



"Service is our motto; joy is the result"

The Lions Den

District 2-S3



District Governor Angela Nicholson
 e-mail angienick1@austin.rr.com
 100 Cavalier Lane, Liberty Hill, TX 78642

Editor
Jim Newbold
JNewbold1@satx.rr.com

January 2007

Volume 4, Issue 6

From the Desk of the DG Angie



I hope that all of you had a wonderful holiday. The Nicholson's had a great Christmas at home and a restful New Year's at Port Aransas. Getting away for a few days is a good thing, as it lets you refresh the brain cells and prepare for the upcoming events. Most likely, by the time you get this newsletter, the Mid-Winter Conference will be past. I hope that everyone enjoyed themselves and were rejuvenated for the remainder of the year.

I want to stress to all of the club presidents, the importance of looking ahead to next year's officers. February is the time to appoint a nominating committee to find a slate of officers for the coming year, 2007-08. Try to find two or three members of your club who know the members pretty well, as well as the duties of each officer. These are the people to work on the new slate of officers. That doesn't mean that they can't be an officer themselves. They can certainly nominate themselves, as some small clubs must do. Giving the right job to the right person is essential, so have them look at the talents of your members to see where they can best serve your club. Involving new members in an officer position is good, but don't scare them away or burn them out with so much responsibility as a new Lion; if they don't feel they know enough as yet. Be sure they are learning what the officers do and can in the future hold an office.

Make sure your committee checks with each member to see if they will accept the position for which they are nominated. I have heard stories of clubs who nominate whoever is not at the club meeting on the date of nominations. This does not usually work out well. Think how you would feel yourself.

Once the committee has formed a slate of officers, they should present this to the club in March. When the nominations are presented, there can be nominations from the floor to add to what the committee presented. Voting is not done at this meeting. Voting for the officers is done at the following meeting. Be sure that you have the voting done prior to April 15th. The secretary needs to have the PU-101 form, the Officers Reporting Form, done and sent in or filed online by the 15th of April. This form should also be sent to the Vice-District Governor or the Governor, so that the directory for next year can be accurate. Secretaries--please make sure that you have updated the information for the officers. All phone numbers and email addresses need to be correct, so that the information in the directory is accurate.

This may seem strange to many Lions, with the early dates mentioned, but knowing ahead of time what is expected of them will make these new officers better officers for your club. It will allow them time to go to the training for officers held in the spring, as well as making plans for the new Lions' year. One of the things that I asked clubs to do this past year was to evaluate themselves. I know that many of you have done that and I think that is a

good thing for us to do on a regular basis. Sometimes we get in a rut and things start deteriorating in our clubs, but if we look at what we are doing and how we can improve, it will spark new life into a club. I hope that you have found that to be true this year. If someone has held the same office for many years, find out if they are still happy doing that job. Are they the best person for that job, or can someone else do an

Continued on Page 2

Inside this issue:	Page
<i>District Governor's Message</i>	1-2
<i>Round Rock's Angel Raschke Memorial</i>	2
<i>Red, Yellow, Blue Competition Eyeglass Recycling</i>	3
<i>New Members & Sponsors Lions Quest Program VDG L. Stockhorst</i>	4
<i>Lions — Club News</i>	5-7
<i>Weiner Dog Races</i>	7
<i>International President USA/Canada Forum</i>	8
<i>Brimming With Pride</i>	9



January 2007

Volume 4, Issue 6

From the Desk of DG Angie-Continued

even better job, given the chance. Relying on someone to continue in the same position, not only limits them, but could be keeping someone else from achieving success in that position.

It's a new year--2007--and next Lions' year will soon be here. We still have much to do to finish out what we have started, so hang in there. I am so proud to be a Lion--a Lion in district 2-S3. You all have done so much with membership this year, that it is amazing. As of the November report, we are up 39 members, more than any other district in Texas. With the new Gruene club coming on board as of 1/1/07, we will have even more new members. I hope this makes you as proud as it does me. **YOU ARE THE BEST !!!!** Remember that our motto "We Serve" is what we are all about. Look at the service you have given your community, both in the past and in this year. Have you done your best? Is there room for improvement? The service that we do brings joy to those we serve and to us as well.

*Thank you all for
your service.*

DG Angie



Memorial to Lion William "Bill" Raschke

I wanted you to know that my father, William "Bill" Raschke, passed away early in the morning on December 20, 2006.

He was always so involved in the Lions Club and thought highly of each of you and your spirit of community service.

His funeral was held December 23, 2006, at 2:00 p.m. at the Weed-Corley-Fish funeral home at 3125 N. Lamar, followed by the burial.

We know we may not be able to contact all of his dear friends. Please help us share this information with oth-

(Mostly reproduced from December 24, 2006 Austin American-Statesman by Bruce Hight)

Lion Tino Hernandez is married, retired from Liberty Mutual Insurance Agency, has four grown children and lives in a nice home on a nice street. He has every reason, it seems, to kick back and attend Lions meetings, but not this Lion as he's too consumed with organizing and helping those less fortunate. He never can forget his childhood as one of seven children - one was killed in the Vietnam War - growing up poor in Round Rock. "When I was a kid, I always wanted a bicycle," Hernandez said. "But there were so many of us, and we never had enough money for a bicycle."

Some people are embittered by such memories, others inspired. Lion Tino was inspired. Every Thanksgiving he plays a pivotal role in organizing 'Annie's Way'; what he calls "a giant covered dish affair" for over 1,000 people in Williamson County. People cook and bring in food. Then it's distributed to the poor, lonely, or home bound who otherwise would go unnoticed, unremembered on a day of thanks. And every year he helps pull together the 'Just Because Christmas Project,' aimed at making sure that kids in families that cannot afford gifts get them, especially

ers who were close to my father.

Thank you for the friendship that you have given to my father through the years,

Lesa Raschke Walker

Bill was a distinguished 48 year Lion (Joined in 1959), past President of our Club, Past President & founding member of the Eye Bank, Past District Governor, recipient of many awards, and a fine gentleman.

Lion JP Kirksey

Round Rock Noon's Unassuming Lion is an Angel

if they don't qualify for other, similar projects such as Blue Santa.

There's more: He plays a central role several times a year in pulling together volunteer dentists and the necessary equipment to provide dental services at special clinics for children and adults who have no insurance and cannot afford to see a dentist. And he helps organize medical missions of volunteer doctors, nurses, dentists, chiropractors and even an acupuncturist to remote, impoverished villages in Mexico, Honduras and, in March, to Bolivia. "My main function here is to do the recruiting, get the funding, round up the medical supplies, and get there and back safely," Hernandez said.

Round Rock City Council member, Rufus Honeycutt, marvels that despite the demands of working with so many volunteers for years, Hernandez is "so even-keeled - he never gets excited." Williamson County Commissioner Lisa Birkman says Hernandez is "very unassuming and does not like to take credit for anything he does." Lion Shirley, Club secretary, experiences this humbleness every time she can corner him for his hours for the monthly Activity Report. He quietly and simply says, "Do you think I can count....?"

The Round Rock Noon Lions Club, along with many others, proudly salutes a man who never forgot what it was like to want a bicycle. Lion Tino is truly a Lion that lives the "We Serve" motto.



Team Competition

RED TEAM
790 Points

YELLOW TEAM
909 Points

BLUE TEAM
975 Points

- AUSTIN CAPITAL CITY
- AUSTIN LAKE TRAVIS
- AUSTIN SOUTH AUSTIN
- BASTROP EVENING
- BUDA
- CANYON LAKE NOON
- ELGIN EVENING
- GARY JOB CORPS
- GRANGER
- JOHNSON CITY
- LEANDER
- LOCKHART EVENING
- MANOR
- MCQUEENEY
- NEW BRAUNFELS BREAKFAST
- PFLUGERVILLE
- ROUNDROCK NOON
- SAN MARCOS EVENING
- TAYLOR

- AUSTIN BALCONES
- AUSTIN DOWNTOWN (FOUNDERS)
- AUSTIN NORTHEAST
- BASTROP
- BUCKHOLTS
- CAMERON
- DRIPPING SPRINGS
- ELGIN NOON
- GARDEN RIDGE—BRACKEN
- GEORGETOWN EVENING
- JARRELL
- LARGO VISTA
- LIBERTY HILL NOON
- LULING
- MARION
- NEWBRAUNFELS NOON
- NEW BRAUNFELS NEW CENTURY
- ROCKDALE NOON
- SAN MARCOS BLUEBONNET
- SPRING BRANCH—BULVERDE

- AUSTIN CAPITAL CITY EVENING
- AUSTIN NORTH AUSTIN
- AUSTIN WEST AUSTIN
- BLANCO
- BULVERDE
- CEDAR LAKE LONGHORN
- FLORENCE
- GEORGETOWN NOON
- HUTTO
- KYLE
- LIBERTY HILL MORNING
- LOCKHART BREAKFAST
- MARBLEFALLS NOON
- MILANO EVENING
- NEW BRAUNFELS EVENING
- POINT VENTURE
- SAN MARCOS NOON
- SCHERTZ—CIBOLO VALLEY
- WIMBERLEY

Help, Help, Help

The Lions Eye Glass Recycling Center is in need of eyeglasses

PLEASE BRING YOUR CLUBS EYE-GLASSES TO THE MID-WINTER CONFERENCE THIS WEEKEND

THERE WILL BE A TRAILER AT THE CABINET MEETING AND AT THE CONFERENCE ON SATURDAY

THANKS, PDG MORRIS H. TREADWELL

New Members & Sponsors - December

I wish to congratulate the new members of District 2-S3 and their sponsors. If there is no sponsor listed, it was not submitted to LCI.
DG Angie

Buda Lions Club

Sandra Nielsen	sponsored by	Richard Harlow
Clifford Eaton	sponsored by	Michael Jackson
Fred Cavazos	sponsored by	Melodie Holifield
James Lee, Jr.	sponsored by	Carol Whisenant
Caroline Lee	sponsored by	Carol Whisenant

Bulverde Lions Club

Mark Kirchoff	sponsored by	Jim Barr
Mark Morkovsky	sponsored by	Greg Stanley

Lago Vista Lions Club

Kimberly Bates	sponsored by	Anita Burke
L. Angelo	sponsored by	Dennis Jones
Richard Johnson	sponsored by	Hollace Bowden

Liberty Hill Noon Lions Club

Ken Cole	sponsored by	James Hannigan
----------	--------------	----------------

New Braunfels Breakfast Lions Club

Deborah Lopez	sponsored by	Darryl Firth
Larry Sutton	sponsored by	Richard Martin

Point Venture Lions Club

Michael Maritz	sponsored by	Richard Witmer
Donald Conyer	sponsored by	Richard Witmer
Nathan Bedard	sponsored by	Carole Thomas
Rhonda Bedard	sponsored by	Carole Thomas
Marvin Wuthrich	sponsored by	Mary Rugaard
June Wuthrich	sponsored by	Mary Rugaard
Danny Christian	sponsored by	Mary Rugaard
Kathleen Christian	sponsored by	Mary Rugaard
Charles Lambert		
Jackie Lambert		

....Lions



Quest

Program

....**BECAUSE ALL YOUNG PEOPLE
NEED SKILLS FOR LIFE**

SKILLS FOR ACTION (GRADES 9-12) is an innovative and flexible curriculum that moves beyond the classroom to build essential life and citizenship skills through school-based service learning. The program is rooted in the belief that young people are valuable resources who can take active roles in addressing the issues that affect their lives, their communities, and the world.

SKILLS FOR ACTION stimulates students' intellectual curiosity and academic growth, and guides them toward active citizenship and positive social action.

PROGRAM GOALS:

- Support the development of responsible, healthy and caring young people.
- Assist students in learning and applying key skills.
- Involve young people in actively addressing real-life issues.
- Reinforce positive values: honesty; responsibility; self-discipline; and respect for, and service to, others.
- Promote social and cultural understanding.
- Help students resist alcohol and other drugs, and resolve conflicts without violence.

SKILLS FOR ACTION helps young people develop: *

- Personal Skills
- Social Skills
- Thinking Skills

*The above skills will be presented in the next issue.

VDG Lester Stockhorst Announces Gruene Charter

I hope that everyone had a safe and happy holiday season. The Lions of 2-S3 have accomplished many things in the last six months. I have had the pleasure of helping our Extension Chair PDG Ron Knott and Governor Angie form the new Gruene Lions Club. That makes five Lions Clubs in the New Braunfels area. The guiding Lions for the new club will be PDG Dennis Heitkamp and Region V Chair Lion Mike Smith. The charter was sent in with 27 charter members. Three Lions from the Noon club and two from the Evening

club are transferring; that gives us a net gain of 22 new Lions.

This year has been great for membership and it takes a united effort from all the Lions in our district to keep membership a priority.

The MERL team and the Region and Zone Chairs are scheduled to meet again in late January. Our goal is to assist our clubs in electing new officers for the 2007-2008 year. Now is the time for club presidents to appoint nominating committees, for it is important that we put in place the most quali-

fied candidates and to make sure that the information is accurately passed onto the international and district levels.

I have seen and read of the many fine works that our clubs have done this past year. Keep up the good work! In closing I hope to see everyone in Giddings for the third cabinet meeting and Joint Mid-Winter Conference on January 12 and 13th.

God Bless and good luck in the coming year.

Yours In Lionism, Lester Stockhorst

News from the Clubs

Georgetown Noon Lions Club

December has been a rather quiet time for our club. On December 2, 2006, we participated in Georgetown's annual Christmas Stroll. We set-up a 10' X 10' booth and sold Christmas Wreaths and Swags from Oregon, along with some beautiful light boxes made by members of the club. This was a successful event and only four wreaths were unsold; these were given to the Caring Place.

On December 12, 2006, our club and the Georgetown Evening Lions Club, held a joint Christmas party. Approximately fifty Lions and their guests attended. In place of exchanging gifts, each person brought a book for children, ages 10 thru 15. All books were donated to the Caring Place. A good time was had by all.

At our only regular meeting for the month, we had a speaker from Pedernales Electric Co. She provided information on methods for us to reduce our eclectic bill. At the end of the meeting, we drew the winners for our raffle prizes. We gave a laptop computer, a wrist watch, and a drill to those who won.

Garden Ridge-Bracken Lions Club

Thirty-five members, along with their wives and friends, assisted in this year's Operation Santa Claus; contributing over 350 volunteer hours and \$3,901.00 towards children's gifts and food baskets for over 50 needy families. Lions coloring books and crayons were included in Santa's package to each home and an entire evening of fun and work was scheduled to wrap presents for the many children on Santa's list. Other donations included; \$50.00 donated to a needy child for an eye exam; \$500.00 was donated to the City Library for children's books; and flowers, costing \$48.66, was donated to a local assisted-living facility.

Over one-hundred Lions, spouses, and friends attended this year's Christmas dinner, December 8th, 2006, at the Garden Ridge Community Center. The Canyon High School Choir sang Christmas songs for everyone's entertainment; they were fantastic.

Wimberley Lions Club

Wimberley Lions had their last Market Days for 2006. With the last MD over, our Facilities and Building Chair, Lion John Stark, goes to work on updating and repairing of concession stands and roads. Our next Market Day (MD) will be the first Saturday in April.

Three Melvin Jones Awards were given out in December: First to Lion Stan Luckowski, for many years of work at our MD Field and multiple committee assignments; Second to Lion John Lyon, for five years as Secretary, District Chair at Youth Exchange, and District Chair of the Mobile Health Screening Unit; and Third to Lion Pete Masterson, Lion Pete may be getting up in years but still sponsored at least 2 new members for the last 4 years. Lion Pete organizes our Lions Magazine recycling project.

Have a Happy New Year and a productive one. Lion John

Canyon Lake Noon Lions Club

The Canyon Lake Noon Lions are very proud of their float entry in the Sattler Christmas Parade; it won 1st place in the Futures category. Our aluminum can collection project raised \$778.00 and over 1,000 pair of used eye glasses have been shipped this year to the Lions Eye-Glass Collection Center. Projects in the planning stage are the CRRC 13 Acre Project and the Spring Fish Fry Fundraiser. Over 50 volunteer hours were contributed to various projects and \$500.00 was donated to the Hope Hospice Tree of Lights. Our membership remains at 58.

New Braunfels Evening Lions Club

New Braunfels Evening Lions know how to get the holiday season off to a roaring Texas start. President Jeff Kunkel set the theme of a "Rootin' Tootin' Christmas in Texas," and everyone got into the spirit of a wonderful party at the Live Oak Grill on December 6th. Sixty-one Lions, Spouses and guests, and six little buckaroos dressed up in their Texas finery and enjoyed a "Fajitas Buffet" with all the "fixin's." The highlight of the evening's entertain-

ment was the joyous singing of traditional Christmas songs in German by the New Braunfels Kinder Choir. However, a crowd favorite was their German rendition of "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer!" Donations to the SOS Food Bank were also rounded-up during the evening and delivered the next day as a way for the Club to "Serve" during the season of giving.



The New Braunfels Kinder Choir, in full costume, delighted everyone with their joyous singing!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS DECEMBER ACTION REPORT [From the December 4th Minutes]

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Ken DeMaet distributed copies of the Treasurer's Report for the period 10/30/06 to 12/4/06. The Administrative Fund opened with a balance of \$3,848.16. Income for the period totaled \$1,162.50, and Expenses totaled \$601.77. The Closing Balance was \$4,408.89. The Project Fund opened with a balance of \$12,510.73. Income of \$27,252.41 was received; Expenses totaled \$12,182.13. The Closing Balance was \$27,581.01. Treasurer DeMaet also presented backup documents showing check book detail and the Budget verses Actual for both funds for the reported period. An additional report on Revenues & Expense for Wurstfest 2006 was presented indicating revenues of \$27,181.05 and expenses of \$11,850.13. The net income was \$15,330.92.

Committee Reports: President Jeff Kunkel expressed appreciation for the work of Vice President Bob Spiegel and all our volunteers for Wurstfest 2006, and the excellent report of financial results already presented. Vice-President Spiegel reported for the

News from the Clubs (Continued)

Mobile Health Screening Unit that three more dates are scheduled for the remaining months of this Lion's Year, 2006-2007: January 20, March 10, and June 30.

Old Business: Secretary Kandeler reported that he had contacted Sandy Hale of Rockdale Sports and Embroidery about the status of our proposed order of new vests. She is trying to find a blue material to closely match our current blue vests and will submit her bid on per vest costs as soon as the material is identified.

New Business: President Kunkel announced that the January Board meeting would be rescheduled due to the January 1, New Years Day conflict with the regularly scheduled time. After brief discussion, the Board rescheduled the January Board meeting for Monday, January 8, 2007. The Quarterly Business Meeting scheduled for January will be on Wednesday, January 17, 2007. President Kunkel presented with regret, yet personal affirmation for, First Vice President Harry Botkin's letter of resignation for his office. The letter is filed with these minutes. The resignation was filed as being effective on the date of November 12, 2006. President Kunkel expresses appreciation for VP Botkin's completion of his work through the end of Wurstfest. The Board accepted the letter of resignation on a motion by Director Petersen, seconded by Tail Twister Bill White. President Kunkel let the Board in a brief review of unpaid items in the Project Fund Budget for the year. Items to be paid and not paid until an agency representative can be presented with their check at a Club meeting were identified. Treasurer DeMaet noted the Board's consensus on what items to pay now: Blue Santa; Eden Home; Hope Hospice; Texas Lions Camp Golf Tournament; United Way; and YMCA. President Kunkel presented the need for the Board to approve a contribution for the Kinder Choir that will perform at the Christmas Party. The normal amount is \$50 for a performance. The Board approved a \$50 donation on a motion by Fred Kandeler, seconded by Jerry Petersen.

With two new members, our

membership now stands at 59. \$25.00 was donated and 5 volunteer hours were committed to the Peace Poster contest and 625 hours to the Wurstfest fund raiser.



Who is that man in the "White" hat? Cowboys Bobbie Hassert and Lin Rose know who he is; new member, Coley White!

Our membership for the month of December remains at 59 members. We held a very successful Christmas party, December 6th. The following donations were made during the month of December: Blue Santa, \$100.00; Eden Home, Inc, \$100.00; Hope Hospice, \$100.00; Texas Lions Camp Golf Tournament, \$100.00; United Way, \$100.00; YMCA, \$100.00; and the SOS Food Pantry; \$205.00.

Fred Kandeler, 2006-2007 Secretary

New Braunfels Breakfast Lions Club

December was the busiest month for our club members as far as projects scheduled were concerned. Our major fundraiser was scheduled for December 14th instead of August or September. We found out that that this schedule time was better than what we had in the past.

Our major fund raiser concert featured the "Marksman" gospel/bluegrass band. 465 tickets were collected at the door, but a great many more were sold and the club preliminary intake net was \$5,500.00. On December 9th, club members had our annual Kids Christmas service project where we hosted a shopping spree at Wal-Mart for

40 kids; of which 38 kids actually took part in the event. The annual Red Kettle service project members of the club rang bells and manned the two kettles at the Wal-Mart location for all of Saturday December 16.

December donations included the Salvation Army Red Kettle, 20 hours contributed; and Kids Christmas, 40 hours and \$2,000.00 contributed. With one new member and one dropped member, our membership remains at 36.

Round Rock Noon Lions Club

The following Donations were made: LCIF SightFirst II, with recipient to be named later, \$1,000.00; Round Rock High School new LEO Club start up monies, \$100.00; and Family Christmas Gift, \$164.00. Club Programs for December included: Dec 7th – Red Cross – Marty McKellips; Dec 14th – Robert Payne, who compiled information for EARHARTS FLIGHT INTO YESTERDAY. 89.5 volunteer hours and 8 Lions serving were contributed as follows: Round Rock Serving Center – Lions Ed & Shirley assisted sales and sorting, 7 hours; Lion Tino worked 30+ hours on 'Just Because' Christmas for the needy, 30 hours; Lions Shirley & Angela arranged for LEO's to TX Baptist Children's Home to sing and hand out stuffed toys, 2 hours; Lion Shirley & LEO's wrapped and delivered Blue Santa items; 7 hours; Lions Adrien & Shirley worked for RR Chamber of Commerce's Artisan Stroll, 7.5 hours; Lions Adrien & Shirley mentored middle school youth, 7 hours; A combination of fund raising, interclub, diabetes camp, diabetes education, recreational camp for blind, community education, other, 23 hours; and Chamber of Commerce ambassador, 6 hours.

We began ticket sales for 52/50 opportunities to win \$50 gift certificates to Lowe's, Home Depot or Wal-Mart.

A Christmas social was held at Lion Mary Hadden's home. Two young ladies showed up 'thinking' they were at the correct party. To look for an address, one gal emptied a huge purse in the middle of the front room floor containing personal female items, a young boy's shorts, note pad, book, etc. The joke was on all of us; when the strangers departed, we were asked to list all of the items she dumped on the floor.

We were considering the envi-

News from the Clubs (Continued)

ronment by recycling items from our homes (white elephant Chinese gift exchange). No one 'took' from each other. Each guest brought 10 pennies. After all numbers were called and gifts opened an auction with bids up to \$.10 was held for others newly acquired possessions.

San Marcos Noon Lions Club

The month of December was somewhat inactive due to the holidays. The Board recognized the attendance of two new cubs at the Board Meeting: Adam Currie and Zeke Palacios, Mike Rhodes, Tube Rental Chairman, discussed his desire to add a food vending service at Rio Vista Part next season. Don Arledge discussed Lions participation in the "Spring Thing" kayak event in conjunction with the Olympic Kayak Center in March. Both proposals were supported by the Board.

Awards Committee Nominations of Rowe Ray, 3rd V.P. and Editor of the San Marcos (almost) Daily Record, for November "Lion of the Month" and San Marcos High School teacher Welch for "Teacher of the Month" were approved by the Board

Rowe Ray was nominated to serve as 1st V.P. for the remainder of this year and Rebecca Conley was nominated as a 2-yr Director to replace Gary Aalen who agreed to serve as tail twister. Both were approved.

The distribution of Christmas baskets was made on Saturday, Dec. 16 as scheduled. A dozen Lions and a dozen scouts from Scout Troop 112 participated in the deliveries all over the City of San Marcos. Those participating had a great feeling of accomplishment to serve the needy at Christmas time.

The Lions assisted the local Chapter of the Salvation Army by providing "Bell Ringers" at several San Marcos stores on Dec. 17.

34 Lions and their wives attended the annual Lions Christmas Party at the River Pub on Dec. 14, 2006. Everyone had a great time.

A cub raising for five new Lions was held at the regular noon meeting, Friday, Dec. 1, 2006, by Lion VDG Lester Stockhorst. The new Lions are John Schramm, Rocky Perez, Juan Perez, David Holt, and Marcus Monton-

don. Dr. Charles von Henner was honored with a Melvin Jones Fellowship for his over half-century service to the Lions. A total of \$17,250.00 was presented to the following community organizations: Hays County Blue Santa; San Marcos Salvation Army; Leadership San Marcos; Adopt-A-School Program; Sights and Sounds of Christmas; Hays County Food Bank; Greater San Marcos Youth Council; Capitol Area Boy Scouts; and Southside Community Center.

Only two membership meetings were held this month due to the holidays. Cathy Dillon was the speaker for our Dec. 8th meeting. Cathy discussed the San Marcos Heritage Associations and their activities in the community. Friday lunch attendance averaged 34 members and 8 guests. Jack Fairchild, Secretary

Milano Evening Lions Club

By the time you read this, our Pancake Supper fundraiser, planned for January 3rd, will have been a resounding success.

The combined Rockdale Noon and Milano Lions Clubs Christmas party was held on December 14th. Toys were donated to the *Toys for Tots* program.

Elgin Noon Lions Club

The Elgin Noon Lions entered their float, "Santa's Helpers," in the annual Elgin Lighted Night Christmas Parade. Lions brought Christmas toys and donated these items to the Elgin Blue Santa project. Our Lions shared Christmas food items for the needy by donating to the Elgin food pantry, Community Cupboard. We continue to sell tickets to the public to raise funds for our service project of purchasing a narcotics dog for the Elgin Police Department.

San Marcos Bluebonnet Lions Club

A Message From President Kathy: What a month December has been! It makes my head spin just to think of all the work the Bluebonnet Lions did this month. Our elves were hard at work at

Sights and Sounds, helping Santa with pictures at Center Point Station, and doing some bell ringing for the Salvation Army. In our spare time, we sold pecans and arranged for a community basketball event with the Harlem Ambassadors to take place on January 18th. The spirit of Christmas is alive and well in San Marcos. Thank you all for the time, talents and energy you give so freely. It's time to move into the New Year. With this in mind, we will be appointing a nominating committee soon to put together a new slate of officers for 2007/2008. If you are interested in serving on this committee, or have your eye on a particular job I'd sure like to hear from you. I wish you all a very Happy New Year!!!

Faye Locke was our Lion of the Month for December! Faye has been a valued member of our club. She is a Charter member and was a Lioness before that. She has served as a Director for several terms, served as Membership Director and is currently doing a fantastic job in her second term as Secretary. Faye is always willing to help and we appreciate her greatly!



Buda Lions Club's Annual Wiener Dog Race

Welcome to Buda, Texas.
"The Wiener Dog Capital of Texas"

2007 Buda Country Fair & Wiener Dog Race:
WHEN: April 28 & 29, 2007
WHERE: [Buda City Park \(Map\)](#)

A Message from Lions International President, Jimmy Ross

The coming year will be a very special one for Lions Clubs International. Lions from all over the world are invited to "come home to Chicago" for our 90th International Convention in July. There will be many other celebrations and events marking our 90th anniversary beginning with a special feature in an upcoming issue of The LION magazine. Information on other events will be available throughout the year at <http://www.lionsclubs.org/>

Other parts of our association family will be celebrating significant milestones as well. This year will mark the 50th anniversary of Leo clubs, the 20th anniversary of the Peace Poster contest and the 20th anniversary of women's participation as Lions club members. These anniversaries will also be featured in The LION magazine and on the Lions Clubs International Web site.

While we will be taking special note of the past in this year of anniversaries, we will also be moving ahead with the new paradigm for our organization. As part of this new paradigm, we are focusing membership extension efforts on "target markets" that are underrepresented in the association. Urban populations and the "baby boomer" generation are two important examples.

But perhaps the most important group we can reach out to is young people. It should be obvious to everyone that the youth of our communities will be the Lions club members of the future. That is why I am asking all Lions clubs throughout the world to consider sponsoring a Leo club.

The association is placing great importance on Leo clubs in their 50th anniversary year. In a letter to all Leo Club members throughout the world (http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/youth_leo_convention.shtml) I have invited them to come to Chicago and participate in a special Global Leo Conference during our International Convention. I believe that knowing that Lions Clubs International is dedicated to providing activities and programs that are specially tailored to young people will energize existing Leo clubs and be a powerful motivation for the formation of new ones.

I hope that your club will also place great importance on Leos in the coming year. The month of April has been designated as Leo Awareness Month. I strongly urge you to show your members and your communities what young people can accomplish by joining with a Leo club in your area for a special service project in April.

You have my best wishes during this holiday season and for a joyful, service-filled new year.

Sincerely, Jimmy M. Ross, International President, Lions Clubs International

From Lions Clubs International:

NEW FAMILY MEMBERS: Instructions for providing former members joining existing Lions Clubs is available at:

http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/pdfs/former_member_entrance_fee_rebate_form.pdf

The instructions also provide a direct link for filing the required form online.

CAMPAIGN SIGHTFIRST II: Lions are golfing, pledging and selling to save sight as they increase their CSFII fund raising. What is your Lions club doing to help save sight through CSFII? Send photos and event details by e-mail to:

csfii@lionsclubs.org

Click here to read about the amazing clubs saving sight through CSFII:

http://www.lions-csfii.org/live/content/pdfs/club_news_v2_i4_en.pdf

CSFII By the Numbers:

- \$56 million raised toward CSFII's minimum goal of \$150 million
- 1,355+ clubs are Model Clubs
- In the 10 minutes since you started reading this newsletter, 120 people have gone blind

FAMILY UNIT CERTIFICATION FORM: The Family Unit Certification form needed for Family Membership is available online at:

http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/programs_mem_family.shtml

PUBLIC RELATIONS WEBSITE MATERIALS: The December edition of the e-newsletter is now available for distribution at:

http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/news_news_online.shtml

31st Annual



USA/CANADA
LIONS
LEADERSHIP FORUM

September 6-8, 2007
Grand Rapids, Michigan

*"Making a Difference
Through the
Challenges of Change"*



2007 USA/CANADA Lions Leadership Forum
Grand Rapids, Michigan • September 2007



January 2007

Volume 4, Issue 6

Jimmy Ross delivers Stetsons – and good will — across the globe

Brimming With Pride

Vincent T. Davis & Michelle Mondo
San Antonio Express-News

When Texan Jimmy Ross walks down the street in some parts of the world he's the tallest man around. Weighing about 200 pounds and spiffed up in his oil-black suit, he's used to strangers snapping his picture. The heel of his ostrich leather cowboy boots extends his 6-foot, 4-inch height a bit, but it's not the boots that people stare at. It's his "silver-belly" colored, wide-brimmed Stetson that draws crowds from airports to rural villages.

Ross, the 89th president of the International Association of Lions Clubs, is known around the globe for his signature cowboy hat. He spends more than 11 months a year traveling to help the blind and visually impaired. On his last trip he toured areas hit two years ago by the tsunami in Sri Lanka, India, Indonesia and Thailand.

After talking with dignitaries, he gives them a parting gift — their own customized Stetson. Ross, a rancher and retired judge has presented the icon of the old West to heads of government in more than a dozen countries, including China, India, Africa and Iceland. One of his biggest thrills was giving a special hat to a fellow Texan — President Bush.

As he lifts a hat out of a hatbox, world leaders turn into wide-eyed kids. The hats represent a lifestyle they've seen at movies and on billboards. Ross, 64, born and bred in Flo- mot has driven cattle across the prairie and broken broncos since he was in grade school. "It's a way to identify myself with Texas," Ross said. "(The Lions Club) used to give little crystal lions, but it doesn't have the impact of something personal. They'll wear (this) and love it."

His partner in the crusade is fellow Lion, Herb Carroll, owner of Herb's Hat Shop at 4922 Rigsby Ave. For the past two years they've exported the hats as a symbol of good will and Texas values. "It has to do with the cowboy," Carroll said, "the look and philoso-

phy of what they stood for. They are good, right, and people want to be associated with that. (The cowboys are) the champion for the people. It's adventure; it's America, which I think is great."



Herb Carroll, owner of Herb's Hat Shop, says the Stetsons that he and fellow Lions Club member Jimmy Ross give to dignitaries worldwide embody the spirit of America.

Ross' staff requests the hat size of dignitaries he'll visit. Carroll's workers open the box, shape the brim of the Stetson's, seal it up and ship to the Lion's headquarters at Oak Brook, Ill. Ross picks the hats up en route to his destination. They only use the Heritage series known for its distinctive color. Carroll said they settled on "a color that can go with anything," and a hat that "can be worn with a suit and casual (dress)." The Heritage model retails for \$160. Bush's hat, "El Presidente," cost \$1,000. To date they've shipped 14 Stetsons abroad.

He has a piece of ruled paper with the country and the hat sizes for each leader — or president, as he calls them — sitting on his desk. It looks like this: "President of Iceland is a 7 5/8." "President of Japan, he wears a 6 5/8." "President of Mali, 7 1/8."

"Just like me, that's why I tried on his hat before I sent it," Carroll said of Bush's hat. "The president of Japan has the smallest (hat size) and the president of Iceland has the largest. So (Japan to Iceland) that's smallest to largest." Politics don't play a part in the process, Carroll said, just the spirit of the hat.

Neither man tolerates bad manners. Messing with a Texan's hat falls in that category. The president of Iceland discovered that when he held out his arms, thinking Ross was giving

his hat to him. He had to wait for his own. "If you want to get in a fight with me, touch my hat," Carroll said.



A hat is removed from a cleaning solution. The style that Jimmy Ross and Herb Carroll deliver to dignitaries is the Heritage series, picked for its distinctive color. To date, they've shipped 14 Stetsons abroad.

There are times when Ross doesn't wear his hat — in countries where presidents provide security and at dinners. He wrestles with wearing the hat, even when giving a speech as part of his public persona. "My momma told me to never wear a hat in the house," Ross said. When recipients place a hat on their head they pick up a swagger, Ross said. That was the case when Ross visited a delegate in China. The man eyed the hatbox until the end of the meeting when Ross presented the custom-made hat. "My father had a Stetson," he said, placing the hat on his head. "Now I have a Stetson." Each hat has a dedication in the band and advice for anyone seeking to join the club of Stetson owners. The inscription reads: "Like hell it's your hat, it belongs to, but you can get one at Herb's Hat and Boot Repair."



Jimmy M. Ross
President, The International
Association of Lions Clubs

Editor
Jim Newbold
JNewbold1@satx.rr.com

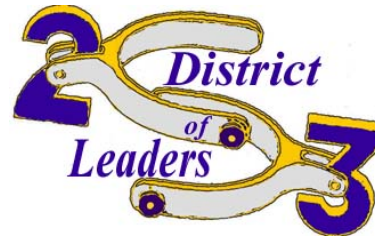
Page 10

"Service is our motto: joy is the result"

January 2007

Volume 4, Issue 6

Jim Newbold
9297 Cinchona Trail
Garden Ridge, TX 78266
Phone: (210) 655-1174



We're on the Web!
www.LionsDistrict2S3.org

"Service is our motto: joy is the result"

