



# The BUNG STARTER

Volume 2014

The Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of St. Helena

November 19, 2014

## Veterans Week

Last week our club supported local veterans with two projects. The first was placing flags on Main Street. **Howard** organized a crew to put up flags Monday morning and take them down after Kiwanis meeting on Wednesday. If you appreciate military precision you'd appreciate the efficient work of **Jeff, Howard, Bill, TomB, Jay, Lowell, BobM, Don, John** and **BobB** in racing down the street with ladders and flags... or something like that.

On Tuesday evening our club cooked and served dinner for 85 veterans at their American Legion meeting as part of our arrangement for using their hall every week. **BobM** organized the kitchen crew and kept the stove going, with help from **Drew, Donalee, Bill, Lester, Howard, TomB, TomD, Lowell, Jan, BobB, Jay** and **Gary**. Very impressive knife work and spatula action.

## Special Board Meeting

**Prez Bob** has called a special board meeting following the regular weekly Kiwanis meeting Wednesday morning. "It will be a short Board of Directors meeting to present a Builder's Club request for funds for their Thanksgiving needy family project. Please plan to attend."

## Wreath Project

Holiday wreaths will go up on Main Street next Thursday (Thanksgiving), but volunteers are needed this Saturday to check the wreaths for missing parts and malfunctioning lights. Downtown Renaissance board members **BobB** and **Jim** invite Kiwanis members to help them this Saturday at 9:00, behind Nimbus Art at 649 Main Street.

## Post Office Planter Project



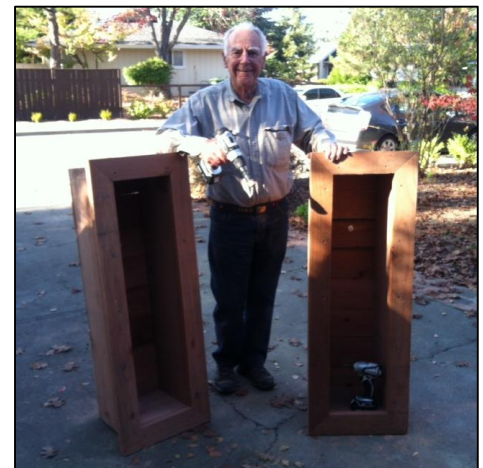
Most people who notice the shabby planter boxes on the Post Office steps probably think, "Somebody should do something about those." One person thought otherwise. "This would make a good Kiwanis project."

And so it has, thanks to **Bill's** suggestion and persistence. On Monday he and project guru **Don** built two replacements in **Don's** garage.

"The planters are built to last," says **Bill**. "2x12 perimeter walls, one inch floor, mitered 2x4 top trim, all rough redwood, put together with many heavy duty screws. Central Valley gave us a great deal on the materials: a Kiwanis Club project to beautify the Post Office entrance. The planters are heavy; the redwood's still wet. It will take three men, a boy and an octogenarian to lift them out of my Subaru and carry them to their location. Volunteers after the meeting on Wednesday?"

**Don** did the design, planning and skilled labor; **Bill** did a lot of holding this and that, screw driving and boring.

"We are way under budget," says **Bill**. "Materials cost less than \$140. We still need to buy planting mix and perennials to plant, so **Jay Greene's** \$100 contribution will help there. If we had a Kiwanis insignia for the planters, we'd be famous. These planters certainly will be a complement to **Beclee Wilson's** regular 'polishing up the handles so faithfully' of the Post Office brass hardware. (Might use help getting rid of the old planters.)"



*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 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

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### **Kiwanis Foundation**

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Officers and     Jan Darter  
Directors       Tom Davis  
                    Jeff Farmer  
                    Bob Matheny  
                    Bill Savidge  
                    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  
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**

Warm handshakes, gourmet coffee and spicy kitchen aromas are a nice way to get a meeting started... along with **Prez Bob**’s bell boink and **Lowell**’s Words of Wisdom: “Always remember: Think once before you act... twice before you speak... and three times before you post to Facebook.” While members were enjoying Katie’s breakfast delights **BobM** hopped to the podium. “Good Morning. Let’s get this show on the road. Any guests?” There were two, **Jenny Ocon** from the Family Center, and **Wendall Laidley**, Family Center board member. The next order of biz for Bob was introducing the morning Jester, which was a roundabout introduction of himself because true jester **TomD** had delegated the honor to Bob before Tom went to Hawaii. So we have Tom to blame. So anyway, Bob launched a laughter that he hoped wasn’t “too irreverent... a woman was at home with her lover while her husband was at work... 9 year old son hid in closet... husband came home... lover went into closet... golf ball... getting dark in here... sandwich... [punch line].” Roar. **BobB** paid a S\$ “for not getting out the *B.S.* this week... and another S\$ for having to write down the joke.” **Lowell** paid a H\$ “for the Oregon Ducks being #3.” **BobM** paid a H\$ “for the American Legion dinner... good crew.” **Jan** paid 4S\$\$\$\$ for “missing the next 4 meetings... packing my truck with stuff... driving across country to see my daughter.” **Lester** paid a S\$ “because the Warriors can’t hold onto the ball.” And a H\$ for the Stanford sailing team.” **Wendall** paid a H\$ “for the opportunity to be here again.” **Prez Bob**, feeling some rhythm, asked if there are any birthdays this week. **George** recently had one, but since we sang at him last week he invoked the double jeopardy defense and received only half-hearted warbling.

Announcements: **1) Jay** reminded everybody that next Thursday is November 20<sup>th</sup>, the date of the DCM in Napa. **2) Lowell** had a question: “Is there no Board meeting until December [considering that the November meeting had no quorum]?” **Prez Bob** said there wasn’t. **3) Prez Bob** announced that the annual Christmas party will be the evening of December 18<sup>th</sup>, at the American Legion Hall. **4) One** member wondered if there will be a regular Wednesday meeting during Thanksgiving week. Groupspeak answered, yes!

Drawings:    Jester – **TomB**    Fine Free – **Howard**    Marbles – **Bill**



## Family Centers



Last week's guest speaker, **Jenny Ocon**, is the Executive Director of the Upvalley Family Centers, the new name for the recently merged St. Helena and Calistoga Family Centers.

"The two organizations merged boards in February to be more streamlined administratively, to save costs. We are both similar. We serve families and individuals and provide a safe place for any question or concern. We have 14 staff and a \$1.2m annual budget. We reach over 4,000 individuals annually.

Our model starts with being prevention oriented. We provide services early to avoid crises. Next, we emphasize access, a welcoming space. Third, we have collaborative partnerships with over 40 organizations. Finally, our focus is on strengthening families and community through health, therapy, legal services.

"As for who we serve, 80% are Latino; 91% are low income; 80% have children; and 66% use Spanish as their primary language."

Jenny gave summaries of six basic areas of service: Health and Wellness; Economic Stability; Emergency Services; Adult Ed; Children & Youth Services; Community Building.

She noted the sources of income: 60% from foundation and government grants; 20% from individuals; 20% from nonprofits and service clubs. She also talked about wanting to do a community needs assessment to become even more effective.

## Project Eliminate

Kiwanian **John Sullivan** visited our November 5<sup>th</sup> club meeting to talk about Project Eliminate. John is the Coordinator for Region 9, which covers our Region 8 as well as two other regions in the Bay Area.

"In 1959 the World Health Organization declared 59 countries as epidemic with Maternal & Neonatal Tetanus. We don't hear about it here, but in 58 countries there was a baby dying every 9 minutes... a horrible death... the infant lives for 7-12 days without light, sound, touch. Now the rate is every 11 minutes, which is huge progress. UNICEF got involved. They figured it would take 15 years to raise the necessary \$250m. In the first 10 years they raised \$140m. Then they came to Kiwanis, which has resulted in our Project Eliminate campaign to raise \$110m. So far the epidemic has been eliminated in all but 24 countries.

"Project Eliminate raises the funds. UNICEF provides the inoculations. WHO certifies if a country has eliminated Maternal & Neonatal – there cannot be more than 1 case per 1,000 births.

"Right now 4 countries are undergoing certification and 5 countries are in the inoculation phase. 16 to go. This is big progress. The project will end on September 30, 2015 and right now we're at \$72 million.

"We're trying to promote clubs to becoming a Model Club. It's a 5-year pledge to donate money to Project Eliminate – you have 5 years to finish your commitment once you have pledged, so you don't have to raise the money all at once. Each club pledges an amount equal to \$750 per member.

"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'd 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.

"As soon as a club pledges, Kiwanis International can start using those funds. There's no fund police – we're asking a good-faith effort.

"You have several options for raising the funds. One is to buy Zellers, which are awards named after Walter Zeller from Canada. 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, of course, is to have a special fundraiser... either one for the entire commitment or several over 5 years."

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The club Board of Directors will discuss this project at their next meeting, on Monday, December 1.

# 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.

**November 19** – Guest speaker, Marielle Coeytaux, on Bullying

**November 19** – Special Board Meeting, 8:45 a.m.

**November 20** – DCM, Napa Elks Club, 6:00 p.m.

**November 26** – Guest speaker, Mary Ellen Makowski, We Care

**December 1** – Kiwanis Board Meeting, 5:00 p.m.

**December 18** – Annual Christmas Party, American Legion Hall

### Worthy Causes

**November 22** – Wreath project, 649 Main Street, 9:00 a.m.

**November 27** – Help put up Holiday wreaths on Main Street

## 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.

# Kiwanis Club of St. Helena

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