

# TALES FROM THE LIONS DEN

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#### Reflections From the Desk of Lion Victor

Get ready for an exciting February filled with a plethora of engaging activities and events! Kicking off the month on February 1st is the Miracle League 805 Fundraising Dinner—a fantastic initiative that promises an evening of heartwarming moments.

Mark your calendars for February 10th as the Santa Paula Lions proudly host the Lions Foundation Eye Screening in Santa Paula. It's an opportunity to contribute to a worthy cause while ensuring the well-being of the community.

For all you football enthusiasts out there, brace yourselves for the thrill of Superbowl Sunday! Anticipate not only a riveting game but also unforgettable performances during halftime. And who can resist those endearing Budweiser Clydesdale horse advertisements?

The 13th is reserved for our Valentines Extravaganza— a chance to celebrate love and deepen connections with our significant others. Join us in spreading love and creating cherished memories.

Following the bustling Farmers Market on Saturday the 17th, don't miss out on our Lions Retreat. Your presence is invaluable as we collectively brainstorm ideas to enhance the growth and success of our esteemed club.

On Tuesday the 20th, the dynamic Lion Dick Bellman takes the lead in the student speaker contest. Be prepared to witness the brilliance of local talent as we aim to showcase the best our area has to offer.

And finally, culminating the month is our MD4 Convention in Riverside, CA. This is more than just an event—it's an immersive experience that combines fun and education. Join us, participate enthusiastically, and exercise your right to vote for positive change.

February is not just a month; it's a canvas of opportunities and celebrations waiting to be explored. Let's make it a month to remember!

Yours in service, Victor Martinez, President

**Agents of Change!** 



#### PV Lions Calendar 2024

- Feb 1 Miracle of the 805 Gala
- Feb 9 Lions Planting Day Sterling Hills Golf
- Feb 10 Lions Friends in Sight—Santa Paula
- Feb 13 Regular Meeting O-Club
- Feb 17 Farmers Market
- Feb 20 Board Meeting B&G Club
- Feb 23-25 MD4 Convention Riverside
- Feb 27 Regular Meeting O-Club
- Mar 12 Regular Meeting O-Club
- Mar 16 Farmers Market
- Mar 16 Apr 7 Easter Festival Week ends plus Good Friday
- Mar 19 Board Meeting B&G Club
- Mar 26 Regular Meeting O-Club
- Apr 9 Regular Meeting O-Club
- Apr 16 Board Meeting B&G Club
- Apr 23 Regular Meeting O-Club
- May 14 Regular Meeting O-Club
- May 21 Board Meeting B&G Club
- May 28 Regular Meeting O-Club
- June 11 Regular Meeting O-Club
- June 18 Board Meeting B&G Club
- June 25 PV Lions Installation & Awards O-Club





1 Jan - Rose Parade - Lions International Float



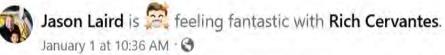


#### TALES FROM THE LIONS DEN

Copied from 4A3 Facebook and shown here because many of you/me don't use Facebook. Wanted to share our DG and 1VDG's message to district lions.

I recall the photo top right because I took it (or one very similar) at last year's visit to Fillmore.





Cheers to a vibrant New Year! Lions in our beloved District 4-A3 and the world, let's welcome 2024 with joy and enthusiasm.

District Governor Rich Cervantes and First Vice District Governor Jason Laird extend are warmest wishes for a fantastic year ahead!

# 9 Jan - Regular Meeting 1/7

This was our largest meeting of the year due to a visit from a prospective Lions International Director, Liz Crooke. We had 4A3 cabinet members in addition to lions from Ambers Light, Conejo Valley and Ventura Downtown. PDG Cassy is shown with his unique lion shirt with PCC Crooke.

Priors to hearing from PCC Crooke we had a guest speaker, *Robert Garcia* who came to discuss his proposal about renaming Constitution

Park to Veteran's Park in honor of all Camarillo veterans who have given their lives supporting our country during past wars. Robert is passionate about honoring our veterans and encouraged us to contact our council members to support the proposal. He also discussed renaming the pavilion at the park to honor one of our local heroes.

Lion Missy came with WYO for the last time because WYO is moving on but *Missy is getting Guide Dog #11 in a few days* so she won't be dog lonely for long.









We wish WYO well in her journey!!



# 9 Jan - Regular Meeting 2/7

PDG Chuck Cassy introduced PCC Liz Crooke and obviously he is a fan and very supportive of her election to International Director. Lion Chuck has known many directors and was effusive in his praise of Lion Liz commenting that "while the others were excellent Liz had qualities that puts her at the top of the list".

Lion Crooke has an incredible service record and clearly is prepared to move on to the next step in Lions leadership. She has two competitors for the position and suggested that we do our homework before voting. My guess is that she will garner many votes from our 7 delegates at the Convention.





#### Who is Lion Liz Crooke?

A member of the Salinas Host Lions Club and its Wings of Light Branch Club, Liz has been a Lion for nearly 30 years. A PDG of 4-C6, Lion Liz has also served MD4 as its Council Chair.

Lion Liz is passionate about the service which lies at the heart of Lionism. Through her service in district and multiple district leadership, she came to understand the importance of training our Lion leaders to better serve their clubs and districts, and ultimately their communities.

Over the past 12 years, Liz has been helping to grow better Lion leaders through training and mentorship. As an LCI Certified Instructor, Lion Liz has trained hundreds of Lions in critical leadership skills at regional and national leadership development institutes and forums.

Throughout Lion Liz's interactions with all of these Lions, she has listened to their ideas about our Association and its future. She has also heard about their concerns and the challenges facing our local clubs. Lion Liz will carry these messages with her to the International Board of Directors as it supports the current mission and activities of our districts and clubs and envisions the future of our Association.

earn more about Lion Liz Crooke, PCC, at lionliz.com



# 9 Jan - Regular Meeting 3/7

# Dinner

Lion Mike with Bruce, Kerry, Chet and Anthony cooked a special meal of pork chops, chicken, ravioli, potatoes, salad, rolls with lots of cookies for the group. Mike was a little worried about the crowd size but it all worked out. DG Rieh even helped with the appetizers.

There can be no comment on the photo at bottom right.















# 9 Jan - Regular Meeting 4/7

# Awards

District Governor Rich presented length of service awards to six Pleasant Valley Lions. They included:

- Lion Kerry Forsythe 10 years
- Lion Jan Edmondson 15 years
- Lion Rick Johannson 15 years
- Lion Don Mingay 20 years
- Lion George Graham 45 years
- Lion Neil McNutt 60 years WOW!!

















#### **Tail Twisting**

We made some nice cash from tail twisting. All the twistees are shown randomly below and all but one came from our club, with the outlier shown middle left from Conejo Valley. I have no idea why she tossed in some cash but we appreciate it.

- **Birthdays:** Lion Bob Larson said that he actually was born on Jan 1 so I could remove the ? Marks after his date. Lion Jack is a Christmas birthday boy and we all know from last month's bulletin that based on her jacket Lion Jan celebrated her **55th** at Disneyland.
- 11th Guide Dog Puppy: Lion Missy is getting her new puppy in a few days and WYO will be moving on to further training. We should be paying her for all her hard work!!
- Length of Service: Lions Neil and George are celebrating 60 and 45 years of service respectively. Double WOW!!!
- **Lion Victor** tossed in twice. He forgot to introduce Pres. Dale from Ambers Light and celebrated our guest speaker PCC Liz Crooke.
- Lion Russ paid up for his phone gaff, Bill tossed in \$5 just cause and DaveT paid up for his new granddaughter.





















#### Raffles

- 50/50: \$5 Lions Clarke, Baker, Tennessen. All returned \$5 to the club.
- **Bean Pot:** \$11 Lion Walt Brand. There were 18 blue marbles and 1 clear marble in the pot. He had a 5 1/4% of winning but miracles do happen; sure hope he stopped to buy a lottery ticket on the way home. Walt could have taken \$10 but chose to draw, although reluctantly because he didn't want to become another in the long line of Losers. He drew, pulled the clear marble, put most back into the pot and became a **WINNER!**





Shirley Anderson came to the meeting and presented Lion Victor a donation to The **Big Red One** in honor of Lion Ken Anderson. Shirley requested that she be included in our distribution so that she is aware of volunteer opportunities in the future. We were happy to see her at the meeting and welcome her support.



Dear P. Lions, Its' my pleasure

Its have all and hope to honor

lost not only a Ken with this

friend but a donation to the

man commutted Big Red One!

absolutely loved She club has a

preat legacy.

Lions Club. Ken keep it going!

wanted to participate

in every service

project or task

available.

# 9 Jan - Regular Meeting 7/7

We had many visitors from other clubs including Ambers Light, Ventura Downtown and Conejo Valley to listen to PCC Liz Crooke speak. Lion Hillary did a great job of documenting all our visitors and they are shown here embedded in PV Lions Red!







YOU MAY HAVE A PROBLEM THERE ARE TWO WAYS OF ARGUING WITH A WOMAN.

**NEITHER ONE WORKS.** 

I Thought The Dryer Made My Clothes Shrink. Turns Out It Was The Refrigerator.





Two hours into my first day of work as a WalMart greeter, an ugly woman came in with her two kids. Hearing her swear at them, I said, "Good morning, welcome to WalMart. Nice kids, are they twins?"

The mom answered, "Hell no, they ain't twins. The oldest one's 9, and the other one's 7. Why would you think they're twins? Are you blind or stupid?" I replied, "I'm not blind or stupid. I just couldn't believe someone slept with you twice. Have a good day, and thank you for shopping at WalMart."

My supervisor said I probably wasn't cut out for this line of work.





"I sometimes wonder if you hear one word I say!"

# **Major Events in January**

On this day in history, **January 11**, 1935 Aviation pioneer **Amelia Earhart** departed on a journey to become the first pilot to successfully fly solo from Hawaii to mainland United States on this day in history, Jan. 11, 1935. The daring flight across a vast expanse of the Pacific Ocean had claimed the lives of 10 previous aviators.



# 16th January, 1986

On what would've been his 57th birthday, a bronze bust of Martin Luther King Junior was revealed in America's Capitol Rotunda in Washington. It was the first statue of an African American to appear in the building.



#### 13 Jan Sound the Alarm - Smoke Alarm Installation

It was a great experience working on the Sound the Alarm project. DG Governor Rich and Dick Bellman participated in this event on Jan. 20. Between the Red Cross and OFD it was extremely well organized and moved quite efficiently.



Pictured is the OFD Chief who addressed the workers and while giving them thanks he made two notable comments. First he indicated that 3/4 of all their responses to a fire involve a home without any working smoking detectors. He also mentioned that the goal of this initial project was to install 3,000 smoke detectors, but they were working on additional grants that would, hopefully, allow them to be able to install 10,000 smoke detectors a year!

Rich and I both felt very good about our participation, it gave us a warm feeling that we were directly doing something that has the potential to save lives. Along that line, a life *may* indirectly have been saved while we were there. My partner and I upon entering the home of an elderly Asian lady (whom we later found out to be 90 years old) smelled gas. She asked why a detector on her wall (a CO monitor) would beep. We immediately looked around and I noticed that her stovetop burner was turned on, but was not lit. I immediately turned it off and had a talk as to why there was gas present and why the alarm was sounding.

I truly believe that our experience in her home had the potential to prevent a tragedy and maybe loss of life. My Red Cross friends referred to me as a hero, but that was not the case. A hero runs into a burning building and carries someone out thereby saving their life. Bottom line, it was a worthwhile experience and. I hope that additional Lions become engaged in future events. Oh, and by the way the breakfast burritos that OFD provided were very good.

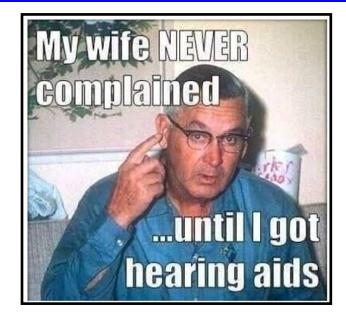
#### Lion Dick Bellman







- ♦ Due to my time alone, I finished three books yesterday. And believe me, that's a lot of coloring.
- ♦ What did our parents do to kill boredom before the internet? I asked my 26 brothers and sisters and they didn't know either.
- ♦ I tried donating blood today...NEVER AGAIN! Too many stupid questions: Who's blood is it? Where did you get it from? Why is it in a bucket.
- ◆ There's nothing scarier than that split second when you lose your balance in the shower and you think, "They are going to find me naked."
- ◆ Today, I melted an ice cube with my mind just by staring at it. It took a lot longer than I thought it would.
- ♦ Struggling to get your wife's attention? Just sit down and look comfortable.
- ♦ Just sold my homing pigeon on eBay for the 22nd time.
- ♦ I grew up with Steve Jobs, Johnny Cash and Bob Hope. Now there's no jobs, no cash, and no hope. Please don't let anything happen to Kevin Bacon.
- ♦ Shout-out to everyone who can still remember their childhood phone number but can't remember the password they created yesterday. You are my people.
- ♦ One minute you're young and fun. And next, you're turning down the stereo in your car to see better.
- ♦ Think you're old and you will be old. Think you are young, and you will be delusional.
- ♦ When I offer to wash your back in the shower, all you have to say is 'yes' or 'no'. Not all this "Who are you and how did you get in here?" nonsense.
- ♦ Not in jail, not in a mental hospital, not in a grave—I'd say I'm having a good day.





# 16 Jan - Board Meeting

Most of the board attended and there was lots to discuss.

- Pres. Victor received most of the surveys and they will be processed prior to a meeting to be held at Bill Schulze's house to determine a way forward for marketing, improving and growing the club. An independent facilitator will be brought in for the meeting.
- MD4 convention: we have 7 delegates and 1 alternate. They include delegates, Martinez, Graham, Taylor, Mike and Jan Nunez, Christie, Schulze and alternate White.
- Officers and Board Installation: Date will be 25 June with the meeting beginning at 5pm. Lion Bruce will make dinner arrangements.
- DG Rich presented the status of the VC Health initiative. Other clubs have recently donated \$4200. We are matching all donations up to \$5000 over the \$25,000 approved previously.
- Scholarships: Lions Graham and White are new co-chairs (by Bulletin Decree!). Lion Mike Nunez stressed the importance of directly coordinating with the schools.
- Membership: Lion Morgan stated that he has 3 and possibly 4 prospective new members coming to our next meeting.
- Valentines Day will be celebrated on the first meeting in February.
- Lions Friends in Sight will be held on 10 Feb. in Santa Paula. Schulze needs volunteers.
- Bill Schulze: Easter Festival will start on 16 March and end 7 April for 9 days total including Good Friday.

#### **Charitable Donations**

- Miracle League of the 805 Dinner: **board approved \$1200 for a table of 8** at the Los Posas Country Club on 1 Feb. Attendees will be determined at the next regular meeting.
- Lions Camp at Teresita Pines Gala, April 14: **board approved \$450 for a table of 8** to be held in Rosemead.
- Treasurer George provided a check to GK for \$1000 for the Somis Food Pantry to raise their total to the approved \$2000.
- Cal State Channel Islands Food Pantry: Lion GK asked if we were interested in providing funding for the pantry. The board approved up to \$1000 to purchase food. We must provide food rather than a direct donation. Lions Mike and Jan Nunez volunteered to buy the food. Lion GK will coordinate with the pantry to determine their needs.



# Thanks From: Holiday Ball Drive

Last month I included a couple of photos showing our holiday ball delivery to Woody Woodburn's Holiday Ball Drive/Toys for Tots.

We just received a very nice thank you from Woody. He notes that we delivered 180 balls but I think that he overcounted by 30 but that's OK. We appreciate the note.





Extra thanks is merited to you, John, as Lisa told me that you refused to allow any budget cuts to affect this year's generous donation - THANK YOU!!! Wishing you and yours, and all the members a Masterpiece Holidays and healthy New Year! Warny

12 December 2023 Dear John and the Somis-Camarillo-Pleasant Valley Lions Club, Thank you all so very much for your continued support of my annual Bell Drive - your generosity has given 180 kids smiles this Christmas, PLUS a 181st smile... mine!

# Thanks From: Health Care Foundation for Ventura County



January 10, 2024

Pleasant Valley Lions Club PO Box 157 Camarillo, CA 93011

Reference: 2024 Phase 2 LCIF Matching Grant Donation

Dear Pleasant Valley Lions Club,

Thank you for your generosity in donating to Health Care Foundation for Ventura County, Inc. (HCFVC) on behalf of Oxnard Noontimes Lions Club/Foundation. As you know, HCFVC is a nonprofit public benefit corporation that exclusively benefits Ventura County Health Care Agency (VCHCA) and especially its hospitals Ventura County Medical Center (VCMC) and Santa Paula Hospital. HCFVC is currently supporting Lions District 4-A3 in its endeavor to apply for the LCIF Matching Grant of \$100,000.

Your club's gift of \$10,000.00 via check #2104, identifies you an advocate for advancing the Lions Club mission in Ventura County, and a model for generous giving for others to follow. These funds will be utilized for medical equipment related to vision and diabetes for the vulnerable population in the public safety net health and hospital system in Ventura County. Our unified Lions effort as "Knights of the Blind" leads the way for all clubs to unify this fight against the disease of diabetes.

We appreciate your commitment and look forward to cultivating the future of health care in Ventura County with you. Thank you for your support!

In philanthropic spirit,

Amy Towner

Chief Executive Officer

Bulletin and Grandson at Santa Barbara Natural History Planetarium



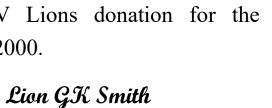
# TALES FROM THE LIONS DEN

# **GK Delivers \$1000 Check to Somis Food Pantry**

I delivered the second of two \$1000 checks to the Somis Food Pantry. Beth was ever grateful for the money.

Things have been slow over the holiday season. She intends to buy meat with the donation.

PV Lions donation for the year is \$2000.









# 23 Jan - Regular Meeting 1/3

President Victor led us off and as you can see attendance was sparse. On the positive side we had three potential new members brought in by Lion Mike Morgan.

One of the guests, Doug Carroll was a PV Lion during the 80's but had to leave due to work commitments.

Victor solicited guests for both 805 and Teresita Pines Galas.







#### **Guest Speaker**

#### Lion Bill Schulze

Lion Bill had some bad news for our club and for half a dozen other clubs in our district. Bill met with the Ventura County Fair Board to discuss Fair Parking and present suggestions for improvements in traffic flow. To his surprise the VC Fair board told him that our services were no longer required since they are now mandated to only accept credit cards for all fair activities. Although we function independently, handling all ticket sales and only provide them a check for each day they are mandated to



include these sales into their card system. Apparently they will install kiosk's in the lot for all parking tickets. Bill, with the concurrence of the board decided not to try and circumvent this decision so that we avoid confrontation that could affect future work with the Fair. We with them luck but based on our many years of working the Fair we expect that they will have a steep learning curve.

The Fair Board offered us the opportunity to run Bingo and they will provide the venue and advertise. We will pursue this activity so stand by./

#### **Guest Speaker #2**

#### Lion Mike Morgan

We didn't expect a second speaker and neither did lion Mike but we had time. It didn't take much to encourage Mike to the podium and he had lots to say.

Mike is Texas born and moved to Camarillo in 1981. He graduated Cam High in 1965 and followed up with degrees from Cal State Long Beach and USC. He worked in probation, retiring in 1998. He served on way too many boards to mention, is a member of DART and was on

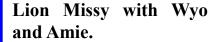
the Camarillo City Council for 38 years serving as Mayor for 5 terms.

Undoubtedly his crowing achievement was serving as PV Lions president for 1/1/2 years.

#### Lion Dick Bellman

Lion Dick recounted his first day installing smoke detectors with the Oxnard Fire Department and DG Rich. There are three more days scheduled for installation and he is still looking for volunteers.

He recounted his story about hearing a CO detector beeping when installing a smoke alarm in a trailer occupied by a 90 yr old women. They traced it to gas stove that was on but not lit. Dick became a hero that day and probably prevented as catastrophe.



Missy introduced her 11th guide dog puppy to our club. She didn't stay long because Amie hasn't had all her shots yet. Wyo is off on another adventure but the type of adventure is to be determined.

We wish her lots of luck.







# 23 Jan - Regular Meeting 3/3

#### Dinner

Lion Mike wanted something different for dinner so we had meatloaf, mashed potatoes, veggies and lots of goodies. I think this was Lion Bruce's mother's meatloaf recipe. There were quite a few left over so they were sold and went fast. Mike thanked the entire crew of Bruce, Chet, Jan, Kerry, Anthony and Wim.







#### Raffles

- 50/50 Lions Mike M and Rochelle Smith won \$5
- Bean Pot. Lion Rochelle went back to the podium a second time and decided to pick a bean although it was only worth \$7; could have taken \$10 but drew and became a Loser!







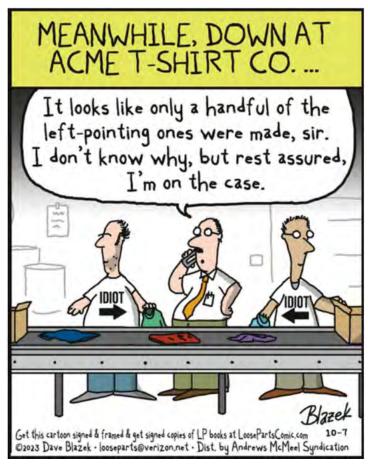
#### Pot Pourri from Sec John

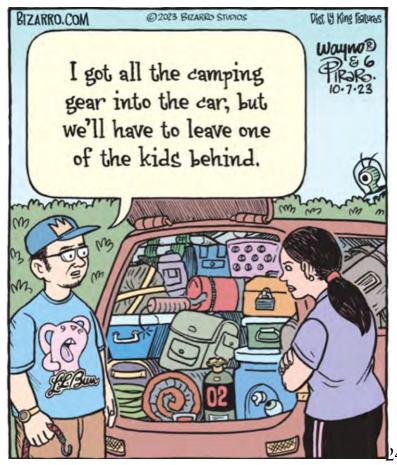
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Lion Bill S will be discussing fair parking.

At this time, please take a moment to review the state-sanctioned sign gestures for parking attendants. There will be a pop quiz following the meeting.







#### MD4-A3 News — We now have a Second Vice District Governor

Hello Lions of MD-4A3 ~

DG Rich Cervantes is happy to report that LCI has accepted the District 4-A3 Cabinet's recommendation that Lion Patrick Pothier of the Ventura Downtown Lions Club serve as our Second Vice District Governor for the remainder of this Lion year.

After retiring from corporate life after 38 years as the Director of Medical Marketing, where he implemented the very first telemedicine application in the

early 1990's. Today Pat is putting all of his energy and focus around his passion of helping individuals be the very best that they can be.

Ten years ago, Pat, along with his wife June, opened Pothler Hypnotherapy. Recent events like the Thomas Fires and the Montecito Floods have placed a spotlight on the effects of trauma, depression, anger, anxiety and fear. The goal is to help individuals gain control over these emotions and again gain a sense of a normal and happy life. He understands the frustrations and heartaches that life brings. He has been through the good times and the



bad, and has experienced the joy of winning and the pain of losing. He knows what it's like to feel normal, as well as the frustration that no-one understands me.

He knows there are always obstacles and roadblocks along the way to reaching our goals. No matter what the age, there are ways to work on Issues like trauma, weight-management, smoking cessation, stress, public speaking and many more.

Pat has served as Region O Chair, as well as Secretary, 2nd VP, 1st VP and President for the Ventura Downtown Lions Club. He is also serving as the Chair of the Club's Veterans, as well as a Member of the BBQ and Golf Committees.

Pat has a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration degree from the University of Phoenix, and an MBA from the University of Southern California (USC).

Congratulations, Lion Pati

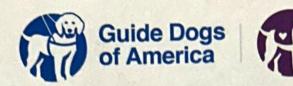
Cabinet Secretary Chris Graham lionerrisgrafiam@yarroo.com

- "If you want to know how old a woman is, ask her sister-in-law." (Eva Gabor)
- "Old age comes at a bad time." (Ed Sullivan)
- "Inside every OLDer person is a younger person wondering what happened." (Stevie Wonder)I
- "Old age is like a plane flying through a storm. Once you are aboard, there is nothing you can do about it." (Golda Meir)
- "The older I get, the more clearly I remember things that never happened. (Mark Twain)
- "I'm at that age where my back goes out more than I do." (Phyllis Diller)
- "Nice to be here? At my age, it's nice to be anywhere." (George Burns)
- "First you forget names, then you forget faces, then you forget to pull your zipper up; then, you forget to pull your zipper down." (Rob Reiner)
- "You spend 90 percent of your adult life hoping for a long rest and the last 10 percent trying to convince the Lord that you're actually not THAT tired." (Princess Grace)
- -"Old people shouldn't eat Health foods. They need all the preservatives they can get." (Bob Hope)
- "At my age, flowers scare me." (George Burns)
- "It's like you trade the virility of the body for the agility of the spirit." (Ed Sullivan)
- The years between 55 and 75 are the hardest. You are always being asked to do things, and yet you are not decrepit enough to turn them down." (T.S Elliot)
- "At age 20, we worry about what others think of us... at age 40, we don't care what they think of us at age 60, we discover they haven't been thinking of us at all." (Ann Landers)
- "When I was young, I was called a rugged individualist. When I was in my fifties, I was considered eccentric. Here I am doing and saying the same things I did then, and I'm labeled senile." (Milton Berle)
- "The important thing to remember is that I'm probably going to forget." (Martin Scorsese)
- "We don't grow older, we grow riper." (Pablo Picasso)
- "It's paradoxical that the idea of living a long life appeals to everyone, but the idea of getting old doesn't appeal to anyone." (Andy Rooney)
- "The older I get, the better I used to be." (Lee Trevino)
- "I was thinking about how people seem to read the Bible a lot more as they get older, and then it dawned on me they're cramming for their final exam." (George Carlin)
- "Everything seems to slow down with age, except the time it takes cake and ice cream to reach your hips." (Elizabeth Taylor)
- "Grandchildren don't make a man feel old, it's the knowledge that he's married to a grandmother that does." (Norman Vincent Peale)
- When your friends begin to flatter you on how young you look, it's a sure sign you're getting old." (Mark Twain)
- "You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks." (Dennis Quaid)
- "There's one advantage to being 102, there's no peer pressure." (Adam & Eve)
- "There are three stages in man's Life: he believes in Santa Claus, he does not believe in Santa Claus, he is Santa Claus." (Leon Phillips)
- "Looking fifty is great if you're sixty." (Joan Rivers)
- "Time may be a great Healer, but it's a lousy Beautician." (Zsa Zsa Gabor)

# **Vicarious Trip to Galapagos Islands**



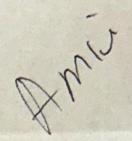
#### TALES FROM THE LIONS DEN





January 12, 2024

Mr. John Fraser Camarillo-Somis Pleasant Valley Lions Club P. O. Box 157 Camarillo, CA 93011



Dear John,

Congratulations on your new little sponsored puppy going home, "Amie". She was born on November 13th and is a yellow Labrador Retriever. Amie is being raised, of course, by Missy Stayton.

Volunteer puppy raisers provide our puppies a safe home, take them to obedience classes, provide them socialization opportunities and give them lots of love! Each hour spent caring for a Guide Dogs of America puppy is vital to its development as a future service dog.

Thank you so much again for your support of our puppy sponsor program! We are most appreciative of your patience in getting you your puppy. Your quarterly reports will start arriving in April. Until then, I have enclosed a picture of Amie from the day she went home with her puppy raisers.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call or e-mail me.

Warm regards,

Juakeier

Judy Reilly Sponsorships (818) 833-6437 jareilly@guidedogsofamerica.org

Encl.









#### DEAR FELLOW LIONS,

WELL HERE SHE IS, AMIE. SHE'S ONLY BEEN HOME NOW FOR 3 DAYS AND WE ARE WORKING THROUGH SOME POOP ISSUES BUT SHE IS AS SWEET AS WYO. HOW LUCKY AM I TO HAVE WHAT SEEMS ANOTHER PERFECT DOG. OH MAYBE I'M DELIRIOUS FROM BEING A LITTLE SLEEP DEPRIVED. LOL

I JUST WANTED TO GIVE YOU A QUICK INTRODUCTION TO YOUR NEWEST SPONSORED PUPPY AND SOME PICTURES.

WE'VE DONE SOME SIMPLE OBEDIENCE TRAINING AT HOME AND IT SEEMS SHE ALREADY KNOWS HER NAME.

WE WILL BEGIN OUR FIRST KINDERGARTEN CLASS NEXT WEEK WHICH WILL CONTINUE FOR 6 WEEKS.

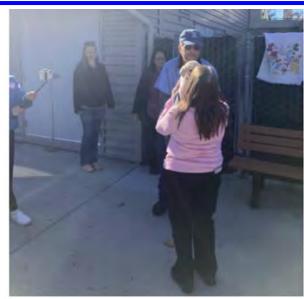
AS SOON AS I CAN I WILL BRING HER TO A LIONS MEETING WHEN SHE IS A BIT OLDER. MUST KEEP HER HEALTHY TIL SHE HAS ALL HER VACCINATIONS.

THANK YOU FOR SPONSORING THIS SWEET, SWEET PUPPY.

WE WILL SEE YOU AROUND SOON.

# Lion Missy Stayton

# PV Lions Newest Sponsored Guide Dog - AMIE 2/3





PUPPY PICK UP WAS ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 12TH.





AMIE SAYING GOODBYE TO HER BROTHER AERO.

AMIE ALL READY FOR HER FIRST CAR RIDE HOME WITH JOE AND I. SHE WAS A DREAM.





MY GRAND DAUGHTER EMME LOVES THIS PUPPY.

WYO IS THINKING ABOUT IT.

# PV Lions Newest Sponsored Guide Dog - AMIE 3/3





IT SEEMS AMIE LOVES CARRYING AROUND HER FOOD BOWL.

EMME CAME BACK FOR MORE PUPPY TIME THE NEXT DAY



AMIE WANTED TO SEE JUST HOW HER NEW JACKET AND SPONSOR WOULD LOOK ON HER. IT'S A LITTLE BIT TOO BIG YET BUT BEFORE YOU KNOW IT SHE'LL GROW RIGHT INTO IT.

AMIE ON THE LEFT WYO ON THE RIGHT

THANK YOU LIONS FOR SPONSORING BOTH THESE FABULOUS DOGS. CAN'T WAIT TO SEE THEIR FUTURE.





# **District Governor Visitations 1/2**

District Governor Rich is almost finished with visitations and his first long tail.

# Cambria Lions Club.





# **District Governor Visitations 2/2**

Morro Bay kept up with the Dodger theme. DG Rich is shown with Terry Orton and Morro Bay President Chuck Scholl.

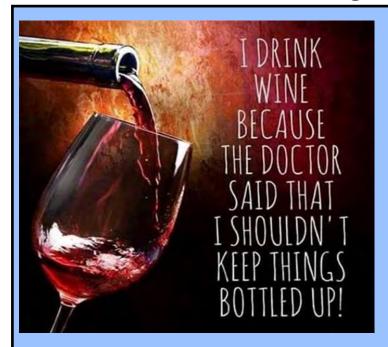
Morro Bay secretary Gail Hubbard presented Mary Jo a gift.





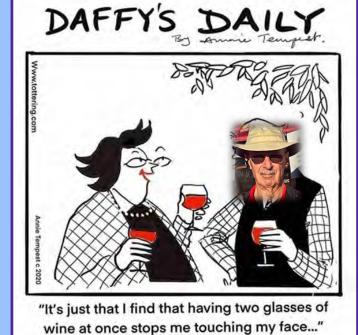
DG Rich inducts two new members into Morro Bay Lions.





So in retrospect, in 2015, not a single person got the answer right to "Where do you see yourself 5 years from now?"

# Good morning inmates!!! Anyone know how much vodka goes in scrambled eggs??





She says I keep pushing her buttons. If that were true, I would have found 'mute' by now.

# 30 January — 1933

On this day in history, 'The Lone Ranger' debuts, trotting into American cultural lore.

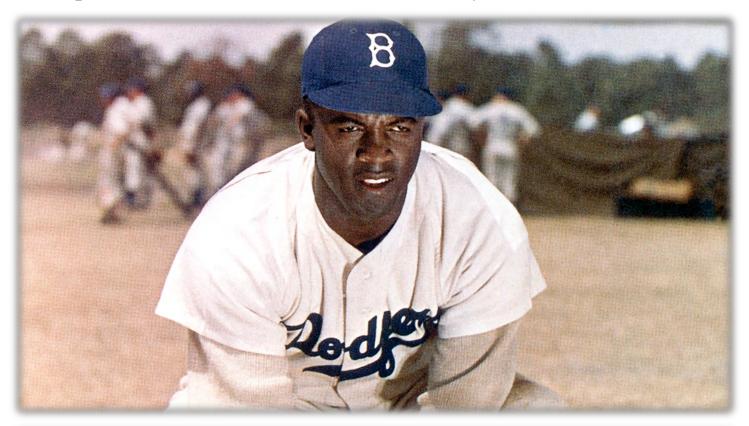
Masked lawman and sidekick Tonto forged original dynamic duo, battling Wild West outlaws with cry of 'Hi-Yo, Silver!'





# 31 January — 1919

Jackie Robinson was born in Cairo, Georgia, on this day in history, Jan. 31, 1919. He broke baseball's color barrier in 1947, excelled in four sports at UCLA and served in U.S. Army in World War II.





From left, Brooklyn Dodgers third baseman John Jorgensen, shortstop Pee Wee Reese, second baseman Ed Stanky and first baseman Jackie Robinson before a baseball game against the Boston Braves at Ebbets Field in Brooklyn, New York, on April 15, 1947. (AP Photo/Harry Harris, File)

#### February 2024 Birthdays





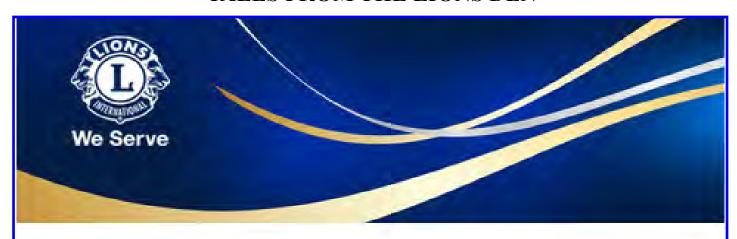
Brown	Michael	2/18
Rains	Ted	2/13
Taylor	Robert "Bob"	2/22

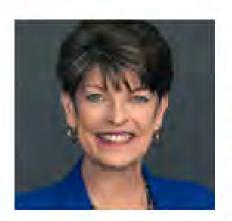


#### **Horoscope: Aquarius - Pisces**

- If you are talking to an Aquarian and he or she zones out, consider the conversation hopeless. He or she is talking to the guy three feet away from you.
- Aquarians are fun because they channel people.
- Aquarians like astronomy because they've been to all those places. If you want to know what the food is like on Saturn, ask an Aquarius.
- They can also walk on water if they try really hard. This usually happens in the bathtub. Aquarians can allow themselves every possible vice on the planet, and don't think twice about it. That is why they piss everyone else off. They are cosmically entitled to do this.
- Pisces are deeply confused by the idea of sex. As far as you are concerned, if it didn't happen in "The Velveteen Rabbit", it doesn't exist.
- Piscean women wear long floaty dresses and enormous amounts of unusual silver jewelry. On hikes. Pisceans claim to love the stars, but the only constellation they can find is the Big Dipper. If they cannot find it, they cry.
- You remember what you were wearing on March 3rd, 1981 but forget your own address.

#### TALES FROM THE LIONS DEN





President's Message Changing the World with International President Dr. Patti Hill

#### Dear Lions,

Every journey begins with the first step. Changing the World begins with Lions taking that bold first step together. We have the power to make the world a better place. It's an incredible responsibility, one from which everyone benefits, including us.

I encourage you to take an important step by inviting new members to join us in service. More members mean more service and more ways to serve our communities. Real change is truly possible when we all join together and work toward a better world.

So, let's give others the opportunity to change the world with us as Lions.

Yours in service,

Dr. Patti Hill International President

#### TALES FROM THE LIONS DEN

With LCIF Support, Lions Always Answer



#### Hello Lions, Leos and fellow humanitarians,

I continue to be impressed by the projects Lions are implementing in their communities, made possible through LCIF. As you read this month's newsletter highlighting ways Lions and LCIF are helping alleviate hunger worldwide through our service together. I hope you are inspired to continue supporting LCIF both financially and as an ambassador for our foundation. As we work together to achieve MISSION 1.5, and invite new members into our awesome organization, your stories of service empowered by our global foundation can inspire potential members to join us in our work to improve health and well-being, strengthen communities and support those in need across the globe.

Special thanks to everyone who participated in the 2023 Melvin Jones Photo Contest for sharing your photo and reasons for supporting the mission of LCIF. Congratulations to the winners, featured on the Melvin Jones Photo Contest page. I encourage everyone to visit LCIF: Stories of Pride to share your grant-funded projects with your fellow Lions and to read about humanitarian projects around the world.

Make a great day,

Brian F. Sheehan Chairperson, Lions Clubs International Foundation

















## MD4-A3 GAT/Global Membership Approach

Volume 3, Issue 3 November-December 2023

#### Lions of MD4-A3 ~

#### 2023-2024 Club Goals Membership, Service, Leadership, & LCIF

Members of MD4-A3, we have reached the midway point of this Lions year. Where is your club in meeting your 2023-2024 Club Goals? It is not too late to set club goals for the remainder of the year.

There are several tools available to complete a club and community assessment. Using the following tools (click on the links) will guide your club leaders in completing the assessments, goal setting, and building your club's Action Plan in Membership, Service, Leadership, and LCIF. Your Action Plan will serve as a guide that can be modified as you implement the plan.

- → Global Membership Approach
- → Membership Growth Tool Box
- → Consider starting a Club Branch

During International President Dr. Patti Hill's visit to California this past month, she met with all of the 2023-2024 District Governors of MD4. IP Patti stressed the importance of revitalizing clubs with new members and revitalizing districts by adding new clubs. She also reminded everyone that all district teams need to work together to reach their established Mission 1.5 membership goals.

The Mission 1.5 Membership goal for MD4-A3 is a net gain of 5. On the next page you will see where our district stands as of December 31, 2023.



#### The Challenge to Increase Membership is to Provide More Service!

As we move forward in meeting the challenge, we all need to realize it is more than just adding membership! MISSION 1.5 is also a worldwide effort in increasing service. It is a challenge to serve One Billion people by 2027. The only way we, as an organization, will be able to accomplish that goal is to add NEW CLUBS and re-energize our clubs with NEW MEMBERS.

As a member of this worldwide service organization we need to ask ourselves:

- Does our community know what we do/ our club does?
- 2) Does our community know who Lions are?
- 3) How do we represent our communities?
- 4) How does our community see us as a service-minded organization?

Let's all come together to meet and exceed MD4-A3's Mission 1,5 Goal!!! There are many tools and resources available to all clubs and members. All you need to do is ask. Learn how to access any of the available resources by contacting PDG Juanita Nichols, MD4-A3 GMT Coordinator. You can email her at <a href="mailto:lionjuanitagn@gmail.com">lionjuanitagn@gmail.com</a>.

#### District Dashboard Summary — July through December 2023

#### Service:

District 4-A3 Service Activity:

July 1-December 31, 2023

People Served: 87,383

Completed Service Activities: 556

Volunteer Hours: 17,810 Funds Donated: \$68,562 Funds Raised: \$347,346

Global Service Team Coordinator Report;

#### MD4 Project Care 3rd Quarter Service Areas

January/February/March 2024

· Youth

Vision

Report in MyLion/Lion Portal by April 15, 2024



If you have any questions on reporting your service hours, do not hesitate to contact PDG Margaret at 805-340-5605 via text or phone, or e-mail her at dunlevy.margaret@gmail.com. PDG Margaret is more than happy to help out.

 PDG Lion Margaret Dunlevy MD4-A3 Service Coordinator

#### Membership:

Net Growth (as of 12/31/2023): MD4-A3 Membership Summary:

> July 1, 2023: 1056\* Members December 31, 2023: 1060 Members

Added Members: 80 Dropped Members: 76 Deceased Members: 7

District Net Membership: +4 members

\*Note: Addition of 56 new members from 3 clubs from 4-L1.

From the beginning of July through the end of December, the following clubs had a net growth!

#### Congratulations to:

\* Camarillo Amber's Light: +1

\* Carpinteria: +6

\* Castaic: +4

\* Cayneos: +3

\* Conejo Valley: +4

\* Morro Bay: +11

\* Ojai Valley +6

\* Oxnard Channel Islands: -1

\* San Miguel: +4

\* Santa Margarita: +1

\* Vandenberg Village: +3

From July through the end of December 2023, the following clubs have retained their membership:

Arroyo Grande

Oxnard Downtown

Fillmore

Oxnard Noontimers

Los Angeles Mid-Valley
 Nipomo
 Sar

alley • Palmdale • Santa Maria Sunrisers

Oreutt

· Santa Paula

The Goleta Lions Club and the Santa Barbara
Host Lions Club have officially merged into one
club with the official name of the Greater GoletaSanta Barbara Lions Club. As of December 31, their
membership is at 31 members. We look forward to
their ongoing activities in the Greater Goleta and
Santa Barbara area.

We were all saddened to learn that after 84 years of service, the San Luis Obispo Lions Club made the ultimate decision to turn in their charter effective in December 2023.

#### District 4-A3 Global Membership Approach newsletter! 3/4

Did you know Lions are united behind **eight** Global Causes? The Global Service Team is a driving force in promoting the Global Causes and empowering Lions to take the lead.

The eight Global Causes are:



- 1. Childhood Cancer
- 2. Youth
- 3. Humanitarian Efforts
- 4. Hunger
- 5. Disaster Relief
- 6. Environment
- 7. Diabetes
- 8. Vision

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact our District Global Service Team Coordinator, PDG Margaret Dunlevy, at <a href="mailto:dunlevy.margaret@gmail.com">dunlevy.margaret@gmail.com</a> or via text/call to 805-340-5605.

Item to Collect:	Donate to:	LCI Focus Area:
Empty Pill Bottles (clean with no labels)	Lion Mary Jo Cervantes for distribution to developing countries. Please bring clean, empty bottles to District Meetings. Click here to start your own project.	Environment
Egg Cartons (empty, cardboard)	Local food bank or call Lion Lee Ann Johnson at 805- 895-4791 for details.	Hunger or Environment
Aluminum Pull-Tabs	Ronald McDonald House @ Ventura County Medical Cen- ter. Contact Lion Lisa Morris at <a href="mailto:limorcakes@vahoo.com">limorcakes@vahoo.com</a> or any Ronald McDonald House of your choice.	Childhood Cancer or Environment
Ink Cartridges (not large toners)	Student Speakers Foundation. Contact PCC Bill or PDG Margaret Dunlevy at 805-340-5605.	Environment (anytime) or Youth (JanMarch 2024)
Cell Phones	Student Speakers Foundation. Contact PCC Bill or PDG Margaret Dunlevy at 805-340-5605.	Environment (anytime) or Youth (JanMarch 2024)
Eyeglasses (gently used; no parts)	California Lions Friends in Sight. Contact Lion Bill Schulze at 805-427-0764. Bring used eyeglasses to District Meetings. We're also taking to Avenal Prison.	Vision
Hearing Aids (click on the links for more information)	Two organizations accept gently used hearing aids:  Hearing Charities of America, 720 Main St, FL 1, Kansas City, MO 64105, 816-895-2410  Ear of the Lion Foundation, 850 San Jose Ave, Ste 115, Clovis, CA 93612, 800-327-8077	Environment or Health
Travel-size Toiletries	Collect toiletries (soap, shampoo, lotion, etc.) from motels/hotels and donate them to your local homeless shelter or similar providers; click here to learn how to make your own "blessing hag" (that includes food).	Humanitarian Efforts or Hunger
Used Shoes (and clothing)	Souls4Soles accepts ALL types, sizes, conditions of shoes, and shipping is FREE!	Environment or Humanitarian Efforts

Volume 3, Issue 3

Page 6

MD4-A3 GAT/Global Membership Approach

#### Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF):

LCIF club participation from July through December 2023:

- \* Arrovo Grande
- ★ Camarillo-Somis

Pleasant Valley

- \* Carpinteria
- \* Castaic
- \* Conejo Valley

Total denations: \$24,265.00

\* Nipomo

- ★ Ojai Valley
- \* Orcutt
- ★ Oxnard Channel Islands
- \* San Miguel
- \* Santa Barbara Host
- ★ Santa Maria Sunrisers
- Santa Paula

2023-2024 District Goal: \$35,000

\* Templeton

Ventura Downtown



Plans have been changed for the 2023-24 Melvin Jones Fellows event. It has been postponed to Sunday. April 7, 2024, from January 21, 2024. It will still be held at the Carpinteria Lions Clubhouse. The keynote speaker is planned to be PDG Manny Sanchez, MD4 LCIF Coordinator. This event is for ALL Lions! Save the new date and plan to attend. Additional information will be coming out soon!

If you have any questions on how to check your club's LCIF contribution balance or how to apply for a Melvin Jones Fellow, please reach out to our MD4-A3 District LCIF Co-Coordinators. They will guide you through the process:

- South: PID Howard Hudson Honbrindson@gmail.com
- North: Lion Terry Orton ortontk/a hotmail.com

The LCIF website has a wealth of resources available to all members. It provides information on a variety of ways clubs and individual members can donate; fionsclubs.org/en/discover-our-foundation/mission.

#### Global Membership Approach Process:

The Global Membership Approach Process is easy to set up and follow. It is a process that will help your club with implementing membership rebuilding, retention, and membership engagement. This process is applicable to clubs, regions, and zones. Use this link to access the process for success as seen in the graphic below.

lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/resource-center/global-membership-approach/region-zone-chairperson

If you need assistance with the process, contact PDG Juanita at lion juanitagn a gmail.com.

#### Process for success

**BUILD A TEAM** 

**BUILD A VISION** 

**BUILD A PLAN** 

**BUILD SUCCESS** 

Execute your plan, maintain

Sund a fearn of club officers (i) tiers support the Globel Membership Approved

Build a vision, assess hands and not gonts.

Build a plan in acriticve our goals. SWOT Areans course in the Liens

accountebility and indust as /tenger).

. Club Health Assessment Reports Learning Center

#### TALES FROM THE LIONS DEN



# The earthquake in Japan devastated entire communities.

LCIF grant funding will enable Lions to help earthquake victims recover and rebuild.

LIONSCLUBS.ORG/DONATE 0

When a massive earthquake struck western Japan, buildings collapsed, fires ignited and tsunami alerts were issued for surrounding regions. Dozens of people were killed and many more are still missing under the debris. The 7.6 magnitude quake destroyed homes, forced nearly 100,000 residents to evacuate and left tens of thousands of homes without power.

When a humanitarian crisis of this magnitude strikes, we, as Lions, are ready to help. Right beside us is Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), our global foundation. LCIF is mobilizing funds, including a US\$100,000 Major Catastrophe Grant, to empower Lions in Japan and other impacted areas to help their communities recover.

Your donation can make a difference.

HELP NOW O

Your generous donation to LCIF's Disaster Relief Fund, specifically reserved for all disaster relief, helps Lions continue to serve!

#### 3 Feb Little help to our friends at Channel Islands



NOTE CHANGE OF DATE!! Due to impending rain for this weekend, the Oxnard Channel Islands Lions Club is postponing their yard sale until Sunday, February 4! If you were planning on donating anything this Saturday - PLEASE WAIT until Saturday, February 3. See below for additional EDITED details!! Thanks for your support!!

Oxnard Channel Islands Lions Club will be hosting a yard sale on **Sunday, February 4, 2024, from 8 am to 1 pm**, at 261 South F Street, Oxnard, CA 93030. Take a look in your closets or garages and anywhere in between for items you don't need anymore! We would greatly appreciate any donated items for us to sell that Sunday. If you have any items, please drop them off at 261 S. F St. in Oxnard no earlier than **Saturday**, **February 3rd**.

Or, if you don't have anything to donate, please mark your calendars and stop by that **Sunday**, **February 4** - maybe you'll find something you simply cannot live without!!!

Thank you for your consideration! If you have any questions, please email Tara at <a href="mailto:mtprudhomme4@gmail.com">mtprudhomme4@gmail.com</a>.

Tara Prudhomme, Secretary Oxnard Channel Islands

#### 9 Feb - Planting Day

Greetings one and all in Lionland:

February 9 is **Pollinator Planting Day** at Sterlings Hills Golf Course.

The game plan is to meet and create a pollinator habitat for Monarch Butterflies (and other flying creatures that pollinate). Any humans wishing to pollinate must do so on their own time...but, I digress.

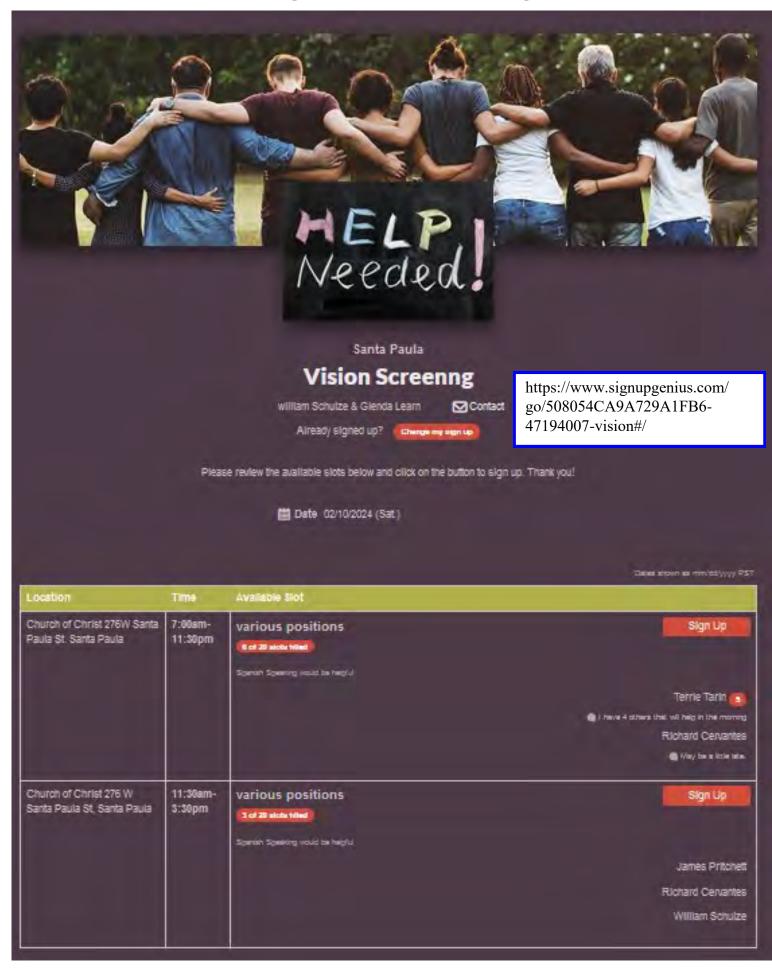
Please bring a water bottle and some sunscreen.

Plants, tools, gloves, and encouragement will be provided (promise).

We'll meet up at the Sterling HIlls parking lot at 9 am.



10 Feb - Vision Screening - Lions Friends in Sight -Santa Paula



#### PLUMBER OF THE YEAR FINALISTS

And now drum roll please...
AND THE PLUMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD
GOES TO...

Absolutely brilliant...



# Should have measured twice!

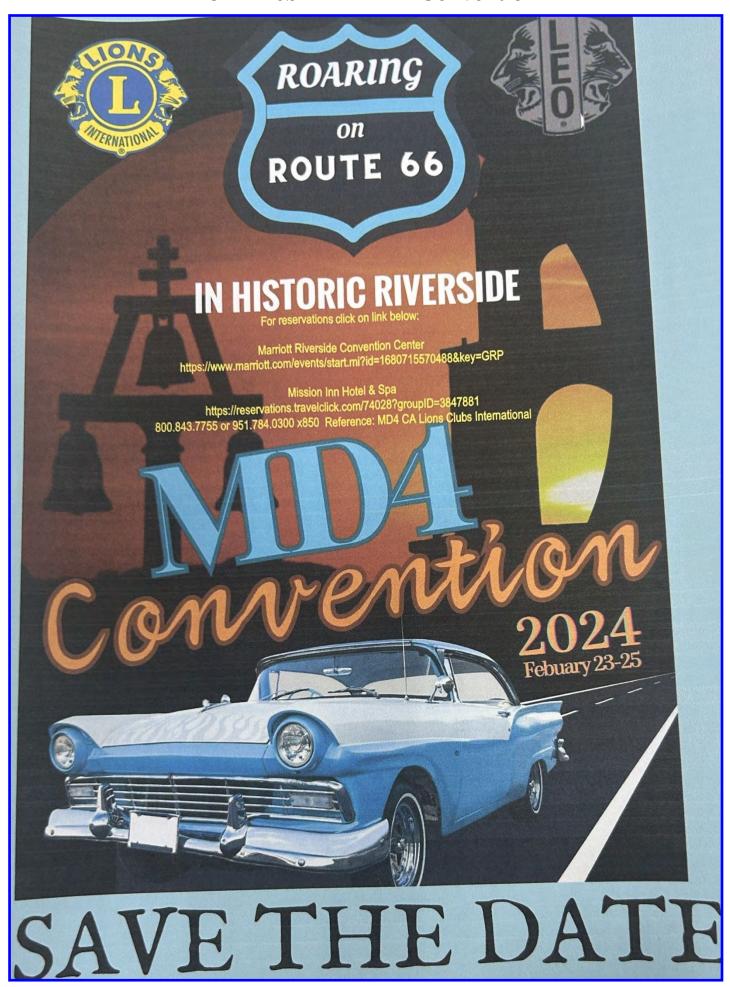


Apparently, you don't want anyone seeing your face, but everything else is okay?





The oak seat is a nice touch, though.



#### 1 March 24 - LDUN Convention



### We want to see you in New York.

Join us for LDUN New York on Friday, March 1, 2024. This event and supporting materials will be offered in English only.



Register O

https://web.cvent.com/event/384a9b2b-66bf-42ae-8ffb-8e3a5346e719/regProcessStep1?

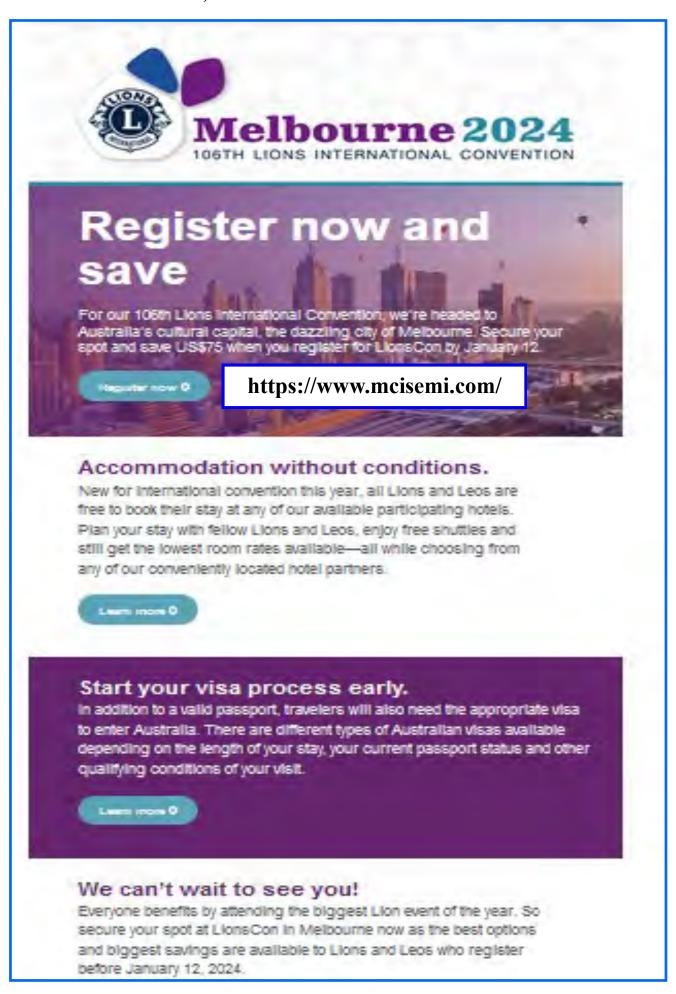
Don't miss your chance to see how Lions and Leos are working together with the U.N. to achieve world peace through environmental stewardship. Secure your spot to hear what Lions and Leos are doing to strengthen communities and celebrate our partnership with the U.N.

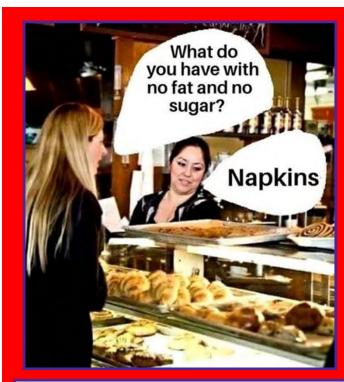
Your LDUN New York registration includes:

- Ticket to the LDUN program
- Printed souvenir program
- Lions International padfolio and pin
- Dynamic speakers, panel discussions and networking opportunities
- Exciting entertainment



#### June 21-25, 2024 Lions International Convention

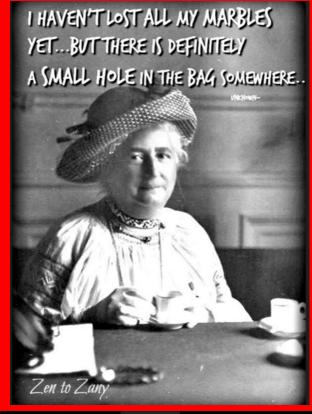




When your wedding is sponsored by Sherwin Williams ...



it's not going to end well



You'd be surprised how quickly employees at Lowe's assist you after ignoring you for 20 minutes when you try and start a chainsaw.



#### PV Lions Committees 2023-24

1st Vice President - Bruce Jochums		
Finance & Budget	Bill S., Rich C., Russ W., Victor M., Mike N., Mike M., John Fraser, Bruce Jochums	
<b>Community Betterment</b>	John Fraser	
Cook Lead 1st qtr.	Bruce Jochums	
Cook Lead 2nd qtr.	Chet Price	
Cook Lead 3rd qtr.	Mike Nunez	
Cook Lead 4th qtr.	Kerry Forsythe	
Bar 1st qtr.	Art Mansfield Jr. and Joe Flores	
Bar 2nd qtr.	Art Mansfield Jr. and Joe Flores	
Bar 3rd qtr.	Art Mansfield Jr. and Joe Flores	
Bar 4th qtr.	Art Mansfield Jr. and Joe Flores	
<b>District Contests</b>	Lloyd Christie and Russ White	
Photographer	Hillary Ling & Bob Taylor	
Christmas Float	Bruce Jochums, Mike Nunez, Kerry Forsythe	
<b>Student Speaker Contest</b>	Dick Bellman and Kim Stephenson	
<b>Meeting Programs</b>	Bruce Jochums	
Scholarships	George Graham, Russ White, John Fraser, OPEN	
Membership Chair	Mike Nunez	
Club Service Chair	Russ White	
Peace Poster	Dan Goldberg	
Sight & Hearing	Russ White, Bob Taylor	
Public Relations	John Fraser	
Club Bulletin	Bob Taylor	
S.W.O.T.	Victor Martinez	

2nd Vice President- Bob Larson		
Lion Burgers	Russ White & Jan Edmondson	
Visitations	Lloyd Christie	
BBQ Trailer & Equipment	Bruce Jochums & Mike Nunez	
Raffles	Russ White & Bob Taylor	
5K-1K Race	Mike Brown	
Special BBQ's	Bruce Jochums & Mike Nunez	

3rd Vice President- John Knittle		
Kids Shopping	George Graham	
Club Bulletin	Bob Taylor	
Harvest Festival	Bruce Jochums	
Easter Festival	Bruce Jochums	
Badges/Pins/Banners	Mike Nunez	
Sight &Hearing	Russ White	
Fair Parking	Bill Schulze	
Web site /IT	George Graham	
<b>Public Relations</b>	John Fraser	
Club Greeter	OPEN	

#### **Wonderful Story!!!**

On January 19, 1981, heavyweight champ Muhammad Ali became so upset when he found out that a Vietnam veteran was about to commit suicide near his home, that he dashed to the scene in just four minutes. Not only did Ali prevent the man from killing himself, he also personally drove him to the hospital.

