



December 2025

Volume 102 No. 3

## Friendsgiving



Friendsgiving is a potluck-style meal that celebrates with friends, often held around the Thanksgiving holiday. It's a less formal gathering than a traditional Thanksgiving dinner, where friends bring dishes to share instead of one person cooking an entire meal. The host typically makes the turkey, but the overall theme is communal and casual, and it can also include activities beyond just eating.

About 50 members and their guests enjoyed our November 18 Friendsgiving luncheon. The tables were overflowing with a variety of delicious food dishes that everyone had brought to share. Thanks to Patti for preparing and serving the turkey.



After the meal, hostess Nancy Arsenault passed the microphone around the room for people to share things about their friends for which they are thankful.

We ended the evening with a fun game of Thanksgiving Bingo led by Dick Bugarske.



Our Hostess Nancy & Prez Liz



Regular Tuesday meetings at the Villa Chanticleer Annex.

### Meeting Dates:

**Dec. 2:** Regular Meeting at 12 noon – Christina Ortiz from the Children's Museum of Sonoma County.

**Dec 9:** Regular Meeting at 12 noon – Committees, Planning & Service meeting.

**Dec 16:** Regular Meeting at 12 noon – Holiday Celebration lunch - \$25 per plate.

**Dec 23 & 30:** No Meetings – Holiday observations.

Board Meeting: none in December. Next Quarterly Board meeting Jan 15, 2026.

### Other December Events

**Dec 5:** Merry Healdsburg in the Plaza.

**Dec 13:** – Cloverdale Crab Feed.

The Healdsburg Kiwanis Club meets Tuesday noon except the Last Tuesday of the month is an evening social meeting, 6:30PM

For information about the Healdsburg Kiwanis Club Contact President Liz Bippart 707-227-4314. or Secretary Melanie Taylor 707-953-7240



**Kiwanis ----- Serving the Children of the world**

Photos of Friends by Nancy



### Healdsburg Kiwanis Club Officers 2024-2025

President – Liz Bippart  
President Elect Barbara Erickson  
Secretary – Melanie Taylor  
Admin. Treasurer- Richard Bugarske  
Project Treasurer - Ron Doble  
Past Presidents Eric Frost

### Board of Directors

Loretta Strong    Jerry Strong  
Susan Sheehy    Jan Gianni

### Memorial Scholarship Board of Directors

Dan Maraviglia, Chair  
John (Jack) Brandt    Dennis Stead  
Ron Doble            Guy French  
Dan Gianni            Richard Yates

### The Builder

Harry Jackson, Editor

### Happy Birthday

Anna Grant - Dec.6  
Terry Kemp - Dec. 9  
Eric Frost – Dec. 18  
Karen Tappin Dec. 20  
Vern Losh - Dec. 22  
Richard Yates - Dec. 24

### Kiwanis Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following members who joined the Kiwanis Club during the month December:

Nancy Arsenault – 12-19-17  
Darlene Prigmore – 12-9-14



### The President’s Message

Hello Kiwanians...

We’re celebrating Christmas and Hanukkah on December 16 at our annual holiday party. Join us at the Annex for a great lunch by Patti and a white elephant gift exchange...something intriguing you already own but do not use. We will have a riotous Yankee Swap!



Merry Healdsburg is fast approaching on December 5 in the Plaza. It’s normally a very chilly evening where the masses are bundled up, in good cheer awaiting the lighting of the beautiful Christmas tree and enjoying a cup of Darlene’s delicious (secret family recipe) warm mulled wine that packs a punch! We can use your help during the selling frenzy. Contact Melanie Taylor or me if you would like to have some crazy fun.

We shared a gratitude-filled Friendsgiving on November 18 organized by Nancy and her crew. The pot luck style meal was amazing followed by a “pass the mic” appreciation of our fellow Kiwanians. The energy was warm and glowing. Thanks to all who attended this annual in-house event.

Happy Holidays,

Liz

### November Birthdays



**Jerry – 92<sup>nd</sup>!**



**Jan**



**Dick**



**Jerry, Loretta & Dick sing happy Birthday to Jan**



## Board of Director’s Meeting

Summarized from minutes by Melanie Taylor

With no urgent business, November Board meeting was canceled.

Project Treasurer Ron Doble submitted the Healdsburg Kiwanis Foundation financials as of November 19, 2025. Here is the Balance Sheet:

### Assets

Current Assets	
Sumit Bank Checking	52,381
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>52,381</b>
Other Assets	
Charles Schwab	
Fidelity Balanced FBALX	39,486
Market Value Adjustment	16,475
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>55,961</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>108,342</b>

### Liabilities & Equity

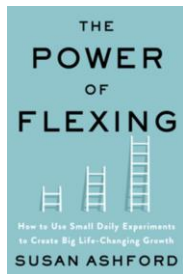
Permanently Restricted Funds	
Children’s Fund Endowment	55,961
Retained Earnings	5,872
Temporarily/Restricted Reserves	
Deas Scholarship	5,000
Future Spending	15,000
Jordan Strong Memorial Funds	1,570
Roger Dormire Scholarship Fund	1,500
Scholarship Fund	5,225
<b>Total Temporarily/Restricted Reserves</b>	<b>28,295</b>
Unrestricted Project Funds	19,599
Net Income	-1386
<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>	<b>108,342</b>

## Meeting Summaries

**Nov 4: Professor Sue Ashford** discusses her book, "The Power of Flexing"

Sue is a Professor in the Management and Organizations group at the University of Michigan. She is on sabbatical and is spending the fall in Sonoma County and visiting her friend Lucy Lewand.

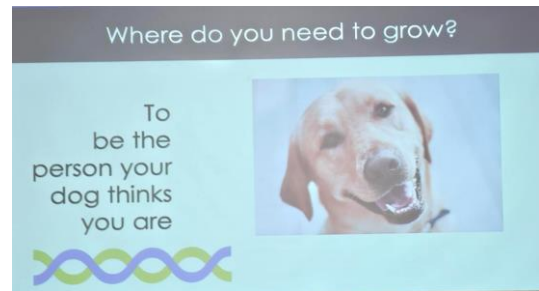
In a very interesting presentation, Sue talked about her book, The Power of Flexing: How to change your behavior, develop soft skills, and achieve personal and



professional growth through a series of small experiments called “Flexing”.

Many situations call for growth of a particular kind - they challenge you to grow your soft skills, your personal and interpersonal effectiveness. Whether it’s time management, team building, communication and listening, creative thinking, and problem-solving, Flexing helps you move ahead when you’re confronted with a new challenge or simply want to develop a vital skill.

<https://susanashford.com/book>



## Pie Day



If anything can possibly go wrong it will, and it did! The pie orders scheduled for delivery during our meeting were delayed for about an hour after adjournment. The purchasers had to return later to pick up their order. A total of 142 pies were sold for a net profit of over \$1,000 including tips. Applause for Judy Everett who purchased 20 pies.

**Nov 11:** Regular Meeting at 12 noon – - Committees and Service Meeting. **Veteran’s Day observation**

The titular armistice was signed at 5:45 AM on November 11, 1918, at Compiègne, in the region of Picardy, France. The agreement took effect at 11:00 AM, thus officially ending the war on the Western Front “on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month.” In 1954, the day was changed to Veterans' Day.

Dick Bugarske presented the thought for the Day, a slide show tribute to veterans.

Military service is a commitment to one's country by serving in the armed forces, which involves a legal and often

personal duty to put the nation's welfare ahead of personal interests. It can be active duty or reserve, is a choice for many, and includes various roles and branches, with a primary purpose of defending the nation

The "Service part" of military service refers to the performance of duty by an individual enrolled into the armed forces, which is a commitment to a nation that requires mental and physical effort. It encompasses the voluntary or involuntary performance of duties across various branches, such as Army Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard, where members are called to active service for tasks like defending the nation, assisting in natural disaster, or performing other duties depending on their branch and component.

\*\* Regardless of branch, your life is changed by military service. \*\*

Kiwanis Objects 3 and 4:

Object 4: To develop by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive and **Serviceable** citizenship.

Object 5: To provide, through Kiwanis clubs, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic **service**, and to build better communities.

So fellow Kiwanians, thank you for your **service!**

Many members followed up with \$\$Happy/Sad\$\$ about their own or family member's services.

## \$\$Happy/Sad\$\$ re Military service

**Loretta Strong's** father persuaded his mother to lie for him and joined the Navy at age 16. He served on a mine sweeper in the South Pacific WWII.

**Melanie Taylor** had 7 members of her family at various times in several wars.

**Barbara Erickson's** father served in the Navy during WWII for the entire war on Treasure Island.

**Judy Everett's** father served in the Army during the Korean and Viet Nam wars.

**Joandell Hahn's** husband Kurt served in the Army and her granddaughter is serving in the National guard.

**Denny Stead** served in the Marine Corps in Viet Nam.

**Jerry Strong** served in the Navy on an aircraft carrier during the Korean war.

## \$\$Happy/Sad and other stories\$\$

**Cindi Brown** happy to have new tenants named Eric and Lorry.

**Harry Jackson** happy to celebrate 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with Mary.


## 1<sup>st</sup> Responders Luncheon

*By Dick Bugarske*


Pres. Liz and Debbie Dormire along with a freshman student from Windsor helped welcome our guests as our Club and the American Legion hosted the 2nd Annual 1st Responder luncheon at the Annex on Sunday November 2. Sixty to Seventy folks were able to make it along with members of their families (and many Responders were on duty). Dan Lucia provided a great lunch of roasted chicken, tri-tip, and corn with Big John's donating a number of side salads and desserts. Always a special day when we say thanks to those who keep us safe and tend to our fire safety and health needs.




2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL SALUTE TO  
HEALDSBURG  
1<sup>ST</sup> RESPONDERS  
LEGACY



Healdsburg Fire Department



Healdsburg Police Department



Bell's Ambulance Service

Healdsburg American Legion Sotoyome Post 111  
Healdsburg Kiwanis Club  
November 2, 2025

## **An invitation to Appellation Healdsburg**

Denny Stead recently ran into our friend Charlie Palmer while checking out Charlie's recently opened restaurant, Folia Bar & Kitchen at Appellation Healdsburg.

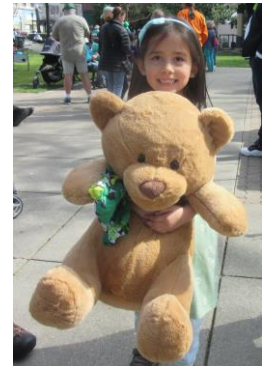
Charlie gave Denny a personal tour of the new digs and after Denny expressed appreciation, invited our Kiwanis Club for a tour.

Save the date: Monday December 15 and show up at 3:00 PM and Charlie will lead us on a personal tour and possibly spring for a glass of wine or other beverage.

"Now welcoming guests, Appellation Healdsburg promises to redefine dining in Wine country. From Healdsburg's newest rooftop restaurant and bar to a regionally inspired signature restaurant, this is more than a place to eat - it's a destination to savor."



Since 1947 The Marine Corps and Toys for Tots **Has Been Making a Difference** in the Lives of American Families. The Marine Toys for Tots Program collects new unwrapped toys and distributes them to economically disadvantaged children at Christmas. The gift of a new toy will bring the joy of Christmas and send a message of hope to America's economically disadvantaged children.



Once again, Denny Stead will be furnishing a large box at our meetings for Kiwanians to fill with toys. The box will be at the Villa on December 2 through 16.

Denny collects all the toys in Northern Sonoma County.

