



# THE LIONS' TALE

## New Braunfels Noon Lions

NBNoonLions.org

CHARTERED MARCH 18, 1924

JANUARY  
2017

XXIX



Ronnie & Kitty  
Dennis & Jackie  
Dave & Maggie  
Craig Zgabay  
Rich & Arlene

**D**ear Fellow Lions,

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your family a **Happy, Healthy and Prosperous** New Year! Taking a look back...

When the 2016-2017 Board of Directors/Trustees embarked on our term of leadership for the club, we pursued our commitments based on our skill sets and the confidence that you placed in us when the vote was cast last April. For the most part, our efforts as a club have reflected satisfying results for both our Charities activities and Service Projects these past six months.



**Our Signature Service Project, Vision Screening**, led by Chair **Skip Stem**, produced exceptional results in terms of schools covered, students screened, and follow up referrals. And, the utilization of the SPOT Scope equipment launched us into the high tech era of screening.

**Wurstfest, our Signature Fundraiser** for the Fall of 2016, yielded a fulfilling harvest of income to support our many charities who are the recipients of the funds largesse. Led by Food Booth Chair, **Jack Morgan** and Parking Lot Chairs, **Lee Ambrosino** and **Ronnie Thompson**, I am pleased to report that we exceeded our financial goals.

**Third VP Mark Reynolds** has provided us with an array of guest speakers who have piqued our interests while giving us a glimpse into the future of this community from various aspects of services and infrastructure.

**Our LEO Advisors, David Simmons, John Creswell and Tom Call**, have worked diligently and endlessly to ensure that the LEOs are always there to support our volunteer efforts.

**Juanita Wells, our Poster Contest Chair**, works closely with the local schools to have our young student artists participate in the Peace Poster Contest.

**Treasurer Howard Weliver**, along with Lion **Hal Holtman**, Asst. Treasurer, ensure that we tow **The Financial Line**, while Secretary **Tom Call** is our liaison with LCI, the Public and each of us as members.

**Lion Tamer David Schreier and crew Jim Tiller, Dan Krueger and Skip Stem** ensure that our meetings are run smoothly and efficiently. Tail Twister **Cameron Bradfute** simultaneously entertains and educates us

while Lion **Bob Pfeuffer** is our own **Reflections** Interviewer, providing insights into the personal lives of our fellow members. **Lion Dora White** and her staff of Caterall ensured we always had a tasty and fulfilling meal at our luncheons. She recently turned over the helm to new owner and Lion **Craig Zgabay** whom I've no doubt will make Dora proud. Membership Chair, **Dennis Heitkamp**, has been instrumental in spearheading projects to keep our members attuned to the concepts of Lionism while introducing initiatives to grow our member base. Lion **Cameron** has also initiated the **Five O'clock Somewhere** Member get together to provide insights on our club's history and Lionism.

**Care Chair, Dolly Williams** is our liaison with those members who are absent due to health or other issues which prevent them from attending meetings. Sight Conservation Chair, **Mike Pfeuffer**, is the Club's liaison with the public and local eye doctors, coordinating financial assistance to ensure those in need get the proper treatment for correctional lenses, etc. IPP **Mike Smetanka** along with Directors **Fred Hanz** and **Dan Krueger** round out our Board in providing insight and support to ensure we are meeting our objectives and stepping up to the plate whenever needed. Then, there's **Bert Childs**...our resident Editor, who tirelessly puts out this monthly rag! And, a superb job he does!!!!

**And, of course, there's You**, the Lions who join together to personify our motto "**We Serve**"! Without the time and effort of many of you, we would not be here, serving this community. My endless thanks to you all.

**Forging ahead...**Though 2017 may hold some uncertainty for the world, the country and yes, even for each of us, I encourage you to embrace the challenges ahead...both the foreseen as well as the unanticipated! Our Club is no different. Each of us, in our own way, can make a positive difference.

**We have much work ahead** of us to complete the 2016-2017 cycle and beyond. Texas Camp Work Day (April 1<sup>st</sup>), White Cane Day Fundraiser (TBA) and Texas Lions Camp Graduation Day (June 23<sup>rd</sup>) are just around the corner. And, we're currently in the process of recruiting for members to step up and take on a Leadership role as we enter into the 93<sup>rd</sup> year of this Club's history! Get to know your fellow Lions and have some FUN!!

**Being a member of this Club** has been a rewarding experience for me and I look forward to continued friendships and new ones to bud!

**My challenge to you...**be a game changer. Make your actions count and make that positive difference!

Yours in Lionism! **President Lee**

## BUSINESS MEETING - 1 DECEMBER

**S**tate Senator Dr. Donna Campbell (District 25) was our featured speaker this day. Her opening salvo was a quote from Benjamin Franklin regarding the type of government the Continental Convention of 1787 was cobbling together — “A republic, if you can keep it” said he, and then she went on to express her opinion that much of what is wrong with this state and the union is that so many of the younger generations have little to no knowledge of the founders or the founding of this nation. And, worse, much of what they are being taught is intentionally skewed way left.



**Part of her remedy rests** in Senate Bill 174, The Founding Principles Act, wherein high school students would be required to take a course in the founding, including the Constitution and the Feder-



President **Lee Ambrosino** welcomes newest Noon Lion **Ron Ernst**, with sponsor **Dennis Heitkamp** in support.

alist Papers, as a requisite to graduation. She says Texas Governor Greg Abbott is firmly onboard. \$3619718

**Other priorities include:** Annexation reform — where those in the crosshairs get to decide whether to be annexed or not, school choice, end of sanctuary cities, property tax reform, ending subsidies for illegals and a *rational* “bathroom bill”. Her agenda seemed warmly received by all in attendance.

## VISION SCREENING WRAP-UP

**W**e finished up our **Vision Screening** program just after Thanksgiving, and Vision Czar **Skip Stem** gave a full report of the totals at the 1 December business meeting. They are indeed impressive:

**Total number of students** screened in both school districts plus private and parochial schools was 6692. Of those, 308 were referred to professionals for more study.

**We logged 799 man-hours** at 24 schools, and that number would have been *much* higher without our spiffy new SPOT camera. (Often the victim would have scarcely settled into the chair before we had a good reading and sent them on their way. Amazing bit of technology that.)

**Twenty-four Noon Lions** and spouses participated and need to be recognized for their service. First of all, **Fred Clifford** and **Richard Haliburton**, who made every trip. Then President **Lee Ambrosino**, **Arno Becker**, **Chuck Bryan**, Secretary **Tom Call**, **Bert Childs**, **John Creswell**, **Franklin Demuth**, Membership Chair **Dennis & Jackie Heitkamp**, **Henry Hull**, **Ray & Vernell** (soon to have her name in purple) **Martinez**, **Ginny Nance**, **Mike & Carlyn Pfeuffer**, Lion Tamer **Dave** and **Maggie Schreier**, IPP **Mike Smetanka**, Treasurer **Howard & Cosette Weliver** and, of course, **Skip**.



Vision Czar **Skip Stem** introduces indispensable vision screening partners Canyon ISD nurse **Courtney Nesloney** and NBISD nurse **Karen Schwind**.



# WE SERVE



Ronnie Thompson, Tom Call, Capt. Roman Leal, Heaven Salinas, Mykenzi Tucker, Jassmyn Martinez, Prez Lee Ambrosino

Noon Lions President **Lee Ambrosino** presents our traditional annual check for \$500 to **Capt. Roman Leal** of the Salvation Army of New Braunfels.

In addition to the cash donation, your Noon Lions and a bunch of Leos also manned the kettle and rang the bell outside **GRANZIN'S MEAT MARKET** all day on 10 December.

A great big **Thank You** to all those who took an active role in the event.



Don Hildebrand and Felicity Manchinas



Mateo Carreon, Miguel Gonzales, Jack Morgan and Howard Weliver



Tom Call, Madison Rich and David Simmons



Dakota Culpepper and Mike Smetanka

## New Braunfels Noon Lions Club Officers & Directors for 2016-2017

### Officers

**Lee Ambrosino**, President  
**Jack Morgan**, First Vice-president  
**Ronnie Thompson**, Second Vice-president  
**Mark Reynolds**, Third Vice-president  
**Tom Call**, Secretary  
**Howard Weliver**, Treasurer  
**Dave Schreier**, Lion Tamer  
**Dennis Heitkamp**, Chairman Membership Committee  
**Mike Smetanka**, Immediate Past President  
**Dennis Heitkamp**, PCC & PDG  
**Bill Kolodzie**, PDG

### Directors

**Dan Krueger**, Two-year Director  
**Fred Hanz**, Two-year Director  
**Dolly Williams**, One-year Director  
**David Simmons**, One-year Director

### Chairs of Standing Committees

**Skip Stem**, Vision Screening  
**Mike Pfeuffer**, Sight Conservation  
**Dolly Williams**, Care Committee

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

<b>Nicholas Rodriguez</b>	<b>3rd</b>
<b>Dave Schreier</b>	<b>6th</b>
<b>David Smith</b>	<b>12th</b>
<b>Tom Call</b>	<b>12th</b>
<b>John Bell</b>	<b>16th</b>
<b>Bob Holder</b>	<b>16th</b>
<b>Rick Myrick</b>	<b>18th</b>
<b>Ray Martinez</b>	<b>20th</b>
<b>La Dale Brimmage</b>	<b>25th</b>
<b>Don Hildebrand</b>	<b>28th</b>
<b>Juanita Wells</b>	<b>29th</b>

# Christmas Party! – 15 December

**F**ellow Lions,

I would be remiss if I didn't thank those who helped setting up, participating, and packing stuff away during our Christmas Party.

**PP and Chaplain Rich** and his lovely wife **Arlene** not only helped us set up, but Rich also planned and ran the Christmas Quiz, with prizes, for our members and guests. Moreover, he brought a string of red Christmas lights to add to one of the Seekatz trees. Class idea.

**Past-everything Dennis Heitkamp** and his lovely lady **Jackie** helped as well, as did Lion Tamer **Dave Schreier** and his gorgeous Lady **Maggie**, especially with the retired Colonels taking care of our Gift Exchange. \$4132907

**Kitty and I are deeply** indebted to our talented **Bert Childs** for locating, recording and playing Kitty's party thingy called "Tootie Ta." I am grateful that Kitty again provided all the decorations except for the aforementioned string of red lights provided by Rich.

I sincerely apologize if I have overlooked anyone, and I could use a whole page raving about the great music of the **SEVEN DUTCHMEN**, and the great menu served by **CATERALL LLC**. I continue to be grateful for those who covered for me after my recent stroke. I am on the mend, thanks to your prayers.

Ronnie



Tootie Ta, bottoms up! Kitty Welch sets the pace.





# The Christmas Party

Page II

[Photos by John Creswell]





# The Christmas Party

## Part III

[Photos by John Creswell]





# The Christmas Party

## Part IV

[All photos by John Creswell]



(except perhaps this one — Ed.)



## Comal County Sheriff's Office



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*Sheriff*

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*Secretary*

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# SHERIFF PASSES THE BATON

**S**heriff (and Noon Lion) James Robert “Bob” Holder turned in the keys to his cruiser on Saturday, 31 December, and rejoined the ranks of civilians in Comal County. [Unless you’ve been freeze-dried or doing hard time you probably know that **Mark Reynolds**, our new sheriff, is also a Noon Lion.]



Sheriff Bob enjoyed a 51-year career in law enforcement following 4 years in the Marine Corps. He was Comal County's 23rd sheriff and had held the post since 1997.

He will be missed, but hopefully not on first and third Thursdays.

Best of luck in your retirement, Sheriff.



'New uniform'... A medal-studded bathrobe reflecting his stellar career as a Law Enforcement Officer



Sheriff **Bob Holder** congratulated by Judge **Charles Stephens** and Noon Lions President **Lee Ambrosino**



There's a new sheriff in town — **Mark Reynolds**

## Complimentary Ticket for the Drawing of your Choice

Find your Lion Member number after a \$ sign in the text of this newsletter and you will get one FREE ticket to be placed in the Drawing of your choice. **Show the number** at the Check-In Table to receive your ticket. There are two numbers hidden in this issue of **The Lions' Tale**.

NOTE: NEW NUMBERS WILL BE PICKED AT RANDOM FOR EACH MONTH. YOUR NUMBER IS ELIGIBLE FOR ONLY ONE DRAWING FOR THE MONTH THAT IT APPEARS IN THE NEWSLETTER.

# The Christmas Party

## Part IV

[All photos by Tom Call]



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