

Geneva-Mission News

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April 19, 2001

April 11th Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Ward. Pledge to the Flag was led by Chuck Ayala, and the invocation was given by Ron Seward. A total of 9 members were in attendance.

Committee Reports

Y & C A Co-Chairman Dick Johnson reported he, Diane and George & Cathy Salet attended the April 7th drawing/dinner at the DoubleTree Hotel. Continuing the custom of the Mission Lions, this club was the top ticket seller in the district. Out of the total of 50 prizes, 11 prizes went to holders of raffle tickets purchased through this club including the \$4,000 second prize.

Programs

Linda Civitello-Joy, Executive Director of the American Lung Assoc. in San Francisco and San Mateo Counties gave a slide show and talk on the association. It has been operating since 1908, and most of us are familiar with its sale of Christmas seals to raise funds. Some of the association's goals are to promote air quality, funding research to find cures for lung diseases and to reduce tobacco use. Their website is at www.lungusa.org

Jeremy D. Spoon, San Francisco Program Manager of Junior Achievement was the meeting's second speaker. Junior Achievement is an organization that teaches school-children K - 12 how to be successful in life. Through its economic education programs, it has brought the exciting message of free enterprise and opportunity to more than 500,000 Bay Area youths since it began in 1950. Volunteers such as Lions are briefed and given kits of material to use in classrooms where they teach. The program is funded by foundations and grants. Their website is www.jaba.org Mr. Spoon can be contacted at (650) 553-2184.

Speaker Jeremy Spoon drew the winning Convention Raffle ticket held by Charlie Bottarini. Charlie grabbed only a \$3 winning white golf ball. Absent Bill Cazatt missed out on \$6 in the Attendance Drawing. Mystery Lion Ward Donnelly had no victims.

April 18th Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Ward Donnelly. Pledge to the Flag was led by Lyle Workman, and the invocation was given by Bill Graziano. A total of 14 members were in attendance. President Ward reminded members the May 2nd meeting is cancelled. Giulio Francesconi graciously hosted for wine. You had to be present to know why he had to order one more carafe than he planned.

Committee Reports

Ward Donnelly displayed a T-shirt conventioners will be wearing at Sacramento, and he took size orders for same.

Visitation Chairman Bill Graziano stated no more visits to other clubs are scheduled.

Peace Poster Chairman Aaron Straus reported the ordered peace poster kits have reached him.

Program

Program Chairman Bob Lawhon introduced Dan Lavorando, Executive Director of the San Francisco chapter of Teen Challenge. (Giulio, use some of your spare time tutoring Bob on the proper pronunciation of Italian names. Not all of this club's members had the background of growing up in either the Excelsior or North Beach neighborhoods.) Mr. Lavorando gave a brief history and mission of Teen Challenge. It began in New York in 1958 and in San Francisco in 1964. It has been at its 1464 Valencia St. location since 1970. There they house up to 20 men, ages 18 and over in a crisis care setting for 60 days before sending some students to other Teen Challenge centers. Some stay in the S.F. center for the full year. There are 130 Teen Challenge centers in the United States.

Teen Challenge is a religious non-profit corporation established to evangelize teens as well as adults who have life-controlling problems, and to initiate the discipleship process to the point where the person can function as a Christian in society applying spiritually motivated principles to relationships in the family, local church, chosen vocation and the community.

Two clients were introduced and asked to tell first-hand of what brought them to Teen Challenge. Nick Pacheco turned to liquor after his divorce. He found himself in a constant stupor and was convicted on a DUI. "Josh" became hooked on methamphetamine. He resorted to burglaries to afford his habit; was apprehended and incarcerated. They are both now on the road to recovery.

The Convention Raffle grand prize had grown to \$392, and this is the pre-convention meeting where the prize had to be awarded. There were 13 white golf balls and the prize-winning orange golf ball in the pouch. Nine members had their raffle tickets drawn and, one by one, each pulled a white golf ball out of the pouch. With a total of only 5 balls remaining in the pouch, the team of Johnson & Madden found the orange ball. Congratulations Dick and John! Mystery Lion Ward Donnelly had no victims. Joe Farrah collected \$8 in the Attendance Drawing.

SHORTS

Go to www.ellislandrecords.org to learn when your parents/grandparents entered the U.S. You may also view a picture of the ship on which they arrived, the passenger manifest, and other pertinent information.

COMING EVENTS

4/29 Wine Tasting; 5/2 Meeting cancelled; 5/2 - 5/6 District Convention; 5/9 Lunch meeting

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

5/11 Harriet Kleinbach