



# The BUNG STARTER

Volume 2014

The Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of St. Helena

September 10, 2014

## Board Meeting



*The Officers and Directors meet on the first Monday of every month as well as emergency sessions after regular meetings. This photo shows members meeting on June 18<sup>th</sup>. (clockwise from left) **TomB**, **Gary**, **TomD**, **Jeff**, **BobM**, **George**, **Donalee** and **Lester** discuss weighty matters.*

What do you like for breakfast? That was one of the topics of discussion at Monday's Board of Directors meeting, attended by **Lester**, **BobM**, **TomD**, **BobB**, **Donalee**, **Lowell** and **TomB**.

The Board considered various options for meals, as Armadillo's Restaurant is being sold and Tony won't be preparing breakfasts after next week. It is not likely that another restaurant is available, so the options are finding an individual cook, serving a buffet-style continental breakfast or moving meetings to a lunch or dinner format. The last option was discussed briefly and dismissed as being too disruptive. The Board agreed that the ultimate decision should involve member input, but for now recommends that meetings continue as they are but follow "the cold breakfast path" of light fare.

At the same time efforts will be made to find other options. The Board discussed various ways to increase efficiency and minimize cleanup, including the purchase of a capsule coffee machine in lieu of the large coffee maker.

Another agenda item was the lease agreement for the American Legion Hall. **Lester** will be in contact with **Jeff Conway**, President of American Legion Post 199, who presented a draft agreement. Lester said that there aren't many changes from the status quo – it's an effort to formalize arrangements with every hall user. Rent and cooking for two Post dinners each year would remain the same. It was mentioned that chair trolleys shouldn't be left in the main hall after our meetings.

## Installation Dinner September 25

The club's annual Installation Dinner will be Thursday night, September 25, at Bob Matheny's home. All members are urged to attend, along with spouses and guests. A sign-up list will be available at today's meeting. Stay tuned for more announcements about this special event.

## Board Recommends Donations

The Board of directors voted to help fund a memorial for **Bob Darter** to be located at the library. St. Helena Kiwanis will join The Boy Scouts, Saints Athletic Association, and Friends of the Library in this project.

The Board also recommended a second-year scholarship for one of last year's recipients, **Carlos Gutierrez**, who is attending UC Santa Cruz. He maintained a 3.5 GPA his first year.

The Napa Valley Soap Box Derby also received a recommendation from the Board for a Foundation donation.

*The Kiwanis Club of  
St. Helena, a chapter in good  
standing of  
Kiwanis International  
since 1950,  
is dedicated to serving the  
Community of St. Helena.*

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**The Powers That Be  
Club Officers 2013-2014**

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President Elect Bob Matheny  
Vice President Tom Davis  
Secretary Bob Beckstrom  
Treasurer Jeff Farmer  
Past President Lester Hardy  
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Tom Belt  
Jan Darter  
Donalee Shackelford  
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.....  
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Tom Davis  
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.....  
**Committee Chairs**

Fundraising Jay Lewis  
Membership Jeff Farmer  
Projects Don Richardson  
Publicity Lowell Smith  
Youth Donalee Shackelford

.....  
**The Bung Starter**

An almost regular publication of  
the Kiwanis Club of St. Helena  
with an 81.25% on-time record.  
“We don’t print retractions.”

Editor Bob Beckstrom  
bbeckstrom@pacunion.com  
Reporter Bill Savidge

# Last Week at the Club

## The Heights... and the Depths

The Kiwanis morning routine seems to have a new wrinkle: visitors. This week the hardcore faithful (all 15) were joined by 3 local folks who came to enjoy breakfast and hear an interesting guest speaker (more on that). So... hand shakes, mingling, coffee, money changing hands... the usual. Then the bell boink, song chirp and thought-provoking gem from **Lowell**. “Giving up on a goal because of a setback is like slashing your other 3 tires because you got a flat.” When it came time for formalities **His Lestership** inquired, “Do we have a jester?” Nobody spoke up, so it was assumed that somebody was absent, didn’t have good material or simply forgot. But who? No point in relying on memories with this group, so **BobB** held up a *Bung Starter* and pointed to **Steve**’s name. Mystery solved. He was absent. Devoid of humor, but nevertheless in good cheer, **Lester** asked for guest introductions. **Jeff** pointed to 3 tablemates and introduced **Bonnie Thoreen**, **John Thoreen** and “my wife **Kim**... she says I never invite her to these things.” In the interest of matrimonial harmony let it be noted that on September 3, 2014, he apparently did. **Tom**, chafing at the bit, leaped up with 2 H \$\$ “because Penn State started with a thrilling win in the last minute, and the Giants are knocking the tar out of the ball.” **Jan** paid a H\$ for visiting her granddaughter and another H\$ “because I’m retiring.” Too bad we don’t have a song for that. Hmmm. “Take this job and...” **Bill** stood up. “I have a Very Happy 6 dollars and 20 cents... I remembered my anniversary in spite of not being reminded last week... I remember marrying Charlotte at Wayfarer’s Chapel at Portuguese Bend in 1952.” Eyebrows went up, at least among those who did the math. Wow! **Lowell** paid a H\$ because “the U. of Oregon prevailed, 63-12, over some cupcake school.” **Howard** paid a ThankYou\$ “for the crew that put up the flags for Labor Day.” **BobB** paid a H\$. “Speaking of Labor Day, Linda and I drove up the coast... beautiful weather... amazing place we live.” **Gary** paid a H\$ “to see August end... we moved our belongings up here from SoCal... moved our daughter... moved our son... glad it’s over.” **Jeff** paid a H\$ “as a counterpoint to Bob’s experience... camped at Bodega Bay... 20 minutes of sunshine.” **Lester** said, “It reminds me of growing up in SF... fog... Stinson Beach... here’s 2H\$\$ for not going to Stinson anymore.” Any birthdays? None. Anniversaries? None, until **Drew** yelled, “Go back. I have one” **Lester** asked, “How many years?” **Drew** replied, “Three Happy years: 1973, 19... in dog years, 41.”

Announcements: 1) **Lester** asked for “a big hand for **Tony**, who won’t be doing breakfasts for us after next week because Armadillo’s is being sold.” 2) **Lester** asked for volunteers “to lead the way to find us another source of nourishment.” Nobody raised a hand. “We have until the end of the month.” 3) **Lowell** said, “We started a process of inviting candidates for public office to speak to us... it’s on our group calendar.” 4) **Kim** announced the Candidates Forum, sponsored by the League of Women Voters, at the library on September 11 at 7:00 p.m. 5) **Don** announced, “As of this morning we don’t have a project for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of this month.” Guest speaker: **Lester**, not seeing our guest speaker yet, texted him and found out he was ill and couldn’t make it.

The Good Guy was **Don**. “I’ll go table-by-table... **TomD**, **Jeff**, **Bill**, **Lowell** and **Lester**.” See what happens when the Good Guy’s a camouflage expert?

Drawings: Jester – **Howard** Fine Free – **John** Marble Game – **George**

THIS JUST IN: **Lester** is growing a beard for Halloween. “I’ll contribute \$25 to the pot in honor of the 1<sup>st</sup> person who guesses who I will be. Clue #1: the date 12/31/58.”

# Beer Here!



It's official – St. Helena Kiwanis will once again serve suds at the Hometown Harvest Festival, held this year on Saturday, October 18. **Dave Kerr** has volunteered to submit the application, obtain permits and get the beer.

Other volunteers are needed to organize the booth and serve customers. Hopefully, the booth itself survived a year in **George's** barn with only minimal wear and tear.



*The booth is a popular attraction at the Festival, especially in warm weather.*

# Member Profile

*By Bill Savidge*



## Don Richardson

Don enjoys almost everything connected with nature and the outdoors. He's fascinated by rocks, from millstones to gemstones. A snorkeler, scuba diver and fisherman, he says, "I love chasing fish even if I don't catch them." For bird hunting, he's trained his 7 year old black Labrador, Lady Sadie, to retrieve to both voice and hand signals.

As a Bale Grist Mill guide and miller, he grinds on stones Dr. Bale brought to Napa Valley from San Francisco. "It's living history, feeling how things were done 170 years ago." Don also works smaller stones; his lapidary will be included in the Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society show this month.

Born in a small Kansas town in 1954, Don is the youngest of four sons. His father was a family practice physician; his mother a school teacher. When Don was a 6<sup>th</sup> grader, the family moved to Needles and he's lived in California since. In high school he played football and basketball. He also was on the golf team, but doesn't play anymore. "Too much time. My nephew wanted to learn, so I gave him my clubs. Haven't played since."

Don's career matched his love of the outdoors. For three years he worked as a scuba diver for UC Santa Barbara, his alma mater, after getting his biology BA in 1977. He collected research animals, mostly invertebrates, from the ocean. Then he was a California State Parks Ranger for 12 years, which included protecting the world's tallest trees, the Humboldt Redwoods. "Most fun I had as a Ranger was chasing dope growers. I actually only caught one guy in a garden." In 1993 Don was hired as a Game Warden for the Department of Fish and Game. He served in various locations for 17 years, retiring in 2008. The Richardson family moved to St. Helena from Seal Beach in 1997.

Don met Wanda, his wife, in high school; she was his best friend's cousin. They married after college, have two grown children, a boy and a girl. Wanda is employed as a speech-language pathologist by the SH school district.

"I like to keep projects flowing," Don says. A current personal project is to rebuild his 1923 Model T Roadster. But he also wants to keep Kiwanis work projects moving, as he has done so well for Bothe State Park. "We need more participation. Everyone should be involved and we definitely need PR; credit in the paper for the things we do."

# Kiwanis Club of St. Helena

*Guinness World Record Holder*

*Longest continuous wine toast 10/7/12*

## CLUB CALENDAR

Every Wednesday – Club Meeting at American Legion Hall, 7:30 a.m.

**September 10** – Guest speaker, Paul Dohring, City Council Candidate

**September 13** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Work Day (nothing scheduled yet)

**September 16** – Put up flags for Multi-Cultural celebration, 7:00 a.m.

**September 17** – Guest speaker, Ann Nevero, SH Mayoral Candidate

**September 24** – (No meeting)

**September 25** – Club Installation Dinner, 6:00 pm., Beckstrom residence.

**October 1** – Guest speaker, Alan Galbraith, SH Mayoral Candidate

**October 8** – Guest speaker, Hydrologist Vicki Kretsinger on ground water

**October 11** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Work Day (nothing scheduled yet)

**October 15** – Guest speaker, Pam Dodson, Queen of the Valley Hospital

**October 18** – Beer Booth, Hometown Harvest Festival

**October 22** – Guest speaker, Pam Simpson, SH Chamber of Commerce

**October 29** – Guest speaker John Sullivan, Kiwanis Regional Rep for P.E.

## Special Notices

1. Membership Committee seeks names for potential club members. Contact Jeff, George, BobB or BobM.
2. Fundraising Committee seeks dollars. Contact Jay, Lester or TomD.
4. Publicity and Outreach Committee needs your help lining up weekly speakers. Contact Lowell.

### Worthy Causes

**September 11** – Election Debate, Library, 7:00 p.m.

**September 12** – Yountville Kiwanis Wormburner Golf Tournament

# Kiwanis Club of St. Helena

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