

## **Pizarro: Giving drives Silicon Valley Capital Club members**

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As it celebrates its 20th anniversary this year, the Silicon Valley Capital Club is keeping things fresh by putting an emphasis on charitable giving and bringing in fresh blood.

The business and dining club -- perched at the top of the 17-floor Knight Ridder building in downtown San Jose -- long has been a prime see-and-be-seen locale for movers and shakers.

Donna Rubin, chairwoman of the club's Community Connections Committee, says the philanthropic push bubbled up from members. It's also important to ClubCorp, the club's Dallas-based owner.

This evening, San Jose is hosting ClubCorp's Charity Classic, Food, Wine & Music for the Soul. It benefits Habitat for Humanity Silicon Valley, Employee Partners Care Foundation and Augie's Quest, which raises money to combat ALS (also called Lou Gehrig's disease).

But the club's big event is An Evening With the Stars on Oct. 2. The black-tie fundraiser for the San Jose Rep will also serve as an anniversary celebration for the Capital Club's 20 years and the Rep's 30.

In between, Rubin says there are plenty of philanthropic opportunities for club members and nonmembers, too -- like the Celebrity Bartender events held on the last Wednesday of every month. Different nonprofit groups are the designated beneficiaries for each of those after-work wine receptions, which can bring in some serious dough.

At the last one in July, guest bartenders Helen Marchese Owen, Ali Bassiri and Murphy Sabatino III got more than \$9,000 in tips, which they donated to O'Connor Hospital for a new mammography suite.

Giving is also on the minds of some of the club's younger members, says Nicholas Adams, director of marketing at Coakley Heagerty. He leads the club's Association of Professional Emerging Executives (or APEX).

"We're a fun group," he said, "but we want to be more about business and professional enrichment than partying. Giving's part of that, and we want to do our part to help organizations in San Jose."

**MORE CLUBBING:** It's not all giving at the Capital Club, of course. There's some pretty good food there, thanks to executive chef Michael Miller.

There have been some raves for his new lunch and dinner menu, which incorporate some favorites from Trevese, Miller's former restaurant in Los Gatos.

**HEALTHY PITCH:** San Jose Giants fans got tips on how to keep their hearts healthy Thursday night thanks to Close the Gap, a campaign by Boston Scientific to educate people about cardiovascular care.

Matthew Levy, a cardiologist from Good Samaritan Hospital, was fielding health questions at a booth during the game and giving tips on how to lower your risk for heart disease. (Some of the same tips are available at [www.your-heart-health.com](http://www.your-heart-health.com).)

**PERFECT CODA:** That was some finale last Sunday to Symphony Silicon Valley's Target Summer Pops series.

At the end of the concert, which featured big-band hits of the 1930s and '40s, sponsor Lee Brandenburg took the stage to lead the crowd of approximately 4,700 people in singing "As Time Goes By," the classic from "Casablanca."

Symphony Silicon Valley President Andrew Bales said the five free concerts drew more than 16,000 people. That's up from last year's crowd of 14,000.

**POWER LUNCH:** The Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce and Comerica Bank are launching a new luncheon series Wednesday aimed at women. Its first speaker will be Ysabel Duron, the weekend anchor for KRON4 News and founder of Latinas Contra Cancer.

The IMPOWER luncheon takes place at the Toll House Hotel from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$35 per person. Get more details or make reservations at [www.losgatoschamber.com](http://www.losgatoschamber.com), or call 408-354-9300.