



THE LIONS' TALE

New Braunfels Noon Lions

FEBRUARY
2018

XLII

NBNoonLions.org



Lee Ambrosino

CHARTERED MARCH 18, 1924

FEBRUARY

(THE "R" DON'T BE SILENT)

FebRuary is the second month of the year in both Julian and Gregorian calendars. It is the shortest month of the year as it is the only month to have a length of less than 30 days. The month has 28 days in common years or 29 days in leap years, with the quadrennial 29th day being called the "leap day" when we leap out to select a new leader for the free world.

FebRuary is the third month of meteorological winter in the Northern Hemisphere. In the Southern Hemisphere, FebRuary is the last month of summer (the seasonal equivalent of August in the Northern Hemisphere, in meteorological reckoning). So face south and break out those baggies and bikinis.

FebRuary is the only month that can pass without either a full moon or new moon [using Universal Coordinated (Zulu) Time as a basis.] And **2018 is one of those years**, with respect to a full moon anyway, according to Wikipedia.

January and FebRuary were the last two months to be added to the Roman calendar, since the Romans originally considered winter a **monthless period**. (Some of us may appreciate that more than others.)

The Romans did not celebrate St. Valentine's Day on FebRuary 14th, or on any other day, nor did the grief they visited upon him remotely resemble a celebration. The imprisoned Valentine was tortured at length and eventually deprived him of his life for intervening in affairs of the heart amongst members of his flock. A Roman soldier must concentrate on his job, not on the fairer sex. A quart or so short of the milk of human kindness, those guys.

In a similar vein in Chicago, 1929, Signore Capone orchestrated a Valentine's Day celebration that reverberates to this day. It enshrined the Thompson submachine gun in the pantheon of American gadgetry — "the chopper", "the Chicago typewriter" — an exceedingly efficient method for turning money into noise.

FebRuary 14th is **Ash Wednesday**, the beginning of Lent, and also National No Smoking Day in Ireland. Well, misery loves company.

FebRuary is **American Heart Month**. If you have one, you may want to make a note to back off the butter, bacon and chicharrones — for a couple of days anyway.

Happy Valentines Day!

ATTENTION NEW GUYS

Complimentary Ticket for the Drawing of your Choice

Find your Lion Member number after a \$ sign in the text of this newsletter and you will get one FREE ticket to be placed in the Drawing of your choice. Show the number at the Check-In Table to receive your ticket. There are two numbers hidden in this issue of **The Lions' Tale**.

NOTE: NEW NUMBERS WILL BE PICKED AT RANDOM FOR EACH MONTH. YOUR NUMBER IS ELIGIBLE FOR ONLY ONE DRAWING FOR THE MONTH THAT IT APPEARS IN THE NEWSLETTER.

BUSINESS MEETING - 4 JANUARY

After Tail Twister **Ranger Ray Martinez** talked us into a batch of really worthwhile new years resolutions — commitment to fully staffing White Cane Day, TLC Work Day, Red Kettle, Wurstfest, etc.— squeezeboxmeister extraordinaire **Mike Smetanka** led the assemblage in “Deep in the Heart of Texas” (with excellent synchronized clapping at all the right places) and “This Is My Country” which was rendered by the throng with enthusiasm if not much else.

Third Veep Dolly Williams lined up a special program for the afternoon. Almost-Lion **Jackie Heitkamp**, far better half of Past-everything **Dennis**, and who has worked more vision screenings than most of us who pay dues to this club, gave us an in-depth look at Heritage Village and the Museum of Texas Hand Made Furniture. The craftsmanship demonstrated by guys armed only with hand tools is both amazing and enviable.

Fine furniture, crafted by German-Texans, assembled with wooden pegs, and all still functional without the need of screw guns and nail guns, routers and radial arm saws. Phenominal stuff!

The Conservation Society is accepting offers of service to act as docents at Heritage Village. Contact Jackie (through Dennis) if you have the time and interest.



BUSINESS MEETING - 18 JANUARY

The second business meeting of the new year featured the induction of two new members: **Allie Cook**, daughter of Noon Lion **Jimmy** and granddaughter of curmudgeon-at-large **George Shafer**, and **Brooks Wilson**, sponsored by Secretary **Brandon Mund**.



Secretary Brandon Mund, Brooks Wilson, Prez Jack Morgan, Jimmy Cook, Allie Cook, and George Shafer. (C'mon, George, smile!)

The featured program was presented by a trio of Lions from the Wimberley Lions Club: President **Vic Forsythe**; Past President **John**

Estep, and First VP **Richard Newsome**. These guys are deeply involved in a project most of us had never ever heard of — The JC Hyer International Youth Camp. Lion Estep is president of the project this year.

Foreign Lions Clubs select up to 40 English-speaking students from maybe 20 countries to participate in the four-week tour of Texas, and spend time in the panhandle, Dallas, Austin, Wimberley and San Antonio, hitting not only the touristy spots like the Alamo, but also lesser known spots like the Bob Bullock History Museum in Austin.

Students stay with local families like **VerNell** and **Ray Martinez**, who also furnish breakfast and dinner. Cost to the camp is about \$1300 per day for the 40 kids.

“Midwinter Conference”

[All photos by John Creswell]

Job Well Done!

The NB Noon Lions Club was honored by DG **John Pruett** (Milano Lions) to host the District 2-S3 2018 Midwinter Conference on January 13, 2018, held at the New Braunfels Presbyterian Church. The day held special meaning as it marked the birthday anniversary for LCI founder **Melvin Jones**.

Led by Event Planner IPP **Lee Ambrosino**, the event drew over 100 participants from more than 50% of the 52 Clubs within the district. The meeting kicked off with the NBHS Marine Jr ROTC presenting the colors. In addition to presentations and training sessions given by the DG and other District Cabinet members, the audience was ‘wowed’ by Keynote Speaker, **Trish Wilson** from the Texas Lions Camp, and the infamous ‘Tail Twisting’ delivery from the legendary PDG **Frank Kinald** (Georgetown Noon).

Of special note is the 1st Place Winner of the Peace Poster Contest, awarded to **Michelle Berlanger** (NBMS) as well as a Club Excellence Patch presented to President **Jack Morgan**.

Special Kudos to the following volunteers who made the day a resounding success: Cabinet Secretary **Nancy Hendricks** (Buda), Cabinet Treasurer **Maureen Kinald** (Georgetown Noon), NB Noon Lions volunteers PCC **Dennis Heitkamp**, PP **John Creswell**, President **Jack Morgan**, Treasurer **Howard Weliver**, Club Secretary **Brandon Mund**, 1st VP **Dora White**, Head LEO Advisor **David Simmons**, LEO Advisor **Robert Armstrong**, and Peace Poster Chair **Juanita Wells**. And last, but not least, several LEOs from NBHS who ensured that the ‘Grub’ line flowed smoothly...and, we didn’t run out of food! An Outstanding TEAM effort!

IPP Lee Ambrosino



“Midwinter Conference”



\$3849356



“Midwinter Conference”



Michelle Berlangar and her dad



Michelle Berlangar's First Place Peace Poster

\$4753769

New Braunfels Noon Lions Club Officers & Directors for 2017-2018

Officers

Jack Morgan, President
Dora White, First Vice-president
Leigh Huddleston, Second Vice-president
Dolly Williams, Third Vice-president
Brandon Mund, Secretary
Howard Weliver, Treasurer
Dave Schreier, Lion Tamer
Cameron Bradfute, Chairman Membership Committee
Kermit Baese, LCIF Coordinator
Lee Ambrosino, Immediate Past President, Zone 5A Chair
Bill Kolodzie, PDG
Dennis Heitkamp, PDG, PCC

Directors

Ginny Nance, Two-year Director
Jim Pope, Two-year Director
Dan Krueger, One-year Director
Fred Hanz, One-year Director

Chairs of Standing Committees

Skip Stem, Vision Screening
Mike Pfeuffer, Sight Conservation
Dolly Williams, Care Committee
Ray Martinez, Tail Twister
VerNell Martinez, Historian
Bert Childs, Newsletter editor

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jerome Friesenhahn	8th
Chuck Bryan	11th
Skip Stem	17th
Lee Ambrosino	18th
Glenn Avriett	21st
John Creswell	21st
Ken Lowery	23rd

“Midwinter Conference”



Tail Twister Frank Kinald, Georgetown Noon Lions Club



Ora Pro Pluvia

[That's "Pray for Rain" in case your Latin's a tad rusty]

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“Midwinter Conference”



“Deadline?
What deadline?!!”



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