



Geneva-Excelsior Lions Club

Serving Since 1951

Volume 68, No. 10, November 27, 2017

Meeting Digest 11-15-17

The meeting was called to order by President Sharon Eberhardt, who also led the Pledge. The invocation was offered by Lion Bill Graziano. A total of 12 were in attendance, which was exceptional, plus four guest speakers from HERO_digital. Lion Tail Twister Bob Fenech led introductions.

Guests - HERO_digital

Our guest speakers for the meeting were Jessica Gifford, Gianna Giancarlo, Micah Rivera, and one other from HERO_digital. The company has been tapped to rebuild the Lions Clubs International and Lions Clubs International Foundation websites and create new member experiences on the web and beyond.

From their website: They specialize in customer experience, visual design, technology platforms, data & insights, and digital marketing. Their channels include websites, mobile, commerce, communities, and product platforms.

None of the guests had ever been to a Lions meeting, and the District Governor suggested they attend one of our meetings. From our members' point of view, it was a very interesting meeting.

Although our guests' segment started out slowly, it gained momentum as the interaction between member and guest as questions were asked and answers and suggestions were presented. Surprisingly, many of our members were more than willing to contribute to the conversation.

All in all, we hope we were able to contribute to the work of HERO_digital as they work on their projects which are expected to be completed by next June.

Our guests from HERO_digital also generously sponsored a prize in our Youth and Community Raffle as well.

GE Lions Christmas Party

The Party has been set for Wednesday, December 20th and it will replace our second meeting in December. A separate flyer has been sent out to all members with the details. Check your mail and get your reservations in.

Football Fundraiser

The winners since last publication were: 11/12: Archie Francisco, Aaron Straus, and Ray Reinertson; 11/26: Cindy Reinertson, Randy Tonelli, Brennan Ford, Nancy Sanguinetti, and Steve Agosta.

Crab Feed

Lion Bob Fenech announced the date of February 24th at the Maripose Yacht Club. Lion Bob will be delegating assignments; **a pasta specialist is needed**. Pricing has not been set. Any comments are appreciated on the design below.



Student Speaker Contest

The 2017-18 topic is: "Integrity and Civility play what role in today's Society?" The Club contest will be held on Wednesday, January 17th at our regular meeting. Lion Paul Corvi has sent out letters to schools and the judges have been lined up.

Etcetera

Lion Handford Clews has been sprung. He and Margot are in their new digs at 485 Woodside Rd., Apt. 3122, Redwood City 94061-3868. Phone is the same; fax has changed to 650-362-4823 but is not operational yet.

Y & C Raffle

Lion Viela du Pont reports she has been having technical problems which has slowed down the raffle preparations. Further updates will be forthcoming.

Distribution: She will be calling on various Lions to be the contact point with groups; when called upon, please assist her. There are some new procedures.

Groups: It would be great if we could pick up some new selling groups; put on your thinking caps. A new marketing flyer, aimed at community groups, schools, and churches, is now [available on our website](#). It will also be sent to members receiving their bulletin by mail. Additionally, there is also a form that interested groups can fill out and submit on the website.

Member sales: See the note above; please cooperate by either selling or purchasing four books minimum. *That's All Members, please.*

Sponsorships: Our work is not done finding sponsors and advertisers. Please keep this important aspect in mind. The current status on the prize sponsorships is shown on [our website](#). In addition, there is also a form that interested parties can fill out and submit on the website.

Receipt for \$1.00 as your evidence of your contribution to the Lion Youth & Community Activities Fund	
Geneva-Excelsior Lions Club Project	
First Prize: \$1,000	
2nd Prize: \$500	3rd Prize: \$400
4th Prize: \$300	
5th thru 14th Prizes: \$100 each	
15th thru 20th Prizes: \$50 each	
Drawing to be held on Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the IASC, 25 Russia Ave., San Francisco	
Holder need not be present to win	
<small>Prizes are subject to, and winner is responsible for, all applicable State and Federal Income Taxes. It is not necessary to contribute to be entitled to participate in the drawing for awards. To win is according to contribution. The Youth Lion can be identified by wearing a well-knitted, knitted sweater in the Lion Youth & Community Raffle (checkered at 1000 Santa Lucia Dr., Pittsburg, CA 94566). This receipt may not be transferred or assigned.</small>	

Birthdays and Anniversaries

12/6 Happy Birthday to Lion Eddie Marchese

12/7 Happy Birthday to Lion Steve Martin

12/13 Happy Birthday to Lion Ernie Braun

Coming Events

12/6 Business & Board Meeting

12/20 Lion Christmas Party

A ton of events around the District are shown in the District 4-C4 Weekly Thread email which is forwarded to all members with email addresses, and linked under Upcoming Events on the [District website](#). If you don't have an email address, get one.

May Wong Memorial

The memorial for Lion May Wong was very well attended by Lions from around the District. She will be missed by all; images from the memorial program are below.



Attendance Raffle & Mystery Lion

Attendance Raffle was won by Lion Jacob Ratinoff who missed out on \$800.00; you have to show up to take home the cash. Mystery Lion was Lion George Salet, who had no victims.

MEC Thanksgiving Luncheon

From Lion Bob Lawhon:

MEC is a special school here in San Francisco. The young students - ages 6 to 10 are mostly from Central America. This school helps them adjust to the U.S. and our traditions. One tradition they learn about is Thanksgiving and they will sing about "Mr. Turkey" and other songs. Some tell the story of how they got from Central America to San Francisco. Heartfelt stories. Our Lions Club has been doing this program and in December, with the help of the San Francisco Fire Department "Los Bomberos," Santa will appear with toys and gifts. Santa speaks spanish and knows their names. This gives these kids a welcome feeling to the U.S. and, if Santa is here, this has to be a good place. We have been doing this for more than 45 years.

Members who attended and helped with the project were: Lions Bob Lawhon, Chairman, Zenaida Lawhon, Sharon Eberhardt, Joe Farrah, and Al Gentile. Many thanks for your hard work. Lion Bob supplied the Club photos below.

Immigrant S.F. Students Munch on Early Thanksgiving Feast

From the S. F. Examiner; Laura Waxmann on November 17, 2017:

Sitting inside the cafeteria of the Mission Education Center, 9-year-old Alexandra examined a tray laden with cornbread, pumpkin pie, sliced turkey topped with gravy, and a pile of macaroni and cheese placed in front of her.

"There is too much cheese," the fifth grader said in Spanish.

Next to her, Monica, 10, came to a different conclusion about her first Thanksgiving meal.

"I think it is delicious," she said, adding that in her home country of El Salvador, the food is similar.

Hailing from Central and South America, students at the Mission Education Center at 1670 Noe St. — a K-5 transition school for children of newly immigrated families — got their first taste of Thanksgiving a week early on Thursday afternoon. The meal was intended to help the young new arrivals familiarize themselves with the upcoming holiday that's an annual tradition in many American households.

"This is an opportunity for our kids to experience a traditional American holiday, but also it's a time for us where we give thanks and express our gratitude for all for the great things we experienced in our lives," Carla Llewelyn-Vasquez, the school's principal, said. "Many kids come here under traumatic experiences and coming here, they give thanks."

The Mission Education Center since 1972 has served immigrant students in grades K-5 whose primary language is Spanish.

Students enrolled there are subject to one year of instruction in Spanish, with one hour of English development per day to help students acclimate and gain confidence in their language skills before transferring into The City's schools, said Llewelyn-Vasquez.

"Our goal is to get the kids up to grade level and to provide a seamless transition into their next school setting," said Llewelyn-Vasquez, who is from Panama, adding that her staff is comprised almost entirely of immigrants. "We have an understanding of the immigrant experience, which really helps a lot."

Before lunch was served, groups of students were prompted to recite poems and songs in both Spanish and English to their classmates.

For the past 46 years, the school has parented with the Geneva Excelsior Lions Club, a service club organization, to serve up the Thanksgiving meal.

The idea was hashed out by the school's former principal, Deborah Molof, and a member of the club, current member Joe Farrah said.

"They decided they wanted to introduce the Spanish speaking students to their first Thanksgiving, which was foreign to them," Gentile said. The club donated some \$700 to feed the school's 93 students.

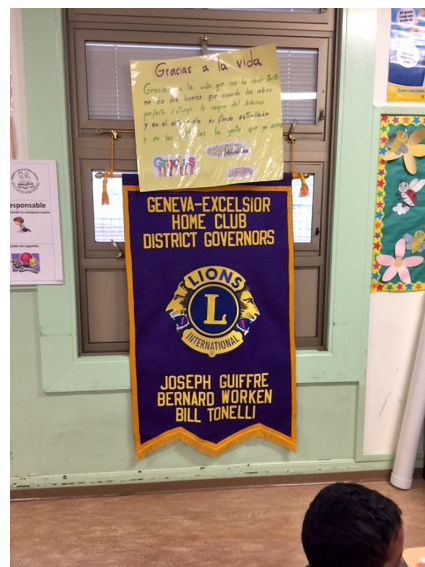
The "First Thanksgiving" luncheon, now a tradition of its own at the school, helps the recently immigrated students "assimilate into America and American culture," Gentile said. "Thanksgiving is unknown to them in their home countries. The food and traditions are different."

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While pumpkin pie and cornbread generally are a hit, the luncheon's organizers have learned over the years that

"Early on, when we did this, we used to give the kids turkey and stuffing, sweet potatoes and vegetables — they wouldn't eat it," said Sharon Eberhardt, president of

the Geneva Excelsior Lion's Club. "We figured out that the kids like macaroni and cheese, and we switched it out with cornbread because they were things that were familiar to them."



Photos below by Mira Laing / Special to the S. F. Examiner





genevaexcelsiorlions.com





Geneva-Excelsior Lions Club's

Annual Christmas Party

Wednesday evening, December 20, 2017

No Host Cocktails 6:00 Dinner 7:00

Basque Cultural Center

599 Railroad Avenue, South San Francisco

\$55.00 per person

Three Courses including
salad, soup, choice of entrée, coffee and dessert
Wine served with dinner

Entree choices:

Rack of Lamb, Salmon with Champagne Sauce, or Vegetarian Pasta

Paid reservations a must with checks payable to Geneva-Excelsior Lions Club
Send to Lion Lyle Workman, 1039 Santa Lucia Dr., Pittsburg, CA 94565-7614
by December 11th

Lion Name _____	Entrée _____
Guest _____	Entrée _____
Guest _____	Entrée _____
Guest _____	Entrée _____