



December 2023

Volume 100 No. 3

## Geyserville NSCLU Lighted Tractor Parade



**The Healdsburg Kiwanis entry**

The annual Geyserville Lighted Tractor Parade was held on November 25, 2023. This is a fun event drawing a large crowd of spectators lining the street, rain or shine! No rain this year, but a very cold. The Healdsburg Kiwanis Club entered in 2022 for the first time to kick off our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and we continued the new tradition this year.

A small group of us gathered in Denny's driveway on Friday 11/24 and decorated Denny's pickup truck for the parade. We put on tons of blue lights and banners announcing our presence to the world.

Photos by Susan & Sidney Sheehy



**The float decorating committee**  
Front: Anna Grant & her aunt  
Back: Susan, Denny & Joanne  
Photo by Sidney

Regular Tuesday meetings at the Villa.

### Meeting Dates:

**Dec 5:** Regular Meeting at 12 noon, Getting to know our 2024 Hall of Fame inductees & welcome to Art McCaffrey's 74<sup>th</sup> REIBT Tournament.

**Dec 12:** Regular Meeting at 12 noon, Program – Reflections on our first 100 years.

No Board of Directors Meeting in December.

**Dec 19:** Regular Meeting at 12 noon, Annual Christmas celebration. White elephant gift exchange.

**Dec 23 & 30:** No Meetings.

### Other December dates

**Dec 1:** Merry Healdsburg celebration.

**Dec 2:** Cloverdale Kiwanis Crab Feed.

### Save the Date

**Feb 10:** Steelhead Festival.

**Mar 17:** St. Patrick's Day. celebration in the Plaza.

**Mar 24:** Pancake Breakfast.

**May 23-25:** Annual FFA Twilight Parade and Fair.

The Healdsburg Kiwanis Club meets Tuesday noon except the fourth Tuesday of the month is an evening meeting, 6:30PM Social, 7:00 PM Meeting.

For information about the Healdsburg Kiwanis Club Contact Co-President Loretta Strong (431-8052) or Secretary Liz Bippart (707-227-4314).

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

## Healdsburg Kiwanis Club Officers 2023-2024

Co-Presidents – Loretta Strong (Q1)  
Richard Bugarske (Q2),  
Susan Sheehy (Q3),  
(Q4 open)

President Elect - Open

Secretary – Liz Bippart

Admin. Treasurer- Richard Bugarske

Project Treasurer - Ron Doble

Past President – Dennis Stead

## Board of Directors

### One Year Term

Barbara Erickson Susan Sheehy

Joanne Kolinski Jan Gianni

Brian Wells

### Two Year Term

Debby Dormire

## Memorial Scholarship Board of Directors

Dan Maraviglia, Chair

John (Jack) Brandt Randy Collins

Ron Doble Guy French

Vern Loch Dennis Stead

## The Builder

Harry Jackson, Editor

## Happy Birthday

Anna Grant - Dec.6

Terry Kemp - Dec. 9

Eric Frost – Dec. 18

Vern Losh - Dec. 22

Richard Yates - Dec. 24

## Kiwanis Anniversaries

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

Hunt Conrad - 12-4-07

Martin Silge - 12-4-07

Nancy Arsenault – 12-19-17

Darlene Prigmore – 12-9-14

## The President's Message

Well, it's December and our mighty little club is about to conclude another very productive year! We pulled off all of our usual fundraisers, including the Footrace which we have now handed over to posterity. In its place, we've been practicing and gearing up for the new Texas Hold Em event in the spring. They say you can't teach old dogs new tricks, and I think they're right. We all know how to play poker, but this is much more complicated! There's a small blind and a big blind and if that's not different enough you have to ante up before you get to see your hand! I'm going to stick to trading stocks, that's enough of a crap shoot for me!

Today we're off to the plaza for Merry Healdsburg. Our little club was doing fine, but now they want twice the time and twice the mulled wine! Bianca has been stomping grapes as fast as she can and grandma Darlene has vowed she can up her pace while still maintaining that famous recipe! And our beloved Anna the Piranha is determined to ferry over that piping hot swill from the Senior Center without spilling a drop! God help us all!

But remember, all of this is about the children while we have an enormous amount of fun! Just this morning we dispatched the last of the \$16,000 we dedicated to scholarships this year. It is our most important function, and we are an important part of their academic future. Being Chair of the Scholarship Committee along with Dick, is truly the most important thing I do for our club. The thank you notes I receive are truly affirming of how many young lives we touch every year.

And speaking of Dick, my dear friend, I now pass the torch and the pen over to you as you take the helm on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas to the club I love!

Sincerely, Loretta



## Club loses an outstanding member

Richard Iverson turned 96 on Thursday Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>; on Friday morning, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>, Richard passed away. Richard was a member of our Club for 37 years and in the past few years we have learned much about his journey through life.



**Richard Iverson**  
1927 - 2023



Susan & Sidney



## Board of Directors Meeting

No regular Board meeting was held in November. There was no urgent business except for the following:

At our November 14 regular meeting, a quorum of board members was present, and a motion was passed to adopt the revised scholarship application, prepared by Dick Bugarske, that combines the Four-Year College path with the Career, Technical & Vocational path. The new form will be provided to Shelley Anderson, HHS College & Career Coordinator, to be distributed to students in January for completion and submittal by the student applicants by March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Note that our bylaws permit board action at regular meetings if a quorum is present or by email.

## Meetings

Nov 7: Bianca Nicastro, Starting a new business.



Bianca was born and raised in Healdsburg and attended Healdsburg High School, where she was a top Track star. She went on to Chico State and excelled on the Track & Field team, graduating in 2018.

With an early interest in the wine industry, she has traveled extensively throughout wine regions in Europe and Australia. She spent several months in Australia where she learned how they make wine.

She is a wine sales expert and hospitality consultant who was groomed at Aperture Cellars, one of the most prestigious wineries in Sonoma County. She is an award-winning hospitality expert: Best of Sonoma County- Front of the House 2021.

Inspired by her travels and her extensive background in wine hospitality, she has embarked on a new business specializing in wine tasting. She will provide private wine tastings for small groups held in

the homes of the clients. She will guide the clients in the selection of the tasting menu and other details of the event. The company web site is under development and soon to be launched. Most legal and other particulars in setting up a business have been accomplished and she will be marketing and ready to go soon.

Nov 14: Mandatory Kiwanis International Youth Protection Policy Update.

### Why Youth Protection Matters

- Through KYP, Kiwanis serves over 300,000 youth program members each year.
- Youth and families count on us to look after their well-being.
- To learn and grow, first you have to be safe.



“Every Kiwanis club is expected to inform, and educate its members on these policies, best practices and required actions for individuals who become aware of youth in potentially harmful situations. This education must occur annually, including providing a copy of these policies to each club member. Every Kiwanis district is expected to provide an educational forum or workshop at every district produced convention and conference regarding policies and best practices for adults working with youth using materials provided by Kiwanis International.

Kiwanis International requires clubs to have a clear criminal history background check for any club member serving as an advisor to any Service Leadership Programs club.”

Kiwanis Youth Protection Goals are:

- Protect youth from predators.
- Provide youth with skills and tools designed to inspire and engage future leaders to be their best.
- Empower and educate adult members with best practices when working with youth.

Our Obligations to prevent adult-to-youth abuse and peer-to-peer abuse are:

- Identify concerning behaviors.
- Monitor and supervise youth.
- Report emergencies or red flag incidents.
- Model safe appropriate behaviors.

**Nov 21: Jerry Strong & Dick Bugarske, The US Navy Then and Now.**

We took to the high seas as Jerry described his journey aboard the USS Essex. A nautical lunchtime without any seasickness!



**USS Essex**

The USS *Essex* was an aircraft carrier and the lead ship of the 24-ship *Essex* class built for the United States Navy during World War II. Decommissioned shortly after the end of the war, she was modernized and recommissioned in the early 1950s as an attack carrier (CVA), eventually becoming an antisubmarine aircraft carrier (CVS).

Jerry was a 19 year old sailor serving on the *Essex* during the Korean War. He described what life was like on on the ship for his two years of service. Conditions were very crowded with 3 tiered bunks. Jerry's favorite off duty places were the mess halls where plenty of good food was available at all times off duty and the library. He also spent many hours on the bridge watching the activities on the flight deck, including takeoff/landings with frequent near misses and a few misses.

After Jerry's harrowing tales, we transition to the USS *Carl Vinson*, sailing today off the coast of South Korea. Dick and Claudia recently saw their son-in-law off in San Diego for Korea. They had a grand tour of the ship, and we enjoyed Dick's photo tour.



**USS Carl Vinson**

Commissioned in March 1982, the USS *Constitution* is 1,092 feet long and carries a crew of 6,012 officers and enlisted sailors. It accommodates 90 fixed wing aircraft and helicopters.



**The USS Constitution**

One of our first US Navy ships is still in use today - a ship almost 230 years old. Built in 1787, it is 304 feet long and carried a crew of 360 Sailors, 55 Marines, and 30 Boys.

**Nov 28: Evening Social Meeting at 5 p.m. – Friendsgiving, Texas Holdem seminar and practice.**

About 30 members and guests attended our second annual Friendsgiving potluck meeting on the evening of November 28. Nancy did a great job organizing the event and signing folks up for food to bring. Patti prepared Turkey for all to enjoy. We shared great food, and fellowship. In preparation for our new fundraising event, we learned how to play Texas Holdem and practiced our newly learned skills.



**Intense concentration on learning the game (except for Jan)**

More photos on back page.

### Key Club



Fundraiser selling pizza and cookies



Jan Gianni and Joanne Kolinski ask for a song from all the men ala Elvis, first Hound Dog, then Happy Birthday



Jerry Strong asked for a Happy Birthday song from Joanne (Marilyn Monroe) and Jan (Dolly Parton)

### Birthdays



Dick Bugarske asked his 3 former Co-Presidents for a happy birthday song



Patti requested that everyone sing Happy birthday doing the Hula

**Friendsgiving photos**



**\$Happy/Sad\$\$**

Jan Gianni happy to survive a late-night scare and only minor damage from backyard fire. She awoke hearing crackling noises at 3 am, looked out and saw a shed in the neighbor's back yard aflame. Their back fence was destroyed.

Cindi Brown happy to care for 1 year old granddaughter for 5 days and to be designated the "Official Nanny" for a planned trip to Mexico.

Rowdy Yates happy Darlene is back and happy for Bianca's presentation.

Bianca happy for all the birthdays and Loretta's comic relief.

Rick Wood: "it's been challenging to be Rick Wood. Thanks for helping out".

Eric Frost happy to be singing with the Healdsburg Chorus on December 9 and 10.

**HEALDSBURG KIWANIS CLUB**  
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