

# Renee Grubb to Chair SB Chamber; Chackel, Heron, Elings Honored

Santa Barbara Region Chamber of Commerce Presents Awards and Announces New Scholarship Fund at 102nd Annual Dinner

**ENCOURAGING A NEW SPIRIT OF GIVING,** Renee Grubb, new Chair for the Santa Barbara Regional Chamber of Commerce addressed the 102nd Annual dinner at the Four Seasons Biltmore, Wednesday January 30th. The annual dinner included the announcement of a new chamber scholarship. During the



Innovator of the Year, Dr. **Virgil Elings** with **Steven Amerikaner**, Brownstein, Hyatt & Farber, Schreck



**David Edelman**, Cox Communications, Innovator of the Year, Dr. **Virgil Elings**, **Bibi Moezzi**, Business First Bank, **John Romo**, President of Santa Barbara City College

evening over \$100,000 was raised to support the new scholarship and also three major awards were presented.

"It is our hope to unite the business community through a Philanthropy Council to recognize companies and their employees for exemplary community contributions and to encourage a new spirit of giving among our members," commented Grubb in her message to the Chamber. Renee Grubb is the co-owner of Village Properties.

"The Chance for Change Scholarship," will be administered by the Santa Barbara Scholarship Foundation, and will provide a two year scholarship to Santa Barbara City College for a young person who has either left gang life, or resisted joining despite pressure. Student speaker **Ulises Rios** shared some of his related experiences.

The Betty Hatch Award was presented by its namesake to **Karen Chackel**, Vice President of First American Title Company. **Julie McGovern**, General Manager of Cox Communications, presented the Business Man of the Year Award to **Ed Heron** and long time friend and colleague Dr. **Ray Sawyer** presented the Innovator of the Year Award to Dr. **Virgil Elings**.

Outgoing and incoming Board members were honored, as well as an introduction of the 2008 Executive Board.

Presenting Sponsors at the event were Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, Venoco, Inc., Hutton Foundation, Montecito Bank & Trust, Village Properties,

First American Title, Harry Heron and Business First Bank. Corporate Table Sponsors are Bank of Santa Barbara, Cox Communications, Inc., Rabobank, University of California - Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara Bank & Trust Cottage Health System, Louise & David Borgatello.

For more information contact the Chamber at 965-3023 or visit [www.sbchamber.org](http://www.sbchamber.org).



**Renee Grubb**, SB Chamber's new chair, Co-Owner of Village Properties



Business Man of the Year, **Ed Heron** with **Julie McGovern**, General Manager of Cox Communications



**Betty Hatch** and the Betty Hatch Award recipient **Karen Chackel**, Vice President of First American Title Company



Renee Grubb with her family: **Brian Campbell**; **Natalie Grubb-Campbell**; **Renee Grubb**, Chamber Chair; **Ed Grubb**; **Erin Burns**; and **Chris Burns**

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