



# The BUNG STARTER

Volume 2014

The Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of St. Helena

April 30, 2014

## Member Commitment to Kiwanis

*It's a slow news week so it's probably a good time for members to give some thought to how you want to contribute to the club. The following questionnaire was developed by the Membership Committee to help us focus on the club's goals and member participation.*

### 1) Financial obligation

- a. Annual membership dues (Kiwaniis International) = \$125
- b. Meeting fees (includes breakfast) @ \$15/week = \$800
- c. Miscellaneous fines and donations = \$ 75 +/-
- d. Social Events = \$175 +/-

### 2) Meeting attendance and participation

I expect to attend \_\_\_\_\_ of the weekly meetings this year.

### 3) Committee/Board of Directors/ Foundation Board participation

I will serve on the following committee (check one)

\_\_\_\_ Community Outreach \_\_\_\_ Fundraising \_\_\_\_ Membership \_\_\_\_ Work Projects \_\_\_\_ Youth

I currently serve on the following board \_\_\_\_\_

Next year I am willing to serve on \_\_\_\_\_

### 4) Community Service

- a. **Kiwanis Work Projects** I will participate in \_\_\_\_\_ work days
- b. **Kiwanis Fundraisers** I will assist with planning the following:
  - 1. **Annual Golf Tournament** \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2. **Harvest Festival Beer Booth** \_\_\_\_\_
  - 3. **Other Fundraiser TBD** \_\_\_\_\_
- c. **Other Community service** I volunteer for the following:  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 5) Donations, Contributions

- a. **Support Kiwanis fundraisers** This year I will contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- b. **Support Kiwanis International fundraiser ("ProjectEliminate")** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### 6) Social Events I plan to attend:

Summer social, TBA \_\_\_\_\_  
Christmas Party \_\_\_\_\_

### 7) Comments or Other Ideas \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*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**

President Lester Hardy  
President Elect Bob Matheny  
Vice President Tom Davis  
Secretary Mike Hardy  
Treasurer Jeff Farmer  
Past President Lester Hardy  
Directors Bob Beckstrom  
Tom Belt  
Jan Darter  
Donalee Shackelford  
Lowell Smith

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**Kiwanis Foundation**

President George Watson  
Officers and Directors Tom Belt  
Tom Davis  
Jeff Farmer  
Mike Hardy  
Bob Matheny  
Lowell Smith

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**Committee Chairs**

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

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**The Bung Starter**

An almost regular publication of  
the Kiwanis Club of St. Helena.  
“We don’t print retractions.”

Editor Bob Beckstrom  
bbeckstrom@pacunion.com  
Reporters Bill Savidge  
Ryterz Block

# This Week at the Club

## The Heights... and the Depths

(April 23) After 2 weeks of absence **Lester** was bound to be a little rusty at the bell. But... plink!/? He needs to work on his boinking. But the singing was lusty and **Lowell** was, well... brief. “Your beliefs don’t make you a better person – your behavior does.” It must have hit home – what else could explain such impeccable table manners and polite munching for the next 10 minutes? Then His **Lestership** resumed his duties. “Good Morning Kiwanis! Your illustrious President has returned from abroad.” “What was her name?” was shouted from the table where the bad boys sit. “I’ll tell you a true story... judges usually don’t crack jokes in the courtroom... but a particular plaintiff was not so constrained... handwritten appeal... judge... Pennsylvania... district court... [10 minutes later]... Any guests?” “I hope not,” quipped **Bill**. But there was! **Howard** introduced guest speaker, past member, past president, community gad-about and friend to many, **Jay Greene**. “When Jay was Prez he suggested we get a new podium,” said **Howard**. But it took others to add that the credit goes to Howard for building it. “Any H or S \$\$?” **BobB** paid a H\$ “because **Jay** is here... and because of what he did 15 years ago. He started *The Bung Starter*.” **BobM** paid a H\$. “Kudos to the *B.S...* sump pump.” **Jeff** tossed in a H\$. “Kim and I went to Bodega Bay... saw *The Birds* subtitled in Korean.” “That’s what happens when you stay in those cheap motels,” said **Jim Lowell**, apparently paying attention earlier, paid a H\$ “because Lester’s story about interpreting what happens on the bench reminds me of a guy with an old convertible car in his yard... told to remove it... ordinance against cars in yards... dirt... [punch line].” **George** chucked a buck. “**Elaine** and I just got back from Sedona... impressed... gorgeous.” **Bill** paid 4 quarters – “Is that what you use when you stay at those cheap motels?” asked **Jim**. Anyway, **Bill** paid the \$ because “I notice that the Giants are having a hard time. But ads show them always upbeat.” **Jim** heard Giants and jumped up. “Something has to happen. I think it’s time for the Home Run Derby. Donate 5\$ for every Giants home run. Who’s in?” **Bill, Howard, Gary, George, Lester** and **Jim** can now take credit for any Giants home runs this week. **Lester** paid a S\$ “for the Warriors” and a H\$ “for a week vacation in London.” **Drew** paid a H\$ “for the Sharks. They’re cookin’.” **BobB** paid a H\$ “because Linda and I are going on a vacation to DC and NY.” And a S\$ “because I’ll miss a couple meetings.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1) **Jeff** reported that planning is going well for the July DCM. “Food is set. Entertainment will be a group from the Vet’s Home. Raise \$\$ for NEWS.”
- 2) **Mike** passed out flyers for a May 3 dinner at Rianda House, cooked by Delio.
- 3) **BobM** said, “It’s that time of year again... scholarships. The Youth Committee will meet next week after the regular meeting. Everyone’s welcome.
- 4) **Don** reported on potential projects of the Work Projects Committee. “We’ ll meet next week after the regular meeting to evaluate more possible projects.”
- 5) **Lowell** commented on the scholarships. “It’s a wonderful thing to be involved with.”
- 6) **Lester** announced the May DCM sponsored by the Dixon and Vacaville clubs. “It’s on May 22 and features western grub and garb.”
- 7) **Good Guy???** Ooops.

DRAWINGS:

**Mike** will be Fine Free next week.  
**Steve** won a chance at the marble bag but bagged the wrong marble.

## How Did They Get Here?



Guest speaker and past club prez **Jay Greene** spoke about his interest in the study of human origins, specifically the settling of the Americas. "This is an interesting topic because it's well constrained.

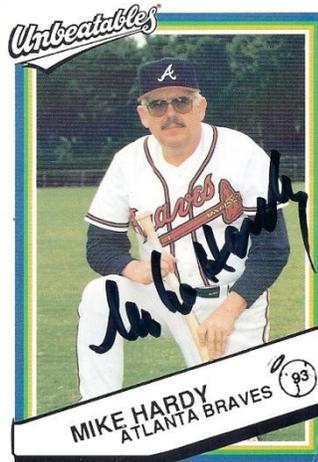
"Homo Sapiens began in Africa between 100,000 to 150,000 years ago. They spread to Europe, central Asia and Australia, mostly during a time when the climate was getting colder and much of the ocean's water was tied up in ice so sea levels were lower. About 22,000 years ago they crossed a land bridge between Siberia and Alaska. They settled in central Alaska, which was tundra, but were blocked by a massive ice sheet, 1000 miles north to south, that covered most of North America. How did they get past it?

"Settlements have been discovered in Clovis, New Mexico, dating 13,000 years ago, and in coastal locations in Chile, central California and Oregon, dating 14,000 years ago. How did humans get from Alaska to those locations? One scenario is that a corridor opened up through the center of the ice sheet allowing inland travel. That explains Clovis but not the coastal settlements, which predate it.

"Another scenario is the coast-wise hypothesis: they leapfrogged down the coast from one settlement to another, looking for game. The problem with proving it is that underwater archeology is extremely expensive."

## Member Profile

By Bill Savidge



### Mike Hardy

"Wine's been my business all my life. I remember when there were only 60 Napa Valley labels, only 500 labels in the whole country. A label wasn't easy to get then, it meant something. Now, not much to it; must be 700 to 800 labels claiming Napa Valley."

Mike's wine involvement reads like "Who's Who." Among others: E.J. Gallo, Anheuser Busch, Christian Brothers, Heublein, Hanna, Windsor Vineyards and Round Hill. As Senior VP and COO of Rodney Strong Wines and Windsor Vineyards in the early 90's, he turned their financial picture from loss to profit and remains a consultant to their board. He's a partner in Napa Valley Specialty Wines and has served as director of The Wine Institute and American Vineyard Foundation. Now chair of the Rianda House board, he led their Meilly Park vineyard development and supervises their winemaking.

Mike was born in Ft. Smith, Arkansas in 1944 where his father, who fought in Europe, was stationed. They moved to Fresno after the war. Growing up he played intra-mural sports and as a high school senior, he was on an American Legion baseball team that included pitcher Tom Seaver. His education was in wine: Fresno State B.S. enology; UC Davis M.S. in Fermentation Science. At Davis in 1964 he met his wife, Donna. Married four years later, they have two married children and two grandchildren. Mike and Donna moved to St. Helena from Fresno in 1986.

Mike's favorite outdoor activities include fishing, hunting and spending time at the family's beach house located in Netarts, near Tillamook, Oregon. The three storey home is only 150 feet from the bay, which has lots of clams and Dungeness crab. (The place sleeps six and is available to "friends of the family" at a discounted rate.) Mike's favorite fish story: ". . . salmon fishing on a boat in Alaska, I was reeling in a small salmon, and then my pole bent double. A ling cod had opened his big mouth and inhaled my catch. On deck, the cod spit out a two foot salmon. Captain said, 'You got a two-fer.'"

Twenty years ago, Mike attended the Atlanta Braves Fantasy Baseball Camp in West Palm Beach, Florida. Before spring training, attendees play two games a day, with ex-major league players coaching. "It was a week of pure fun, including meals, for only \$2,000. My team was managed by Bobby Wine and Sonny Jackson—best thing I've ever done!!"

# 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.

**April 30** – Guest speaker, TBA

**April 30** – Youth Committee meets to discuss scholarships, 8:30 a.m.

**April 30** – Work Projects Committee meets to pick projects, 8:30 a.m.

**April 30** – Builders Club, RLS Rm C2, 12:45. Check in at the office.

**May 5** – Board of Directors meeting, 5:00 p.m.

**May 10** – Red Cross garage cleaning project, 9:00 a.m.

**May 17** – Veterans Home Historic Cemetery cleanup day.

**May 22** – DCM in Dixon at Jess Jones Winery, 6:00 p.m. Contact Lester.

**June** – Date TBA: Build sawhorse/benches at Bothe Park

**July 17** – DCM at Crane Park, sponsored by St. Helena and Yountville

## 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, Lester, Steve or Jay.

### Worthy Causes

**May 4** – St. Helena Community Band performance at Inglenook

**May 15** – Bring donations to Grace Church for annual rummage sale

## Kiwanis Club of St. Helena

P.O. Box 362

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