THE BUILDER

Kiwanis CLUB OF HEALDSBURG

September 2026 **Volume 102 No. 12**

Brandt's Beach Barbeque

The annual Brandt's Beach Barbeque was a fun-filled evening enjoyed by 99 Kiwanis members and guests including members of the Cloverdale, Geyserville Santa Rosa and North Bay Clubs. It was a beautiful warm evening filled with great food, excellent company, and general merriment.

Kudos to Denny Stead for organizing and planning the event and a fantastic group of workers. And many thanks to the Brandt family for being so gracious in letting us use their fantastic venue and to the Brandt family members who helped with the setup.

The feast was prepared by the hard-working kitchen crew including Patti, Joandell, Claudia, and Lockie with his friend Marc Dym, chef and part owner of the Little River Inn at the fire grilling steaks and chicken. Several members provided an overflowing table of appetizers. And Debby spent the week baking 100++ cookies.

Anna Grant was the Live Auction auctioneer and squeezed $8,425 out of the bidders.

Thanks also to all the other hard-working volunteers too numerous to list (and the fear of forgetting someone).

Brandt's Beach BBQ preliminary estimated net proceeds totaled about $11,000. Preliminary figures:

$8,425	Live Auction
$1,080	Silent Auction
$93	Tip Jar
$595	Drinks
$3,384	Gate (97 paid attendees - 2 guests)
-$2,000	Estimated expenses

Regular Tuesday meetings at the Villa Chanticleer Annex.

Meeting Dates:

Sep 1: Leilani Clark, Communications Manager Land Paths.

Sep 8: Club Business - Looking into the new year.

Sep 15: David Hubbell - Healdsburg High Work Based Learning Director.

Sep 22: Susan Sheehy - Quicksilver Mining and Utopian Visions - Pine Flat History.

Sep 29: Evening Installation Meeting at the home of Lockie Gillies to install our new President, Bob Taylor and officers.

The Healdsburg Kiwanis Club meets Tuesday noon except the Last Tuesday of the month is an

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

Chef Marc Dym

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

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SANTA ROSA
KIWANIS
CLUB

Healdsburg Kiwanis Club Officers 2024-2025

President – Liz Bippart
President Elect - Barbara Erickson
Secretary – Melanie Taylor
Admin. Treasurer - Richard Bugarske
Project Treasurer - Ron Dobley
Past President - 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 Dobley **Guy French**
Dan Gianni **Richard Yates**

The Builder

Harry Jackson, Editor

Happy Birthday

Eric Smith – Sept. 6
Ken Rochioli – Sept. 19
Debi Dobley – Sept 7
Cynthia Brown – Sept. 23
Lindsay Wurlitzer – Sept. 23
Robert Taylor – Sept. 27

Kiwanis Anniversaries

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

James Schmidt - 9-7-04
Eric Frost - 9-12-23
Jerry Strong - 9-8-92
Gary Plass - 9-25-01
Randolph Collins - 9-25-01

The President's Message

Hey Kiwanians…

I don't know about you, but I'm feeling like the post-COVID era is past us. Case in point, the new members who have joined us the last two years as well as event attendance such as Saturday night when 95 ish people came out for steak and fun at Brandt's Beach. Denny was back in charge and commandeered a record number of Silent Auction items as well as Live Auction items that have netted our Club over $11,000. Thanks to members who dug deep to make the auctions a success.

THANKS to…the Brandt family;

Denny, who returned to organize it all;

Dick and Claudia, who shopped, loaded, unloaded, cleaned, washed, reloaded, unloaded and probably a couple more loading and unloading at the Scout Hut;

Members who were up early for set-up on Saturday morning;

Those who worked through the event;

Lockie and Marc who grilled those delicious steaks;

Members and their friends who bid in a lively way with 'born for it' auctioneer, Anna Grant;

Debby, who made a selection of cookies that were hard to resist;

The evening and Sunday morning clean-up crews. And now almost everything has been returned to its place for another time. Way to go y'all! It's for the kids!

It has been a terrific month for meeting speakers including our new member, Joann Sherar who shared stories from her new book, "Losing My Ass" that she co-wrote with her father, Donald Binns about his experiences in a WWII Japanese POW camp.

One of our beloved former Key Club Presidents, Emma Tremont shared readings at the Healdsburg Library from her new book, "Jane's Camp Rose" co-authored with Ken Dalton, who happens to be Eric Frost's father-in-law.

Coming in September we'll hear from Land Paths, Dave Hubble from HHS and the student internship program, and Susan Sheehy and History Lives.

Thanks, Bob Taylor for saying 'yes' to being Kiwanis President this coming year…Installation on September 29 will be a BBQ in Lockie and Maria's new back yard.

Liz

Board of Directors Minutes Summary

There was no Board meeting in August.

Proposed Slate of Officers for 2026/27

President – Robert Taylor
Vice President (President Elect) Joandell Hahn
Board of Directors – Susan Sheehy, Loretta Strong, Jerry Strong, Caroline Wright, Barbara Erickkson, Eric Frost, Liz Bippart
Admin. Treasurer- Richard Bugarske (Continuing)
Project Treasurer – Ron Dobley (Continuing)
Secretary – Melanie Taylor (Continuing)

Aug 4: World Affairs

Diana Blakeley invited folks from the Sonoma County Chapter of World Affairs Council to talk about who they are and some of the activities they have for Sonoma County students.

Mike Morrison, Diana Blakeley, Chris Nelle

Mike Morrison, in his introductory remarks, described the World Affairs Council's purpose and functions.

The World Affairs Council of Sonoma County p**resents** monthly programs bringing members and their guests up close to vital speakers whose expertise and experience are guaranteed to shed light, spark thought and lead to spirited conversation on where the world is headed and why. And why it matters to us as citizens.

Speakers are chosen for their extensive experience and knowledge about their topic. They lay out the facts and avoid discussing political opinions.

Chris Nelle spoke about his World Affairs Counsil focus, Academic World Quest. Going Strong in 2026!

In the spring of 2023 Sonoma County young people were showing their Stuff. Their competitive juices were flowing, and teams were selected to head off to Washington D.C. in April for the final competition. They were primed and ready on March 7. Teams from Analy High School, Roseland Collegiate prep, Maria Carrillo, Petaluma High School, Technology High School and St. Vincent de Paul High School were ready.

The competition? Answer 100 world affairs questions in 90 minutes.

The Stakes? Winning an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. for the national finals competition.

The Winners? Petaluma High School first, Maria Carrillo second, Analy High third. Thanks to donations from generous local supporters, they headed off to Washington for the national finals competition, along with sight-seeing tours and meetings with California Congressional members.

Aug 11: JoAnn Sherar stories from "Losing My Ass"

JoAnn Sharer shared her yet to be published accounts of her father's imprisonment as a POW during WWII in a book entitled "Losing My Ass", a story about the Amazing Life of Donald Binns by Don and his daughter Joann Binns Sharer.

The story is about how Don survived the brutalities of a Japanese Prisoner of War camp after being captured at the beginning of the war. It is a bit of a hybrid between a memoir and an autobiography since it spans the first few decades of his life.

Aug 18: Eric Frost, Master Gardener.

Eric shared his quest to become a Master Gardener and join over 200 others who have trained in the Program in Sonoma County. He provided information about the Master Gardener Program and talked about the process of becoming a program volunteer and his own gardening experience. Eric has met the first-year volunteer requirements and has graduated and is now his second year.

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The University of California Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Program offers education and outreach in gardening. Volunteers provide research-based gardening information to the public in various community settings, including schools and demonstration gardens, to promote sustainable gardening practices and address local environmental issues such as drought and food insecurity.

Our Mission

… to provide environmentally sustainable, science-based information to non-commercial home gardeners in Sonoma County. We strive for diversity & inclusion in all aspects of our organization.

What We Do:

We diagnose problems, answer questions and disseminate research based on information about:

- Sustainable landscaping
- Growing fruits and vegetables
- Soils & irrigation
- Water conservation
- Integrated Pest Management
- Plant pests & diseases
- Composting
- Weed control & mulching
- Firewise landscaping
- And much more!

Aug 25: Final Summer Music on the Plaza

Kiwanis members, guests and friends enjoyed the music of Super Diamond playing a Neil Diamond tribute with the usual large crowd in the plaza. The Super Diamond band is led by Neil Diamond's son Jesse.

We shared space with the Healdsburg Museum, so it is not possible to Identify everyone.

Jesse Diamond
"from somewhere in Marin County"

Jane's Camp Rose: An Era of Magic

Authers Ken Dalton and Emma Tremont

Several Kiwanis members attended a book reading by authors Ken Dalton and Emma Tremont at the Healdsburg Library on August 22.

Emma is a Healdsburg High School graduate and went on to obtain her degree from Boston University in 2023. She was a member of the HHS Key Club and recipient of a Kiwanis Scholarship.

Ken is well known for singing duets with his wife Arlene in Healdsburg Chorus performances.

Jane's Camp Rose: An Era of Magic

For nearly 50 years, and under the ownership of a woman named Jane Moore, Camp Rose was a gathering spot for food, drink, and most of all entertainment. First a restaurant and eventually a theater, Camp Rose became a unique part of local history. Jane was Emma's grandmother. and Emma and her family lived upstairs at Camp Rose.

The reading revealed many tidbits of information about Camp Rose: the history, the theater, performances and the challenges the actors cheerfully overcame at the tiny downstairs theater.

Many of the living Camp Rose actors attended the reading and shared interesting anecdotes about their performances. "Something unexpected always went wrong."

The Healdsburg Prune Packers are 2026 Pacific Empire League Champions!

OVERALL RECORD 36-7
PEL RECORD 19-6

The Packers completed a two-game sweep of the Lincoln Potters in the Championship Series, winning 8-2 at McBean Stadium in Lincoln before returning home to Recreation Park and capturing the title with a 9-1 victory in Game 2.

The championship is the program's third consecutive Pacific Empire League title and sixth consecutive California State Championship.

Thank you to Packer Nation, our players, coaches, host families, volunteers, sponsors, community partners, and everyone who supported the Prune Packers throughout another unforgettable championship season.

https://www.prunepackers.org/

Happy/Sad & other stories

Dick Bugarske happy Prune Packers are again champions, and 10 players are headed for majors

Melanie Taylor happy that recent exam was cancer free and that Bob's stent procedure went well.

Eric Frost happy that Ken and Arlene's move is complete and he can rest.

August Birthdays

Judy Everett

Margie Sokolis

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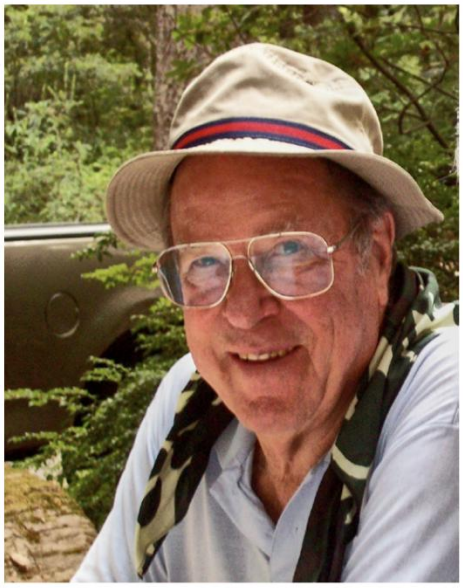

Carl Elze

Former Healdsburg Kiwanian, Carl Joseph Elze, age 101 years passed away on August 5, in Santa Rosa.

When Carl turned 17 shortly after Pearl Harbor, he had his mother sign a waiver allowing him to enlist in the US Navy to fight for his country. In the Navy he trained as an aircraft mechanic, a path he followed after the war when he was hired by Pan American World Airways in San Francisco. He eventually flew 747s all over the world, as a Flight Engineer Officer.

Music was important to Carl throughout his life. He played violin in the San Pedro High School orchestra and band. In retirement Carl learned to play the tuba and played for many years with the Healdsburg Community Band, the Russian River Ramblers Jazz Band and with Lew Sbrana in the New Horizons Band.

Also, in retirement the Healdsburg Kiwanis Club was an important part of Carl's service to his community. He cheerfully participated in the club's fundraising activities including the pancake breakfasts, the Fitch Mountain Footrace, Christmas tree sales and others.

In lieu of flowers, Carl requested donations to the Healdsburg Kiwanis Club. Services will be private.

He will be profoundly missed by his large family and many friends.

Jim Schmidt's recently completed Texas Hold'em painting