



# The BUNG STARTER

Volume 2014

The Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of St. Helena

July 9, 2014

## DCM Next Week

*It's Christmas in July  
At the St. Helena/Yountville DCM!!*



**Join us Thursday July 17, 2014  
5:30 p.m. for a party at  
Crane Park in St. Helena**

RSVP by Friday July 11, 2014 to:  
[boyd@yountvilledental.com](mailto:boyd@yountvilledental.com)

Cost is \$35.00 per person  
Each club should bring a raffle basket

Dinner Provided by:  
**Armadillo's in St. Helena**

Entertainment Provided by:  
**The Silvertones Jazz Band  
Veterans Home of California  
Yountville**

Make Checks out to: Kiwanis Club of St. Helena P.O. Box 362 St. Helena CA 94574  
-OR- Pay online with via the paypal link found at [www.kiwanisyountville.com](http://www.kiwanisyountville.com)



### PLEASE NOTE

We will provide a newsletter with the club reports rather than having verbal announcements during the DCM. Please submit your club updates along with the number of members in your club to:

[boyd@yountvilledental.com](mailto:boyd@yountvilledental.com)  
RSVP by Friday July 11, 2014

*Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving  
the world one community and one child at a time.*



**Napa Emergency Women's Shelter (NEWS) Mission:**  
Providing a nurturing refuge for women and children suffering from domestic violence and/or sexual assault and a catalyst for change through prevention, intervention and advocacy.

As a community service project for this DCM, St. Helena and Yountville clubs ask that you please bring any of the following items to donate to NEWS:

- |                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| Beach Towels    | Pedicure sets        |
| Sunscreen       | Nail polish          |
| Sidewalk chalk  | Water games          |
| Bubbles         | Water Toys           |
| Bubble guns     | Summer family        |
| Water bottles   | games (badminton,    |
| Sun hats/visors | crochet, bocce ball) |
| Flip flops      |                      |
| Hair ties       |                      |
| Hair clips      |                      |
| Hair brushes    |                      |

They receive a lot of donations around Christmas but are in need of support throughout the year. Thank you!!

Next Thursday evening the Kiwanis Clubs of St. Helena and Yountville will host the July DCM at Crane Park. Division Council Meetings (DCMs) are hosted by all 12 clubs of Division 8 and offer opportunities for members to meet other Kiwanians. The annual outdoor event at Crane Park is very popular and should be well attended.

Festivities begin at 5:30 but **Jeff** would like volunteers to arrive early to help with set up. Bring \$\$ for the raffle, although the biggest fundraiser will probably be donations to keep **Lester** from telling jokes.



*A robust crew of **Jeff, Howard, TomB** (above), **Bill, Lowell, Jay, Don, John, Carl Ericson** and **BobB** put up and took down flags for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend. **Jeff, Howard and TomB** came up with a new idea for displaying the flags.*

*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  
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

(July 2) The bell was thwacked promptly at 7:30 this morning, **BobM** doing the honors. Singing followed and **Lowell** followed with some wisdom: “June is when a new graduate goes out to set the world on fire... July is when he starts to wonder if his matches are wet.” Chatting and munching followed, then a friendly “Good Morning Kiwanis” from Prez Elect **BobM**. “I don’t have a joke but we have a jester.” **TomB** took the podium. “I have about 3 jokes planned today... theme is patriotism... what do George Washington and a horse thief have in common? [punch line]... what was the most popular dance in 1776? [punch line]... a guy in his office... zipper down... gal working there hoped he would get a subtle hint and asked if he left his garage door open this morning... answered... finally got it... [punch line].” You had to be there. **Jeff** had a H\$ “because next week I’ll be up in the Sierra... whole week... 1 of 7 lakes built 100 years ago for the LA water system... **Huntington**.” **TomD** paid a S\$ “because my car’s still not fixed... waiting for a door.” **Jay** paid a H\$ “because a week from today I’ll be on the Yangtze River in China.” Anything to get out of a DCM. **Steve** paid a S\$ “for the joke.” **Ryan** paid a S\$. “I tried to install an ice maker hose for my fridge... never want to be a plumber.” Lots of knowing nods. **Bill** paid a H\$ “because my daughter Charlotte and wife Charlotte will be going with me to a Giants game tomorrow.” **Jeff** paid a H\$ “for the St. Helena Community Band finale at Lyman Park tomorrow.” **TomD** paid a H\$ “because I heard the band concert at the Library and it was wonderful.” **Jay** paid a H/S\$ “because I have to go to the DMV to renew my license.” **BobB** paid a H\$ “for a great trip to Priest Lake in the Idaho panhandle.” **BobB** looked over the calendar. “No birthdays, but we do have an anniversary.” **TomD** received the reminder and proudly chirped, “36 years.” The Good Guy also turned out to be Tom. “Everybody shook my hand.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1) **Howard** reminded the ladder crew that flags go up tomorrow morning.
- 2) **Lowell** announced that “the Chamber needs help tomorrow and Friday with the fireworks show.
- 3) **Jay** reminded the newly elected President, President-Elect and Secretary that training is scheduled for Saturday, August 2, from 8:00 to 2:30.
- 4) **George** announced that the American Legion dinner is next week, July 9. A signup sheet was circulated for volunteers to cook and serve the meal.
- 5) **Lowell**, mindful of the recent passing of **Dave Curtain**, spoke. “I saw Dave before he passed away... we go back a long way, when he was police chief and I was mayor... history of negotiating... I came to like Dave... good friends over the years.”
- 6) **BobM** observed that “we have a short meeting today.”

DRAWINGS:

Jester of the Week is... **George** Fine Free is... **Howard**  
Marble game was... **TomD** [he didn’t get the clear one]

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Our next guest speaker will be **Dave Yewell**, director of Appellation St. Helena. Learn about the history of St. Helena grape growing and wine production and about this important trade group. Should be very interesting. Bring a guest!

## Board Meeting

The Officers and Directors convened Monday for their regular monthly meeting, attended by **Lester**, **BobM**, **TomD**, **Lowell**, **TomB**, and **BobB**. Absent were **Jeff**, **Jan**, and **Donalee**.

The Board approved the Treasurer's report, which included a reminder that those members who attend the July 17 DCM will be billed the \$35 dinner fee. Those who do not attend will be billed the normal breakfast charge for the week.

The gas station project was also discussed. Reports indicate that the City Planning Commission approved the demolition permit, but with a stipulation that the building be dismantled and all pieces labeled for storage. Both the owner's attorney and a local historical consultant advise that our club not do the project as volunteers because there are too many responsibilities, liabilities and agencies involved. The Board had endorsed the project in principle but withheld final approval pending more information. Approval was denied.



*Too many complications.*

**Lowell** presented a fundraising concept that met with unanimous favor from the Board, something that has "evergreen" potential and hopefully ties into the local viticultural heritage. Stay tuned for further announcements and opportunities to get involved.

**TomB** asked for a status report on the branding iron. **BobB** said he needs to get it ordered. **Lowell** wondered if it's to be used for new members.

The Board also discussed the raffle basket for the DCM but neglected to delegate anyone to take charge.

## Member Profile

*By Bill Savidge*



### Lester Hardy

Who knew? Lester Hardy was once the winemaker at Cain Cellars. A 1972 wine tasting at Bothe Park triggered his interest. At a picnic table lighted by a Coleman lantern, he tasted wine chosen by fellow bicyclists on UC Santa Cruz spring break bicycle trip. They had biked from Santa Cruz to Napa Valley and stopped at the park for the night. Excellent vintages were inexpensive then due to a wine glut. They had a '68 BV Private Reserve, '68 Heitz Martha's Vineyard Cabernet, and '66 Charles Krug Special Selection. After that Lester's wine tasting groups met once or twice a week in Santa Cruz and San Francisco. "We would regret it if we didn't taste everything as much as we could." Moving to St. Helena, Lester worked at a few wineries, including Chappellet in 1979. He learned the art of winemaking by doing.

Lester was born and raised in San Francisco. "No sports," he said, "I was a bookworm, I read everything." His father was a PG&E land rights agent, whose work led Lester to land use and easement law. Lester graduated from Lowell High in 1970, then went to UC Santa Cruz but dropped out, more interested in wine than words. About 20 years later, living in St. Helena, he was elected to the City Council (1990 to 1994) and simultaneously completed his UC Santa Cruz degree. His work experience helped him gain admission to Stanford Law School, where he completed his JD degree in 1995.

Lester's first job was with a prominent Oakland criminal defense attorney. "I checked for violations of wire-tap regulations. Was the evidence admissible? Did the prosecuting agents comply with the law?" It was detailed research work, not the high stress task of interviewing murderers, alone with them in close quarters.

Janet Hardy, his wife, also went to Lowell High, but later than Lester. She earned a UC Davis enology degree in the early 80's. They have two children. Malcom, a Justin Sienna sophomore, loves fishing, basketball and drums. Amelia, a skilled pianist, will enter Stanford this fall. An excellent sailor, she placed 5<sup>th</sup> in this year's National Junior Women's double-handed 420 dingy sailing competitions.

Lester believes *doing* is what distinguishes the club, "where our effort is the enterprise . . . being directly involved." Lester owns his father's old Hawaiian ukulele. "As soon as I can sing one song, I promise to perform with the ukulele at the club."

# 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.

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

**July 9** – Serve dinner at the American Legion meeting, 5:30 p.m.

**July 12** – Work Project: Cancelled

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

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

**July 23** – Guest speaker, TBD

**July 30** – Guest speaker, TBD

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

**August 4** – Board Meeting, 5:00 p.m.

**August 6** – Guest speaker, TBD

**August 9** – Work Project: Build wooden bins at Bale Grist Mill, 9:00 a.m.

## 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

## Kiwanis Club of St. Helena

P.O. Box 362

St. Helena, CA 94574