



THE LIONS' TALE

New Braunfels Noon Lions

FEBRUARY
2017
XXX

NBNoonLions.org



John Creswell,
newist PR guy

CHARTERED MARCH 18, 1924



The expression on the lips of every talking head on TV two weeks back was the sort of wistful “gee, does it have to be this way” recognition that in The Land of the Free yet another peaceful and organized transition of power has come to pass. This, of course, discounts the actions of those who chose to express their dissatisfaction with the results of the election by setting fires and breaking things, banana-republicesque except that not much blood was spilled. After all, from a news standpoint, a train wreck makes much more interesting coverage than a peace march — unless there are lots of snarling dogs, fire hoses, batons and tear gas involved.

In any event, **Donald John Trump** was duly inaugurated on 20 January as the 45th president of these United States of America. Now, paraphrasing Representative Nancy Pelosi of California, “we have to elect it to see what’s in it.” God’s will be done.

[Recognizing that this is not an appropriate venue for pollticking, permit me to say the above paragraphs are largely statements of fact, not rendered opinion. If I have offended, sincere apologies. — Ed.]

THEY HAVE OUR BACKS... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING!

We are truly blessed to have not one...but two outstanding Lions in our Club who embrace us spiritually at each of our meetings. The Rev. **Richard Carse** (21 years a member and Past President) and The Rev. Mr. **Ben Wehman** (33 years a member) have provided relevant words of



inspiration and reflection as they lead us in prayer. As well, they execute a beautiful and solemn memorial service each year in remembrance of our departed Lions. Please join me in thanking them for their dedication and service to our Club. *President Lee*



For our first charitable contribution of the new year, your New Braunfels Lions Club donated six hundred bucks to the United States Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps at New Braunfels High. You may recognize Secretary **Tom Call**, President **Lee Ambrosino** and Second VP **Ronnie Thompson** amidst Col. House all those eager young faces and who may some day be called upon to man the wall or storm the beach in defense of our freedoms. **Oohrah! Semper Fi!**

BUSINESS MEETING - 5 JANUARY



Dr. **David Simmons**, Rev. **Rich Carse**, Immediate-past Vittalist **Dora White** fielding questions from Tail Twister **Cameron Bradfute**.

In honor of the election of our newest (and 23rd though in the 24th billet) Sheriff of Comal County **Mark Reynolds**, Tail Twister **Cameron Bradfute** conducted a law and order quiz before the meeting. Amongst the Harry Callahan phrases to be linked to the appropriate films were "Do you feel lucky today?", "Go ahead, make my day" and, one of my favorites, "A man should know his limits"

There were also some less in-your-face Andy Griffith questions but they didn't make it into my notes. All in all a very enjoyable quiz. Thanks, Cameron.

During the business portion of the meeting Membership Director and Past-Everything **Dennis Heitkamp** took the membership to task for not doing as good a job as should be expected in shaking the bushes for new talent. The life of the club lies in the ability to recruit new and *energetic* talent, folks who will not only come to lunch but will also park cars and cook sausage when called upon.



2. Mark Reynolds
3. Charles Stephen
4. Rich Carse
5. John Mathis
6. John Creswell
7. Leigh Ann Huddell
8. Jack Morgan

VerNell Martinez, long-time vision screener and better half of **Ranger Ray**, finally took the bait and became one of us.

Welcome aboard, VerNell!



Ray Martinez, VerNell and Prez Lee

BUSINESS MEETING - 19 JANUARY

“On the sixth day God created Man. On the seventh day, Man created waste water”, and so began a most entertaining and informative dissertation on water treatment by NBU representative **Doug Draeger**. Then he went on to read the King James version of Deuteronomy 23:12-14 which is the most flowery description you are likely to encounter concerning latrine etiquette. A good read.



NBU's Doug Draeger

“Waste water”, a thinly-disguised euphemism for poop, has progressed through the Romans tossing it from their windows into the street and the Brits tossing it into the castle moat, to Sir Thomas Crapper's nearly efficient flush toilet. It

was not until 1913 that the State of Texas disallowed untreated waste to be dumped into rivers. 54% of Texas homesteads still had no indoor plumbing as late as 1954.

The New Braunfels Utilities wastewater system is being constantly upgraded, and now we are assured it will be up to the task for the foreseeable future, so eat hearty.



Guest-in-waiting and long-time care taker of Lion extraordinaire **Bill Kolodzie**, **Judy Adams** finally bites the bullet and becomes a Noon Lion. After 24 months or so, introducing Judy as a “guest” became a bit of a farce, so now she is officially one of us and need not need a green slip or wooden nickel to join us at luncheon. Welcome aboard, Judy. President **Lee Ambrosino** officiated at her induction.

WE SERVE

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Perhaps you recognize this photograph (or a similar one, excluding our esteemed Secretary **Tom Call**) from Page One.

We choose to run it again because our recently-appointed and hard-working PR guy, PP **John Creswell**, managed to get it inserted into the New Braunfels Herald-Zeitung on **Page 2**, 1 February. In his stint as PR guy, John has got more photographs and more copy accepted by the NBH-Z than many, and possibly all, previous PR types.

If you have not tried this gig, you will have no idea of the enormity of it. There is no shortage of community organizations who seriously want and need public notice of their particular functions printed up in the local newspaper. It's a fight for extremely limited print space.

Well done, John Creswell.



Submitted photo

New Braunfels Noon Lions

The New Braunfels Noon Lions Club recently made a \$600 donation to the New Braunfels Independent School District JROTC. Officers presenting the check are President Lee Ambrosino and Second Vice President Ron Thompson. Lt Col Merk House is standing with the cadets.



President **Lee Ambrosino** and Secretary (and all-around handy-man) **Tom Call** present this exceedingly spiffy presentation check for \$600 to Noon Lion **Ken Lowery** of the New Braunfels Senior Citizens' Center as a leg-up on the new year. The Senior Citizens' Center is one of the NB Noon Lions standing charities for the good work it does, and it is especially appreciated by those of us who spiral inexorably downward in that direction.



Noon Lion **Ashley Woodward** receives her sponsorship pin from Secretary **Tom Call**. The camera and photographer are not at fault — Tom just looks that way.

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New Braunfels Noon Lions Club Officers & Directors for 2016-2017

Officers

Lee Ambrosino, President
Jack Morgan, First Vice-president
Ronnie Thompson, Second Vice-president
Mark Reynolds, Third Vice-president
Tom Call, Secretary
Howard Weliver, Treasurer
Dave Schreier, Lion Tamer
Dennis Heitkamp, Chairman Membership Committee
Mike Smetanka, Immediate Past President
Dennis Heitkamp, PCC & PDG
Bill Kolodzie, PDG

Directors

Dan Krueger, Two-year Director
Fred Hanz, Two-year Director
Dolly Williams, One-year Director
David Simmons, One-year Director

Chairs of Standing Committees

Skip Stem, Vision Screening
Mike Pfeuffer, Sight Conservation
Dolly Williams, Care Committee

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Kevin Wersterfer	8th
Jerome Friesenhahn	8th
Melvin Jochech	16th
Skip Stem	17th
Lee Ambrosino	18th
Glenn Avriett	21st
John Creswell	21st
Ken Lowery	23rd
Mark Reynolds	25th

Comal County Sheriff's Office



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Sheriff

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"We Serve"

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Tom Call

Secretary

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The Christmas Party

Part IV

[All photos by Tom Call]



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