

Sunday, May 13, 2007



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Endow Carlsbad holds formal opening

By: J. STRYKER MEYER - staff writer

Wednesday night at the Ocean House in Carlsbad, a new community foundation held its formal launching of Endow Carlsbad, a local fund of the San Diego Foundation that will serve Carlsbad exclusively.

An evening of wine, cheese and charity set the tone for what sounds like a new, serious philanthropic organization in a city that already has several civic groups that serve various causes and functions, all of which contribute to making Carlsbad a unique city.

Chaired by Knox Williams Endow Carlsbad, already has contributions and commitments totaling \$200,000, said John Duca of the San Diego Foundation.

Under its charter, Endow Carlsbad is recruiting founding members who can donate at least \$1,000 for five years. Half of the money will immediately go into annual grant making while the other half will go into a permanent endowment. As its short term goal, Endow Carlsbad wants to recruit 100 founding members by Dec. 31 ---- there were 40 as of Friday, and have \$50,000 in awards in the first year. In the long term, its goals are to have a \$5 million endowment by 2011 and to have provided at least \$250,000 per year to benefit organizations and individuals in Carlsbad by 2011.

"Endow Carlsbad is not here to replace any organization in Carlsbad, but to assist and to work with other groups in the city, to provide support for charitable causes, enhance residents' quality of life now and for future generations," said Duca.

"Carlsbad is such a giving community and I am so fortunate to be a part of it," said Knox Williams. "Endow Carlsbad is a vehicle to connect Carlsbad residents with causes that matter."

There are similar foundations established in Escondido, Rancho Bernardo and 4S Ranch, Duca added. Call Duca at (760) 269-3882.

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