



The BUNG STARTER

Volume 2014

The Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of St. Helena

September 3, 2014

Lt. Governor Jay.4

A sold-out crowd attended last Thursday's DCM dinner in American Canyon, held in the elegant banquet room of Ristorante La Strada. The occasion was the Division 8 de-installation of outgoing Lt. Governor **Jay Lewis** and installation of the incoming Lt. Governor **Jay Lewis**. Home club St. Helena was represented by **Lester, BobM, Don, Steve** and **BobB**, as well as **Jay** and **Karen**. The lively event had interactive table talk, good food, decent wine, short speeches and a raffle.

Dan Connolly, Past Governor of the CalNevHa District, de-installed **Jay**. "Thank you for your service last year... and the year before that... and the year before that." A moment later he installed **Jay** as Lt. Governor for 2014-2015. In his own remarks **Jay** said, "In the previous 3-4 years Division 8 lost 104 members, but last year we added 25 so we're moving in the right direction. I want clubs to be more fun." He also gave an overview of Project Eliminate, encouraging each club to become a model club so International Kiwanis will reach its goal of \$117m to eliminate Neonatal Tetanus.



Past Governor **Dan Connolly** conducts the heave-ho. "Jay, how do you enjoy being Past Lt. Governor for 20 seconds?" **Karen** enjoyed it.



Almost all 12 clubs of Division 8 had representatives at the DCM, hosted by American Canyon.



Frequent Flyer **Jay** launches his flight theme with an airplane for clubs to bid on at each DCM. Napa won for the month of September.



Bob, Don and **Steve** share a table with members from Napa and other clubs. Many people in the room had earthquake stories. **Steve** took home a dandy raffle prize.

*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
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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
Reporters Bill Savidge

Last Week at the Club

The Heights... and the Depths

The room had a lively buzz as our modest crew of 14 Kiwanians was almost doubled by the 11 visitors in attendance, including the guest speaker. Prez **Lester** required 2 whacks at the bell to launch the song, which had some nice reverb. **Lowell** quoted Words of Wisdom from Betty White: “Always get at least 8 hours of beauty sleep – 9 if you’re ugly.” That explains a lot about our club. Not enough sleep. Needing no explanation, though, was Leader**Les**, who simply asked, “Jester?” **Jay** arose and got ready to tell his joke. “Oh no, he is a joke,” quipped **Howard**. Then **Jay** started his warm up. “I was in China recently... interesting trip... people wanted to discuss capitalism, communism, socialism, etc... I was told a story about a little boy who asked his father for an explanation... his father said I’m the capitalist... your mama’s the government... your nanny’s the people... your little brother’s the future... boy still confused, until one night when his little brother pooped in his pants and he went to his parents to tell them.... his mama was alone in his parents’ bed and he didn’t want to disturb her... he peeked in his nanny’s room and saw his father there.... now the boy got it: [punch line].” Wish Jay had told it in Mandarin. **Lester** asked, “Any guests?” **Jeff** introduced “someone I know... **Linda Beckstrom**, wife of one of our members.” **Steve** introduced 4 people at his table: **Jeffrey Warren, Tim Hayden, Mary Ann Souza** and **Geoff Ellsworth**. Then **Drew** introduced **Jim Perry**. Then **BobM** introduced **Barbara Allen**. Then **BobB** introduced **Gina Elliott** and **Cassandra Chastain**. Another guest, **Pavi Lawson**, arrived later, as did guest speaker **David Morrison**. When Prez **Lester** asked for H/S \$\$, **Jay** paid a H\$ “because nothing at our house on Howell Mountain was broken... maybe we live on a Holy Hill.” **Lester** paid a H\$ and S\$. “Delighted to see so many guests, but sad our speaker hasn’t arrived yet.” **Lowell** paid a H\$ “for a déjà vu experience... night before last... for no particular reason I wondered when Bob Darter was born... The next day I ran into **Jan** and asked her. She said his birthday was yesterday and that Bob must be speaking to me from the other side.” **Bill** paid a H\$... “I was in Sunshine the other day and ran into **Linda**, who is here, and complained there was no more black licorice. This morning she brought me some.” **TomB** paid a Story\$. “I was sound asleep Sunday morning... loud scratching sound on patio... thought raccoon... opened door and went on the patio... then the earthquake struck... amazing experience... some familiar noises, then silence... arcs of light from power line switches... total darkness... awesome.” **Drew** paid a S\$ “because we were close to ground zero... been in a lot of earthquakes... this one was angry... never felt such violent shaking... lots of damage... if you look at your house and notice all the glass.... Imagine every piece of it shattered... did learn something... thinnest spot on a soda can... wine closet with a sliding door... couldn’t get it open... place is trashed... several neighbors will lose homes... lots of new city parks coming...people are really interesting... dumpster in every school for earthquake debris but people bringing all their household trash... my house is ok, no structural damage... nobody got hurt... probably 8-10 homes really affected where I live.” **Jay** paid a Curious\$ about what happens if you lose your home. **Jeff** paid a H\$ “that **Drew** is ok... it reminded me that efforts of the local Red Cross will go on for quite awhile.” **Steve** paid a S\$ “for **Drew’s** neighborhood.”

Announcements: 1) **Jay** reminded members about “tomorrow night’s DCM... last one of the year.” 2) The Good Guy turned out to be **BobM**, who introduced himself to **Jeff, Drew, Bill** and **TomD** for a buck a piece.

Drawings: Jester – **Steve** Fine Free – **Bill** Marble Game – **Jeff** (nope)

County Planning Director Speaks to the Club

Guest speaker **David Morrison**, Napa County's new Planning Director, hails from Fresno and worked in Yolo County before coming here. He summarized his current job "as a broad range of duties. I'm not a big fan of wine but I'm learning. I feel awkward telling groups of locals about Napa. I've arrived in the middle of a big policy debate about what is the future of Napa County. I thought the 2008 General Plan resolved things, but 6 years later we're in a debate. Are we an ag region or a tourist region? I think a little of both. The question is how to balance, how to ensure economic prosperity and maintain quality of life for residents.

"I just come with questions. No premade answers. Not that the issues are new or unique. Last week I proposed a community forum... invite all the stakeholders and groups. After that forum convenes, then the Board will most likely form an Advisory Group.

"I'm very much a data person. I want facts, not anecdotes. Surprisingly, there is not much information available, although governments collect a lot of it. For example, we've all heard that Napa Valley is the second most popular tourist attraction in California, after Disneyland. Well, I've looked at numbers for various other places, like GGNRA, Yosemite, Fisherman's Wharf and so on and they indicate that we're maybe in the top 20 but certainly not second. What distinguishes Napa County is the amount of wealth coming in and how it is spent."

During Q&A David talked about concerns about tourism and its effects. "We're akin to Aspen, Newport Beach, Martha's Vineyard... where they have traffic problems, workforce housing issues. Some have suggested a relationship between traffic patterns and the wine industry per se. We need data."

He also talked about his experience with Sacramento. "Napa's a little different from the rest of the state. The Legislature reflects high density areas. From Sacramento's point of view you want to concentrate people."



Planning Director David Morrison fields a question about water. "There's a pitched battle in Sacramento over ground water management."



Visitors Cassandra, Gina and Mary Ann stay after the meeting to discuss more County planning issues.

Flags for Labor Day



What better way to honor labor than to roll up sleeves and do some work? Once again our Kiwanis flag crew blitzed Main Street last Friday and placed flags on all the lamp posts. TomB, Jeff, John, Lowell, Gary, Howard and BobB needed only 25 minutes to do the job.

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.

September 3 – Guest speaker, Mario Sculatti, City Council Candidate

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

September 10 – Guest speaker, Paul Dohring, City Council Candidate

September 17 – Guest speaker, Ann Nevero, SH Mayoral Candidate

September 24 – Guest speaker, Alan Galbraith, SH Mayoral Candidate

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

October 1 – Guest speaker, John Sullivan, Kiwanis Regional Rep for P.E.

October 8 – Guest speaker, Hydrologist Vicki Kretsinger on ground water

October 15 – Guest speaker, Pam Dodson, Queen of the Valley Hospital

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

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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.