



Sonora Lions Roar



Sonora Lions Club • Sonora, California USA

Volume XCI, Number 24

*“Sonora Lions, Serving the
Mother Lode since 1922”*

September 4th and 11th, 2013

QUOTE OF THE MONTH FROM YOUR PRESIDENT, Lion Pres. Diann Kaiser

*Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but
by the seeds you sow!*

BY ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

RECAP OF RIM FIRE EVACUATION CENTER

Lion ZC Wendy Dart

• As you all are aware, we, the Sonora Lions Club, spent a total of 16 days at the Mother Lode Fairgrounds providing meals for the displaced residents of the Rim Fire of Tuolumne County. We racked up some impressive statistics, but more importantly, we met and befriended some amazing folks during the course of these 2+ weeks. The



experience of providing meals for the evacuees, volunteers, firefighters and law enforcement officers has been one that we will not soon forget. The first day after the opening of the center, we asked the Red Cross what we could do to help and these simple words evolved into a huge undertaking never before encountered by a Lions club. We made mistakes I'm sure, but what we learned from all this is that the Lions Club is an outstanding organization that was able to take on a seemingly impossible task and turn it into a smoothly-functioning, well-oiled machine that hummed in harmony and produced, as some

recipients claimed, “cruise-quality” meals. The call for help was met immediately with a breathtaking response from our fellow Lions Club members, both from our own district as well as far beyond our district borders; from the southern edge of California up to close to the Oregon border. We had a total of 7 districts and 42 clubs represented. The Lions served a total of 6,334 meals and gave 3,257.5 hours of our lives to “serve” our community in this time of need. The evacuees, volunteers and firefighters alike, all expressed deep gratitude and appreciation for all our hard work and dedication to ensuring hot, hearty, and wholesome meals for all. A huge THANK YOU goes out to all those who helped on the front lines and behind the scenes. Every little bit helped and was appreciated. We are working on a special recognition for a few non-Lion volunteers who gave of themselves well above and beyond.

There is now a short video available for viewing on the LCIF website, featuring the Lions club and our work at the evacuation center during the Rim Fire. You can view it at the following link: <http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/news-and-events/lions-news-network/videos.php?id=che3>

GENERAL DISCUSSION

• At the September 4th meeting, there were 23 members present and several visitors. Present were fellow Lions Billy and Sue White from the West Berkeley Lions Club, Lion Richard Henne from Pleasant Hill Lions Club, and Lions Ed and Bonnie Barwick from Long Beach Downtown Lions Club, who were all volunteers alongside us down at the fairgrounds. Pres. Diann's son Loren and daughter-in-law, Lori, were also present. Guest speakers, Sarah Garcia and Terri Neher from “Big Dreams, Universally Accessible Parks and Playgrounds,” were present. Robert S. and Glenn G. were both late for the meeting and fined accordingly. The song and pledge were led by Bill D. and the prayer

was said by Tim. The Lions Welcome Song was led by Bob P. As it was Robert S.'s birthday, he was fined again and a rousing chorus of our "special" birthday song was performed for his benefit.

• At the September 11th meeting, there were 32 members present (most probably because of the Black Ball jackpot, although Doug said he wasn't aware of the jackpot amount, which also meant he hadn't been reading his newsletters...). Also present were several guests, including Lion Rey Garcia, his wife Gerta and his son Rey the 3rd, Lion Willie Hughes, and Shirley Jackson (to speak about the City of Hope) from the San Andreas 49er Club, and Paul B.'s son, Daniel was in attendance. Pres. Diann voluntarily paid a fine because she had inadvertently forgotten to celebrate Debra S.'s birthday the previous week. The Welcome Song was led by Bob P. and the special version of the Happy Birthday song was sung by all.

• **EXTRA, EXTRA!!! READ ALL ABOUT IT!!**

Lion Rey Garcia boldly approached the podium while Pres. Diann was paying her fine for not mentioning Debra's birthday and absconded with our Bell!!! A quorum of us will be headed up to the San Andreas 49er Club on Tuesday, September 24, 2013, to retrieve our bell and also get a formal visitation out of it. The nerve of some people.....



TAIL TWISTER TALES

The Secret Lion for the September 4th meeting was Cecil. Evidently everyone had greeted him appropriately.



For the September 11th meeting, the Secret Lion was Paul. He was able to zing several of our fellow Lions for not greeting him properly. Since the death of PDG Felix, Joe Skaff has graciously accepted the position of Tail Twister. Doug and his new wife, Sherri, were featured in the newspaper and Doug paid a fine accordingly, protesting that one does not wear "Lions pins" to one's wedding! Joe read an article

about communication...a valuable lesson for all to heed.

• **Happy Bucks** Frank M. had a Happy Buck, stating that Lynda was the first Lion to sell all of her tickets for the Lobster Dinner! Way to Go Lynda! Good Job! ~~ Frank C. mentioned that there was candy available for the candy machines and mints. ~~



Tom had a Happy Buck in that he is so proud to be a Lion and gives a big THANK YOU to all who supported us in the Rim Fire event. ~~ Bob P. had a Happy Buck, stating that his meds were being tweaked and he was not in pain...not very steady sometimes, but not in pain anymore. ~~ Visiting Lion Richard Henne had a Happy Buck, stating he was very happy to be at our meeting. ~~ Jim G. had a Happy Buck in that he was getting ready to purchase a new horse, a 5-year-old Paint. ~~ Lions Ed and Bonnie Barwick were happy to be here and that they had a safe trip so far. ~~ Wendy read a very touching letter that was forwarded from ID Larry Dicus from a volunteer who had helped us at the evacuation center. ~~ Dennis S. and his wife have returned from their visit to Oahu and Kauai. This completes their visitation to all the states in the U.S. ~~ Tom had a Happy Buck, stating that there will be an article about the Evacuation Center in the November issue of Lions International Magazine. ~~ Frank C. mentioned that his son was at Giants' Stadium buying his first beer. ~~ Joann P. related a story about Haley's Comet. ~~ Bill D. had a Happy Buck now that he was back from a great trip to Alaska with the SIRs group. ~~ Tim announced that the Philippine Lions club they visit will be twinning with us on October 25th.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

• **Sunshine Report** PDG Felix's service and Celebration of Life will be on September 14th, 10 a.m., at the Elk's Lodge in Sonora.

• **Meals on Wheels** Frank M. gave everyone an invitation to their open-house at the Senior Center.

• **H.E.L.P.** Rob S. has not rescheduled a new date for clean-up of the equipment. That will be announced at a later date.

- **Lions Park** The September 18th noon meeting will take place in the Sonora Lions park. The Pine Tree Restaurant will provide sack lunches. The cost is \$9 each. Rob R. has graciously volunteered to organize this event.

- **Highway Cleanup** The scheduled clean-up was postponed until a later date. Dennis S. will get back to us with a new date.

- **Candy/Mints** Frank C. reported that any monies collected from the candy machines/mints is to be given directly to Treas. Jack and just a note to himself of the total given and hours worked. Also, if you collect monies from



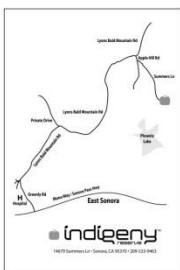
the candy machines, please place the coins in wrappers first.

- **Lobster Dinner** Help is still needed in collecting raffle prizes, decorating the hall, and setup and clean-up. To date, 42 tickets have been sold. A



master list of previous raffle donors was split up and various Lions will be contacting the different businesses to see if they can

help. Baskets are available if you wish to create your own gift basket. Mal will contact Summerville High School to see if the students can help with serving and busing the tables.



- **Indigeny** Jim G. is looking for helpers to man the parking lot for their open house on October 19th, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. He mentioned that they have donated generously

to the Sonora Lions Pride Stride.

UPCOMING DISTRICT EVENTS

September 19-21st USA/Canada Forum, Overland Park, Kansas.

October 5-6th White Cane Days.

October 25-26th Council of Governors meeting, San Diego, CA.

November 8-9th District Meeting, Stanislaus Region.

February 1, 2014, Annual Pancake Breakfast at Applebee's Restaurant, Sonora, CA.

February 12-13, 2014 Council of Governors Meeting, Ontario, CA.

February 14-16, 2014 MD4 Convention, Ontario, CA.

February 21-22, 2014 District meeting in Mountain Region.

By February 23rd Club Contest for Student Speaker Contest.

February 21-23, 2014 Flag Days.

By March 16, 2014 Zone contest for Student Speakers Contest.

March 30, 2014 Lions City of Hope Day.

By April 6, 2014 Region Contest for Student Speakers Contest.

April 24-26, 2014 District 4-A1 Convention, San Ramon, CA.

May 9-10, 2014 District Meeting in San Joaquin Region.

June 5-8, 2014 Council of Governors Meeting, Rosemead, CA.

July 4-8, 2014 International Convention, Toronto, Canada.

For more information regarding these activities, please go to www.lions4-a1.org.

RAFFLES

- The cash raffles on September 4th went to Bob P. and Tim. The Critter award went to Pres. Diann (again!). The Black Ball drawing was won by Dusty, who reported that he had made a deal with our favorite waitress, Cindy, in that if he won, he would split it with her. We asked her to come in and draw the marble. Alas....of the 2 balls left, she withdrew the white ball! Oh No!



- On September 11th, the cash raffles went to Pres. Diann and Bill D. The Critter award went to Leonard.

With only a single ball remaining, that elusive Black Ball, the lucky winner was Jim G. He, indeed, withdrew the black marble and won a grand total of \$522! Way to go, Jim! Congratulations! That will buy a lot of horse feed for your new Paint!



UPCOMING SONORA LIONS EVENTS

October 4th Lobster Feed fundraiser, Elks Lodge, 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$35 per person.

October 6th Oakland Raiders Fundraiser, \$105 tickets include bus ride, drinks to and from the game, BBQ and game tickets. They will be playing the San Diego Chargers. As discussed at the District Meeting, all seats are now booked on the bus. For information regarding this, please contact PDG Tom at 209-694-5191 or Region Chair Marilyn Richardson at 209-840-7442.

October 14th Board of Directors Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Pine Tree Restaurant, Sonora, CA.

October 19th Service Day at Indigeny.

November 19th Zone Meeting, 6:30 p.m. Pine Tree Restaurant, Sonora, CA.

February 1, 2014 Annual Pancake Breakfast, Applebee's Restaurant, 8 a.m.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS/SPEAKERS

September 25th – Donna Willson from Sierra Nonprofit, speaking on the peer mediation program at Soulsbyville School.

MESSAGE FROM INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT,

Lion IP Barry J. Palmer

IP Barry Palmer desires to usher in a new era for Lions. He feels perhaps the greatest move ever made by Lions Club International was to admit women into their ranks. He learned at a young age that women can be counted on and are particularly determined to grow their skills and be successful. His dream is to increase the female membership by 5.5 percent to bring us up to 30 percent and then to achieve a 50/50 ratio by our centennial year in 2017. IP Barry says we need the *gifts and talents of women*. They “bring a different perspective, a different skill set and a new bundle of can-do energy and enthusiasm. They set goals, take on tasks and accomplish objectives in a way that men can’t, don’t or won’t.” Seek them out and invite them in.

SECRETARY’S MONTHLY REPORT, AUGUST 2013

Submitted by Lion Secretary Bob Bader

- **Total Membership from Last Report** – 47
- **New Members** – 0
- **Dropped Members** – 1 (death)
- **Transferred Members** – 0
- **Total Membership at Close** – 46
- **Service Hours** – 1,734
- **Number of Lions** - 150
- **Number of People Served** - 5,014
- **Funds Raised** – 0
- **Funds Donated** - \$6,963
- **Total Activities** – 10

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, SEPT 9TH

Submitted by Lion Sec. Bob Bader

- Meeting opened by 1st Vice Pres. Bob Presson, at 5:35 p.m. at the Pine Tree Restaurant, September 9, 2013.
- Lions present: Pres. Diann Kaiser, 1st VP Bob Presson, 2nd VP Paul Berg, Sec. Bob Bader, Treas. Jack Nahmias, Lion Tamer Frank Meckler, Ray Bailey, PDG Tom Penhallegon, Tim Atchley, Cecil

Steen, Glenn Gotschall, ZC Wendy Dart, Joanne Presson and Michelle Dean.

- Minutes of the previous meeting were presented and accepted. Financial report submitted and accepted.

- No bills presented.

- Committee Reports:

Membership – No report.

Pride Stride - Lion Gormely has given final report figures to Sec. Bob Bader.

Lobster Dinner – Lion Tim will send signup sheet around at next meeting. Lions Gotschall and Kaiser will handle the raffle this year. Members are to let them know what prizes they have gotten. Will consider having them gift-wrapped commercially. We need to obtain a door prize. Members have been asked to distribute flyers. Lion Meckler stressed the need to sell tickets due to our late start. Lion Steen has purchased needed supplies. Someone (Lion Perry?) needs to contact the Bears Service Club about helping.

Peace Poster - No report.

Food Drive – BOD consensus was to reschedule for some time next spring.

- Communications

Jamestown Christian Fellowship letter of thanks for donation of food was read.

Up Country 88 Lions Club donated \$200 to the Sonora Lions Rim Fire Disaster Fund.

Monterey Peninsula Host Lions Club donated \$100 to the Sonora Lions Rim Fire Disaster Fund.

Save Mart requested our new address.

- Report of Secretary - 2013 Semi-annual dues - Sec. Bob Bader noted one member will be dropped. Membership chair Gormely will contact the others for payment of dues.

- Unfinished business - Guest speaker signup, Lion Atchley reported all months are covered. There was a short discussion about the need to have a “business meeting” once a month in lieu of guest speaker. Consensus was to remain flexible. Lion Dart will summarize BOD minutes in the newsletter.

- New business

Rim Fire Disaster - Lion PDG Penhallegon praised all who worked; it was a tremendous effort by all. Special recognition will be following to those deserving it. It was suggested we invite non Lion volunteers needing special recognition to our Christmas Dinner. Sec. Bader gave PDG Penhallegon his summary report of the Rim Fire effort. Donations received need to be forwarded to LCIF. We need to follow-up with the newspaper for a featured article about our work at the Red Cross Evacuation Center.

Big Dreams - Request for a donation was denied.

Rose Parade Float Donation - Pres. Diann will “pass the hat” at our next meeting. The club will match it.

Summerville Student Senior Project - Request for donation was denied.

Indigony Park Parking - No report, but it is expected Lion Gormely will pass around a sign-up sheet Wed.

PDG Romo’s Services - 10 a.m., September 14th at the Elks Lodge. Members are requested to bring “finger food.” Pres. Diann will help the family decorate at 8 a.m. and could use some help. 1st VP Presson has stepped in as Tail Twister. It was suggested Pres. Diann appoint another Lion since Lion Bob already has 1st VP duties.

- Calendar of Events - September 18, Club meeting at Lions Park, \$9 sack lunch will be provided. Members need to pay in advance.

- Remarks by the President - None.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 7 p.m.

PROGRAMS

Sarah Garcia and Terri Neher, from Big Dreams, Universally Accessible Parks and Playgrounds, were the guest speakers for the September 4th meeting. Their goal is to provide playgrounds accessible to children with disabilities. They were approved on July 2nd to break ground on a playground by Memorial Hall Park. The difference for this kind of playground is mainly in the surface. It needs to be a hard rubber surface with ramps to the tops of the slides, etc. Funds are needed to

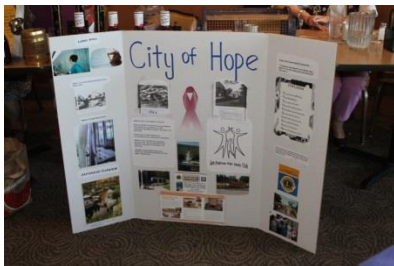


help build the park. On Saturday, September 28th, 6 p.m., there will be a Starry Night Dinner (at a secret location). There will be a band and raffle prizes, with dancing, dinner and drinks. Dress is all white clothing. The cost is \$25 per couple. The cost of completing the park will be around \$300K. Sonora Area Foundation has already been approached. For more information, please go online to: <http://www.mymotherlode.com/news/local/2068007/Big-Dreams-For-Playgrounds.html>.

- Lion Willie Hughes from the San Andreas 49er Lions, spoke at the September 11th meeting about the City of Hope. The City of Hope is mainly geared towards the prevention and cure of cancer,



diabetes and other catastrophic diseases. It is an all-inclusive facility with the patients, doctors, laboratories and researchers all on the same premises. Some of their discoveries have been affordable medicines such as treatment for diabetes, discovered the use of bone marrow transplants for cures, and have the highest rating



by Forbes Magazine for charity. Their campus has 40 bungalows on site and has a Lions International Center with washers/dryers, kitchens, libraries with computer access, counseling and 7 RV hookups. Everybody is welcome, no matter what. Their motto is: ***“There is no profit in curing the body if, in the process, we kill the soul.”*** Originally known for its work with TB patients, it became known as the City of Hope, because when you went there, there was *Hope*

that you would walk away instead of being carried away. The Lions Club has raised funds to re-do the family center. The City of Hope is located in Duarte, California. For more information regarding the City of Hope, please look them up online at: <http://www.cityofhope.org/>.

That’s all for now folks...Meow!



Lion Wendy Dart

P.S. When you have a confirmed booking for a guest speaker with a date, please notify me so this information can be included in the monthly newsletter. All I need is the speaker’s name(s), the date they will speak, and the subject of their program. Thanks so much.

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