



The BUNG STARTER

Volume 2014

The Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of St. Helena

December 3, 2014

Committees Meet Wednesday

The regular club meeting this week will start as usual, but in lieu of a guest speaker Prez **Bob** will have club members meet in break-out groups with their respective committees. Their task will be to set goals for the year and develop a plan to meet them. It's important to emphasize that the committees' task is to initiate, plan and organize activities, but that their activities should include as many other members as possible. So far 14 club members have signed up for committee assignments, as follows:

Fundraising: **Lester**

Publicity/Speakers: **TomD, Lowell**

Youth/Scholarship: **Donalee, Jan,**

BobM

Work Projects: **Don, George, Bill,**

TomB, Howard, Gary

Membership: **BobB, Jeff**

Undeclared: **Jim, Drew, Steve, John**

Board Meeting

The officers and directors held their monthly meeting Monday, attended by **BobM, Lester, TomD, TomB, Jeff, BobB, Lowell,** and **Donalee**. They reviewed and accepted reports from the treasurer, secretary and president. They also passed a motion to have Kate Sands continue as breakfast cook on a contract basis. Treasurer Jeff noted that the January invoices will reflect breakfast charges in arrears for the current quarter, as well as coming quarter.

The board voted to donate \$250 to the Family Center and heard a presentation about the Bully Clear project, but took no action at this time.

Planter Project Completed



*Look what your B.S. reporter saw recently while walking by the Post Office. **Bill** and **Don** were finishing up their Kiwanis planter box project, thanks to fresh plants and potting soil made possible by **Jay Greene**'s donation. While **Bill** and **Don** were having a good time playing in the mud, several post office patrons complimented them and shared some small town friendliness.*

Board Delays Decision on Project Eliminate

At Monday's meeting the Board of Directors decided to table a decision on our club's commitment to Project Eliminate, in order to frame it in the larger context of our club's and Foundation's donations program. Members are encouraged to discuss their opinion with board members. The following information is from John Sullivan's presentation to the club on November 12.

"St. Helena has 31 members on record, so your club's commitment would be for \$23,250. You have already donated \$2,790 to P.E., so you

have \$20,460 to go.

"There's a match program. UNICEF has \$15m to help, which creates a match for St. Helena of \$4,092. So that leaves a \$16,368 commitment to become a Model Club. Over 5 years, that comes to \$3,250 per year.

"You have several options for raising the funds. One is to buy Zeller awards. The club donates \$1250 for the award, which it gives to one of its members.

"Another option is a donation from your Foundation. A third is to pass the bottle around every week. The fourth is to have a special fundraiser... either one for each year or one for the entire commitment.

.....

*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.*

**The Powers That Be
Club Officers 2014-2015**

President Bob Matheny
 President Elect Tom Davis
 Vice President Tom Belt
 Secretary Bob Beckstrom
 Treasurer Jeff Farmer
 Past President Lester Hardy
 Directors
 Gary Bogle
 John Ponte
 Donalee Shackelford
 Lowell Smith

Kiwanis Foundation

President George Watson
 Officers and Directors
 Jan Darter
 Tom Davis
 Jeff Farmer
 Bob Matheny
 Bill Savidge
 Lowell Smith

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
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 Reporter Bill Savidge

Last Week at the Club

The Heights... and the Depths

[November 19] It takes a drought year for spirits to be this high on a wet, rainy morning... along with warm handshakes, hot coffee and a nice bell tone. After some singing, wisdom and breakfast **Prez Bob** fondled the podium and said, "Good Morning. Moving on. Guests?" **TomB** introduced the morning speaker, **Marielle Coeyteaux**, a past member and frequent guest. **Bill** stood and introduced "Raconteur, Man-About-Town and firm supporter of our planter project, **Jay Greene**." Another past member in good standing. With the screening process completed, **Prez Bob** decided it was safe to release the Jester, **TomB**. "Three men died... waiting at the pearly gates... a lawyer, accountant and bus driver... St. Peter told them he had one question for each of them. He first asked the bus driver what recent movie is about an iceberg and a ship? Titanic. Good. Next, he asked the accountant how many passengers perished? 1500. Good. Then he asked the attorney: [punch line]." Eventually the laughter, applause and back slaps died down and **Gary** was able to chuck a H\$ into the pot. "My mother in law just celebrated her 100th birthday." **Jay** paid a H\$ "because all my family is here... except my daughter... she's in NY and we're flying there Monday." **Bill** paid a H\$ "because we removed the dilapidated boxes from the Post Office yesterday... noticed they were built professionally so maybe our replacements aren't so great... want to recognize **Jay Greene** for authorizing our use of his account at Central Valley up to \$100." **JayG** responded with a H\$ "because it was a worthy project. I'm just glad that CV doesn't sell booze." **Lowell** paid a H10\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ "because our guest speaker organizes a caroling event every year and this is to help defray costs. I'll pass the hat around." **Howard** paid a H\$ "to follow up **Gary**. My dad will be 110 soon... but he's been dead for 30 years." **John** paid a H\$ for a "sartorial story" about a blue suit and the cleaners. **Jeff** paid a H\$ "for Public Works... sewer line leak... all marked out... good job." **Gary** paid AnotherH\$. "We came home from my mother-in-law's birthday party... no heat... couldn't start furnace... couldn't fix it." [Hmmm, maybe it wasn't a H\$; or this reporter missed the best part of the story.] Speaking of gas, **Jay** paid a \$ to tell about his uncle in South Dakota who tried to light a pilot light after waiting too long. **TomD** changed the theme with 2H\$. "I'm glad to be back to cold, rainy California from Maui. And for the Nittany Lions."

Announcements: **1) BobM** asked if anyone else could attend the DCM with him. **BobB** raised his hand. **2) BobM** passed around a signup sheet for the Christmas Party on December 18th. **3) BobM** announced a special Board Meeting after the meeting. **4) George** announced a Foundation Board meeting "immediately subsequent to that" [the Board Meeting]. **5) Lowell** said he "got a call from the *SH Star* asking if we're doing a Seniors Christmas Dinner." Group consensus was no. **6) Good Guy TomD** induced \$\$\$ from **Drew, Steve, and Bill**.

Drawings: Jester – **George** Fine Free – **BobB** Marbles – **Don** (no luck)



Bully Clear



[November 19] Guest speaker **Marielle Coeyteaux Britton**, a past member of our club, discussed a project she is working on to address bullying.

“The City of St. Helena, in late September, issued an anti-bullying proclamation. It started with Del and was carried on by Mayor Ann Nevero.

“I’ve been working for two decades on anti-bullying. I wrote a book, *Legitimized Bullying: the French Malaise*, which is in French and English. I developed a list of organizations in St. Helena that support anti-bullying efforts... service clubs, schools, churches... 25 of them have signed the City’s proclamation so far. I am offering a presentation to any interested group. Right now it’s free but it will be on a fee basis after the New Year.”

Marielle gave an overview of her presentation. “It has three parts: What is Bullying? Why Is It Important to Eliminate? What To Do About It?”

“Bullying is an action to frighten, hurt or threaten a smaller, weaker person, or cause someone to do something by force in order to gain power or status. It can be physical, verbal or social... It causes the victim to feel trapped, angry, ashamed and humiliated. The perpetrator to feel pleasure and satisfaction... It’s based on a might makes right paradigm.

“Children witness the interactions among adults and bullying gets passed down through generations. What to do about it? It’s basically simple. All power must come to, by and for the people and all laws must be an agreement between all parties. It cannot be top down.”

Three Attend November DCM

The November DCM, hosted by the two Napa clubs, was attended by Lt. Governor **Jay, BobM and BobB** from our club. They heard a terrific speaker, as well as reports from other clubs about interesting fundraisers and projects.

The Napa club raised \$20k at a Lobster Fest on October 18. Their crab feed on January 31st is expected to net \$60k. They are also completing their 61st playground construction project.

Dixon’s major fundraiser is a holiday Kiwanis Festival of Trees, which raises around \$8,000. American Canyon sponsors a food pantry project, crab feed and Relay for Life. The Benicia club does “Banjos and Pizza.” The Greater Napa club completed their Shop-with-a-Cop fundraiser at Lincoln Theater and prepared a Thanksgiving meal. Their club also partners with the Enchanted Hills Camp to do work projects on a regular basis.

In keeping with that theme, the evening’s speaker was **Bryan Bashin**, CEO for Lighthouse for the Blind. “95% of blind people are not born blind,” he noted. He was fully sighted until he reached college age.

“In SF in 1902 a group of women started a reading room for the blind. After the 1906 quake they became Lighthouse for the Blind and focused on jobs. Now half of blind people in our area have jobs. We are a philanthropic, non-government organization (few government programs exist). We have to figure out ways to move from being blind to a productive life.” Bryan told a story about Chris Downing, an architect who’s on their board.

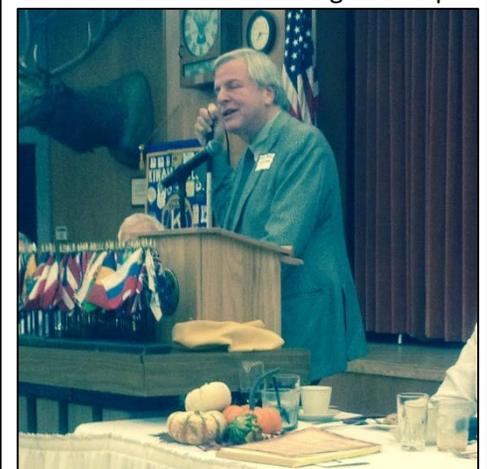
“3% of the population is blind. Blindness is a damn nuisance, but not necessarily a life-altering tragedy. The key is to surround yourself with other blind folks. Employment Immersion... the real challenge is, can you believe in yourself? We teach giving back. It’s a

powerful lesson to give back. We feed people at Glide Church. We do a blood drive. We have a store with specialty items for the blind: Tactile maps, etc. Lighthouse produces things, like transit maps and various apps.

“We have youth programs. We’re always looking for Class B drivers. Our Board is half sighted, half blind. We have a new space on Market Street. We’re expanding. The solution to blindness is not just acquiring skills, but surrounding yourself with other blind people.

“Enchanted Hills has a lot of history. Mt. Veeder had blind people at the Johannesburg resort. It was a boys camp, which hosted a blind Boy Scout session in 1927. Rose Resnick, pianist, wanted a camp out west like what she went to in Vermont. Kids from the Bay Area attended. In the 1950s they installed guide ropes. Soon we had blind counselors - now 17 out of 20. Only 2% of blind kids go to Cal School of the Blind. The rest stay at local schools. Enchanted Hills is place where they can hang together. They get role models and peers, where people can slow down and be together.

“Now we’re creating an amphitheater. The stage is completed, can hold 30 performers. Now we’re building the paths, seats. Great gathering place. Enchanted Hills had its busiest year last year. All kinds of sessions. Horse camp. Arts camp. Kiwanis clubs have been a great help.”



Bryan Bashin, Executive Director/CEO of Lighthouse for the Blind

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.

December 3 – Committee Meetings

December 10 – Guest speaker, TBA

December 17 – No meeting.

December 18 – Annual Christmas Party, American Legion Hall

January 7 – Guest speaker, Jonathan Koeller, NapaCo.ResourceCons.Dist

January 14 – Guest speaker, Habitat for Humanity

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

Kiwanis Club of St. Helena

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