



# THE LIONS' TALE

## New Braunfels Noon Lions

MARCH  
2018

XLIII

NBNoonLions.org



CHARTERED MARCH 18, 1924



## HAPPY 182ND BIRTHDAY, TEXAS!

MARCH 2ND, 1836

OUR ANNUAL SALUTE TO THE LONE STAR STATE

**T**exas, Our Texas! All hail the mighty State! (sung to the tune of "Texas, Our Texas".)

Yes, Fellow Lions, 'tis time once again to provide a thumbnail primer of Texas history for those of you who, although not fortunate enough to have been born here, at least had the grace and good sense to high-tail it down here as quickly as God gave you the means and the vision to do so. Tragically, many of us natives had history teachers who probably should have been teaching wood shop instead. Hence, this pocket history is for all.

**Chris Columbus tripped** over the New World while searching for the Old. The adventurers who followed in his wake subdued the indigenous populations and, in some cases made them drink molten gold. [Ooh!] Then Mexico gained her independence from Spain. In those days Texas was part of the northern Mexican state of Coahuila.

**Coahuila was wild country**, full of hostile Indians. The government had trouble recruiting enough local talent to go settle the place, so less-informed colonists were lured in from the north with promises of free land. Moses Austin and his son Stephen F. were instrumental in this colonization process.

**But the Texicans** didn't much cotton to the 1824 Mexican Constitution by which they were bound. And more than a few decided they didn't want to become Roman Catholics as required by their contracts. Mexico began tightening the screws and talk of independence began in earnest. When the Mexican army came

"visiting" to Gonzales on 2nd October, 1835, to fetch back a small cannon they had loaned the pilgrims to keep the Comanche at bay, they found themselves on the business end of the thing - **Come and Take It** - and the Texas Revolution was on.



**Delegates signed a Declaration of Independence** on 2nd March, 1836, and Texas became a republic — although there were a helluva lot of Mexicans around who still needed convincing. Thus, the Alamo fell on 6 March while Sam Houston's army scurried east, recruiting as it went. There on the plains of San Jacinto (southeast of the city of Houston) on 21 April, 1836, Houston's forces savaged Santa Ana's army in a blood bath amid shouts of "Remember the Alamo!" and "Remember Goliad!" (an earlier massacre), and took Santa Ana prisoner. **Voila!** A six and a half month revolution, and all without the internet or the Interstate.



**We were a nation, The Republic of Texas**, for nine years, but so awash in red ink after the war that it seemed the only way out was to join The Union, which would take on our indebtedness. [This was before oil, you see.] So, in what could best be described as a shotgun wedding, the Republic ceased to be and Texas became the 28th state. It is a date which shall live in infamy.

**A sparsely known fact** is that Sam Houston's preferred design for the colors of the new nation consisted of a five-pointed yellow star on a blue

## Business Meeting - 1 February

**T**he spirit is willing, but the grey matter is toast. Tail Twister **Ray Martinez** started the meeting with an elimination contest of some description, your old editor can't quite conjure it up, but **Chuck Bryan** was the last man standing. Here he receives his reward, a Junior Texas Ranger badge from the old Ranger his own self.



Then **“Music” Mike Smetanka** led the assemblage in *When the Saints Go Marching In* (in recognition of the impending Mardi Gras) and *My Country 'Tis of Thee* as his patriotic offering.



**O**ur program for the first meeting in February featured **Nancy Pappas**, Managing Director of NBU's Headwaters on the Comal project.

**The NBU lot at the corner** of Lakeview and Klingon Streets is the site of the first artesian spring on the Comal River. The city bought the site in 1907 and established storage and pumping facilities there. As is intuitively obvious to the most casual observer, our village is not the same small burg as it was a century and some ago, and in 2004 NBU moved to new digs out on FM 306. So what now to do with the pricey old real estate?

**Community input led to the idea** of an historical, ecological and environmental development with nature trails, meeting rooms, tours of the old water works and more. Phase I should have opened in February — check the NBU website for more current information.



## Business Meeting - 15 February

**T**he Perfect Storm, it seems. Your old editor was called away to the tropical paradise of Floresville on business the same day as all our favorite reporters and photographers were called away to other duties as well, or were relegated to non-duty status. Lion **John Creswell** sent a couple of digipix (or so it seems), however, your old editor could not coax the World Wide Web to give up her booty.

**Ergo, there is nothing** in physical evidence concerning this business meeting. **HOWEVER**, if the wheels of progress turned according to the schedule, there were nominees posted for officers for the coming fiscal year, 2018-2019. If I read my notes right, the Board will read and re-read and approve the ballot so that it may be voted upon by the general membership on 5 April, first business meeting of the month. The call went out from **Prez Jack** for volunteers for

the top spots — president thru third veep. If I am stepping on toes of those who have already stepped up to run for those slots, you have my most sincere apologies. As one was invited and declined, I cannot say enough good things about those that run to the sound of the bugle. Thank you.

**For those who have been** freeze dried or doing hard time, be advised the new and improved Membership Directory has actually been sent to the printer. Your ex-Secretary-for-Life **Tom Call** was right in the middle of that, of course. If you whiffed on making corrections to your listing in the old directory, or if you didn't stick around for a Grade A digipic of your countenance for said tome, make a note to be better prepared for the next one.



Your old editor

# Coming Attractions

## Texas Lions Camp Workday— Saturday, 3 March

If you've not spent a day doing good deeds in the Hill Country lately, maybe you should check this out. The stalwarts carpool up on Friday afternoon and bunk in for the night at the camp. Otherwise a 7am departure from New Braunfels will put you at the breakfast table pretty much right on time.

When the weather's nice, it's just de luxe. When the weather misses the mark a bit, it's still a good time, getting better acquainted with your own club's Lions, in addition to meeting Lions from clubs stashed all **over** the state — Midland, Dallas, The Valley. Some of these folks have a real hike to get there, many hours behind the wheel. Seems like an hour max from here to there should certainly be doable.

If you're thinking you might want to go this year, contact **David Simmons**, Leo Coordinator, for more information.



## Relay for Life—Friday, 27 April

The annual Relay for Life will commence at 1800 hours on Friday, 27 April, and participants will maintain forward velocities, either in teams or individually, until midnight. (The days of dusk-to-dawn marathons went out with high button shoes.) The walk raises funds for cancer research and awareness of the scourge itself.



Juanita Wells  
(standing still)

As usual our own **Juanita Wells**, a cancer survivor in her own right, will lead the charge for your New Braunfels Noon Lions. Call her for details.

In the past the run/walk has been held on the Canyon High School track, and probably is again this year, although your editor does not have that tidbit in his files as yet.

### 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

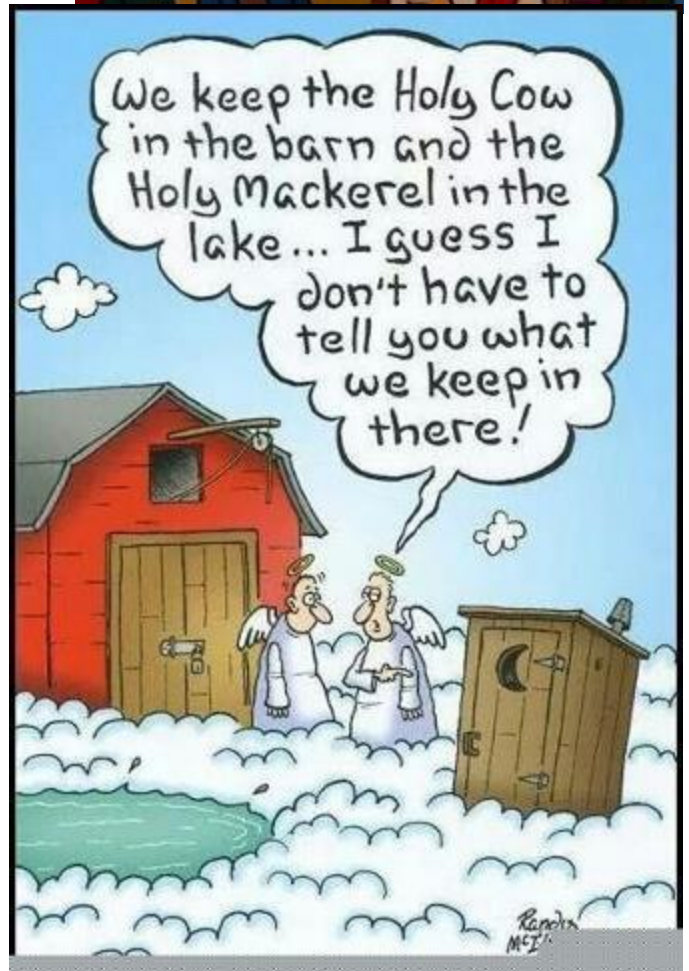
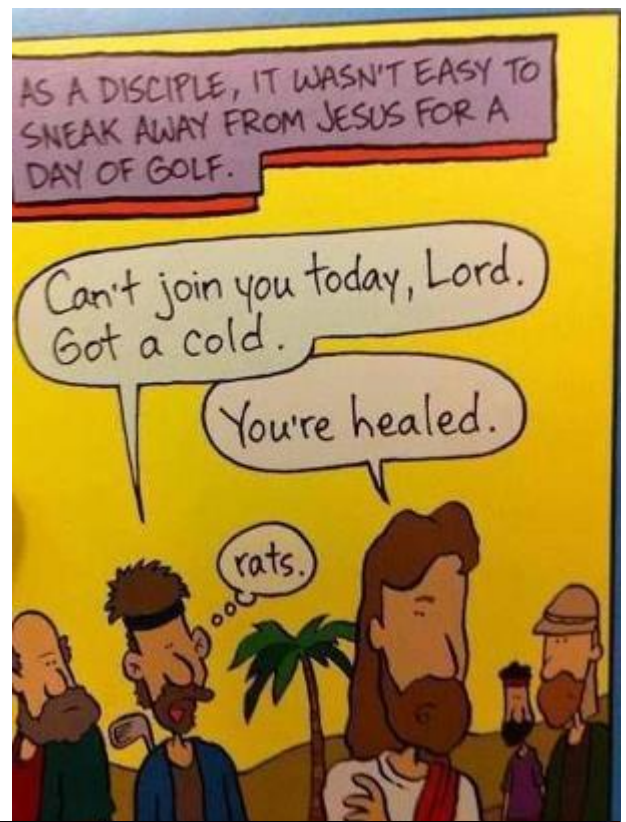
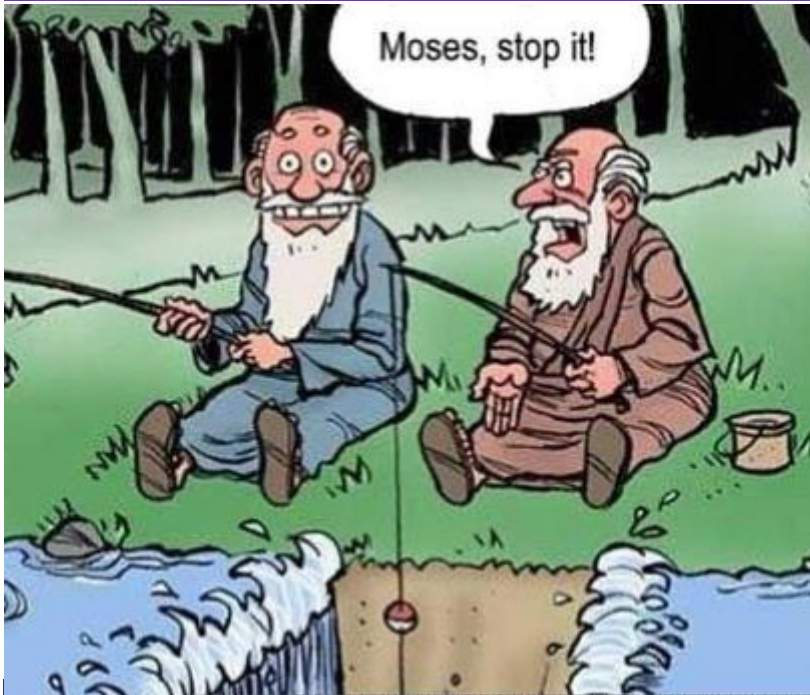
**Skip Stem**, Vision Screening  
**Mike Pfeuffer**, Sight Conservation  
**Dolly Williams**, Care Committee  
**Ray Martinez**, Tail Twister  
**VerNell Martinez**, Historian  
**David Simmons**, LEO Advisor  
**Bert Childs**, Newsletter editor

**\$4753743**

### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

<b>Chuck Teeter</b>	<b>13th</b>
<b>Arno Becker</b>	<b>14th</b>
<b>Brandon Mund</b>	<b>14th</b>
<b>Eddie Dobbins</b>	<b>16th</b>
<b>Franklin Demuth</b>	<b>19th</b>
<b>Susan Miller</b>	<b>28th</b>
<b>Allie Cook</b>	<b>29th</b>

# In Honor of the Lenten Season



## Comal County Sheriff's Office



**BOB HOLDER**  
Sheriff

3005 W. San Antonio St.  
New Braunfels, Texas 78130

(830) 620-3400 or 885-4883  
Metro: 609-3921  
Fax: (830) 608-2082



Lions Club International

"We Serve"

**PCC Dennis Heitkamp**

Multiple District 2, Texas

1970 Oso Arroyo  
New Braunfels, TX 78132  
heitkamp@gvtc.com

H (830) 905-4590  
C (830) 660-5528  
B (830) 620-5434

**Mike Smetanka**

Accordianist

Music for all occasions

1672 Kimberly Dawn Dr.  
New Braunfels, TX 78130

(830)629-0494 (830)660-4131  
msmetanka@satx.rr.com



**CYNTHIA MICHAEL**

Vice President  
Private Wealth Advisor

1900 NW LOOP 410  
SUITE 250  
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78213  
PHONE: 210.424.8703  
CELL: 210.884.3382  
FAX: 210.424.8810

cynthia.michael@thebankofsawealthadvisors.com



**JOHN MATHIS**  
REALTOR®

830.743.2439

JohnMathis@kw.com  
www.JohnMathis.kw.com

**kwHERITAGE** Striving To Be  
KELLERWILLIAMS, REALTY The Best!  
NEW BRAUNFELS Lic #692005

453 W San Antonio Street New Braunfels, TX 78130  
Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated.



**Henne Hardware**

Texas' Oldest Hardware Store

246 W. San Antonio Street  
New Braunfels, Texas 78130  
(830) 606-6707  
www.hennehardware.com



A Tradition Since 1857

Hardware, Housewares  
Repairs, Services  
Gifts & Toys

(continued from page 1)

field. It was Mirabeau B Lamar, second president of the Republic, who may have designed, but most certainly championed, the red, white and blue banner we salute at each business meeting.

**It's a fascinating story, Texas,** and much of it may be true. You owe it to yourself to read about it in much greater detail.

**Viva Texas!**

**\$243038**



## 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.

Don't know what your Member Number is? Check the label on your Monthly **Lions** Magazine.



# LEOS AT SEA



USS Lexington (CV-16)



Photos by Robert Armstrong

**O**n February 17th, a gaggle of LEOS undertook the annual pilgrimage to the “Blue Ghost”, USS Lexington in Corpus Christi. And while they were enjoying the amenities available, they took time out to

win the scavenger hunt. One can only imagine what one could scavenge on a 76-year old flattop.



NEW BRAUNFELS NOON LIONS CLUB  
PO Box 310194  
NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS 78131-0194