



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF ST. HELENA AND CALISTOGA

# The History of Our Club

**1989**

- Vera Trinchero Torres donated \$10,000 to help establish the first Boys & Girls Club in St. Helena, chartering it as part of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America system.
- A Board of Directors is formed. Lynne Hall is the first staff member.
- First summer program occurs on ground of St. Helena Catholic School with approximately 50 children.
- Club begins after-school programs in the fall, operating out of the St. Helena Elementary School cafeteria and grounds and total membership expands to 200.

**1990**

- St. Helena Club is incorporated as not-for-profit organization on November 21, 1990 which becomes the Club's official anniversary.

**1991**

- Membership tops the 300 mark.

**1992**

- Club moves back to Catholic School's newly constructed facilities establishing program office and permanent site for Games Room, recreation and summer programs.
- Fine Arts Program is established.
- Homework Club (after-school tutoring program) for Elementary school students is established.

**1993**

- The St. Helena Club is chartered by the Boys & Girls Clubs of America on October 27th, 1993.

**1994**

- Junior high school student Homework Club is established.

**1995**

- "Youth of the Year Awards" is initiated, recognizing Members monthly and at Annual Awards Ceremony.
- "Short Shooters" begins, teaching rules and skills and values of good sportsmanship and teamwork.

**1997**

- "Celebrating Girls!" program begins to meet needs of adolescent girls.
- Trent Yaconelli joins the Club.

**1998**

- KIDZNET computer lab plugs in and turns on in March, keeping up with new educational methods and Members' need and desire for additional learning facilities.

**1999**

- Club begins field-testing SMART MOVES Program, a comprehensive Youth Development program to help young people develop positive skills training.
- Junior Staff Program initiated.

**2000**

- Short Shooters program grows into two separate leagues: "Little Champs" for 1st and 2nd graders, and "Short Shooters" for 3rd and 4th graders.
- NetSmartz, a safe, Internet investigative program is incorporated and a new learning tool with project-centered curricula launched.
- Youth Diversion/Intervention Program begins, helping at-risk youth and minor first offenders.

## 1989-2000



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**2001**

- Boys & Girls Club of Calistoga opens its doors in November, as a school-based Club. 40 children sign up.
- The Calistoga Club was chartered officially by Boys & Girls Clubs of America on November 27, 2001.

**2003**

- St. Helena Club and the St. Helena School District begin designs for a Joint Use Youth Facility.
- Over 1,200 children participate in the Clubs' programs.

**2004**

- The Calistoga Teen Center is opened as a Boys & Girls Club program site at the City's Monhoff Center.

**2008**

- Following a successful capital campaign (2004-2008), the new 11,200 sf St. Helena Clubhouse facility is opened with a large community celebration.

**2012**

- Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Helena and Calistoga is nationally recognized in the top 20 percent of all Boys & Girls Clubs in the nine-state Boys & Girls Clubs of America Pacific Region for average daily attendance.
- Executive Director Frank Sottile retires and the Club's Board of Directors hires Jay Templeton to succeed Frank as Executive Director. Trent Yaconelli becomes Associate Executive Director.
- The Calistoga Teen Center becomes officially chartered by the Boys & Girls Clubs of America as our third chartered Unit on October 22, 2012.
- Total youth served reaches and exceeds 2,000 youth.
- The first annual "BIG Night" fundraiser takes place

**2013**

- The Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Helena and Calistoga reports to the Boys & Girls Clubs of America an official total youth served number of 2,005 children in 2012.
- The St. Helena Chamber of Commerce names BGCSHC "Nonprofit of the Year."
- The Calistoga Chamber of Commerce names BGCSHC "Nonprofit of the Year."
- After 24 years of service, Lynne Hall retires.

**2014**

- Awarded Nonprofit of the Year by Calistoga Chamber of Commerce.

**2015**

- For the first time in its history, the BGCSHC surpasses 3,000 total youth served.

**2016**

- St. Helena Art Director Kari Mari is recognized by BGCA as one of the 5 top art instructors in the Pacific Region. Her program receives national recognition.
- Three St. Helena members win National Fine Arts awards, and five members win Pacific Region Fine Arts awards.
- Awarded as Top Real Estate Projects in the North Bay Business Journal.

**2017**

- After 47 years as a Boys & Girls Club Professional, Jay Templeton retires.
- Trent Yaconelli is elected to the role of Executive Director following Jay's retirement.
- Following a successful capital campaign (2014-2016), the new 14,000 sf Calistoga Clubhouse facility is opened with a large community celebration.
- Boys & Girls Club of Howell Mountain opens its doors on October 2nd, as a school-based site.

**2018**

- The Howell Mountain School Site becomes officially chartered by Boys & Girls Clubs of America on Dec 20.
- The St. Helena Teen Center becomes officially chartered by Boys & Girls Clubs of America on December 4, 2018.
- Awarded for Nonprofit of the Year by the Calistoga Chamber of Commerce.
- Awarded Top Real Estate Projects in The North Bay Business Journal.

## 2001-2018



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**2020**

- Programs were rapidly adapted to provide critical support to Club families during the Napa Valley wildfires and the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Feed our Families Program was initiated by partnering with PRESS and provide food to our communities.
- Awarded for Nonprofit of the Year by the Calistoga Chamber of Commerce

**2021**

- Awarded Best Covid Winery Charity Event by the Bohemian Best of the North Bay
- Gives Award by North Bay Business Journal

**2024**

- Awarded nonprofit of the Year by the Calistoga Chamber of Commerce.
- BGCSHC served over 1,300 youth across six facilities and hosted two Teen Mental Health Retreats in Oregon.

**2025** →

**2020-**