



The BUNG STARTER

Volume 2014

The Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of St. Helena

August 27, 2014

Another Successful Project



Don and Jeff work quality control as Howard and Gary set the pace.

On Friday, August 15, eight club members showed up at the Bothe shop to finish the trash bin project for Bale Mill. **Don, TomB, BobB, Gary, Jeff, Howard, Bill,** and **Lowell** turned a pile of lumber into 200 fitted siding boards and attached them to the frames they built the week before. They may have ripped a few boards too wide, cut some angles too deep and nailed in wrong places, but most of the work was high quality craftsmanship. And most impressively, they did it with blazing speed and laser beam precision. Using historic 20th century tools. It took only two hours. And even sweeter, the park staff built and attached lids to the bins. Others who contributed to the successful project were **Jan, Steve** and **George**.

The Bothe Park and Bale Grist Mill staffs have been very appreciative of our Kiwanis Club's work. So far we have built outdoor benches for Bothe Park, participated in a volunteer day at Bale Mill, repaired the footbridge over Mill Creek, built decks for Bothe Park yurts, assembled rustic furniture for the yurts, built traffic barriers for Bothe Park, and built 10 rustic trash can bins.

Other service projects that the club has completed recently are repairing the front steps at Red Cross House, repairing gutters and installing drywall at Rianda House, cleaning and repainting the St. Helena welcome sign, cleaning out the storage garage at Red Cross House, and building steps for a homeowner whose child has restricted mobility. The Work Project Committee, chaired by **Don**, had a goal of "maybe one project every month or so." Good work team!



Don keeps our jobs moving.



Bill and Lowell handle the chop saw.



Evidence of BobB's nailing skill: those shiners are in a perfect row.

*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
Tom Belt
Jan Darter
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.
“We don’t print retractions.”

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

Last Week at the Club

The Heights... and the Depths

(August 20) Your reporter was disappointed to show up at the meeting and not find a Zumba class in progress, as he did the previous Tuesday. But the ceremonial boinking of the bell, hashing of the hymn and dispensing of weekly wisdom were fine indeed. **Lester** wolfed down his breakfast and jumped to the podium. “Good morning Kiwanis.” No response. “Good morning Kiwanis, do we have a jester this morning?” That got attention, especially from **Lowell**, who said, “I am.” He cleared his throat, pulled out a sheet of paper and said, “I am prepared... it was in my file... you’ve heard of natural laws... here are some man-made laws... Law of Probability [punch line]... Law of the Bath [punch line]... Law of Close Encounter [punch line]... Law of Results [punch line]... and Murphy’s Law of Lockers [punch line].” Lots of smiles and nods, but the consensus was: Dig deeper in the file. Then **Lester** launched one. “My son came home from school...opinion on German sausage... [punch line].” Hearing groans and protests – The Jester should be the only joke-teller! – Lester crafted his intricate defense with razor-sharp logic. “It wasn’t a joke. It was a true story.” Then he asked, “Are there any guests this morning?” Thankfully none. “Any Happy or Sad \$\$?” **BobB** paid an Apology\$ “for no B.S. this week.” **TomB** paid a H\$ “because my son is engaged to be married.” **Don** paid a H\$. “After about 20 years of not running, I drove my car around the block.” He wasn’t talking about his Prius. **Jeff** paid a H\$. “My wife Kim and I camped out at Bodega Bay... the birds are still there.” **Lowell**, reminded by a reference to Hitchcock’s film, paid a H\$ to talk about “the time they shot a film here in St. Helena... Hal Morrison, at the mortuary, was an extra... in a scene with bees... several takes... each time had to have honey spread over his face so bees would cover it... was only a couple seconds in the film.” **John** paid a S\$ “for our President... has a disease... mental condition.” More on that later. Said President replied, “Any more H/S \$\$? We have a very unemotional crowd this morning... I can work with that... any birthdays? Anniversaries? No?” Then, with a sheepish look, he reached into his pocket and pulled out his wallet while simultaneously mumbling, “Is there a Mr. or Ms. Good Guy?... ooops.” **Drew** was already at his side with the pot.

Announcements: 1) **Lester** reminded us about next week’s speaker, David Morrison. “I’m hoping speakers like this, with topics of interest to the whole community, will bring visitors. We have elections coming up... candidates for Mayor, City Council... 5 possibilities.... school board.” 2) **Jeff** announced that “The League of Women Voters, which have never had a Napa chapter... until now... my wife’s on their board... will have their first official candidates forum at the library.” 4) **Don** said, “I want to thank everyone who showed up for the trash bin project... have to finish them up... I propose Thursday morning at 9:00... show of hands?” [Four members volunteered, but later in the day Don found out that park staff had installed the lids for the bins so he called off the work day.] 5) **Lowell** said the work day was fun and he learned a new word from **Howard**: FITCE (pronounced “fitsy”), which stands for some colorful words unfit for this family publication..

Drawings: Jester – **Jay** Fine Free – **Lester** Marbles – **Howard**

Lt. Governor Installation Thursday Night

Our own **Jay Lewis** will be installed as Division 8 Lt. Governor tomorrow night,
August 28, at Ristorante La Strada in American Canyon.
Lester, Don, Bill, BobB, Steve and BobM are on tap to attend.

Bothe Park Update



Jean Marioni, our guest speaker on August 13, gave us some background on Bothe Park. “I love the park and volunteered there many times. As an attorney I got involved in the question of whether a group of volunteers should think about taking over the park from the State. Legislation had just been passed to allow friends groups to take over parks.

“So 2 ½ years ago we reached out to the community. Friends could handle the Mill, but Bothe had much bigger issues. So we reached out to Napa County Parks and Open Space District, directed by John Woodbury. It was a good match. The District was the proper entity to contract with the State... a quasi-County agency but not a taxing entity. The County supports us but not as a direct agency. We have a 5-year contract with the State but it doesn’t look like the State wants to take over after that.

“We have a master contract to operate both Bothe and the Mill. A small group of “Friends” operates the mill. There were private concessionaires interested but we stood between them and the public.

“I was a volunteer at first, for about 14 hours a week. Now I spend 15 hours in official capacities for Bothe and another 30 hours volunteering. Our paid staff is John Woodbury and Ranger Sandy Jones, and her partner Rob, who co-manages. It costs about \$350k/year to operate Bothe and \$120k/year for the Mill. Funds come from the Open Space District, fees, donations and grants. We’re moving forward.”

Member Profile

By Bill Savidge



Jay Lewis

Jay’s early career (1967-1981) was as a counselor and training program developer for Nebraska’s State Prison, the Nebraska state Dept. of Education and the Lancaster County Drug and Alcohol Center. During this time he also established a Social Work degree program for Adventist colleges. In 1981 he began teaching social work at Boston’s Atlantic Union College. In 1986 he transferred to PUC to become Director of Social Work Education. He left teaching after six years to work in admissions and finally in PUC “advancement” until retiring in 2006.

“I worked a year at the Women’s Prison. Once, trying to calm a 4’9” woman, a drug addict, I talked 50 minutes with her in the hall outside her cell. Without warning, she smashed her hot coffee mug against the cell bars, and then hit me in the face with its jagged edges. Pushed her back in her cell. I was a bloody mess, but it wasn’t serious.”

Jay was born in 1940 in Kansas City, MO, where his father and mother lived after leaving their farm. “I was raised as an only child. My sister and four brothers were gone by the time I came along. My sister, she’s 97 now, in Orlando. I see her every year.”

Basketball and baseball were Jay’s sports in high school and college. At Union College he majored in psychology, sociology and history, with a minor in religious studies. Jay left school for a couple years, but returned, graduating in 1967. Through his working career, Jay’s academic education continued—University of Nebraska master’s degrees in Counseling Psychology (’69) and Social Science (’75).

Karen and Jay met in college. Married in 1965, they have a daughter and two sons: Julie, a Manhattan fashion model; Jason, an Alzheimer facility owner; Jonathon, a captain with Delta Airlines. The Delta connection “lets us fly, first class, all around the world for next to nothing. And we love seeing new places, and I like skiing, snow and water.”

A consummate volunteer, Jay’s been Kiwanis Lt. Governor for several years, head deacon of the PUC church, Chairman of the PUC Prep Board, and board member for Napa County Red Cross, Hospice and PUC College. “I wish our club could shift to more social activities. And projects—for kids and seniors – to pull us together. And get involved in programs out of our area, maybe just 10%, like Cal-Nev-Ha’s ‘Doctors Program.’” Certainly, Jay sets an example.

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.

August 20 – Guest speaker, TBD

August 21 – Work Project: Complete Bale Mill project, 9:00 a.m.

August 27 – Speaker, Napa County Planning Director David Morrison

August 28 – Installation Dinner for Lt. Gov. Jay Lewis, American Cnyn

September 8 – Board Meeting, 5:00 p.m.

September 25 – Club Installation Dinner. 6:00 pm. Bob Matheny's home.

Worthy Causes

September 6 – Bale Grist Mill Fundraiser Dinner. Call 707-538-1647

September 11 – Election Debate, League of Women Voters, Library

September 12 – Yountville Kiwanis Wormburner Golf Tournament

Kiwanis Club of St. Helena

P.O. Box 362

St. Helena, CA 94574

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.