38th Annual Fitch Mountain Foot Race a great success

A record 363 runners finished the 10k and 3k courses of the 38th annual Fitch Mountain Footrace held on Sunday June 19. The event went off very well thanks to the effort of event chair Vern Losh, the event committee members, the many club members needed to monitor each intersection along the race course and Boy Scout Troop 21 members who manned the water stations.

Others that made this another successful year were our sponsors participating at the $250 or $500 level, Healdsburg Running Company, Tri-Star Automotive, Newton Running, Dutcher Crossing Winery, Charles F. Reichel-CPA, Bob's Signs, Silveira Buick GMC, Healdsburg Floor Coverings, Raymond James-Loretta Petersen Strong Financial Services, Passalacqua, Mazzoni, Gladden, Lopez & Maraviglia LLP, Robert Young Estate Winery, Camellia Inn, Brandt Insurance, and Fas-Med.

The fastest racer was Callan Deline visiting from Vail Colorado who only learned of the race the day before.

The net proceeds are not yet available. All proceeds will go to the Scholarship Fund.

The runners are ready

Calendar

Meeting Dates:

Jul 5: Regular Meeting 12 noon at Villa Annex.


Jul 19: Regular Meeting at 12 noon at Villa Annex. Aleena Decker-Using Social Media

Jul 21: Board of Directors meeting, 6 p.m. Round Table Pizza.

Jul 26: Evening Meeting at Villa Annex 6:00-8:00 p.m. Soroptimist International of Healdsburg

Save the Date:

Aug. 27: Brandt's Beach BBQ.

Sep. 14: Golf Tournament

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 Dan or Jan Gianni, Co-Presidents at 836-1615, or 431-1650, 536-8286 (cells) or Phil Luks, secretary at 433-8055

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

Independence Day

Freedom has its price, in the hearts, in actions, the spirit of men and women. It must be fully captured and retained like a flower or a flame in the giving ones, it will wither and die.

~Dwight D. Eisenhower
The President’s Message

The 2016 Fitch Mountain Footrace is another great example of Kiwanis teamwork. First we couldn’t have done this without Vern’s leadership. Vern Losh grabbed the baton and ran with it to the finish line. Along the way those who had run the race before jumped in too. We added over 360 runners who finished the race making it the biggest turnout we have had to date. Kids as young as two years old ran with their dads on Father’s Day and there were some very proud papas in the race. This is a FUNdraiser that says everything about who we are as Kiwanians. We do it for the kids and with the kids. Let’s find more FUNdraisers like this!

We were introduced to our new Healdsburg Fire Chief Jason Boaz and he is interested in joining the club. With Vern, Bob and Randy in the house we will have one of the safest meetings in town.

Shonnie Brown encouraged us to write our stories. Maybe I should get each of you to bring a story from your life that would encourage the rest of us. I’d like to hear them so start thinking about what you’d like to share in a one-minute memoir.

We singled out Vince Ciolino’s son Paolo for outstanding service when he volunteered at the FFA Fair booth. There’s a Kiwanian in the making! The apple doesn’t fall far from the tree.

We were treated to a delicious salad bar and BBQ at the Salvation Army Lytton Springs Headquarters. Congratulations to Captain Joe Alvarez on his promotion, but sadly that means he will be moving with his family to Stockton. We look forward to continuing our close relationship with the new replacement.

Hugo Bauer is at the Healdsburg Senior Living on Grove Street and could sure use a friendly visit while he recuperates. It’s best to visit afternoons.

Next on the list is Brandt’s Beach BBQ August 27th. Let’s help Denny put together some great auction items.

Susan

President Susan Sheehy presents a check to HES 4th grade teacher, Lisa Phipps for 3 classroom subscriptions to Kid Scoop News

Most of the time the kids take the newspaper home, but today they were using it in the classroom. The kids say they really like it.
Board of Directors Meeting

Summarized from minutes by Liz Bippart

The following is a summary of actions taken and items discussed during the Board meeting for June 2016:

Grant requests and expenditures

- American Legion 28th annual July 4th fireworks - $1,000.
- Healdsburg Junior High Wrestling Club - $2500 toward the purchase of a $15,000 wrestling mat.
- Cloverdale Ponytail Girls Softball League - $300 to cover various expenses.
- Susan Sheehy - $75 reimbursement for gift certificate purchased for Vern Losh to thank him for his fine work organizing the Fitch Mountain Foot Race.

Treasurer’s Reports

- Project Treasurer Ron Dobley reported that the Project Fund currently contains just over $47,000 and includes approximately $10,000 of proceeds from the FFA Fair. The Pancake Breakfast has currently netted $10,662.

Other discussion and action

- Chuck Reichel’s request to change his membership to Senior Status was approved.
- #IAMKIWANIS t-shirts educate our community of the link between Key Club and Kiwanis. Members will have the opportunity to purchase shirts at a meeting in the future. A maximum purchase of 25 t-shirts for Key Club members was approved.
- Vern Losh reported 363 runners/walkers participated in this year’s successful event. Our entry fee is below the local average and discussion included the consideration of increasing the fee for next year’s event. The expense for automatic timing chips is $2,000. Vern will apply for Sunday, June 11th for next year’s race. Ron Dobley will update the race website to facilitate ease of use.

Meeting Programs

June 7: Jason Boaz - Healdsburg Fire Dept.

Jason Boaz, our guest speaker on June 7 was sworn in as the new Healdsburg Fire Chief on June 6. Jason joined the department in 1997 as a reserve firefighter. After a 2-year period with the Boise Idaho Fire Department, he returned to Healdsburg in 2002, and has advanced through the ranks.

The Healdsburg Fire Department, established in 1858, is responsible for protecting the life, environment, and property of its citizens and community from the dangers of fire and hazardous materials incidents and by providing emergency first aid response to medical emergencies.

The organization is comprised of 13 paid personnel and 22 Reserve Firefighters, providing emergency services to the City of Healdsburg, including the areas of Fitch Mountain and the lower Dry Creek Valley. Paid personnel include:

- The Fire Chief
- 1 Division Chief / Fire Marshal
- 3 Captains
- 3 Engineers
- 1 Fire Engineer / Fire Inspector
- 1 Office Assistant
- 2 Firefighters
- 22 Reserve Firefighters

The Department is currently developing the design of a new fire substation to be located on Healdsburg Avenue at Passalacqua Road. The $1.75 million project is financed by the Saggio Hills Project developer.

Jason has expressed interest in joining our club.

About $250 was raised for the Key Club at a bake sale auction at the June 7 meeting.

Jun 14: Shonnie Brown, Professional Writer.

Shonnie Brown is a story gatherer – everyone has a story and others care. Her passion is collecting personal and family memoirs and local winery histories.

“I love listening to people's stories which are always new and fascinating to me. I love working with my interview notes to put the pieces of the puzzle together into a cohesive and enjoyable narrative that interests people. I love the detailed fine tuning of editing over and over to produce just the result my client is looking for. And I love ending
up with that tangible finished product that brings joy to others.”

Shonnie related several fun stories from her interviews with local people. One was about our late member and friend Clarence Ruonavaara who lived near Shonnie’s home and would pass it on his daily walks around the neighborhood. Upon getting acquainted with Shonnie, he learned that for financial reasons, she had canceled her subscription to the Press Democrat. Everyday thereafter, after Clarence had read his paper, he would leave it on Shonnie’s porch during his walk. On the day of Clarence’s death, his good friend and neighbor Bobby Platt brought the paper with the sad news. Since then Bobby has brought the paper every day—a tribute to Clarence’s memory.

Shonnie’s recently published book: Healdsburg’s Immigrants: An Anthology of 24 Local Histories contains 24 unique and compelling stories as told by immigrants living in Healdsburg and Geyserville. The people come from all walks of life and from the Americas, Europe, Asia and the Middle East. They tell first person accounts (or their parents' stories) of some of the 20th century’s most impactful events.

Paolo Ciolino

Paolo Ciolino visited the June 14 meeting with his dad, Vince and was recognized for his much appreciated help at the FFA food trailer. Many of our members are hearing or attention deficit challenged and were slow in responding to the orders shouted out by the sellers up front. Paolo cheerfully and enthusiastically solved this difficulty.

Jun 21: Meeting at Salvation Army, Lytton ARC.

About 35 members were in attendance at the June 21 meeting hosted by the Salvation Army ARC. The Salvation Army’s newly promoted Captain Jose Alvarez mentioned that he and Captain Joni Alvarez and family have been transferred to Stockton ARC where they will be administering in their new assignment. Captain Joe spoke about the Joe Engler barbeque that was recognized as a memorial to a great Kiwanian and Advisory Council member. He acknowledged Kathy Engler who attended as George Clough’s guest.

Steve W, a beneficiary gave a testimonial about his life and his plans to become a Salvation Army officer hoping to go to training school in the future.

Veronica Velez spoke about how Officers are heavily dependent upon their advisory council members for guidance and support. The responsibilities that commanding Officers are required to assume can be beyond their capability to manage. An Advisory council is there to assist the Officers with so many different levels of the operations at a center. Referencing Joe Engler who was a fine Advisory Council member.

Jun 28: Evening Meeting 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Having no speaker available for the June evening meeting, a fun night of “Member Bingo” was enjoyed by attending members. Instead of the traditional B-I-N-G-O numbers, the cards contained names of club members. Instead of calling numbers, photos of members were flashed on the screen and identified. Following each BINGO!, there was a confusing exchange of prizes and everyone took home a prize, a few of actual value or usefulness.

Interclubs

Dee Whitehall, Susan Sheehy, Patti Robarts and Denny Stead were joined by members of the Windsor, Cloverdale and Ukiah clubs for the June 13 interclub visit to Willits. Willits is a small club with a membership of only 7—a dedicated enthusiastic group.
The interclub meeting at Willits on June 13

John Bippart big lotto winner

John finds the winning ticket out of the many he purchased

For at least the third time in recent memory, all nine black checkers were drawn from the bag, leaving only the red one, and an automatic winner at the next drawing. The jackpot was over $1000 which is shared 50/50 with the winner and the club. John donated half of his winnings the scholarship fund.

Special Birthdays

John Bippart chose the top hat and looked dashing as he picked a special group of 6 carolers to sing his birthday song. He mentioned that nothing in his family history says he should be living this long but had he known he would be living so long he would have taken better care of himself.

Richard Thomas returning after 3 weeks away asked for a special birthday having Denny kneel and sing the birthday song.

A special birthday song requested by Roger Dormire. The female club presidents, past and present, sing in the style of the Lennon Sisters. Are they old enough to remember?

$$Happy/Sad$$

Guy French happy that John Bippart won the lotto jackpot and donated half of his winnings to the scholarship fund.

Marty Silgy, a happy $5 to see Richard Yates back.

Judy Everett happy to prevail as the defendant in a law suit after 3 days of nonsense in an LA courtroom.

Tom Racherby happy for his 24th Kiwanis anniversary.

Vern Losh happy for vacation tour of a number of western states and his 38th anniversary.

Judy Everett a happy dollar for the joy of a 2-year-old boy running the race.

Jason Boaz happy his son competed in the race.

George Clough happy to honor Joe Engler and his great work and appreciation for the barbeque.

Rich Thomas happy for the fun “Member Bingo” night.

Bob Santucci happy to have daughter Zoe home for the summer.
More Fitch Mountain Footrace Photos