



GENEVA MISSION LIONS CLUB



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Serving Since 1951

February, 2008

February 6th Student Speakers

The meeting was called to order by President Bre. Pledge to the Flag was led by Dick Johnson, and the invocation was given by Bill Graziano. A representative from Assemblywoman Fiona Ma's office dropped in to distribute Ma's January Newsletter to constituents. President Bre asked for a show of hands of people who can assist with the upcoming Flag Day. She also announced she will be attending the February 9th cabinet meeting.

Handford Clews distributed tickets for the February 23rd Crab Feed.

Football Pool Chairman Lyle Workman mailed letters of gratitude dated February 6th to participants.

The meeting was turned over to Student Speaker Contest Chairman Joe Farrah. The three contestants were Tara Gamboa-Eastman, a freshman from Mercy High School, Susan Lin, a junior from Washington High School, and Kathleen McGee, a senior from International High School. Accompanying Tara was her assistant coach, Kate Kulikova, who herself was a contestant in our 2004 club and zone competition. Accompanying Susan was her teacher-coach, John Propster. Supporting Kathleen was her father, Tim McGee. The topic was "Immigration - My Solution." The judging was so close that the tellers had to use scoring Test # 3 to determine the winner was Tara Gamboa-Eastman. Joe presented to each of the contestants a framed Certificate of Appreciation and award checks, \$50 to the winner and \$25 to each of the runners-up. The judges were retired lawyer Nick Elchinoff and retired English professor Maurice Fitzgerald. A third scheduled judge, Ric Micheli, a retired school teacher and administrator from Rohnert Park, had to cancel out on short notice due to automobile problems. All of the judges were Balboa High School classmates of Joe Farrah and Emily Powell. The date and location of the next level zone runoff won't be known until the zone chairman returns to town March 1st.

February 13th Past-Presidents Night

The meeting was called to order by Acting President George Salet. Pledge to the Flag was led by Bill Graziano, and Handford Clews gave the invocation. A total of 12 past-presidents were in attendance. Bob Fenech hosted for wine in an effort to influence the past-presidents to re-accept him into their ranks. Waitress Leila treated everybody to delicious home-baked brownies as a gesture of gratitude.

Committee Reports

Bill Graziano reported 13 members have not yet turned in their Y & C A raffle ticket stubs. He urged them to do so and reminded them not to lose the tickets.

After Aaron Straus learned no Lions are available to work the scheduled February 15th Flag Day, he decided to schedule the event for another day. Oatmeal cookies he had purchased from Costco to distribute to students were sold to members at the meeting. Aaron circulated a printout of the club's re-formatted web site. This was done with the assistance of George Salet. Good job, guys.

George Salet, Mike Castagnetto, Al Gentile and Handford Clews talked about their areas of interest regarding the upcoming February 23rd Crab Feed. George circulated the colorful brochure that will be given to all of the attendees. This brochure informs the people about the dinner, the raffle and club activities. George asked members to come to the recreation center the morning of the event to help set up the dining room and to enjoy the cold cut lunch that will be served. He also asked members to remind their ladies to bring hors d'oeuvres. Handford stressed the importance of members getting the tickets to the Crab Feed in to the hands of the attendees. Al Gentile brought to the club's attention the need for a couple of strong energetic bodies to work the bar after dinner and to help assemble the liquor and beverage bottles and to dis-assemble the bar and load it into George Salet's truck. These tasks are important and they have been handled by the same people every year. Some other members must step forward in the spirit of Lion's motto: "We Serve."

Joe Farrah reported on the prior meeting's Student Speaker Contest. No other clubs in our Zone 3 participated in Student Speakers. The date and location of the zone contest have not yet been announced as the zone chairman is out of the country until March 1st. Joe has put the zone, regional and district chairmen on notice that a zone speaking event



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must take place even though there is no competition.

The team of Farrah & Pavini held the winning ticket in the Convention Raffle. Joe came up with only a \$3 winning Titelist golf ball missing out on \$215 in the kitty. Absent Bill Shea missed out on \$8 in the attendance Drawing. Hopefully we will see Bill and Calista at the Crab Feed. Mystery Lion Bill Graziano had no victims.

Nomination of Officers

Immediate Past-President Bob Fenech conducted the nomination of officers for the coming 2008-09 year. This process was done with dispatch. Congratulations to the nominees who are:

President: George Salet, 1st V-P: Dick Johnson, 2nd V-P Bill Graziano, Secretary: Ward Donnelly, Treasurer: Handford Clews, Tail-Twisters: Mike Castagnetto and Aaron Straus, Lion Tamer: Bob Fenech, Membership Chairman: Charles Bottarini, 2-year Board Members: Joe Farrah, Aaron Straus, Lyle Workman, 1-year Board Members: Emily Powell, Galdo Pavini, Bob Lawhon

February 20th Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Bre. Pledge to the Flag was led by Bob Fenech, and the invocation was given by Bill Graziano. A total of 11 members were in attendance. A guest of Dick Johnson was Neil Griffith, a young man who learned of this club through the club's website. Bre announced the the International Convention will take place in Bangkok, Thailand May 15th to 18th.

San Mateo Lion Doug Borland was in attendance as District Coordinator of the Hearing Foundation and "Ear Of the Lion." He heard Screening Chairman Bill Graziano's reasons for recommending the club no longer participate in hearing and he said he will pass the complaints and frustration up his chain of command.

Committee Reports

Aaron Straus announced the re-scheduled Flag Day date is Wednesday, February 27th from 9:15 A.M. to 10:30.

Y & C A Chairman Bill Graziano reported 1,700 books of raffle tickets are outstanding among the club members and ten groups.

Charlie Bottarini conducted the Convention Raffle. \$247 was in the kitty. Bob Fenech held the winning ticket but came up with only a \$1 Titelist. Handford Clews picked up \$10 in the Attendance Drawing. Mystery Lion Joe Farrah reported "no victims."

February 23rd Crab Feed

The club's 26th Annual Crab Feed took place at the Janet Pomery Center for the Handicapped and was a huge success. Previous problems with chicken and serving seemed to disappear (Wheh!). Profits at \$5,400 were down this year. The following members were at the center that morning to unload the crab, work the kitchen, set-up the bar and dining room: Bottarini, Castagnetto, Clews, Donnelly, Farrah, Fenech, Gentile, Graziano, Johnson, Lawhon, Straus and Workman. Lyle brought along his CD player to provide pleasant music for the workers. All enjoyed a delicious cold cut and potatoe salad lunch layed out by the kitchen crew. The following members stayed late to gather the liquor and beverage bottles, clean up, disassemble the bars and haul club equipment, signs and opened liquor to George Salet's truck: Johnson, Workman, Salet and Farrah. Special thanks to the Bottarini ladies who handled raffle ticket sales. This is George Salet's 7th or 8th year in a row chairing the event.

February 27th Flag Day

Four Geneva-Mission Lions members traveled through eight classrooms at Mission Educational Center to educate 150 Kindergarten through 5th Grade Hispanic students about the American "Bandera" Flag and its meaning at the Annual Flag Day presentation. These students are experiencing their first year in the U.S. and are in this school for only one year to help them integrate into the regular school system for next year. Each student received an American Flag, an information page about the flag and a snack. The Geneva-Mission Lions Club has been sponsoring this program as well as



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Thanksgiving luncheon and Santa Claus at Christmas for the M.E.C. for over 30 years. Assisting in the classroom presentation were Lions Robt. Lawhon, George Salet and Aaron Straus as well as a potential Lion member Neil Griffith. If you want to see Lions in action and get a positive experience on what we do, come out and help at the next programs at M.E.C.

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

1/20 Ted Wildenrad; 1/27 Larry Farrell; 2/2 Jim Kerr; 2/4 Galdo & Pat Pavini; 2/6 Al & Blanche Fregosi; 2/8 Joe & Emily Farrah; 2/13 Lorraine Castagnetto; 2/16 Chas. Bottarini, Chas. Stuhr, Dick Johnson; 2/19 Dorothy Pearson; 2/23 Ed Damonte; 3/1 Emily Powell

COMING EVENTS

2/20 Program meeting, visit by San Bruno Lions; 2/23 Crab Feed; 3/5 Board Meeting