benton, Bryan '13• Biddle, Don '05• Boschetti, Rich '12• Brown, Alan '13 Brown, Tinarsha '16 Carvacho, Bo '08• \*Cauchi, Jerry '06• Ceizler, Harold '69• \*Damaser, Larry '09• \*Delaporte, Tim '09• Della, Kamal 'II• Denlinger, Lee '04• Dunlop, Mona '94• Hanke, Steve '12• Haubert, David '13 Herrera, Beverly '15 Herbstman, Cliff '68• Hoffman, Ted Ir. '90• Ichiuji, John '83• Jenkins, Stephany 'II Johnson, Pamela '07• \*Kinzel, Chris D. '87• Kulick, MC '09• \*Kyle Michael E. '75•

dealer of Galerandiconn	•
janyosa@yahoo.com	Advocate
richb5170@yahoo.com	Pension Consulting
bryan.benton@elephantbar.com	Restaurant
dondonnab1@aol.com	Retired
richard.boschetti@bankofthewes	st.com Banking
alanmbrown10@gmail.com	<b>Business &amp; Security</b>
Tinarsha@interorealestate.com	Realtor
bocarvacho@gmail.com	Sports
jcauchi@cauchi.com	Photographer
hceizler@aol.com	Dentist
Larry.Damaser.RCGU@statefarr	n.com Insurance
tadelaporte@gmail.com	Financial
kamaldella@aol.com	Real Estate Investments
lee_denlinger@yahoo.com	Educator
mdunlop@pacbell.net	Travel
hankestephen@dublin.k12.ca.us	Education
david.haubert@dublin.ca.gov	City Council Member
beverly.herrera@bhghomes.com	Realtor
cliffherbstman@gmail.com	Telephone Wizard
thbp@earlanthonysdublinbowl.co	m Bowling Proprietor
drjidds@pacbell.net	Dentistry
stephany@sbcglobal.net	Real Estate
pjohnson041@comcast.net	Retired
ckinzel@tjkm.com	Traffic Engineer
mc_kulick@yahoo.com	Content Marketing
michael_e_kyle@msn.com	Attorney

\*Leuchi, Jeff '96• Manuchehri, Parvin 'I I• Marty, Shamekka '16 \*Mazur, Ron '85• \*Miller, Dennis J. '79• Miller, Gregory '08 \*Moy, William '89• Murphy, Heather '14 \*Price, Don '09• Pringle, Patty '13 Raney, Ed '96• Rouse, Megan '14 Ruhullah, Yusuf '14• Salvado, Keith '12 \*Shurson, Stacey '90• Smith, Linda '12 Stanford, Athena '06 Strah, Melissa '13 Sullivan, Don '84• \*Thalblum, Janine '09• \*Tucknott, Bob '73• Watanabe, Jerry '72• Wong, Kinley '14 • \*Zahn, Pat '98• Editor: Chris D. Kinzel Design: Geri Foley Assistant Editor: Stace Shurson Senior Photo Counselor: Mike Kyle

jclprint@msn.com parvin@claritywa.com mekka79@gmail.com ronmazur@jps.net drdjm16@gmail.com gmillerdc@gmail.com billmoy@timpsongarcia.com b.ivie@comcast.net donprice@elmonterv.com patty@eastbaytaxpros.com edraneycpa@comcast.net meganrouse@gmail.com premierpcp@yahoo.com kh.licardo@gmail.com shursons@bgsurplus.com lsmith411@comcast.net onlylathena@yahoo.com melstrah@comcast.net kathydonsullivan@yahoo.com j.thalblum@comcast.net tucknottel@aol.com jerryhwatanabe@yahoo.com kinley.wong@lfg.com pzahn@comcast.net

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Printing

5/12/16 Past President of Dublin Rotary\* Paul Harris Fellow

