Healdsburg Kiwanis Welcomes Anne Hilow

New member Anne Hilow, with her sponsor Anita Kratka, (left), President Loretta Strong

Sponsored by her friend Anita Kratka, Anne Hilow was inducted into our club during the December 14 meeting. Anne has recently retired from Alexander Health Care and is an artist. When asked why she wanted to join Kiwanis, she said that she was impressed the six Kiwanis objectives and that every member she met during her visits demonstrated dedication to those objectives. Being a member will “bring richness to my life.” Welcome Anne!

Annual Christmas Celebration

About 65 members and guests attended our annual Christmas celebration on Tuesday, Dec. 18th. Patti prepared a special Christmas meal including a choice of Beef Brisket, Salmon or Cornish Game Hen plus appetizers, asparagus, salad, rolls, red cabbage, mashed potatoes and wild rice. Liz Bippart topped off the feast with Baked Alaska.

Following the meal, Santa appeared for his annual visit. He had a bag full of gifts for members deserving to be embarrassed.

Photos of the victims with their gifts are shown on pages 5 and 6.

Calendar

Meeting Dates:

Jan 2: No Meeting.
Jan 8: Regular Meeting at 12 noon at Villa Annex. –
Jan 15: Regular Meeting at 12 noon at Villa Annex. - Jade Weymouth-Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Sonoma County
Jan 17: Board of Directors meeting, 5:30 p.m. Round Table Pizza.
Jan 22: Regular Meeting at 12 noon at Villa Annex. –

Save the Date

Mar 2, 2019: Cal-Nev-Ha Kiwanis District’s 100th Anniversary, Mid-Year Conference North. Flamingo Hotel, Santa Rosa.

The Healdsburg Kiwanis Club meets Tuesday noon at the Villa Chanticleer Annex 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 Loretta Strong, Co-President at 431-8052 or Liz Bippart, secretary at 227-4314.
The President’s Message

Happy 96th New Year!

Our Healdsburg Kiwanis history is rich with great stories, exceptional leaders and remarkable generosity. Serving our local children and beyond remains our guiding principle and building a foundation for that endeavor continues to unfold with the creation of our own, more fully developing, non-profit status. More about that as we move into the new year.

This year Loretta Strong, Jan Gianni, Susan Sheehy and I are sharing the leadership and for Jan-March, it is my turn. I want to share an excerpt from October/November Kiwanis Magazine by our Kiwanis International President Poly Lat.

“Now more than ever, we’re called to serve, because kids need Kiwanis. From a helping hand to one child, to signature projects that affect many, we are at our best when we create opportunities for children and their communities. We are all challenged to become change agents, to think innovatively and expand the impact we have. The mission of Kiwanis leaves a positive touch around the world…..Kiwanis brings out the best in people. Our global achievements to our clubs’ service projects give us a sense of pride. Use that pride to keep Kiwanis growing and prospering by inviting others to join our efforts…..Do you know the difference between a rich child and a poor child? It is described in one word: opportunity. Poor children do not have opportunity for healthy food, good education, adequate health care and strong family support. Kiwanis bridges that gap and provides opportunity to all children. Together, let’s continue to make a difference!”

Healdsburg Kiwanis has, does and will make a difference to the youth of Healdsburg and I feel very fortunate to be a part of such a strong, positive, welcoming, and vital Club.

Dick

Vi Santucci

Vi Santucci, wife and mother of fellow Kiwanians Arnold and Bob, passed away on December 23, having reached the 100-year landmark earlier in December. Vi was a Wisconsin dairy farm girl, became a school teacher and taught for a number of years in Windsor. She and Arnold were married for 68 years.

Vi Santucci
1918-2018
Board of Directors Meeting

No regular Board meeting was held in December 2018. A special Board meeting was held following the December 18 meeting to address issues relating to the Healdsburg Kiwanis Foundation, our club’s new 501c3 non-profit.

Meeting Programs

Dec 4: Jamie Escoubas - Day Respite Program Manager, Council on Aging

In a very informative presentation, Jamie Escoubas described the many programs provided by the COA, focusing on the Adult Day Respite Program. Services are offered in 5 domains: social, legal and financial services, nutrition and health; 18 programs in all.

The Adult Day Respite Program benefits participants in many ways:
- Promotes physical, mental and emotional well-being.
- Provides a sense of purpose to feel needed.
- Offers a comfortable, familiar place for social connections
- Encourages success by accommodating varying skill levels.
- Combats depression and isolation.
- Establishes a routine to minimize anxiety and confusion.

The program also benefits caregivers by giving them relief to recharge, reduces feelings of guilt and provides peace of mind.

Dec. 11: Admin. Fund Update

Administrative Treasurer Dick Bugarske updated us on the state of the Admin. Fund during the December 11 meeting. The fund has been limping along trying to stay afloat in recent years. Over the last three years expenses have exceeded income by about $4000 to $5000. Major income comes from dues and the Brandt’s Beach BBQ, supplemented by happy/sad dollars, lotto and meals paid for at the door. Expenses are Kiwanis International dues and administration, caterer, Lt. Governor expenses and Villa Annex rent.

Dick has performed a detailed analysis of the fund performance since 2009 resulting in the following observations:
- Three meetings a year are not covered by the $120 quarterly dues, (4 months with 5 Tuesdays minus first January meeting.)
- With a larger percentage of members paying $60 a quarter, dues income has dropped.
- Brandt’s Beach BBQ, lotto and Hall of Fame provide variable funding which in aggregate has not increased.
- Starting this year Catered by Patti has reduced lunch costs by approx. $3,000 per year.
- In 2015 KI increased dues and insurance by $11 per member per year, close to $3,000 so far.
- If dues were increased by a COL of 2% per year for the past 10 years, our dues would be $70 and $140 per quarter.
- Our club was informed that rent for the Annex is increasing $10 per meeting starting in January 2019 - $500 per year.

According to Kiwanis International By-Laws, “A club’s operating expenses are not borne alone by the club’s board of directors. The primary source of income for the club’s administrative account is derived from the annual club dues and the membership fees from new members. No monies from fund-raising in which the public participates may be used for club administration.”

With a commitment of our club to be self-sufficient, the Board has voted to consider raising our quarterly dues from $60 to $65 and $120 to $130 starting in 2019. This will be the first dues adjustment since 2009.

First Book Project dictionaries distributed to third graders

The Healdsburg Kiwanis First Book Project for 2018 was completed in December after a delay because of temporary school closure caused by the wild fires and smoky conditions. A total of 190
dictionaries were given to every third grader in Fitch Mountain Elementary, St. Johns, Alexander Valley, West Side and Healdsburg School. This marks the 18th year of the program with over 3400 dictionaries distributed since the program’s inception. The dictionaries were obtained from Costco at a significant discount ($14.50 vs. $25.00 list price). The total cost to the project fund, including sales tax, was $3093. Here are some photographs of the Fitch Mountain third graders with their dictionaries.

**A typical dictionary page**

**Interclubs**

**San Francisco** - 98th annual holiday luncheon at the Fairmont Hotel

**Retired Educator Guy French enjoys passing out the dictionaries**

**Kiwanians enjoying lunch in the Crown Room**

**Project Chair Denny Stead talks to the children and answers questions**

**Checking out their dictionaries**

**Darlene Prigmore, Diane Pierce, Barbara Erickson Susan Sheehy**
Christmas Caroling at Healdsburg Senior Living

Kiwanians in the Silent halls of Healdsburg Senior Living where it got a little noisy with everyone singing along!

Santa’s Visit

The victims with Santa’s Gifts

- Rowdy Yates shown substituting for Rick Wood wearing Rick’s 1st chef’s apron.
- Liza Bippart, head party giver with party mistress hat.
- Patti Robarts - a tee shirt to settle the short people controversy.
- Jordy Strong – a blue hat.
- Terry Kemp – extra-large shirt for the queen bee.
- Jerry Strong - a new song leader’s hat
- Susan Sheehy, one of Santa’s helpers

Jerry Strong with Santa’s Helpers Cindi Brown and Susan Sheehy

Lock Gilles with a hi tech assistant Anna Grant – What was I thinking?

Patti Robarts with Rowdy Yates substituting for Rick Wood
$$ Happy/Sad $$

Dick Bugarske happy for the 70th year of REIBT.

Roger Dormire happy to thank the Cloverdale club for the great crab feed.

Bob Santucci happy to celebrate his mon’s 100th birthday.

Judy Everett happy that her Santa collection is on display for the season at the Healdsburg Museum. Happy that the museum staff and volunteers helped put up the full display of about 1800 Santa’s in 3 days.

Special Birthdays

Anna Grant requested a special birthday song from all the men – with pizzazz!

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