

Historical Notes

by Earl Osborn

Kiwanis Club of Healdsburg 69th Anniversary

In August 1992 there were 8,942 Kiwanis Clubs throughout eighty-four Nations. The total membership was 332,914.

Kiwanis was started in Detroit, Michigan in 1915. It wasn't started as a Service Club but it was started as a club where business and professional men could meet each week and exchange information and ideas on business. The motto in the beginning was "We Trade," - "We Trade Ideas."

In just three years Kiwanis Clubs had been formed in Canada as well as in the Mid-western part of the U.S. and it became International.

The first club in the North-Bay region here in California was the Napa Club which was chartered in 1922.

Kiwanis International is divided into Districts and the Districts into Divisions. The Healdsburg Club is in the California-Nevada-Hawaii District and in Division 32. Healdsburg was in Division 8 when it was first started in 1923.

The Napa Kiwanis Club was anxious to have other Kiwanis Clubs in the northern part of California and the Napa Club sponsored the Healdsburg Kiwanis Club in 1923. Kiwanis was the first Service Club to be started in Healdsburg. It was also one of the first Service Club in Sonoma County. The Healdsburg Kiwanis Club was chartered on Nov. 3, 1923 with sixty members. Since Kiwanis was the first Service Club in Healdsburg it started out with most of the leading business and professional men in the Healdsburg Area.

The meetings were held in the Plaza Hotel Dining Room during the first year of its existence. In 1924 the meetings were held in the American Legion Hall which was built as a War Memorial after World War I. Kiwanis has held it's meetings in five different places during the past seventy years. During Sixty nine of those years the American Legion Auxiliary has served lunches for the club.

The Healdsburg Kiwanis Club has always devoted a lot of time, money and energy to serving the youth groups in the Healdsburg Area. Some of the groups sponsored by Kiwanis, at various times, are Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Explorer Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, Blue Birds, F.F.A., 4 H Clubs, Boys and Girls Club. Summer swimming and Lifesaving classes were financed by Kiwanis - eyeglasses were purchased for needy children - During the depression years all elementary students in the lower grades were given free milk each morning and Kiwanis paid the bill. Free lunches were given to needy students for many years and Kiwanis paid for them.

There have been hundreds of Community Service projects performed by Kiwanis in Healdsburg during the past Seventy years. A few of the larger projects are; financed and built the Iversen Scout Compound at a cost of \$15,000; purchased new bleacher seating at the Recreation Park, - cost \$3,000; purchased play ground equipment for the Byron Gibbs park, cost \$2,800; donated the lumber for a shop and craft building at Lytton Home; also purchased the tools to equip the shop; paid the salaries of three men to assist Al Barbieri with his athletic club in the 1940's and 1950's; purchased lights for the Boys and Girls Club Gym; established a welfare fund at both the Junior and Senior High Schools; beginning in 1931 and continuing until the present Kiwanis has awarded cash scholarships to deserving graduates from the Healdsburg High School - the amount awarded is \$2,500 a year for the past few years.

The Healdsburg Club has always considered regular attendance at our weekly meetings of great importance. On May 2, 1947 the Healdsburg Kiwanis Club celebrated 37 consecutive months of perfect attendance - during this three year period the Healdsburg Club won awards for outstanding achievement in the California - Nevada District.

Kiwanis Community Service Projects

The Healdsburg Kiwanis Club has had hundreds of community service projects since 1923, — following are only a few of those projects.

- 1923 - 1. Financed and transported the Lytton Home Band into Sacramento for a state band contest.
2. Sponsored a scout troop #24 at Lytton Home.
1924. 1. - Sponsored an essay contest at the Healdsburg High School. Kenneth Easter, Lieutenant Hall and Hazel Bell were the three winners. Held a Ladies Night and heard the winners essay as the program.
2. Met with the Healdsburg High School faculty in the high school cafeteria and enjoyed a dinner and program put on by high school students. This was continued for many years during the 1920's and 1930's.
3. Built a "Welcome To Healdsburg" sign at the entrance to Healdsburg.
4. Put on a "Variety Show" in old Liberty Theatre to raise money for the Healdsburg Community Chest, — a welfare fund for needy families. (Frank Corrick, was master of ceremonies.)

1928 -

1. Financed Sang Fire Girls' "Summer Camp".
2. Conducted a voter registration campaign.
3. Transported voters to the polls.
4. Put on a dinner and program for children at "Lytton Home".
5. Financed a trip to S. F. for Bay Scout Troop.
6. Sponsored "Yard and Garden" Contest.

1930 -

1. Raised money for needy families in Healdsburg.
2. membership in clubs 372 lowest in the clubs history.

1931 -

1. Began awarding a scholarship to a graduating senior at the Healdsburg High School.
2. Began awarding a plaque to "The Outstanding Citizen Student" in the Healdsburg H.S.
3. Main project was contributing money, food, clothing to needy families in Healdsburg area due to the depression.
4. Sponsored Bay Scout Troop as well as Sang Fire Girls.
5. Organized "Twilight Baseball League" -
6. Sponsored "Healdsburg Garden Club" -

HEALDSBURG KIWANIS CLUB PAST PRESIDENTS

1923-Joe Miller
 1924-George Imrie
 1925-Fred McConnell
 1925-Edward Quinn
 1926-Frank Corrick
 1927-Bill Whitney
 1928-S.H. Cooley *March of Dimes*
 1929-Harold Miller *Xmas tree*
 1930-Jim Bowen
 1931-Floyd Darby *Sch. Plaque*
 1932-Albert Garrett
 1933-Roy Haley
 1934-Russell Stevens
 1935-Edward Byrn
 1936-Harold Rosenberg
 1937-John Morgan
 1938-Edward Beeson
 1939-Harry Latimer
 1940-M. Earle Adams
 1941-Fred Kinley *Father of Scouts*
 1942-Charles Comstock
 1943-Finnly Frisch
 1944-Neil Parsons
 1945-Byron Gibbs *May Club*
 1946-Louis Schwab
 1947-Earl Osborn
 1948-Ernest Frandsen *25th*
 1949-Walter Wright *White Elephant*
 1950-Al Huddart *White Elephant*
 1951-James Clarke *White Elephant*
 1952-Tom Ludcke *White Elephant*
 1952-Fred Martin
 1953-Waldo Iversen *Scouts*
 1954-Relzy Aikin
 1955-Charles Campbell *mail box*
 1956-Ted Kellogg *FFA*
 1957-Edward Neilson
 1958-Lenard Boyd
 1959-Robert Allen

1960-Robert Malone
 1961-Garrett Rosenberg
 1962-Thomas Beahm
 1963-Elmer Christensen
 -1964-Ernest Biasotti *Fruit - Pancake*
 1965-Francis Passalacqua
 1966-Kenneth Gonsalves
 1967-Jerry Miller
 1968-Jerry Hodges
 1969-Edward Langhart
 1970-Bill Kassin
 1971-Bruno Rodella *White Hat - Big Gifts*
 1972-Elmer Sandborn *Book*
 -1973-Lloyd Decker *50 -*
 1974-Francis Branern
 1975-Edward Burke
 1976-Roger Christenson
 1977-Kenneth Hampton
 1978-Jack Butler
 1979-Bruno Rodella *2 Lemons*
 1980-Robert Young
 1981-Edgar Deas *White Antlers*
 1982-Richard Saxton
 1983-Glen Davis
 1984-James Gentry
 1985-Orin Bain
 1986-Ray Blatt
 1987-Joe Coppa
 1988-Phil Rice
 1989-Fred Besio
 1990-Ben Collins
 1991-Richard Lehrmann
 1992-Jack Brandt