



Geneva-Excelsior Lions Club

The Passing of a Great Lion

Lion Handford Clews received a call from Lion Charlie Bottarini's daughter that he passed away in his sleep Monday morning.

9-21-16 from Christine Ramezzano:

Hello Everyone!

As most of you know, our Dad passed away in his sleep early Monday morning.

We have made funeral arrangements (didn't get the best days and times, but you don't get much choice). If you can come, we'd love to see you. This Sunday afternoon, September 25th, Rosary at 4:00 p.m., Duggan's Serra Mortuary, 500 Westlake Ave., Daly City. Monday morning, Funeral Mass at 11:00 a.m., Church of the Epiphany, 827 Vienna St., San Francisco.

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Geneva-Excelsior Lions Club

Serving Since 1951

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Meeting Digest 9-21-16

The meeting was called to order by Lion President Sharon Eberhardt who also led the pledge. Lion Bill Graziano gave the invocation who honored Lion Charlie. Introductions were led by stand-in Tail Twister Lion Lyle Workman who fined those who did not have their badge. There were a total of 12 members present.

There was a toast to Lion Charlie followed by what news was available from his family; a Rosary was held on Sunday, Sept. 25th with a Funeral Mass on Monday, the 26th.

Yearly donations were discussed: Lion Al Gentile contacted Teen Challenge and is waiting for a return call; a brief discussion of other organizations; one overriding question is whether all the recipients would come on one night. More to come.

The District Governor's official visit is on his schedule for November 16th (unconfirmed.) Lion May Wong reports that we should get a visit from our Zone Chairman prior to that but it is unknown when that will happen.

Y & C Raffle

Lion Bill Graziano reported that he will be selecting members to help distribute tickets and collect from various groups; via email Lion Viela du Pont reports that she has received calls from several groups about the number of tickets they want. It's starting to come together.

Football

The first three games of the season are done, with mixed results for the '9ers. Winners were: Diane Rodden, Marcella Genolio, Art Galla, George Salet & Lyle Workman, Russell Gumina, Stephen Cornell, Ron Solis, Steve Agosta, Diane Annucci, Archie Francisco, John Perryman, and

Valentine & Scot Smith. Should the winners be listed by quarter, final, etc? Let me know if important to you.

Attendance Raffle & Mystery Lion

Attendance Raffle was a non-winner of \$1400.00: Lion Jerry Lowe; Lion Viela du Pont was the self-appointed Mystery Lion at our last meeting and did not appoint a new one. Bad girl; perhaps she'll appoint one for the next meeting.

Used Eye Glasses

On September 23rd we received a request for info from our website concerning where to donate used eye glasses. This went out to all members with an email address. Replies were: drop off at Clinic by the Bay, 4877 Mission St.; drop off box in main office of Balboa High School, 1000 Cayuga; drop off at Premier Eyecare, 2489 Mission St., Suite 212. All great suggestions and thanks to those replying.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

10/1 Kathy & Lion George Salet; 10/10 Donna Francescani; 10/23 Lion Handford Clews

Coming Events

10/5 Business & Board Meeting
10/19 Program Meeting

District Events of Interest

Lions Joe Farrah and May Wong attended Lion George Habeeb's celebration on September 30th at the Basque Cultural Center.

Etcetera

Our hearts go out to Lion Al Gentile whose son Jack passed away unexpectedly September 28th from a very aggressive form of cancer.



Lions Michael Chan, SF Cyber Lions, PDG Macy Mak Chan, Rebecca Chan, PDG Wendy Sun, and May Wong

Lions Rebecca Chan and May Wong presented our Club flag to PDG Lion Wendy Sun from Shen Zhen, China while visiting the Chinatown Lions.

Membership

Membership Chairman Lion Al Gentile has a call to Stephanie Cajina, guest of Lion May Wong, about membership in our Club. More follow up is in the works.

Police, Fire, & Sheriff Awards

Lion May Wong is working on our representatives for these awards. She is waiting for info from the Ingleside Captain due in December(?)

The Passing of A Great Lion

On September 19th, Lion Handford received the news that Lion Charlie Bottarini had passed away in his sleep the night before.

Lion Charlie Bottarini was our longest serving current member with 62 years of unselfish service to the community and will be missed by the our Club in a very big way.

Lion Charlie joined us February 1, 1954, and served our Club in every office, culminating in President in 1963-64. He held office or was chairman of a committee in almost every year since.

After his year as President, Lion Charlie went on to serve District 4C4 as Deputy District Governor in 1970-71; preceding and following that, he served in several offices and on numerous committees through the mid 1980s.

In May 1983, Lion Charlie was one of 4 or 5 members that have ever been nominated and awarded a life membership by Lions International in our Club. He was our last surviving life member, a class and quality of which is not seen often.

Lion Charlie received too many awards to be written about in these few pages; one worth mentioning is his having 40 years of perfect attendance as of the 1995-96 year, the last year recorded in our club records. His record of perfect attendance went on from there with many more years added to that record.

Lion Charlie sponsored three members early in his Lions career: Frank Fazzino, John Lagorio, Jr., and Gino Benetti. He received his Membership Key in May, 1960.

Many of our newer Lions may not have had enough time or opportunity to get to know Lion Charlie as the older members, but be assured, if you can be anything like him, you'll serve us and the community very, very well. Help keep his spirit alive by doing so. For the older members who had the privilege of knowing him for years, you know how well he loved and cared for this Club, and feel the deep sense of loss that is shared by each of us. Rest in peace Charlie and say "Hello" to Estelle.



Charlie & Estelle enjoying each other at a Lions convention.



Family photo of Lion Charlie.



From the book *S.F.'s Excelsior District* by Walt Jebe, Sr.: Geneva-Excelsior Lions members present high quality AM/FM radios to Sister Emabelis, principal of the Epiphany School. Lions Walt Jebe, Sr. and Chuck Bottarini, president 1963-64.



1965 - Lions Bill Tonelli, Art Blum, unknown, Charlie Bottarini, and Gino Benetti playing bocci ball at the District convention.



1970 - Lions (seated) Bob Dobbins, Charlie Bottarini, Frank Ferrera, (standing) Joe Giuffre, unknown, Art Blum, Bill Tonelli, Fred Melchoiri, and unknown dressed for the costume parade at convention.



1982 - Lions Charlie Bottarini, Joe Farrah, and Ed Morey at the hospitality table at convention.



1991 - Pat Ferrera with Lions Charlie Bottarini, Al Kleinbach, and Galdo Pavini enjoying lunch together.



2008 Crab Feed - Lions Al Gentile and Charlie Bottarini busy setting up and two bars that took care of the 500 or so guests at the dinner that night.



Lion Mike Spediacci, Estelle Bottarini, Lions Bill Tonelli, Handford Clews, Mike Castagnetto, and Charlie Bottarini crooning at a District Convention.



2014 - Lion Charlie Bottarini receiving his 60 year membership certificate from District Governor Lion Stephen Picci.



Lion Charlie's 60 Year Membership Certificate



Lions Pete Bello, Charlie Bottarini, unknown, and Frank Ferrera at a District Convention at Hoberg's Resort on Cobb Mountain.

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