



# THE LIONS' TALE

## New Braunfels Noon Lions

NBNoonLions.org

CHARTERED MARCH 18, 1924

MAY  
2017

XXXIII



Leadership for  
2017-2018

## THE NEW TEAM

**T**he membership met, a quorum was sustained and balloting for officers and directors of the New Braunfels Lions Club for the coming fraternal year took place at the regular early April business meeting.

While voting on the nominees approved at the previous business meeting went off without a hitch, shortly thereafter there were adjustments made to accommodate the

newly-elected secretary's unanticipated heavy work schedule, and **Brandon Mund** has volunteered to replace **James Scardami** in that office.

So, as this rag goes to press your Officers and Directors for Fraternal Year 2017-2018 are:



Jack Morgan  
President



Dora White  
First VP



Lee Ambrosino  
IPP



Leigh Huddleston  
Second VP



Dolly Williams  
Third VP



Brandon Mund  
Secretary



Howard Weliver  
Treasurer



Cameron Bradfute  
Membership



Dave Schreier  
Lion Tamer



Kermit Baese  
LCIF Coordinator



Ginny Nance  
Two-year Director



Jim Pope  
Two-year Director



Dan Krueger  
One-year Director



Fred Hanz  
One-year Director

## Business Meeting - 6 April

**P**erhaps because it was Election Day at the New Braunfels Noon Lions Club, everyone's favorite chanteuse **Juanita Wells** lead the assemblage in a rousing chorus of *My Country 'Tis Of Thee* to open the proceedings.



**The election itself** held no surprises — the slate of candidates had seamlessly become the accepted nominees which was in turn swept into office by written ballot. In case you just turned directly to Page 2, you will have missed the results posted on Page One.

**John Creswell** gave a brief overview of the Texas Lions Camp workday, which was productive if sparsely attended, White Cane Day at Granzin's Meat Market on Saturday, 22 April is largely staffed at this point and captained by **Don Hildebrand**, and **David Berger** is still recruiting help for the parking lot during the Wurstfest Association's Craft Beer Festival that same day. Busy time of year.

**Our featured speaker** for the afternoon was Ms. **Oda Lisa**, whose story of vision loss and subsequent support by the Lions Club was inspiring. She suffered from *retinitis pigmentosa* (RP) from

age 3, but was not officially diagnosed with it until she was 25. RP is a genetic condition that causes retinal degeneration of the rods and cones, starts as night blindness and/or tunnel vision and often leads to complete blindness. By 1995 that was Oda's fate.

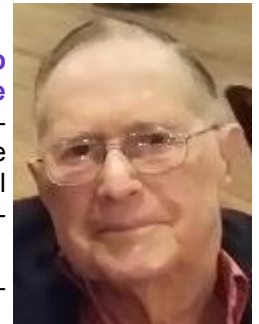


**She trained with leader dogs** in New York, and became a computer programmer, author of two books, poet, host of a radio talk show and alto in her choir. She credits her faith, family and friends for her positive outlook on life.

**Excluded from Page One** (but who did not actually run for anything) are these two stalwarts of this organization.



**Dennis Heitkamp** and **Bill Kolodzie** serve in a supervisory position to those who have several decades fewer service to LCI



**Thank you, gentlemen.**

## Business Meeting - 20 April

**T**ail Twister **Cameron Bradfute** opened the meeting with contestant **James Scardami** playing "Guess the Profession" of **George Shafer**, **Bert Childs** and **Jack Morgan**.

James went oh-for-three in the attempt. Then contestant



ant **Dora White** played "Match the Skivvies Sleepwear" for Lions **Dick Wehman**, **Ray Martinez**, **Dan Krueger** and **Mike Pfeuffer** — Dora went four-for-four.

**Cantor Buz Farrell** led the assemblage in *Take Me Out To The Ballgame* and *America the Beautiful*.

**Susan Miller** of Kerrville Lions Club fame became the latest NB Noon Lion, shown in center with President **Lee Amrosino** and sponsor **Jack Morgan**.



**O**ur featured speaker this day was **Tara Kohlenberg** of the Sophienburg Archive and Museum. The Sophienburg is the repository of all things Neu Braunfels, and the current exhibit commemorates America's entry into The Great War in 1917.

**Ethnic German populations** in other parts of the state suffered indignities, and worse, including tarring and feathering, at the hands of those who did not share their ancestry nor understand



their patriotism. That did not happen here as, like throwing a switch, the folks switched allegiances from supporting Germany to all Red, White and Blue the day the U.S. entered the war. German was no longer taught in the schools, and Comal County sent 500 recruits to fight alongside Gen. "Black Jack" Pershing in the American Expeditionary Force.



# COMING ATTRACTIONS

**Leo Clubs scholarship** awards will be presented at New Braunfels High School on **8 May**.

**District 2-S3 Convention** will be held in Manor on **13 May**. Your club will pay the admission for any Noon Lion who would like to attend, and all new officers are thoroughly encouraged to make the trip. (Once you fight your way through Austin it's a piece of cake.)

**President Lee Ambrosino** will present three \$2000 Stallman Scholarship awards to 3 deserving USMCJROTC cadets at New Braunfels High School on **18 May**.

**Our annual visit** for Texas Lions Camp graduation ceremonies is scheduled for **23 June**. It is during that visit that two camp counselors will be awarded scholarships, and it is surely worth the effort to be there.

**A training session** for all new officers and directors is scheduled for **17 June** in the New Braunfels Convention Center, Honors Hall at 10am. If you qualify for this training, you really should go. You will learn a lot you do not now know.

**Not exactly coming attractions**, but the fruit of your labors: **WHITE CANE DAY** netted right at \$924 for the coffers — a third for the Lions Eye Bank and a two thirds for the Vision Conservation Program — and the **WURSTFEST CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL PARKING LOT** effort garnered 612 bucks. Thanks and congratulations to all Noon Lions who participated in these efforts.

## Leos at Folkfest

**T**he Leos deserve a big **ATTA BOY** from us and Folkfest docents for working hard this past weekend [8 April] - just 1 week after the TLC workday. Lion **David Simmon's** attached spreadsheet gives you the number of Leos that signed up to work. To summarize: 7 New Braunfels Middle School Leos (1 worked 2 shifts) worked 5 shifts – 16 hours; 7 Oak Run Middle School Leos (1 worked 2 shifts and President **Matthew Alkire** worked 4 shifts) worked 8 shifts – 24 hours; 6 Ninth Grade Center Leos (4 worked 2 shifts) worked 20 hours. **Total Leo hours: 60! Way to go Leos!**

Photos and text by John Creswell



### 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.

# NEW BRAUNFELS LIONS CLUB, INC.

## A little bit of History

By PDG, PCC Dennis Heitkamp

**T**he New Braunfels Lions Club, Inc. is racing towards completing its first 100 Years of service. Can I in one page give you a true feeling of the projects, character and dedication of this almost 100 year old Club? I doubt it, so forgive me if I run over a little on my tasking.

**The Club was organized at noon** on 18 March, 1924, upstairs in the old First National Bank Building. There are 28 members listed on the Club Charter. There was no sponsoring Lions Club as it was not until later that Lions Club International required a sponsoring club to charter a new club.

**The Club held its Charter** night on April 16, 1925 in the Faust Hotel. During a March 1927 membership drive they inducted 24 new members, more than doubling its current membership. During the following years, the Club supported the Boy Scouts, Organized a Board of City Development, put on a play for the benefit of the High School Library, assisted the Chamber of Commerce in bringing a Textile Mill to town, distributed baskets to the needy at Christmas, and in 1929 organized a new Lions Club in Fredericksburg. Through the years, the Club has sponsored nine new Lions Clubs.

**Starting in 1930**, the Club met at the Traveler's Hotel. The Club advertised New Braunfels, conducted a City Slogan Contest, and sponsored cultivation and production of Pinto Beans in the District to encourage farmers to diversify their crops. From the Club's own Pinto Bean Plot, they donated 1,500 lbs. of beans to Charities in New Braunfels. The Club also sponsored a series of three trade days and launched a campaign for beautification of yards in New Braunfels. Other Club projects included collecting and distributing used clothing. They installed safety signs at all school crossings, aided blind persons in learning the Braille System, collected toys for distribution at Christmas, and gave cash to the Chamber of Commerce. In 1940, the Club helped secure a \$50,000 golf course for New Braunfels.

**By 1942, the Club** was actively participating in a proposed movement for a new City Hospital, purchased wheel chairs for the old hospital, and sold \$9,400 worth of War Bonds in a single day at a club-manned booth. In 1954, the Club paid off a pledge of \$10,000 to the hospital Board, and in 1958, the Club started construction on the first of two Little League Fields. In 1959, the Club completed, dedicated and placed plaques at the first Lions Ball field and the Club sponsored the building of two tennis courts in Landa Park. In 1961, with 112 members, the Club started a Sight Conservation Committee in Comal County to screen all incoming students for eye problems.

**In 1966, with 137 members**, the club meetings were held at Schwamprugs. In 1969, the Club borrowed \$6,000 and pledged \$15,000 for the Pearce property to be given to the

City as park land. That Park is now known as Prince Solms Park. The Club later funded the construction of the pedestrian bridge connecting Prince Solms Park and Hinman Island Park.

**In 1970, with 145 members**, the Club started a food service at Wurstfest serving a plate of summer sausage, smoked sausage and cheese. In 1971, the Wurstfest was moved to the Dittlinger Mills property in Landa Park and the club started its parking lot arrangement with the Wurstfest charging \$1.00 to park cars. The Club is indeed fortunate to have been able to maintain this profitable food booth and parking arrangement for over 45 years.

**In 1979, the Club** held an Armadillo outing to catch the beasts for a Hawaii Leprosy research project. The outing yielded zero Armadillo, however, the Armadillo Society, feeling sorry for the Club Lions, donated 4 of the animals. This resulted in a member having to baby sit the animals until they could be shipped to Hawaii. Recognition was given through the "Armadillo Sitter of the Year Award".

**In 1984, the Club** reached its high point in membership with 269 Regular Lions. At that time, the Club held its weekly meetings at Eagles Hall. The Club later moved to the Comal County Senior Citizens Center and to the Seekatz Opera House where the Club currently meets.

**In 2015, the Club** added a parking lot operation to the Wurstfest Association's newly organized Craft Beer Festival. This is a continuation of the close relationship that has developed between the New Braunfels Lions Club and the Wurstfest Association.

**For over 30 years**, the Club has also participated in the White Cane Day program. The funds from that program have been divided with 1/3 going to the Eye Bank and 2/3 to funding eye glasses for needy children and adults in Comal County.

**The Club is most proud**, however, for participating in the Sight Screening program at all public and private elementary schools in the New Braunfels and Comal Independent School Districts. Currently, that includes 28 elementary schools and over 7,000 students each year.

**These are only** a very small sampling of a truly huge number of very diverse projects of the Club. Hopefully, this sampling will give you an idea of the reason for the Lion pride we have in our Club.





I've got to stop saying  
"How stupid can you be?"

Too many people are  
taking it as a challenge.

If I am ever on  
life support,  
unplug me...  
Then plug me back in..  
See if that works..

It'll never be easier than this!

**\$3475378**

**\$259133**

### **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, PCC & PDG  
**Mike Smetanka**, Immediate Past President  
**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

### **MAY BIRTHDAYS**

<b>Tanya Shelton</b>	<b>4th</b>
<b>Craig Zgabay</b>	<b>8th</b>
<b>Rachel Leier</b>	<b>8th</b>
<b>Bob Pfeuffer</b>	<b>15th</b>
<b>Leonel Guajardo</b>	<b>16th</b>
<b>Monroe Miller</b>	<b>17th</b>
<b>Steve Sucher</b>	<b>21st</b>
<b>Jack Knight</b>	<b>26th</b>
<b>Ashley Woodward</b>	<b>27th</b>



I ate 4 cans of  
alphabet soup,  
and just took probably the  
biggest vowel movement  
ever



THE NEXT TIME YOU GET A CALL  
FROM A BLOCKED OR UNKNOWN  
NUMBER...



ANSWER IT AND WHISPER... "IT'S  
DONE, BUT THERE'S BLOOD  
EVERYWHERE!". THEN HANG UP.

Some days, the  
best thing about  
my job is that  
the chair spins.



"I proclaim you 'Man's Best Friend'! This  
entitles you to sleep in a box and eat meat  
by-products!"

1990

Okay, now listen up. Nobody  
gets in here without answering  
the following question: A train  
leaves Philadelphia at 1:00 p.m.  
It's traveling at 65 miles per hour.  
Another train leaves Denver  
at 4:00... Say, you need  
some paper?



Math phobic's nightmare

I don't like making  
plans for the day,  
because then the  
word "premeditated"  
gets thrown around in  
the courtroom.





## Comal County Sheriff's Office



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## *New Braunfels Noon Lions*

"We Serve"

**Tom Call**  
*Secretary*

"Join Us!"

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