**15144, Wayne Bunker**

Good Afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen,

I want to thank Chair Sherri Sager and members of the SAMCEDA (San Mateo County Economic Development Association) Board of Directors for awarding me the 2016 David D. Bohannon award for community service and philanthropy. This association has worked to recognize leaders in the community who make a difference in San Mateo County for more than sixty years. Every year SAMCEDA holds this luncheon to honor innovation and entrepreneurship in our economy. Those qualities are not just something you see in a select few people. Those qualities define the members of our businesses and community service organizations.

It has been my honor and privilege over the years to contribute my leadership skills to the improvement of the quality of life in this county, and to lend my time and effort to community service and philanthropy. San Mateo County is more than just a place to live. It is a place where we can come together and make a difference in the world around us. That’s what makes this community unique. Each one of us has specials skills and talents. Those skills and talents are valuable by themselves. But, when we all join our skills together we can accomplish amazing things to help make our world better.

Every day this association does something to improve this community. We organize research, gather results, and educate the public on important issues, then we implement plans to make improvements. Not every community has such a diligent association such as this to consistently work toward improving the community. As a member, I have multiple opportunities to work toward making a difference in this, my home community. I have had the chance to volunteer my time, my talents, and my efforts to make my own contribution.

I can honestly say that the work I do with SAMCEDA benefits me as much as it benefits the community. As I have worked alongside others in the community to make things better, I have learned how to be a better businessman. I have learned how to be a better member of the community. That’s what being a part of an organization like this is about. It’s like iron sharpening iron. You help me become better, I help you become better, and together we help make the world around us to be better.

When I first moved here there were more experienced members who invited me and mentored me once I joined. It is now my honor to pay that forward and invite others to be a part of the solution and offer their talents and resources, and once they join us then I can mentor and encourage them as you have done with me.

I thank you again for this honor and I give you my commitment to continue my support to the benefit of San Mateo County in any way that I am able to help. I am thrilled to see how far we have come over the years and excited to think about the plans we have for the future.