



The BUNG STARTER

Volume 2014

The Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of St. Helena

June 18, 2014

Project Accomplished



Jan, Don, Jeff, Bill and TomB put the finishing touches on new traffic diverters for Bothe Park Saturday morning. Nine volunteers made the work go quickly.



Don evaluates crash test results.



Bill drills... and drills... and drills.

The St. Helena Kiwanis Club work day on June 14 was a success. Four wood barricades were built with a rustic look to match the park. Two were 6 feet long and the other two were 8 feet long. The work day began with an early start time of 0900 hours.

As usual, not everyone was able to make it on time for such an early start. We reduced a pile of lumber to the 4 sawhorse barricades. Thanks go to dedicated club members **TomB, BobB, Jeff, George, Lowell, Bill, Jan and Gary**, who each worked from 0900 to 1200. The total hours spent on this project was 27 hours.

Since the Park provided all the materials, there was no cost to the club. The barricades will be used for public safety, primarily traffic control. If you missed this fun event, stay tuned for what we will be doing next month. Remember, the second Saturday of every month is designated for work projects.

Remember: July 17 DCM

Members should have received an announcement about next month's District Council Meeting (DCM) at Crane Park. **Jeff** and members of the Yountville club have a great event planned. "I'm excited about the Silvertones Jazz Band playing. They're all vets from the Yountville Veterans Home. That's a first ever for us."

Cost for dinner is \$35 per person. We will need volunteers to handle set up, food service, bar service, and cleanup. Arrive at 5:00 p.m. Thursday to help.

*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 2013-2014**

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

.....
Kiwanis Foundation

President George Watson
Officers and Directors Jan Darter
Tom Davis
Jeff Farmer

Bob Matheny
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.
“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

(June 11) A lively group of 18 members heeded the bell, sang about our country and pondered **Lowell’s** Words of Wisdom. “From John Lennon: When I was 5 years old my Mother always told me that happiness was the key to life. When I went to school, they asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up. I wrote down *Happy*... They told me I did not understand the assignment. I told them they did not understand life.” Clearly getting the message, **Lester** the Jester whipped out his Happy Hat during breakfast, then took the podium. “Good Morning Kiwanis. I contemplated walking to the meeting with the new official Jester hat on... family... over weekend... daughter and friend... Berkeley... wore tiaras... no one appeared to notice... pleasure to bestow the hat on our Jester for a Day... Mr. Watson, please tell a joke.” Which he did – “Did you hear about the moron who... [punch line]” – but just having **George** stand in front of us in anticipation of a joke was hilarious enough. Not seeing any guests, His **Lestership** proceeded to H and S \$\$**. TomD**, displaying his new outfit, paid a H\$ “because somebody loves my shirt.” **Drew** followed, but too fast to be recorded because the reporter was correcting his misspelling of shirt. **Jay** paid a H\$ “to be here... last weekend in Las Vegas for official Kiwanis work... stayed at same place as those Bonnie & Clyde shooters.” **Howard** quipped, “There must have been some miscommunication.” **Jeff** paid a H\$ “because school’s out... one of my students said she got 97% on her pre-calc exam... but none of my other students said anything about their scores.” **BobM** paid a H\$ “for Auction Napa Valley... \$18.4m... pretty good.” **Jay** paid a S\$ “because my wife’s in surgery for cataracts... hopes to see better, which is bad for me.” **Gary** paid a H\$ but the reporter was still spellbound by George the Jester to record anything. **Howard** paid a ThankYou\$ “for the flags.” **Don** paid a HappyToBeBackInTown\$ after his adventure in Reno. **Lester** fessed up and said, “I was having so much fun with my hat that I forgot about Mr. Good Guy, so here’s 5\$.” He also checked his calendar... no birthdays.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1) **Lowell** announced that the Chamber’s fireworks fund was at \$40k. “They need \$45K... I’m wondering if we should make a Kiwanis donation.” After some discussion the group decided to stick with volunteer labor rather than a monetary donation.
- 2) **Don** announced Saturday’s workday. Meet at 9:00, work til 2:00. Fairly simple.
- 3) **Lester** announced, “**BobB** and I met to follow up getting our work projects advertised... publicity... we’ll have a contest to find a more ambitious or at least newsworthy project... strengthen membership... that’s the report from the Publicity subcommittee.”
- 4) **Jay** asked, “Do we have a secretary?” Funny he should ask, because...
- 5) **Lester** conducted elections for next year. It was a landslide:
President: **BobM** Directors, 2014-2015: **Donalee**
President Elect: **TomD** Directors, 2014-2016: **Don, Gary, John**
Vice President: **TomB** New Position, Club Counselor:
Secretary: **BobB** Will be an additional task for Past President
Treasurer: **Jeff**
- 6) **Jay** announced that training for Prez & Prez Elect will be August 2.

DRAWINGS:

Jester of the Week is... **Bill** Fine Free is... **Bill**
Marble game was... **John** [nada]

Special Board Meeting Today

The Officers and Directors are asked to meet this morning after the regular meeting to discuss the feasibility of pursuing a unique work project proposal. **Don, Jeff, and BobB** have done some preliminary investigation of the idea and will present findings to the Board and ask for a motion to continue looking into the idea.

“This project would depend on broad participation from club members,” said **Don**. “We have a great core group who come out to our work days, but will need more people, skilled and unskilled. There could also be an opportunity for community participation.”



Ready for demolition.



George inaugurates the new headpiece for Jester of the Day

Project Proposal

by Don Richardson



On the corner of Adams St. and Main is an old metal building, formerly a smog-check station, slated to be demolished and hauled away to the dump. The idea is for Kiwanis to demolish the building. In one sense it is similar to the garage building the Kiwanis Club tore down behind the Rianda House. However it is technically more challenging. The building is probably less than 600 sq ft. I believe this is a project the club could complete within 5-6 work days. My suggestion would be to have the work days continuous until completed. Dumpster(s) will be dropped next to the building and as the building is taken down it would be deposited into the dumpster. No tearing up of concrete, asphalt or dirt is anticipated. All power, water and phone would be disconnected before we start.

Jeff and I spoke with the owner, Gary Menagon, who appeared very interested in us doing the work. BobB, Jeff, and I examined the inside of the building. It is a mix of wood, glass, and metal. The load bearing is mostly steel beams bolted/welded together. Gary expects to have the approval from the City for this project within the next couple of weeks.

Some questions and issues that need to be discussed by the board are:

- 1) This is private property. Does Kiwanis want to work on private property? The club has worked on private property in the past with the Christmas in April projects (although there was an umbrella organization covering the work).
- 2) How would this project fit within our mission? It is a community service to help beautify the city. This building is considered by many to be a blight in our community. The owner is willing to make a donation to the Kiwanis Foundation so the funds could and should be used to meet our mission policy.
- 3) Does our Kiwanis insurance cover any injury that may occur? This issue is the same with all Kiwanis projects, but I believe we should verify that our insurance would cover any injury incurred.
- 4) Are there any haz-mat issues? The old paint on the building may be a lead based paint. Are there any others? If so, would it be possible to mitigate this issue by wearing dust masks, etc?

This would be a high visibility project, likely to get a significant amount of attention and could generate some revenue for the club. If we can address all the issues identified along with any other issues that come up, and the owner does not run into any obstacles, this could be an exciting, rewarding and challenging project.

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.

June 18 – Guest speaker, Christy Pestoni, Upper Valley Recycling

June 18 – Special Board Meeting to discuss work project proposal

June 21 – Memorial Service for Mike Hardy at Clos Pegas, 11:00 a.m.

June 25 – Guest speaker, Greg Clarke, Napa County Ag Commissioner

July 2 – Guest speaker, Thomas Jefferson

July 3 – Put up flags

July 7 – Take down flags

July 9 – Guest speaker, Dave Yewell, Appellation St. Helena

July 12 – Work Project: TBA

July 16 – No meeting this morning; come to tomorrow's DCM instead

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

August 2 – Training for next year's Prez & Prez Elect, SH Wine Center

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

June 27–July 4 – Volunteers needed for Napa County Fair, Calistoga

Kiwanis Club of St. Helena

P.O. Box 362

St. Helena, CA 94574