Club Welcomes another New Member

The club welcomed new member Lieutenant Joseph Alvarez at his induction during the December 10 meeting. Lt. Joe has headed the Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center at Lytton Springs for about a year and a half, serving as both pastor and manager. Joe is very dedicated to the continued cooperation of the ARC with the community including the special relationship with Healdsburg Kiwanis.

Another Successful Year for Christmas Tree Lot Sales

The closing of the Healdsburg Kiwanis Christmas Tree lot on December 20 marked the conclusion of another successful season for tree sales. All but about 20 trees out of the total inventory of about 1400 were sold and the lot closed before the weekend before Christmas due to the lack of good quality trees to sell. Gross sales for the season were approximately $92,000 and the net proceeds, pending receipt of final invoices for expenses, are expected to be in the $35,000 to $38,000 range.

The success of the tree lot is because of the many hours of hard work by members of the tree lot committee including Ken Scharer, Chair, Roger Dormire, Guy French, Jerry Strong, Bob Taylor, Brian Wells, Rick Norman, Dee Whitehall, Rich Thomas, LeRoy Steck, Jim Schmidt, Denny Stead, Michael Laird, Mark Zimmerman, Richard Yates, Chase Conley, Debi Dobley, Ron Puccioni, Steve Jones and Dorothy Colloran, as well as all able bodied club members who staffed the lot every day. Special thanks to members of the Cloverdale Club who staffed the lot on one of the busiest days of the season and the Salvation Army men who worked the lot every weekend.

Photos on page 2
The President’s Message

Happy New Year!

The New Year offers us a time for renewal, a chance to reassess and make plans to set 2014 up to be our best year yet. As we set our personal resolutions, our Healdsburg Kiwanis Club is looking to improve itself as well.

In general, Kiwanis Clubs try to serve children and youth using two approaches. One attempts to improve their quality of life directly through activities that promote health and education and the other tries to encourage leadership and service among youth through Key and Builder’s Clubs. With the monies we raise, we are able to serve the youth of our community in many direct and creative ways.

So as we look into the New Year, what new service projects can we do to make a difference in our communities? Are there other changes to how our organization runs that can improve our effectiveness? Are we missing groups or opportunities to make a difference?

I invite everyone to share any ideas, big or small, for helping us develop into the best Kiwanis Club we can be this year. Do you see a need at one of our schools? Do you know of a service group that needs a hand with a new project they are working on? Even if you only have a seed of an idea, share it and together we can make it blossom! Share you idea with me and let’s see what can happen.

President Dick Bugarske
Board of Directors Action  
No Board of Directors meeting was held in December 2013. The following grant requests were tabled during the November meeting and are pending Board Action in January  
- Boys & Girls Club - $5,542 for Lunch Tables.  
- Healdsburg Junior High - $10,000 for Chromebooks and Cart.  
- Healdsburg High - $8,500 Internship Program Matching  
- Healdsburg Food Pantry- $2,000  
- Kid Scoop News - $1,000.

December Programs  
Gary Plass and Margie Pettus, City of Healdsburg

City councilman Gary Plass and City Manager Margie Pettus discussed the "state of the city" during our December 3 meeting.  

Accomplishments for the past year include passage of Measure B for a ½ cent sales tax for 10 years, improving revenue, completion of streetscape improvements, finalizing the Foss Creek School property purchase, and finalizing the Animal Shelter Contract.  

Upcoming accomplishments include the Healdsburg Ridge transfer and the start of Memorial Bridge repairs in the spring of 2014.  

The City Council has embarked on a strategic planning process that will serve as a guide on a pathway to long term sustainability. The objective is to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats that will lead to plans for the future. Input and feedback is sought from all stakeholders which includes the community at large – businesses and residents, community affiliates such as the Chamber of Commerce and the Planning Commission, the Hispanic Community, and city employees. Some of the issues to be explored include the need for resident vs. tourist balance, diversification and affordable housing. A number of management and planning sessions have been held with the next scheduled for January 21, 2014.  

Chris Phipps- Dir., Solar Finance, Soligent

Chris Phipps is a consultant, teacher and salesman for the solar industry. His topic at the December 10 meeting was "New Solar Energy Economics – The Straight Skinny".  

Installing a solar energy system can eliminate or significantly reduce monthly electric utility bills. Chris gave the following example of the economics of the purchase of a residential solar energy system:  

- Initial cost $23,750  
- Tax Credit -6141  
- Rebate -3280 (Healdsburg)  
- 1st Year Savings -1261  
- 1st Year out of Pocket $13,061

This scenario has a payback period of 9 years. The 25 year cumulative savings are about $66,000 for a 13% return on investment.  

Most homes with current electric bills greater than $125 per month could benefit economically with solar power installation. Other benefits include increasing property values and helping fight global warming by reducing CO2 emissions.  

Santa Claus  
The December 17 meeting was the annual Christmas luncheon. Patti and Friends provide a delicious prime rib lunch that was enjoyed by all of the 74 members and guests in attendance.  

Last year it was decided that instead of the traditional gift exchange it would be more in keeping with Kiwanis principles for attendees to bring nonperishable food items for the food pantry or unwrapped toys for "Toys for Tots". This new tradition was continued this year with attendees bringing food items or checks for the Healdsburg Food Pantry or winter coats or other warm clothing for the shared ministries.  

The featured speaker for the day was Santa Claus himself, alias Dennis Stead. Santa read letters from several members who claimed to have been especially good and deserving of the gifts they were requesting from Santa. Santa had a full bag and distributed gifts to a number of the deserving members. The photos in the following pages show some of the victims with their gifts.  

Following the luncheon, Carl Elze led a number of members and guests in caroling at Healdsburg Senior Living on Grove Street.  

Photo by Sue Sheehy
Loretta Strong Recognized by Eliminate Project

President Dick Bugarske Presents Recognition Award and Certificate to Past President Loretta Strong

Past President Loretta Strong has been recognized by the Eliminate Project and Kiwanis International for her contributions for the Eliminate Project. The certificate reads:

“Your generous contribution is helping The Eliminate Project to rid the world of maternal and neonatal tetanus. With this gift you will save or protect more than 690 mothers and their future babies. Thank you for helping Kiwanis change the world.”

The more than 690 mothers and future babies protected are due to Loretta’s contribution of her president’s charity fund to the Eliminate Project.

Cloverdale Kiwanis Crab Feed

Healdsburg Group Enjoys the Cloverdale Crab Feed

About 40 Healdsburg Kiwanis members, spouses and guests attended the annual Cloverdale Kiwanis crab feed on December 14. This event is the Cloverdale Club’s major fundraiser and usually a near sellout of the 375 seats available. The expected net is about $14,000 to $18,000.

Remembering Joe Engler – Engler’s Black Lagoon

Joe Engler Memorial at the Windsor Golf Course

“Sometime in the middle of the year 2013 our friend JOE ENGLER, while marshalling drove his golf cart into this pond. Not once but TWICE. You had to love him.”

Happy/Sad

Roger Dormire sad that Denny Stead outlasted him while moving a pile of rocks at the tree lot.

Denny Stead sad to have recently lost a friend

Phil Luks (and many others) happy for the help of the Salvation Army ARC men at the tree lot.

Gary Plass happy to again serve as executive chef at the Senior Appreciation Dinner.

Jim Silveira happy that remodeling is completed. Also a happy $50 for Patti Robarts and Sharon Gallagher volunteering to decorate the show room Christmas tree.

Kurt Hahn happy for the successful repair of his carotid artery at Stanford Hospital.

Susan Sheehy happy for granddaughter Lily’s first step.
If I can’t build it, fix it or mow it, it must not be important
The House Committee Band and Choir Performs

A Fishing Shirt for Hunt

A Putter for Jan’s Short Putts

A Whole New Look for Dennis Gary

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TO: