

Texas Lottery Commission Press Release - February 6, 2003

Contact:

Leticia Vasquez, 512-344-5208

It's Déjà Vu All Over Again For Whitney Store Owner; Gets Bonus For Selling Second *Lotto Texas* Jackpot-Winning Ticket



GTECH sales representative Christy Donner, store owners Alan and Sharon Nisbet and store manager Susan Gilleland show off the \$90,000 ceremonial check.

(Austin, February 6) - Sharon Nisbet had a coveted déjà vu experience as a Texas LotteryTM retailer. As one of the owners of the S&A Express in Whitney, she sold the second *Lotto Texas*TM jackpot-winning ticket ever sold in Whitney. She sold the first as co-owner of another store. Selling the jackpot-winning ticket carries a bonus of one percent of the advertised jackpot for eligible retailers.

She and her husband, Alan, found out from her daughter while they were out of town that the winning ticket had been sold in Whitney for the \$9 million *Lotto Texas* drawing on November 23, 2002. At that time, however, they didn't know their outlet had done it.

"Sharon and I knew we hadn't sold each other a ticket, but my wife actually thought that maybe we had sold the winner," Mr. Nisbet said. "I said to her, 'Come on, what are the odds of that happening?'"

"It's just unbelievable the way it's happened," Mrs. Nisbet said. "One of my clerks called and told me that the claimants had come in to check their numbers and that sure enough, we sold it. It was shocking. Alan just about went crazy."

He says the shock of it still hasn't diminished. "We still look at each other from time to time and ask ourselves if it's really real."

Whitney has a population of approximately 3,000, so news travels at the speed of light around town.

"Receiving this bonus is wonderful, but it's also been a bunch of fun," Mr. Nisbet said. "Lots of people started coming to the store after the news got out. They think we're the lucky store now, which is great because now everybody wants to buy their Lottery tickets here. It's just been more fun than I ever thought it would be."

The Nisbets opened their store approximately two years ago. They plan to roll most of their bonus back into the store.

Whitney resident David J. Kuehn won the \$9 million jackpot. His Cash Value Option prize totaled \$5,982,007. The winning numbers on Kuehn's Quick Pick ticket were 01—17—38—41—47—48.

While she was a co-owner of Wood Kountry Grocery Inc., Mrs. Nisbet sold a \$9 million *Lotto Texas* jackpot-winning ticket in August of 2001. The winner was the Bird Nest Trust of Cleburne.

Texas Lottery Marketing Specialist René McCoy presented the Nisbets with a ceremonial check today in the amount of \$90,000.

"This is one of the best jobs at the Lottery, to hand a retailer a bonus for selling a big jackpot winner," McCoy said. "It's even more exciting to recognize you for putting Whitney on the map not once, but twice, for selling a jackpot- winning ticket."

The jackpot for Saturday's *Lotto Texas* drawing is an estimated \$4 million.

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The Texas Lottery, the 4th largest selling lottery in North America, is "Focusing on the Future of Education, One Ticket At A Time." By providing the 'Games of Texas' for more than 10 years, the Texas Lottery Commission (TLC) has generated more than \$10 billion for the state and paid nearly \$17 billion to players in prizes. For more information about the TLC, please visit the official website at <http://www.txlottery.org>