



January 11, 2018

Assemblyman Statham Visits Our Club

Before the meeting we were entertained by the Foothill High School Club Cougar Jazz Band. They were great. See next page for more information.



Club Cougar Jazz Band from Foothill High School

President Richard introduced **PP Steve Westlake** who got things rolling. **Steve Williams** led the pledge and **Mike Mangas** did the invocation. We were off and running.

Announcements: **PP and District Governor Designate Amelia Ward** announced that I-House visit is just around the corner. The scholars will be here from March 24-29th. This is a great project and worthy of your participation. Plan to host a scholar. You will be amazed at what a good experience it is. Contact **Amelia** to sign up or for more information.

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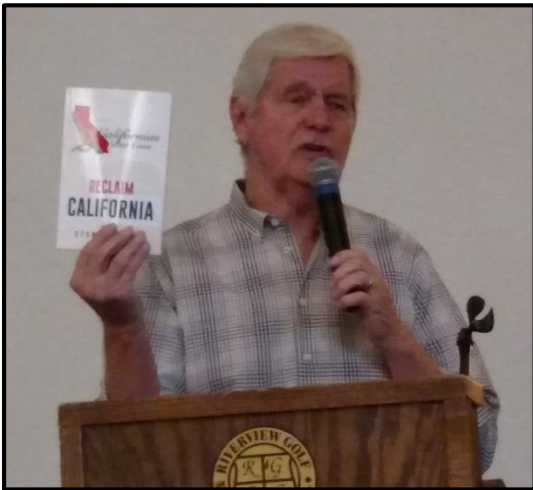
For eight nights every February, the Drama, Band and Choir Directors re-create a 1930's night club, *The Club Cougar*. A magical night of Big Band music, dancing, drama and dinner. A fabulous four course meal is served. Your ticket supports the award winning band, drama and vocal departments of Foothill High School.

Recognitions: **Mike Mangas** just returned from San Francisco where he met with other Communication Directors for Dignity Health. Although **Mike** said it was all work, he contributed \$100 to the club. Thanks **Mike**.

Courtney McElvain went to Cabo for some R&R. **Adam** went fishing, she got some beach time. Good time for all and \$100 to the club. Thanks, **Courtney**.

PP District Governor Lou Gerard paid \$100 for some reason I didn't hear. Could have been for just being **Lou**. Thanks **Lou**.

Program: Former Assemblyman Stan Statham was our speaker today. **Assemblyman Statham**



was born in Chico and served in the California Assembly from 1976 to 1994. He worked for, and was known as a champion of, the rights of Northern Californians. He recounted many of his experiences working in the legislature and with many well-known California politicians such as **Willie Brown** and **Jesse Unruh**. It was interesting to hear of his experiences and inside stories.

He has also authored a book called **Reclaim California** citing a nostalgic view of California as it was before it became so heavily populated. He writes about his personal attempt to accomplish three smaller "Californias", while he served in California's Assembly from 1976 to 1994.

Former Assemblyman Stan Statham

That is among the reasons the then-powerful Speaker of the Assembly **Willie Brown** has written the foreword to this

informative manuscript.

Thank you, **Assemblyman Statham** for a very interesting program.

Stream Team Update: The following is an account of one of the many cleanup and restoration projects that **Rotarian Randy Smith** has done. He has the ability to attract and organize habitat restoration projects that open up the accesses to the Sacramento River that haven't been available for decades.



One of the many slash piles burning

Lower Diestelhorst Open Space Project:

Bethel Miracle #65 today in the rain along the River at Lower Diestelhorst Open Space left me speechless and unable to adequately thank those responsible. May be you can find words to express appreciation to **Keith Alvord**, **Carl Ladd**, **Ainsley Jackson** and her female leadership team including my new best friend, **Eva**, from the Czech Republic. I do not even know which Group Leader was responsible for today's very mature and incredibly dedicated, hardworking students.

Problem was after two days of this labor on the same ground under the same dripping wet conditions, I was perhaps half there at best today. **Officer Linn**, **Francis Berg** and this group of forty

accomplished so much that precise summary cannot be rendered. Eight enormous fires burned so many preexisting slash piles that the count was lost, but surely more than thirty-five. Seasoned firewood was hauled to the gravel road and evacuated, much of it taken before the project ended. A mixed gender team of six hedge trimmers that I never met or acknowledged finished the hacking of residual Himalayan blackberry along the River from Benton Bridge to the Ghost Trees. Even people familiar with the improvement after Community Creek Clean Up in October will not believe the lovely vistas revealed today, not seen in half a century. A large contingent of mostly distaff volunteers stayed to help put out giant fires, which were still burning and very hot after an hour while debriefing and tool pick up were occurring.

Each group is unique as are the circumstances and labor, but I will remember today for the following vignettes: **Francis** and a male student rolling dead VW size blackberry balls toward the fire; **Ainsley's** red headed assistant going from group to group inquiring if anyone needed help, suggesting better practice, offering encouragement, working so hard to keep things even between the groups; teams of workers hauling slash on heavy Visqueen across the forest floor; listening to the banter of those working; no singing this day in a steady downpour at the end, just lots of joking and teasing, making light fun of people with Midwest accents like we all did and my grandchildren still do of me before the politically correct darkness, wonderful; seeing the River for the first time as I left the site.

Thank you for this gift to Redding, for making possible a recovery, a barn raising feeling of accomplishment, which without your people would never have occurred.

The following is a list of projects completed or planned to help with the restoration of the Sacramento River accesses.

Allied Stream Team Project List 2017-2018

- 1) Recovery of 80-acre City of Redding Lower Diestelhorst Open Space. Activity for which RCR was lead and responsible occurred in cooperation with Anderson Cottonwood Irrigation District, California Department of Forestry and Fire Prevention/California Department of Corrections (Sugar Pine), Redding Fire Department, City of Redding Parks Department, City Projects. March 2017-March 2018, 19 days
- 2) Section Five (of five) Leadership, Design, staffing 12th Annual Community Creek Clean Up 7 Oct 17
- 3) City Projects-Selection, Planning, Supervision of 10-day long work sessions with sixty international Bethel students, five Locations-Oct 2017-Mar 2018
- 4) Tenth Annual Wood Duck Nest Box Project in partnership with California Heritage YouthBuild Academy nine new replacement boxes were installed in flood damaged areas as well as annual inspection and replenishment to the existing field from Redding to Anderson, Dec. 2017 and Jan. 2018. 11 days
- 5) Herbicide application (CDFW 1602 Permit) to non-native vegetation of North Sacramento River Trail, South Sacramento River Trail, Lower Diestelhorst Open Space, Riverland Open Space, River Bend Open Space, and Henderson Open Space, July 2017- present, 27 days
- 6) Assistance and collaboration with Shasta Support Service and other community groups in litter abatement from illegal camping, 6 days
- 7) Day long slash burning with RPD CSO Robert Brannon and Shasta County Work Release people, Nov.2017 through March 2018. 8 days

8) Creation, Purchase of 14 pounds of seed, Installation and Maintenance of more than fifty California poppy beds in public areas of the greater Redding area. Oct.-Dec. 2017, 7 days

Editor's note: **Randy Smith** has been the motivating force for years to help rid the Sacramento River banks and trails of blackberry bushes, Arundo, and other nonnative intruders. When you visit the River Trail and other areas, give some thanks to **Randy** and his tireless crews for the beauty you are enjoying.

Calendar	
Jan 18	Michael Czehatowski -- Tai Chi Meditation Garden
Jan 25	California Highway Patrol Volunteer Program – Tom Stovall
Feb 1	Internet Safety – Sarah Murphy from DA's office
Feb 8	Doug McMullin, MD
Feb 15	EDC Tony Giovaniello
Feb 22	Judge Steve Baker

Day Editor and Publisher Dave Dennis



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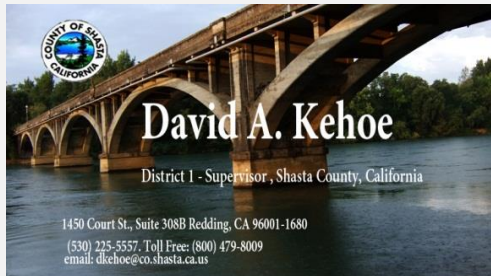


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