



# TALES FROM THE LIONS DEN

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Bob Taylor

Robert.taylor1661@verizon.net

April 2025 Monthly Bulletin  
Visit us on the web at [www.pvlions.org](http://www.pvlions.org)

Volume 152 Issue 80  
P.O. Box 157, Camarillo, CA 93011

## Keeping it Reel - Part 2

We are getting near to the end of my term and just when I thought that we weren't going to have another VP, Lion Dan Goldberg stepped up to the plate and will be next year's 1VP; he will do great.

It has been another busy month with some exciting events. We participated in the Guide Dog Graduation at Sylmar where Wyo graduated to become a service dog to an 7 year old autistic child. Lion Missy was teary when Wyo graduated. She has already moved on to a new guide dog puppy in training and I think that this makes 11 guide dog puppies in training for Missy — Wow!!



Eleven club members and guests attended the **For the Troops Gala** at the Reagan Library and five PV Lions handed out awards at the **Academic Olympics**. PV Lions has been a long time supporter of this even as a result of Lion Ted Rains involvement in the Academic Olympics.

We save a significant amount of money by having our meetings at the **B&G club** so we showed our appreciation by donating \$10.000 plus a BBQ for 40 for their silent auction in April. This monetary donation qualifies our club as a **Silver Doner** that will result in significant notoriety for the club at the Gala and in B&G club publications and news.

Finally, we completed the first 2 of 5 weekends at the **Underwood Farms Easter Fest**. Both weekends had comparable sales but we dealt with a drizzly and muddy Sunday on the second weekend. The best news for the event is the large PV Lion participation we had for both weekends; however, **we are a little short of help for the final 3 weekends and Good Friday**. I am calling on all PV Lions who are presently uncommitted to give me a call to sign up. This is a great opportunity to help fill our charity coffers.

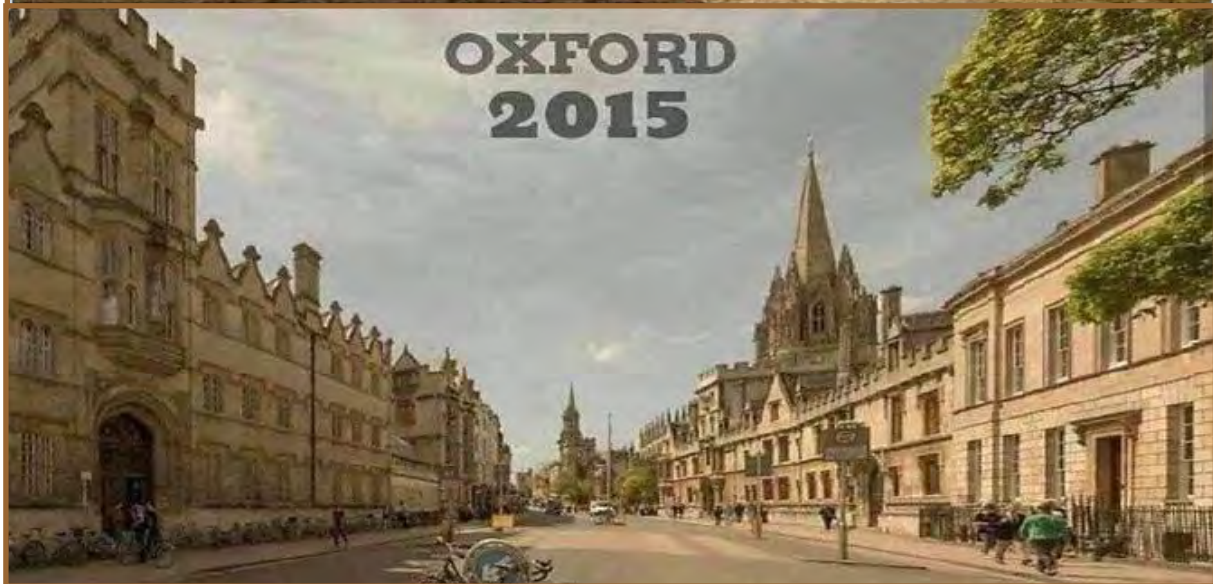
***Lion President Bruce Jochums***

## PV Lions Calendar - April 2025

- Apr 5,6,12,13,18,19,20 - **Easter Fest**
- Apr 8 Regular Meeting - B&G Club
- Apr 15 Board Meeting - B&G Club
- Apr 19 **4A3 Student Speaker - Orcutt**
- Apr 22 Regular Meeting - B&G Club
- Apr 26 **Boys & Girls Club Gala**
- May 2-3 **District Convention—Ventura**
- May 13 Regular Meeting - B&G Club
- May 16 **805 Golf Tournament**
- May 17 **Farmers Market**
- May 20 Board Meeting - B&G Club
- May 27 Regular Meeting - B&G Club
- Jun 10 Regular Meeting - B&G Club
- Jun 17 Board Meeting - B&G Club
- Jun 21 **Farmers Market**
- Jun 24 Installation - B&G Club
- Aug 16 **Lupus Walk**

Let's have something nice today.

Let's remember that in 1500 BCE, someone in Iran carved a little hedgehog on wheels to give to a kid.





## 3 April - Visitation to Conejo Valley Lions

Six PV Lions visited Conejo Valley Lions at the Alamo in Newbury Park. Pres. Bruce and Lions Baker, Jan and Mike Nunez, Christie and Taylor completed a Short Tail Award for the club.

Club President Lion Kara is shown at right. She encouraged all to sign up for the Easter Fest and she and others thanked PV for enabling their participation.

Their speaker was Sheri Groenveld, Operations Director Harbor House. It was a very sobering talk about the homeless population in Thousand Oaks. She knows all 341 homeless individuals in her community and is passionate about helping them. It was difficult listening to her talk about the homeless during dinner but reminded us all about how incredibly difficult this problem really is and how grateful we are for people like Sheri and her organization.

I encourage you to look at their website. They offer an array of services shown at right. I copied one segment from their site referencing Older Adults.

- [Daily Meal Program](#)
- [Pi House](#)
- [Case Management & Referrals](#)
- [Rental Assistance](#)
- [Gas & Electric Assistance](#)
- [Jobs Program](#)
- [Older Adults](#)



### HARBOR HOUSE

## Seniors Helping Seniors

**Are you a senior adult aged 60 or older, facing challenges due to limited resources?**

Our Seniors Helping Seniors program is here to lend a caring hand. We understand the unique needs and circumstances that older adults often encounter, and we're dedicated to providing support and assistance through our network of compassionate volunteers.

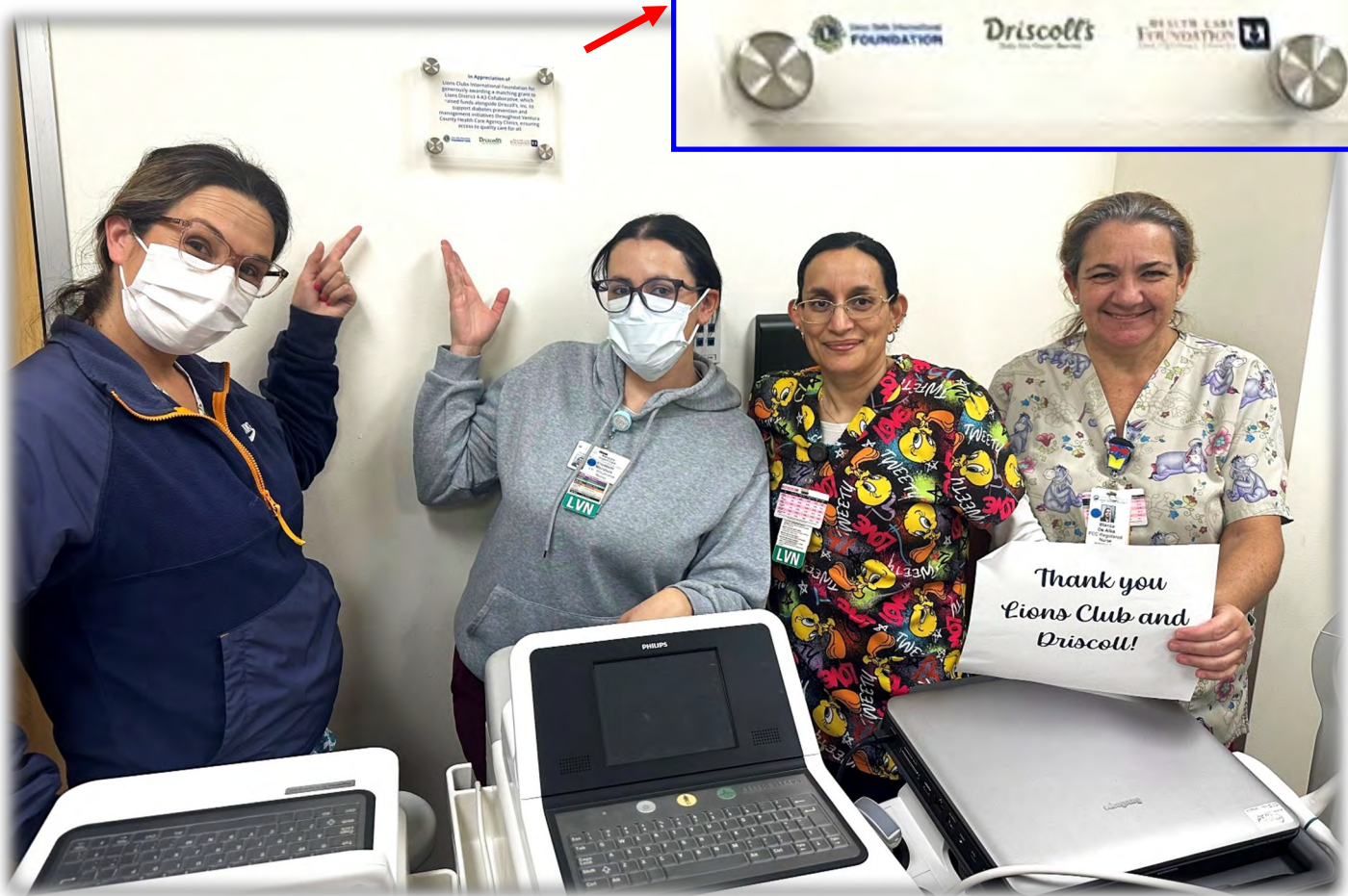




# Thanks for LCIF Matching Grant to 4A3 Collaborative

The photos show the equipment received at two clinics from Lions clubs and our LCIF Matching Grant.

Behind them is the plaque that thanks Lions and Driscoll.





# 8 March - 4A3 3rd District Meeting 1/2

The 4A3 3rd District Meeting was held via Zoom because there were few lions who signed up for the Arroyo Grande meeting. Although there was no driving involved for a zoom meeting Lion participation was still low. DG Jason noted that we had 34 participants: ***"Thank you to all the Lions who attended our 3rd District Meeting via Zoom on March 8!"***



While Jason and the terrific speakers on the venue were gracious, 34 attendees is a paltry number from about 1000 lions in our district. PV had 3 lions (PDG Rich, Pres. Bruce and Bob) out of 57 members (Lloyd tried but couldn't connect.) Ventura Downtown dominated with about 9 participants and were the primary presenters. Let's hope that we do better at the convention, which will be held May 2-3. It starts 2 May the Varsity Club from 3-8pm for games and dinner and follows at Ventura College on 3 May. The zoom meeting was only 1 1/2 hours but was filled with great information by terrific speakers.



Rich-



Bob

## PDG Margaret Dunleavy

We have 8 focus areas up from our original 5 areas to capture all the things that Lions accomplish. To properly reward each club for their accomplishments and to report those accomplishments to Lions International PDG Margaret provided a form.

PV Lions does a good job of documenting all our activities.

**WORD document of the eight service focus areas to fill out and return to:  
PDG Margaret Dunlevy.**

Lions Clubs 8 Focus Areas Checklist July 1, 2024 through March 8, 2025										NOTE: This is to capture only one project in each of the 8 focus areas, so we can reward the clubs that reach this goal in a Lion's year.	
Focus Area	Start Date	End Date	Number Served	Number of Volunteers	Non-Lions	Non-Lions Family members	Description	Fundraiser Amount raised	Donations Issued	Reported Lion Portal	
<b>Vision</b> Screening/ glasses purchased/recycling used eye glasses											
<b>Hunger</b> Donation to Food Bank/Thanksgiving/ Christmas baskets											
<b>Environmental</b> Street/Hwy/Beach/River Cleanup; planting trees											
<b>Childhood Cancer</b> Donate or participate in Magic Yarn; Donate items to Ronald McDonald Family Room/House; pull-tabs											
<b>Diabetes</b> Handout information sheets at vision screening/food banks/food donations											
<b>Other Humanitarian</b> Veterans/Mental Health/help Seniors Cards/isp blankets											
<b>Youth</b> LEO's/Student Speakers Peace Poster/chnol supplies											
<b>Disaster Relief</b> Donate to LCHF/Lions Clubs in Disaster areas; assist w/recovery											



## PDG Norm McDaniel

PDG Norm gave two talks that will keep us out of trouble and move us into the future.

- ***“Charitable Entities: How do you know if they are compliant?”***

He provided links for checking on the charitable entities you may donate to, but ALSO good for checking your own clubs and/or foundations. He cautioned that we could be liable for donating to non-compliant organizations so check with the organizations. below.

IRS,  
California FTB (Franchise Tax Board)  
California Secretary of State  
California Attorney General



**Kudos to Ventura Downtown speakers for all the valuable info provided at the meeting.**

- ***“Unlocking the Future: Harnessing the Power of Artificial Intelligence”***

## Lions Virtual

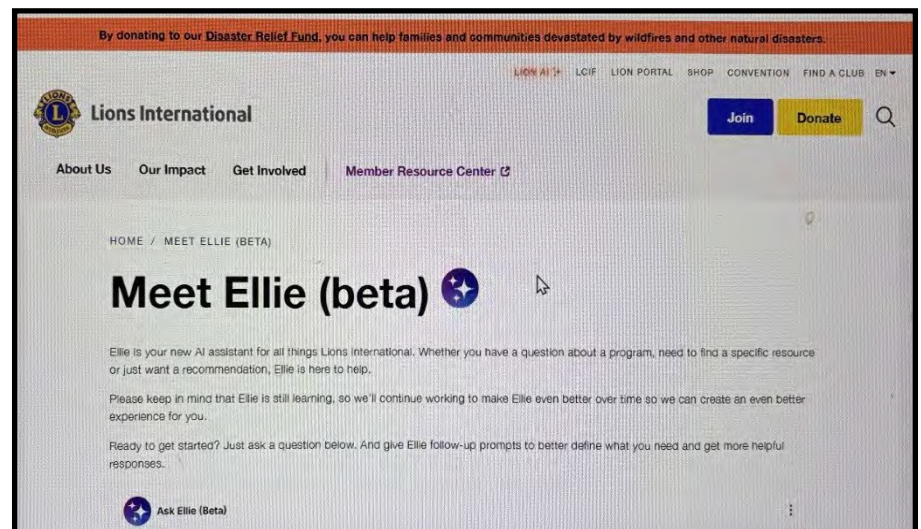
EXPLORE both AI Applications

- ⇒ [LionsMap2Grow](#)
- ⇒ [LinsMarket2Grow!](#)

Both provide links at the top for their Facebook and YouTube pages (where there are videos on how to use the two applications)! Please note that you will have to create a ChatGPT account to use these two AI Applications, but there is no cost to do so.



**LCI** ~ Once you are there, click on the "**LionAI**" link near the very top (after it opens, scroll down to nearly the bottom and type in your question where it says "Ask me anything" - the response will be in the box above where you typed). EXPLORE! HAVE FUN! LEARN from "Ellie"!!!





**Military Tribute Gala Honoring our World War II and Korean War Veterans**

PV Lions bought a table for 10 at the Gala and 11 came and squeezed in. *Amie* came along but didn't have a seat at the table. Mike and BobL were added to complete the group photo.

The Reagan Library venue is hard to beat. Mike and Jan had bidding paddles but neither won anything at the auction.



**About Us**

For The Troops is an all-volunteer run 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to providing members of the American military with 'We Care' packages containing basic necessities, goodies, games and—most of all—a show of support.





## 8 March — For the Troops Gala 2/2

Since Lions Mike and Missy took the time to take lots of photos I had to use them, even if one was a selfie.





Pres. Bruce started off by introducing our guests, one of whom in black is here for the second time as a guest of 1VP Bob. Lion Dan brought in a potential member with another in the wings. Let's hope we are turning the corner on membership.

Lion Bruce welcomed back Lion Bill after 3 months in rehab. Clearly Bill is happy to be back as we all are to see him recovering. Later in the meeting Bill thanked all who visited and provided meals but offered particular thanks to PDG Rich who visited him **every day** while Bill was in rehab. Bruce brought Lions Missy and Joe up with their guide dog puppies Amie and XJ?. Training one dog is hard work but training 2 dogs is amazing. Missy mentioned Wyo's graduation this Saturday in Sylmar and 6 Lions will attend. Wyo will be a service dog to a young child. We have 5 Lions participating in the awards ceremony for the Academic Olympics. PV has collected about 2000 eye glasses since the first of the year and over 6000 last year. Bruce singled out Lion John who takes all these glasses, sorts them in his garage and tosses out those that are damaged or inappropriate and



packages them for Lions Friends in Sight.

Easter Fest setup starts next Tuesday and we still need help for the final three weekends. So far we have good signups from Conejo Valley, Channel Islands and Ambers Light. Could use more from PV Lions. Lion Glenda Learn is recovering from her aneurism. She will be missed at the Easter Festival.

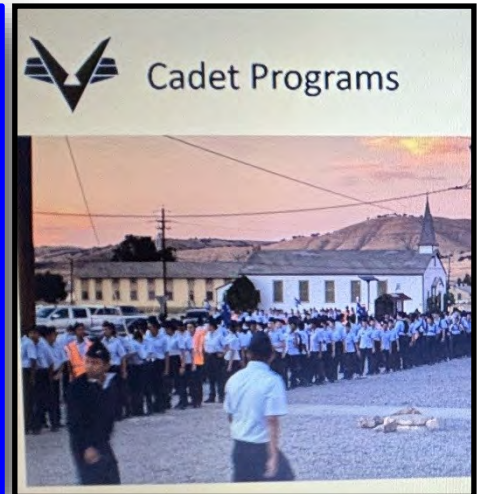




## Speaker

**Major John Kunsmiller, Civil Air Patrol Squadron Commander.**

There are 71 cadets and over 40 adults in the squadron. Major Kunsmiller actually started out as a cadet many years ago and was recently promoted to lead the squadron. It was a very informative talk with many questions. CAP is an invaluable resource to the community and nation. Much of his talk focused on the cadets and their role in shaping future leaders.



## CAP Mission-Vision

*Volunteers serving America's communities, saving lives, and shaping futures.*



## What we do.

### Citizen Volunteers Supporting

- Emergency Services
- Disaster Relief
- Search and Rescue
- Homeland Safety
- Community Wellbeing
- Promoting Aviation
- Aerospace Education
- Shape Future Leaders





PDG Rich updated the club on the District Meeting. In particular he reminded us to ensure that any entity that we donate to is compliant according to organizations listed earlier in the bulletin. He also discussed the move towards AI by LCI and the District to help increase membership and to promote Lions.

Lion Rich and Lion Missy are pursuing pre-schools for eye screening. We need to better utilize our equipment.

Lion George mentioned two charity events including Amber's Magic Yarn Project this Saturday and the Teddy Bear Picnic to benefit pediatric cancer patients.

## Tail Twisting

- Lion George twisted his own tail for his birthday.
- Lions Ceeb tossed in money *just cause*.
- Lion John was happy for all the glasses collected this year.
- Pres. Bruce paid up because he kept calling Joe Stayton, Bill.
- Lion Wim paid for no reason but it is appreciated.
- Lion Richard paid to support Bruce?
- Lion Walt tossed in some Happy bucks for Lion Bill.





## Dinner

Now that it's light outside due to the time change we can bring in our smoker to cook our traditional Santa Fe-style dinner, except that potatoes replaced our beans. Lion Kerry leads our cooking crew this quarter and he has help from Lions Mike, JohnE, Jan and Anthony.

Our two unsung heroes top right are always there to keep us hydrated.





## 13 March Academic Olympics

Lions PDG Rich, 1VP Bob, Past Presidents Mike and Jan and DanG spent a few hours at Monte Vista handing out awards to deserving students at the 2025 Camarillo Academic Olympics. Ted and Val Rains have been heavily involved in this for many years and Pleasant Valley Lions always steps up to support this event.





## 15 March Farmers Market

Lion PP's Tom and BobT and 1VP BobL handled Farmer's Market duties this month. We had some visitors including Charlie who brought John and Karen Fraser for a visit. Wim also showed up but he was way too quick for a photo.





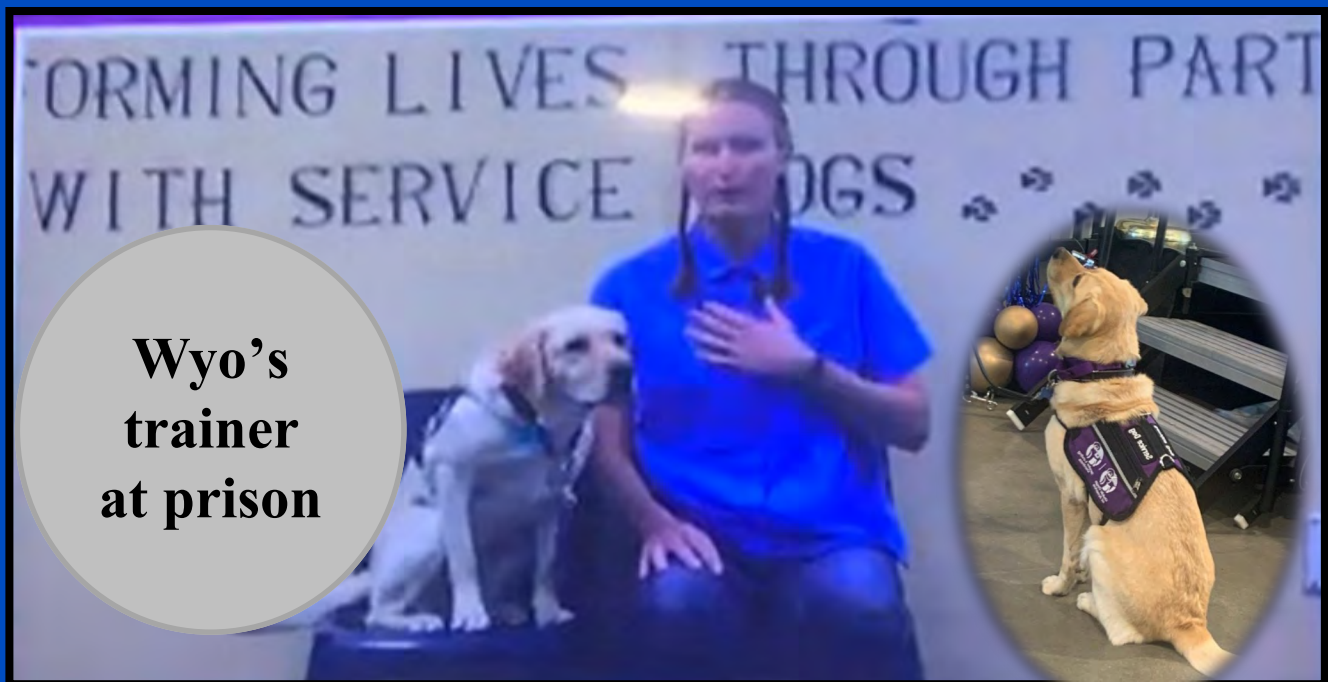
## 15 March - Guide Dog Graduation 1/2

Wyo graduated and is now with her service dog recipient, Mary's autistic son. Lions Pres. Bruce, Greg, Mike, Jan, Bill (Joe) and Missy attended the ceremony in Sylmar. I can only imagine that it was a very emotional experience for Missy who started Wyo's training as she has done and continues to do for many Guide Dog puppies. Pres. Bruce received an award for PV Lions Guide Dog contributions (see next page).

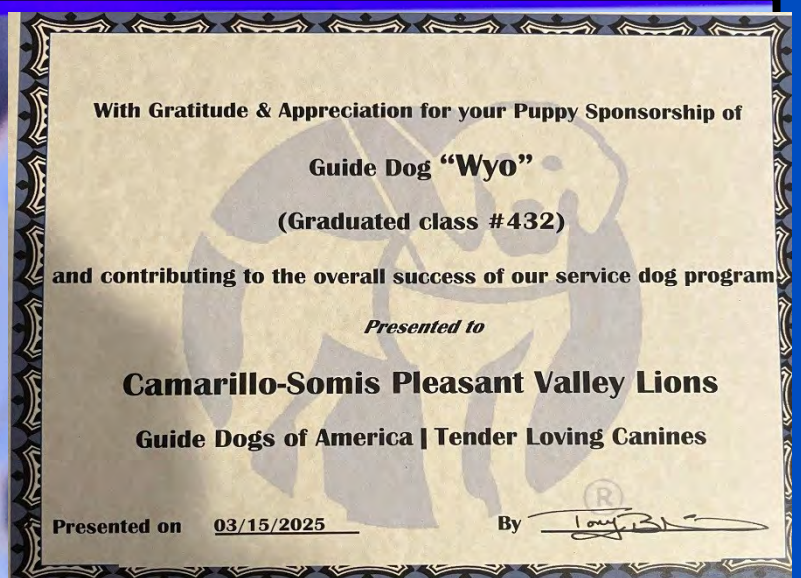
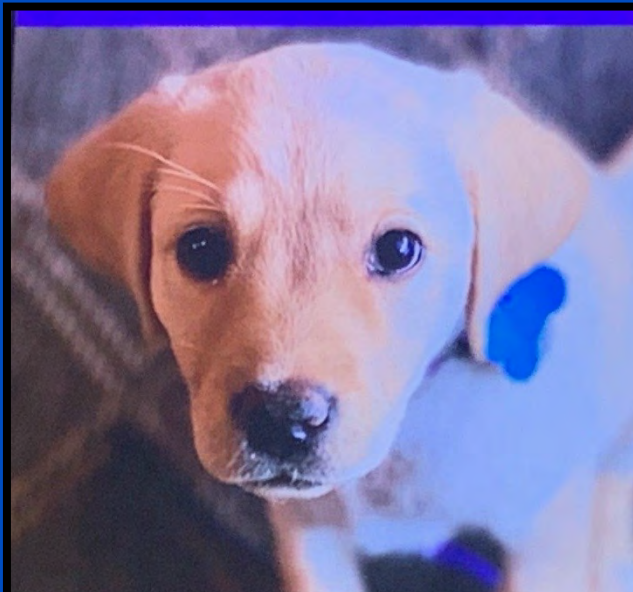
Thanks Mike for the photos.







Wyo's  
trainer  
at prison

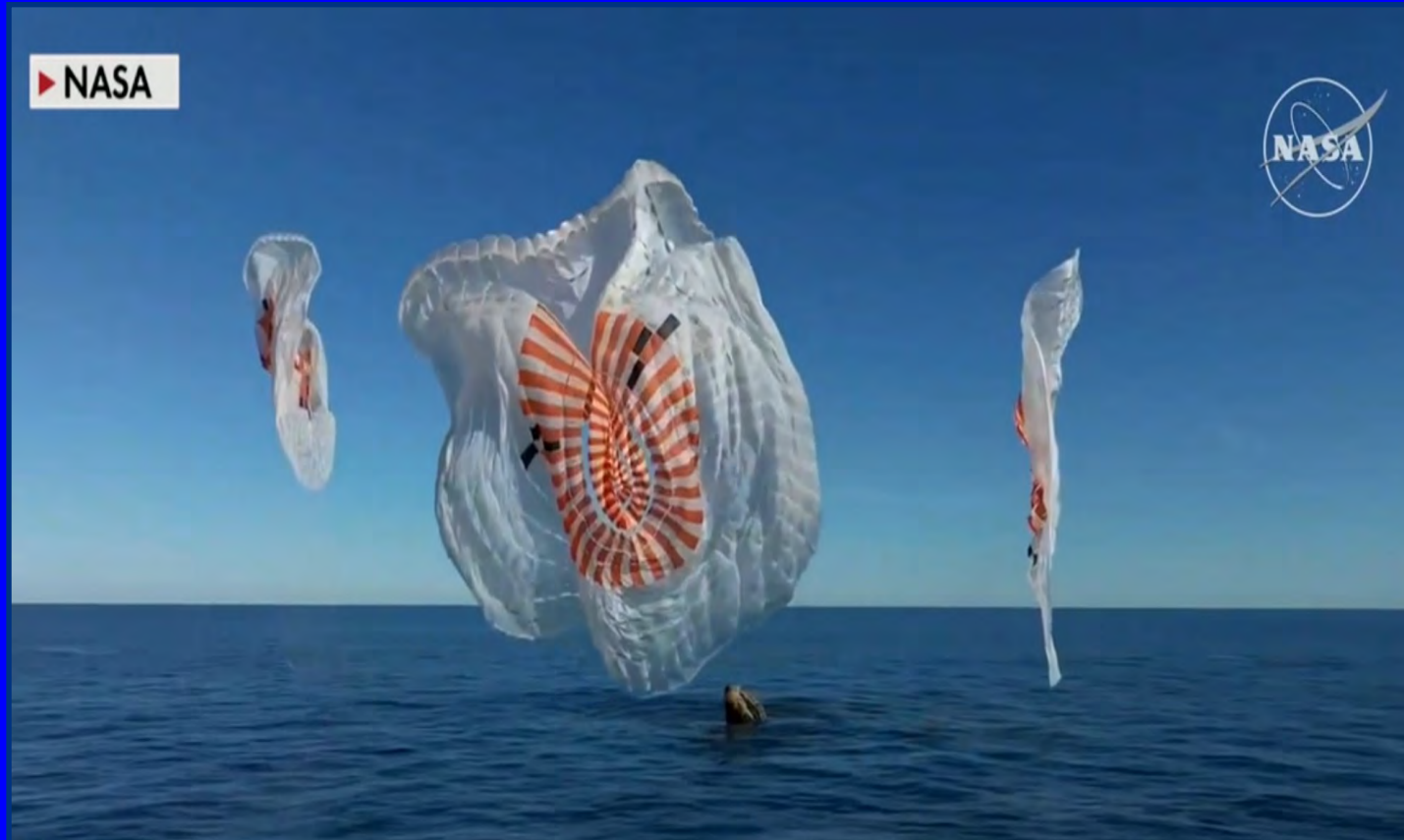




## 18 March - Astronauts Return to Earth 1/2

Many, including me, grew up dreaming to be an astronaut but very few achieve that dream, so instead of going up I went down. My professor always told me that **“the ocean bottom is just as important as the moon’s behind”**. It was fascinating watching 4 astronauts return from the space station with 2 of them returning after almost 10 months in space instead of the planned 8 days but astronauts are resilient and they survived the journey while many watched.

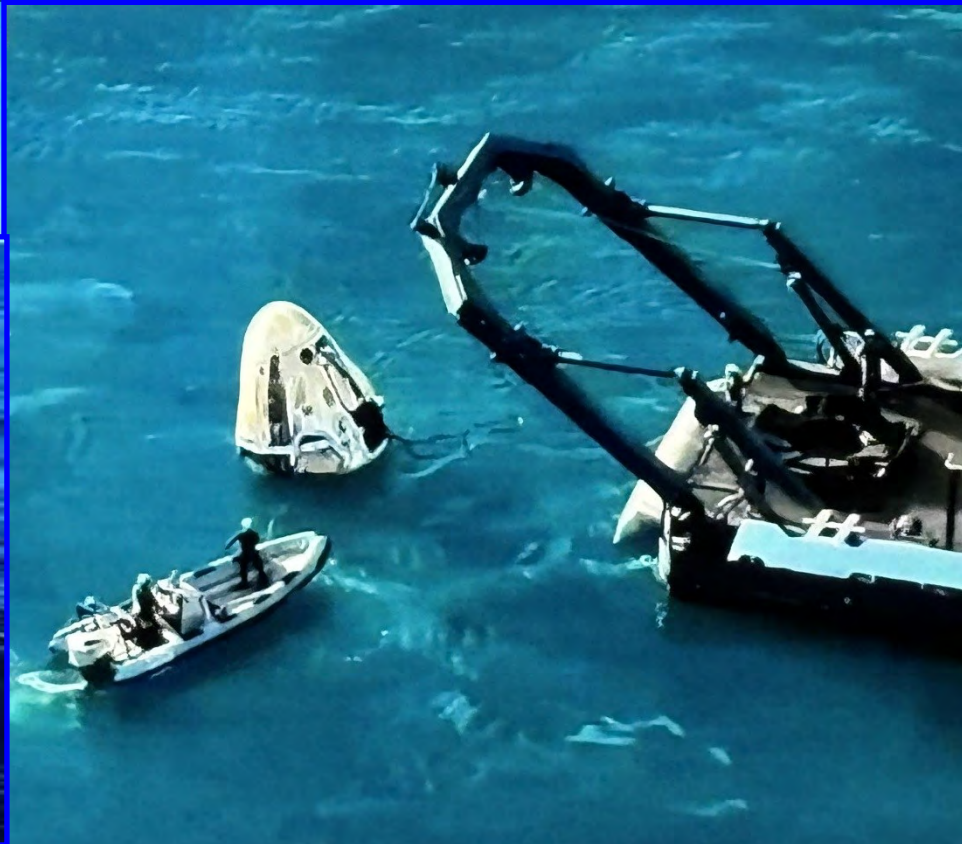
Here are a few photos showing the SpaceX capsule first appearing: splashdown, module recovery and finally the exit of the 4 passengers ending with Barry Wilmore and Sunita Williams whose hair is now contained in her helmet.



**ASTRONAUTS SAFELY RETURN TO EARTH**



NASA TV  
LIVE | 6:01 PM ET



LAUNCH  
AMERICA

NASA'S SPACEX CREW-9 RETURN  
CREW-9 BACK ON EARTH



Barry Wilmore and Sunita Williams



# 18 March -- Board Meeting

## Pres. Report

- Bruce started by welcoming Lion Bill back !!!!
- Getting good response from Santa Paula and Oxnard Middle College Leos for Underwoods; we still need more help for weeks 3-5.
- Rotary Club and Beer Fest are both cancelled; it was too difficult to get permits.
- Accepted BBQ for Alzheimer's at Mason's Lodge with the caveat that we cook *and serve* (no cost).
- We will purchase either 1 or tables for the B&G Gala
- We will participate in both BumbleBee and 805 golf tournaments
- Region Student Speaker Contest on 31 March at B&G club.



## Sec. Report

- We are down to 57 members but according to membership chair and 1 VP we have 4 prospective members.
- PDG Rich cautioned us to vet solicitors.

## Treasurer Report

- Our admin account is stronger than ever.
- **Lion Bill donated \$5,000 to the account.**

## VP Reports

- Tree planting and cleanup at Charter Oak Park on 22 April
- Rancho Campana wants a PV Logo to add to their prom flyer

## New Business

- Club approved a **\$10,000 donation** to the B&G Club gala plus a **BBQ for 40** for the silent auction. We will be a silver donor with great recognition for the club.
- YMCA swimming lesson scholarship. Donated **\$1000**.
- Civil Air Patrol: they need service hours so we will invite them to help at the Easter Fest.
- Full page add in the district convention brochure: **\$200** approved.
- We will support the Lupus Walk in August. Lion John will provide donation details.
- Donated a **BBQ for 40** for auction to Saint Johns Cancer Foundation.





## Thanks from: Camarillo High School

Dear Richard,

We would love for you to share this invitation with the Lions Club! Our upcoming dance show is free to attend, and **it's a great opportunity to see how your generous contribution has supported the dance team this year.**

**We truly appreciate your support and hope to see you there!**

Best regards,

**Kristin Haidet, M.A.** Education Specialist

Dance Teacher & Dance Team Coach

Adolfo Camarillo High School





# Thanks from: Boys and Girls Club of Camarillo



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB  
OF CAMARILLO**

1500 Temple Ave.  
Camarillo, CA 93010  
805-482-8113  
[www.bgccam.org](http://www.bgccam.org)

## Officers

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Dave Nirenberg  
**Past Chair**  
Frank Pompilio  
**Secretary**  
Wade Fridrich  
**Treasurer**  
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Amy Fukutomi  
Kevin Gonzales  
Alex Grimwade  
Jean Halsell  
George Harrison  
Jan McDonald  
Kevin Meyers  
Tom Parker  
Ali Sadreameli  
JoAnn Stone  
Eric Tennesen  
Laura Viets

March 20, 2025

Bruce Jochums  
Camarillo Somis Pleasant Valley Lions  
Po Box 157  
Camarillo, CA 93011



Dear PV Lions,

**THANK YOU** for your \$10,000 Gala Sponsorship received today. The funds we raise from this event ensure we can continue to welcome our community's youth after school, providing a safe second home while their guardian(s) can continue to work.

Because of you, more children's needs will be met, from receiving snacks to academic support and access to opportunities that build character, competence, and critical life skills. These are the great moments that lead to great futures.

Your continued partnership fuels the unwavering commitment to support every child who needs us most. Together, we will do whatever it takes to endure great futures are possible for all young people. **Today and always, thank you.**

Sincerely,

Roberto Martinez, CEO/President  
Boys & Girls Club of Camarillo  
Tax ID # 95-6194547

*Dear Bruce.  
Our Appreciation to  
you and all the  
PV Lions for your  
support!*



**GREAT FUTURES START HERE.**



March 21, 2023

Dear Pleasant Valley Lions,

Just a short, simple,  
little note to thank  
you for assisting  
the Camarillo Academic  
Olympics with our  
Awards ceremony.

For as long as I can  
remember, the "red coats"  
have helped carry the

help as all the crews in  
the past years! I enjoyed  
meeting all of you and  
appreciate your time,  
kindness, and help in  
making our evening a  
fine success.

Grateful to the Lions and  
all the members that helped  
on March 13<sup>th</sup>.

Love from the CAO Committee



Thanks Shirley Anderson for \$500 Donation  
in Honor of Lion Hillary Ling

3/23/2025

Dear Lions,

The enclosed check is being given to honor the life and legacy of my dear friend Hillary Ling. Our friendship goes back 53 years to the preschool setting where our sons met and became best friends. Little did I know when I married Lion Ken Anderson, that he, too, had a 60 year

friendship with the Lings. Another point of connection!

Hillary was a man of service and love. Always a smile and friendly words. Ken's family and my family were blessed to have known Hillary all this time.  
Shirley Anderson



**During the 1940s polio outbreak,  
kids did remote learning while  
teachers taught over the radio.**





This stall is for people that have arms like an orangutan.



This would be the "half bath" noted in the real estate listing?

I was watching a show for about 10 minutes, and this lady was listing all of these great things to do for fun. Then I realized that it's one of the religious channels, and she was reading a list of sins.

**My wife just stopped and said, "You weren't even listening, were you?"**

**I thought to myself...  
"That's a pretty strange way to start off a conversation."**

AND THEN ALCOHOL SAID  
"PUT THAT ON FACEBOOK. IT'S HILARIOUS."  
BUT ALCOHOL WAS WRONG.  
VERY WRONG.

When you walk out of a movie theater at noon:





# Easter Festival at Underwood Farms

## 14 March — Site Survey

Pres. Bruce and I went to Underwoods to check out our venue and it wasn't an auspicious start to the event. The good news is that we have a larger tent than last year and have water but the bad news was that it was very muddy and we didn't make it to our tent. It took a while but we made it out but not without breaking a (\$450) heater hose connection. James and a few workers justifiably had a pretty good laugh at our expense but we got home. We have several days before setup so hope it dries out in time.



## 20 March — Setup

Fortunately the ground dried out so we were able to set up the Easter Fest Venue. Normally we have a 10 foot-wide tent but this year we got a 20 foot-wide tent similar to October so setup was easier and we didn't need to store freezers outside and set up a separate ordering tent. We had lots of help from PV Lions and Ray from Santa Paula.





## Easter Festival at Underwood Farms - Weekend #1 1/2

The weather was beautiful and we managed to make it through the first weekend although we were a little understaffed. There were no Leos on Saturday but we had 3 from Santa Paula on Sunday. Saturday was typical for the first day of the Easter Festival with some electrical and mechanical issues to resolve so fortunately it wasn't very busy. Sunday was about 50% better so all-in-all it was a decent start to the 5 weekend (11 day) event.

One highlight of the weekend was Lion Bill showing up to set up our electronics and to make sure that all was running smoothly. He even drove himself to the event; his recovery is nothing short of amazing. Lion Lloyd kept us supplied with Bratz and hotdogs. Help came from Santa Paula Lions and Leos, Ambers Light and Conejo Valley Lions plus lots of Pleasant Valley Lions.

The photos are all from Sunday and show that we were not overstaffed but Lions are resourceful and *got it done*.

The photo directly below shows the crowded mid-afternoon on Sunday. We had an unexpected spike in sales that made our day.





## Easter Festival at Underwood Farms - Weekend #1 2/2

Note the \$20K windmill at center, which along with the live Bunny at the Bunny House below are new additions to the Easter Fest.





**Pres. Bruce** started us off by announcing that our speaker had to defer to a future meeting. Nonetheless, Bruce had lots of announcements as did others, we heard from **Lion Mike** about the **Toiletpapergate** scandal and we finished up with trivia by **1VP BobL**.

- **Guide Dog Graduation:** Bruce gave a rundown on the graduation and encouraged all to attend this terrific event in the future. He showed the certificate and photo plaque we received at the event.



- **B&G Club Thanks:** Bruce is holding the letter from the club thanking us for our **\$10,000** donation, which qualifies us to be a Silver Donor and all that this entails. We will have a table at their Gala on April 26 and will donate a **BBQ for 40** for auction.
- **1VP and 2VP for 2025-26:** **Lion Dan Goldberg** agreed to be our new 1VP for the upcoming year and **Lion TomD** will remain as 2VP. Thanks to both for stepping up.
- **Mike Morgan Memorial:** It will be held on June 14: no further details at this time.
- **Club Pins and Patches:** Lion Lloyd brought a briefcase of memorabilia to the meeting for sale (*benefitting ADMIN*). This is just a sample of material, some of which he got from Bill Doctorman.





## 25 March - Regular Meeting 2/3

- **ToiletPaperGate:** Bruce introduced Lion Mike who had breaking news on the PV Lions scandal that rocked the first weekend at the Underwood Farms Easter Festival. Mike is shown describing the difference between paper towels and toilet paper (*no real difference when camping!*). He even demonstrated each (literally not figuratively) to the eager crowd. He noted the dramatic difference in the rolls and questioned how anyone of sound mind could purchase toilet paper instead of the needed paper towels. Mike then introduced the culprit who happens to be the Bulletin editor and who doubles as the buyer for the Easter Festival. Mike then sent our tail twister to collect a \$12 bounty/fine but only got \$5 because the defense's argument was that: *"Mike said that the first weekend at the Easter Fest is normally pretty crappy"*. The Defense argued that we needed to be prepared, thus the need for TP. The defense rested and paid a lesser fine. *Congressional hearings may be in the future!!*



### Treasurer Bill Schulze

- Bill is looking better by the day and gave an update on the first weekend at Underwood. He was very positive about the weekend and noted that sales were about **\$8000**. It will get significantly better in the following weeks. *Note: it didn't get better- Sunday Rain .*

### Secretary PDG Rich Cervantes

- We will support foursomes for two upcoming golf tournaments: Bumble Cancer Foundation and the Miracle League of the 805. Golfers need to contact PDG Rich.



### Committee Reports

- **Vision:** PDG Rich noted that Lion Jan has contacted 15-20 preschools for vision testing.
- **Environment:** 1VP Larson has tree planting on April 22 at Charter Oak Park; contact Bob to help.
- **Childhood Cancer:** Lion George helped at the Conejo Valley Magic Yarn event.
- **Hunger:** Lion GK will deliver a check for **\$1000** to Somis Pantry.



**April 22 regular meeting:** Lion Mike's 67'th birthday. Be prepared for a blowout party~!!

**Dinner:** Lion Kerry with John, Chet, Mike and Anthony served Brats with sauerkraut, potato salad, salad, veggies and cookies. An inexpensive yet nice meal since the Bratz came from the Easter Fest.





### Tail Twisting/Happy Bucks

The only tail that got twisted was that of the Bulletins because of **ToiletPaperGate** but that was already covered. The rest were happy bucks.

- Dan Goldberg kids are growing up and doing great.
- PDG Rich thanked Dan for stepping up to 1<sup>st</sup> VP
- GK bought a new car.
- Lion Mike will miss this Sunday at Underwoods. He and Jan are celebrating their 4 year anniversary in Pismo.
- Lion John paid some happy bucks just as he lost his beer due to a TP attack from Wim. No photo of John as the Bulletin was too busy mopping up the beer.
- Lion Wim put in some happy bucks but don't know why as I was concentrating on the tossed TP roll.



### Trivia

Our 1VP loves trivia so we spent the last part of the meeting competing for a prize, yet to be determined. I think that Joe and Bruce may have tied with 3 or 4 correct answers. I had all my answers ready for the contest. But unfortunately Bob asked all the wrong questions. My answers were Marilyn Monroe, Elvis Presley and Dean Martin. — perhaps next time.

### Extra

I had some space left so tossed in a couple of extra photos.

Lion Kerry went to the podium to thank his cooking crew for the evening.

Lion Mike is demonstrating (literally) the use of TP before moving on to the **ToiletPaperGate** scandal.





## Who are these PV Lions?

Who are these *good looking young Lions* enjoying lunch at Cronies?  
Choices are Mike, Lloyd and Bob.





## 26 March - PV Delivers Check to Somis Food Pantry

Lions Jan and GK presented a **\$1000** check to Beth at the Somis pantry that will be used to replace the staples that are not available through the county Food Share pantry.

All things are more expensive nowadays

*Lion GK Smith*



1939. Kansas Wheat. When they realized women were using their sacks to make clothes for their children, the mills started using flowered fabric for their sacks so the kids would have pretty clothes. Pure kindness. The label would wash out.





## Easter Festival at Underwood Farms - Weekend #2

The second weekend was actually a little slower than the first. It started out fine but we got a little wet and muddy on Sunday and that definitely cut into our sales. Nonetheless we learned that Lions can do it in the rain so we survived and actually grew a little as the mud caked on our shoes.

Saturday started with Lion Neil making breakfast burritos. He has been doing this for the past few years taking over from Lion Willem.

The good news for our club was the large number of red shirts helping on Saturday. Last year I took a photo where we only had a couple of red shirts at the entire venue.

Santa Paula Leos showed up on both days, three in the morning and the girl at center staying for the afternoon. She was a real trooper with Bruce helping out as needed. Lion John was either bird watching or sleeping; he claimed it was the birds! Lion Mike stepped in at the corn cooker *while John took a break*

We had lots of the youngsters on Saturday including Bill, Joe, Lloyd, Lee, and Jack. Lee wrapped on Saturday and cooked on Sunday. Geno followed up on Sunday making Bratz.





## Easter Festival at Underwood Farms - Weekend #2

As mentioned, Sunday was a drizzly and muddy. This is what we saw at 0800 when we arrived and it lasted throughout the day.

Geno and Lee were hard at work wrapping and cooking hotdogs and Bratz. Santa Paula Leos again showed up for morning and afternoon shifts. We couldn't do it without their help.



Ambers and Light worked as cashiers both days and Conejo Valley worked Sunday. Doug is providing a little instruction.



Lion John is helping a first timer who is a friend of Ambers. They made burgers on demand. John must have put in five miles getting burgers one at a time in the morning.





I took the liberty of only using a portion of the blog describing Jeff and Sheri's the latest Big Adventure. Look at Lion Sheri's email if you want to see more.

# March 26, 2025

## Days 10-17



Our road in Chamaloc, Drôme, France

## Jeff & Sheri's Fourteenth Big Adventure

In which they take the road less traveled - on half as many wheels

### The Ride

The civic arts area in Valencia includes museums, performing arts venues, an aquarium and botanical gardens – and everything has amazing architecture. Yes, it was raining.

We still hadn't made it to the warm weather part of Spain, and though Valencia was moderate (considering the time of year), it's not good riding, chilly and raining. On our last day in Valencia we visited a couple of museums and saw some of the best civic architecture ever. More pictures at the end.



Our ride out of Valencia required that we dodge raindrops, so we left as late as the hotel's checkout time would allow, and headed to Alcalá del Júcar, just a couple hours away. This village is spectacularly scenic featuring centuries-old houses that have been built into the layered limestone cliffs





Alcalá del Júcar

that define the deep gorge carved over eons by the Júcar River. The town was "incorporated" in 1364, but that was after the Christian Spaniards conquered the Muslim Arabs (or maybe it's Moors - depends which website I read) who were already there, so I guess it's fair to say that this place has been occupied for a very long time. A church is built into a cliff wall in the heart of the village, and an ancient castle that straddles the ridge above, affords 360° views. We even found a house built into a cliff "peninsula" so

that it had a front and back. There are also modern homes with no visible means of access — we can see picture windows mounted directly into the wall of the cliff perhaps a hundred feet down from the top, a couple hundred feet up from the bottom.

After a night in Alcalá del Júcar, we headed for Mojácar, a Bronze Age hilltop village on the Costa Brava, the southern coast of Spain that is a favorite destination for snowbirds from the UK. English is widely spoken. Many of the cities and towns we passed through are densely built out with a hideous mess of high-rise apartments and condos that are second homes for the snowbirds. Mojácar, however, has retained a lot of its old world charm. I guess in ancient times, swimming and sunbathing were of little value or interest, and holding the high ground was essential to defending the inhabitants: ergo, old town on the hill, new town on the beach. Finding our tiny 9-room hotel at the top of the hill was a challenge in the twisting streets.



The first night brought gale force winds that demolished one of the hotel's metal louvered outer doors, knocked over some rooftop tables and chairs, and kept us awake with its southing. The next day was breezy but nice enough for a 2.5 km walk down the hill to the new town to check out the *playa* (beach). I'll confess we've learned a few things over our years of traveling, and the first day of our First Big Adventure in Barcelona 11 years ago we learned, the hard way, to walk *down* the hill, and take public transport *up* the hill. We put that lesson to good use and caught the No. 1 bus back to Old Town Mojácar after exploring the *playa*.

Friendly cat in Mojácar



March 26, 2025



Our hotel is just down this street with blue pots in Estepona

I'm writing from our next stop, Estepona, where we arrived exhausted on Saturday after four hours of hard riding into a 50 kph headwind. And though we've finally found relatively warm weather, rain is in the forecast.

You might recall that my bike, Junior Biscuit, is having some issues, so Jeff had called ahead for an appointment at a repair shop. The moto-doc isn't open until Monday and at the time we booked we didn't know how long the repairs might take, so we booked for five nights. It's a really well-kept seaside town with a vibrant old town where our little hotel is located. Jeff took my bike in on Monday morning, walked 1.5 km back to our room, and then later in the day went back to fetch his helmet which he'd left with the bike for some mysterious reason. But the moto-doc had made his diagnosis and fixed the one small thing he could, a leak in the back box, and so Jeff rode JB back to our place.

We're having a nice kick-back time here in Estepona. We've made friends with a calico cat we're calling Ginger. She's super comfy just strolling into our room, hopping up on the couch, taking bath and an hours-long nap. If you call her, she meows a greeting. I think she needs to give our cat at home, Luci, some lessons in the social graces. Then again, sometimes we have to use Luci's full name, Lucifer, because . . . well, she earned that name and keeps asserting her right to keep it.



## Jeff Said What !?!?

I can't remember why he said it, but he made the claim that he's not old, he's just been young for a *very* long time.

## Jeff's Screw-Ups

I'm not sure what little mission Jeff was off on, but he mounted up on Isabo in Mojácar and followed his GPS down a walk-street that was so steep and had such tight twists that he couldn't make the curves even at walking speed. On a

This street was almost Jeff's nemesis



motorcycle! He had to stop and back up twice to get around this. The picture doesn't capture the serious issues. I'm just glad I wasn't with him, I don't think our marriage would have survived it.

## Cultural Disconnect



Yes, every boat on a slide

Every couple of weeks I develop a bad case of skunk stripe and have to find a hairdresser to color my roots. I got smart this trip and am carrying my color with me. With a bit of luck I found a hairdresser here in Estepona who could take me as a walk-in, she did a lovely job with a couple of add-on services, the whole thing took "only" two hours, and then she had the gall to charge me a whopping 40€. In case you didn't get the joke, it's a fraction of what I pay for fixing my skunk stripe back home. And what's really topsy-turvy is that it cost less than the pedicure I got the day before, just the opposite of what would happen back in California. Then again, it's possible the nail salon ripped me off and maybe I didn't get the joke.

And then there's a significant difference in how they do fish sticks here and in the US.

## Good News, Bad News

The bad news first. On the way from Alcalá del Júcar to Mojácar, Junior Biscuit, started coughing and sputtering - again - after having behaved for 1,200 km. (You might remember from my previous travelogue that on day 1 of this Big Adventure, JB had had some major problems, even totally dying on a high-speed toll road.) Jeff had just bypassed the Road Closed barriers in a picturesque hillside village and taken us down the steep and winding forbidden road towards the river, but we were stopped by a cop who chastised us for not obeying the signs and the coned-off roadway ("What signs, officer? What barrier? We didn't see anything!"), and we were forced to make a U-turn. Whereupon JB revolted, coughed, hiccuped and sputtered, almost died multiple times while I struggled to keep the bike upright and somewhere in the range of 5,000 rpm to keep the engine going. I had to go super slow to minimize the lean angle through the



switchbacks lest it die mid-curve. I guess I can't blame the poor bike, it's also got an oil leak. We have to keep a liter of oil handy so we can check it and top off as necessary at gas stops. On top of that, there's a small rain leak into my back box. But next destination, Estepona, we've got JB scheduled at a repair shop.

The diagnosis from the moto-doctor is that water has been getting into my gas tank from a leaky gas cap seal, and there's even some rust in the tank. As to the oil leak, it's coming from the radiator which needs to be replaced. Neither of these problems can be fixed in the time we're here, there's a minimum 10-day wait for parts.

The good news? The moto-doc was able hot glue the leak in my back box, and duct tape to the rescue for the gas cap rain leak. I'm one for three problems resolved, one got a duct tape bandaid on it. Not bad — for a batting average.

**Update:** The moto-doc was able to figure out that the gas cap leak was caused by a clogged drain and he fixed that. No duct tape necessary.

We've got probably 4,000 km still to go on this trip so Jeff is at the repair shop as I write this ordering the new radiator and scheduling the appointment. We'll go to Morocco and hope for the best and keep an extra liter of oil on hand, but return here to Estepona in a couple weeks for the repair. We may have to skip Lisbon and southern Portugal, but we can pick those up on a future trip.

### The Food

The Iberian Peninsula has a robust appetite for red meat, and the coastal regions supplement with a wide variety of seafood. Those of us who are vegetarians suffer. That is, we suffer if we try to "eat local," but Italian food is everywhere. Who could go wrong with various combinations of pasta or bread, tomato sauce and different cheeses? Thank goodness all of Europe seems to agree that Italian food is the best and there's nary a town where we haven't seen an Italian restaurant. Also found a delish Thai place in Estepona.





March 26, 2025



## Photos - Valencia

Valencia's civic arts was breathtaking with its architecture. I can only imagine what this area would look like around sunset (instead of the rain)





March 26, 2025



Top left: The castle tops the ridge. Below it you can see layers of limestone with windows cut out for dwellings below. Some are very recent and modern.

Bottom left: The town tumbles down from the ridgeline; most homes use the cliff as their back wall or are even built partly into the cliff.

Top right: Lunch by the Júcar River.

Bottom right: Just above the bridge is a small man-made island in the middle of a "bowl." This bowl area helps with flood control with some of the water diverted left and right along the rim of the bowl.





March 26, 2025



Our place in Estepona seems to be on the daily visitation schedule for this kitty we named Ginger. She welcomed herself into our room, jumped on the couch, took a bath and a loooooong nap. We like to think she mistook this scooter for one of our bikes and was indicating she wanted to go riding with us.

But Ginger simply doesn't compare with Luci(fer), our kitty at home (bottom right), who looks deceptively sweet in this portrait.

Bottom left: Jeff makes friends with a jail kitty.





# Jeff and Sheri's Fourteenth Big Adventure 9/9

March 26, 2025



Left: Jeff poses with a giant rat ??? sculpture, it's not clear what it actually is.

Right: The statue-man has borrowed Jeff's rat cap (yes, that's a rat embroidered on his cap)

Left: The pigeons have found another use for this sidewalk dog bowl

Right: Chocolate and lemon gelato - a tasty combo








## Hunger or Environmental Grant

The **California Lions Foundation (CLF)** is pleased to announce the availability of **Hunger and Environmental Grants** to support projects that make a meaningful impact in our communities. These grants are designed to assist Lions Clubs in addressing critical issues related to hunger and the environment.

### Grant Details:

-  **Grant Period:** March 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025
-  **Maximum Aggregate Grant:** \$2,000 per Lions District in MD4
-  **Maximum Grant per Lions Club:** \$500

This is a great opportunity for your club to enhance its efforts in providing food for those in need or implementing environmental initiatives that promote sustainability and conservation.

We encourage all eligible Lions Clubs to apply and help **Make a Difference** in their communities. Please [click here](#) for more details on requirements and how to apply.

Together, we serve!

If you have any questions or need additional information, please email PCC Rob Manning at [robrme@msn.com](mailto:robrme@msn.com) or call at 909-518-0553.

Email completed grant application to [robrme@msn.com](mailto:robrme@msn.com) or hard mail to:

California Lions Foundation  
P.O. Box 575,  
Calimesa, CA 92320



# TALES FROM THE LIONS DEN





# April 2025 Birthdays

HAPPY  
Birthday



**Certificate**

**Happy Birthday Month**

**Good for ONE drink at the bar**



Hawblitzel	Paul	4/27
Martinez	Victor	4/9
Nunez	Mike	4/22



## Horoscope Aires—Taurus

Aries (March 21 – April 19)

- You'll feel unstoppable this month! But that enthusiasm will only work in your favor as long as you channel it into productive tasks rather than challenging everyone to impromptu arm-wrestling matches. Your fiery energy will propel you forward like a rocket on a mission — just don't forget to tie your shoelaces before you sprint towards greatness.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20)

- Your determination will reach epic proportions this month, especially when it comes to defending your deeply held beliefs — like the sanctity of weekend brunch. Embrace your stubborn streak, but consider compromising on the pineapple on pizza debate, it's not worth losing friends over.





Lions Clubs International  
**FOUNDATION**



## Dear Lions and Leos,

I am continually impressed by the innovative ways that Lions and Leos worldwide create positive change in your local communities and across the globe. LCIF is proud to offer grants and programs that enable us to serve more people and respond to the world's changing needs.

This month's newsletter highlights how Lions in Japan used an LCIF grant to meet the needs of people impacted by a devastating earthquake. We also feature a video that shows how the LCIF Lions Quest program is making a big difference for school children in El Salvador. I encourage you to [make a donation](#) to LCIF if you are inspired by these examples of Lions and Leos changing lives. Your gifts are what make LCIF's support possible.

Yours in service,

**Dr. Patti Hill, LCIF Chairperson**





# MISSION1.5

## Happy International Women's Month

March is International Women's Month, a time to celebrate the incredible impact of women in Lions—leading globally and serving locally. Let's honor their contributions and commit to uplifting women in our clubs and communities.



# 149,263

## Members Added

These members' lives will be forever changed, as yours has since becoming a Lion, and the lives impacted by these members will be countless. **(Data is from 7/1/24-2/28/25)**



# 1,499

## New Clubs Formed

Just as your club transforms your community, these groups unite to create lasting change in theirs. **(Data is from 7/1/24-2/28/25)**



# Ventura Downtown Lions

Proudly Presents Our

## 14th ANNUAL



### Sonoma Style Crab Feast

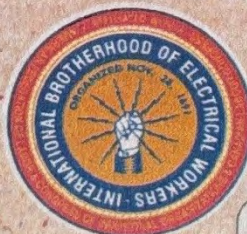
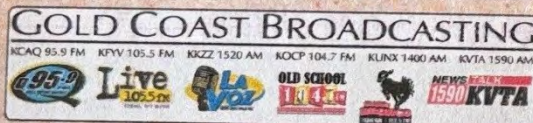
## Saturday, April 5, 2025

4:30 pm Doors Open • 6:30 pm Dinner Served

*\$95 Per Person In Advance*

**Door Prizes • Silent & Live Auction**

Ventura County Fairgrounds • 10 E. Harbor Blvd., Ventura • San Miguel Hall  
- A Special Thanks To All Our Sponsors -



[www.venturalions.org](http://www.venturalions.org)

All net proceeds will support Lions Clubs Charities.





It's time to register for the 2025 District Convention!

## Calling all Lions!

The Annual District Convention is May 2-3  
with lots of changes this year!

The District Cabinet has approved a change in location for this year's convention. This decision will save our members and the District thousands of dollars. This shift allows us to keep costs down while still holding a meaningful, productive, and **FUN** gathering. Please note that you do not have to register for the convention to attend on Friday. All people attending on Saturday **MUST** register (included with lunch reservation or done separately).

**YOUR CONVENTION -  
YOUR EXPERIENCE -  
IT'S GOING TO BE BETTER THAN EVER!**



We're still working on the details, but here are the basics ...

- **Friday from 3-8: Registration / Check-in at The Varsity Club, 5811 Olivas Park Dr, Suite 100, Ventura**
  - A fun social event is planned and will include the use of a batting cage simulator and a golf / soccer / basketball / etc. simulator (from 5-7 pm), a full meal package consisting of arancini, chicken wings, French fries, salad, spaghetti & meatballs, Margherita pizza, cheesecake, and a limited open bar. **FAMILY & FRIENDS INVITED TO ATTEND!** \$35 per person with meal. A "SOCIAL ONLY" option is also available at no cost if you want to attend but not eat (or pay for food on your own). Be sure to register & pay for each person eating no later than **Sunday, April 27!** No meal package reservations are available for Friday's event after 4/27/25. You may sign up for the free "social only" option until the day of the event.
- **Saturday\* Convention business at Ventura College, Guthrie Hall, 4667 Telegraph Rd, Ventura.**
  - Continental breakfast is included in the registration fee. Lunch includes tri-tip, chicken, potatoes, veggies, salad, and beverage. **IF YOU NEED A VEGETARIAN OPTION**, please email Lion Rietje Holland at [lionrholland@gmail.com](mailto:lionrholland@gmail.com)! \$40 per person with lunch (includes registration and continental breakfast). **MUST REGISTER FOR LUNCH BY APRIL 27, 2025**, but you are welcome to bring your own lunch! Registration only for Saturday (includes continental breakfast but no lunch) is \$20 per person until April 27, 2025. After April 27, registration only is \$25 per person.



# 12TH ANNUAL

**Fun,  
Affordable,  
and For A  
Good Cause**



## Friday May 16th, 2025

**7:00 AM Registration • 8:00 AM Shotgun Start**

### **4-PERSON SCRAMBLE**

Box Lunch & Drinks Included, Raffle,  
Prizes, & Hors D'Oeuvres Following

**TEE SIGNS \$150    2 TEE SIGNS \$225**

**REGISTER ONLINE AT: [VCCGT.COM](http://VCCGT.COM) | [VCCGT@YAHOO.COM](mailto:VCCGT@YAHOO.COM)**

**More Info: ROBERT CLARK - 805.302.9444 | RJ CUTTING - 805.279.9579**

### **STERLING HILLS GOLF CLUB**

**901 Sterling Hills Dr.  
Camarillo, CA 93010**



*About the charity: The Miracle League of the 805 is a special needs baseball league that provides children and adults with disabilities the opportunity to play baseball in an inclusive, supportive, and fun environment. Everyone Plays – No matter the ability level, every athlete gets the chance to hit, run the bases, and score. Buddies for Support – Each player is paired with a volunteer buddy who helps them on the field, ensuring safety and encouragement. Adaptive Field – Games are played at Friendship Field at Freedom Park, a fully accessible, rubberized field designed for athletes with special needs. Fun, Friendship & Community.*

*"Everyone deserves a chance to play baseball."*



# 18 May Teddy Bear Picnic



*An elegant and family-friendly event featuring a picnic spread with music, entertainment, cakes, raffles, corn hole tournament, ice cream, lawn games, wines and fun!*

## May 18th at Montecito Club

### **GOLD CHAMPION SPONSOR \$25,000**

Presenting sponsor status, tickets for **20** guests at two tables, and significant promotional benefits.

### **AMBASSADOR SPONSOR \$10,000**

Tickets for **10** guests, promotional benefits and name/logo recognition on signage

### **VISIONARY SPONSOR \$5,000**

Tickets for **8** guests and name/logo recognition on signage

### **ADVOCATE SPONSOR \$2,500**

Tickets for **6** guests and name/logo recognition on signage

### **HEALER SPONSOR \$1,500**

Tickets for **4** guests and name/logo recognition on signage



All sponsorships include event tickets plus promotional benefits in print ads, social media, website, press releases, and on the event program.

Contact Kirsten Stuart at 805.265.0634 or  
[Kirsten@TeddyBearCancerFoundation.org](mailto:Kirsten@TeddyBearCancerFoundation.org)



## 7 June - Open House Guide Dogs of America/Tender Loving Canines

GDA|TLC will be holding its annual Open House on Saturday, June 7. It is a fun day with all sorts of attractions: guide/service dog demonstrations, puppy trials, food, puppy kissing booth, etc., etc. If you are in the area, we would love to have you visit.

I am responsible for our silent auction on that day. We assemble over 200 gift items in all sorts of categories: travel, entertainment, sports, gifts for men, women, and children and of course, dogs! I am contacting you because all the items are donated by our generous supporters, so I am hoping you might be able to help spread the word. If you know anyone who has a condo or home in a resort area that might be willing to donate a weekend stay (or longer!) I would love to hear about it. Same goes if you have friends with season tickets to sports events, theater productions, Hollywood Bowl, etc. Donations like that are very popular and my goal this year is to raise \$60,000 – enough to sponsor a service dog team.

So, my friends, if you have any connections or suggestions and can help in any way we would love to hear from you. I also have an Amazon wish list set up Amazon.com if folks want to help and need some ideas. And cash works too! I will happily spend it on needed items that will bring in way more than their face value.

Many, many thanks for your support and consideration – we couldn't do it without you!

**Judy Reilly**

Sponsorships/Tours/Speaker Program

13445 Glenoaks Blvd., Sylmar, CA 91342

Direct Line: 818-833-6437  
[guidedogsofamerica.org](http://guidedogsofamerica.org)



*Transforming lives through partnerships with service dogs*

**Puppy Raisers Needed! Text "Puppy" to 51555 to learn more!**





107TH LIONS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

**Orlando, Florida****July 13-17, 2025**

Lions at the Melbourne convention were blown away. First-time attendees couldn't believe what they've been missing. And we're doing it all again by taking this show on the road next year

**Here's what you need to do:**

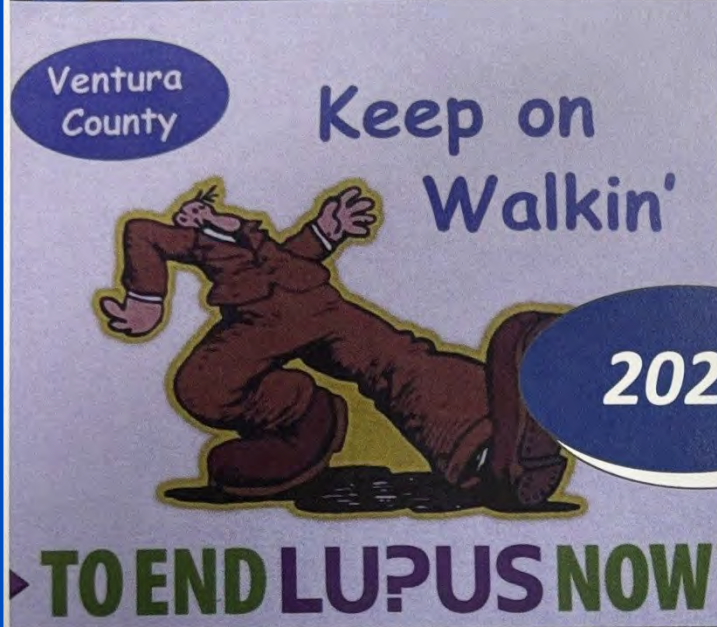
1. **Get excited.** Check out highlights from Melbourne.
2. **See what's new.** Learn about exciting, new events unique to our historic host city.
3. **Register.** Book your spot today to save big.

**Register**<https://www.mcievents.com/lci2025/>





*Saturday, August 16*

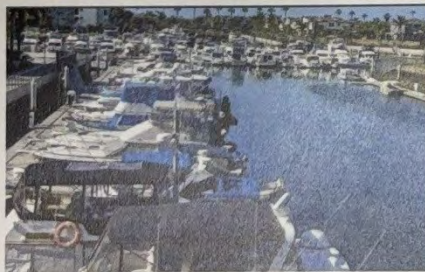


*Seabridge Marina - Oxnard*

*7:30 am*



Come and  
see how we  
volunteer  
in our  
community



<https://support.lupus.org>

*Please call John 805-377-9277*



## PV Lions Committees 2024-25

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

2nd Vice President– Tom DeBardas	
Lion Burgers	Russ White & Bob Taylor
Visitations	Lloyd Christie
BBQ Trailer & Equipment	Bruce Jochums & Mike Nunez
Special BBQ's	Bruce Jochums & Mike Nunez

3rd Vice President– <b>OPEN</b>	
Kids Shopping	George Graham
Club Bulletin	Bob Taylor
Harvest Festival	Bruce Jochums
Easter Festival	Bruce Jochums
Badges/Pins/Banners	Mike Nunez
Bingo	Bill Schulze
Web site /IT	George Graham
Public Relations	John Fraser



# April Historical Facts

**April 1, 1865** - During the American Civil War, Confederate troops of General George Pickett were defeated and cut off at Five Forks, Virginia. This sealed the fate of Confederate General Robert E. Lee's armies at Petersburg and Richmond and hastened the end of the war.

**April 2, 1513** - Spanish explorer Ponce De Leon sighted Florida and claimed it for the Spanish Crown after landing at the site of present day St. Augustine, now the oldest city in the continental U.S.

**April 3, 1860** - In the American West, the Pony Express service began as the first rider departed St. Joseph, Missouri. For \$5 an ounce, letters were delivered 2,000 miles to California within ten days.

**April 4, 1968** - Civil Rights leader Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King was shot and killed by a sniper in Memphis, Tennessee.

**April 5, 1986** - A bomb exploded at a popular discotheque frequented by American military personnel in West Berlin, killing two U.S. soldiers and a Turkish woman.

**April 6, 1896** - After a break of 1500 years, the first Olympics of the modern era was held in Athens, Greece.

**April 7, 1712** - In New York City, 27 black slaves rebelled, shooting nine whites as they attempted to put out a fire started by the slaves. The state militia was called out to capture the rebels. Twenty one of the slaves were executed and six committed suicide.

**April 8, 1913** - The 17th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified requiring direct popular election of U.S. senators. Previously, they had been chosen by state legislatures.

**April 9, 1866** - Despite a veto by President Andrew Johnson, the Civil Rights Bill of 1866 was passed by Congress granting blacks the rights and privileges of U.S. citizenship.

**April 10, 1942** - During World War II in the Pacific, the Bataan Death March began as American and Filipino prisoners were forced on a six-day march from an airfield on Bataan to a camp near Cabanatuan.

**April 11, 1970** - Apollo 13 was launched from Cape Kennedy at 2:13 p.m. Fifty-six hours into the flight an oxygen tank exploded in the service module. Astronaut John L. Swigert saw a warning light that accompanied the bang and said, "Houston, we've had a problem here." Swigert, James A. Lovell and Fred W. Haise then transferred into the lunar module, using it as a "lifeboat" and began a perilous return trip to Earth, splashing down safely on April 17th.

**April 12, 1945** - President Franklin D. Roosevelt died suddenly at Warm Springs, Georgia, after suffering a cerebral hemorrhage. He had been President since March 4, 1933, elected to four consecutive terms and had guided America out of the Great Depression and through World War II.

**April 12, 1961** - Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first human in space.

**April 13—Birthday** - Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) was born in Albermarle County, Virginia.

**April 14, 1865** - President Abraham Lincoln was shot and mortally wounded while watching a performance of *Our American Cousin* at Ford's Theater in Washington. He was taken to a nearby house and died the following morning at 7:22 a.m.

**April 15, 1912** - In the icy waters off Newfoundland, the luxury liner *Titanic* with 2,224 persons on board sank at 2:27 a.m. after striking an iceberg just before midnight.

**April 16, 1862** - Congress abolished slavery in the District of Columbia and appropriated \$1 million to compensate owners of freed slaves.

**April 17, 1961** - A U.S.-backed attempt to overthrow Premier Fidel Castro of Cuba failed disastrously in what became known as the Bay of Pigs fiasco.

**April 18, 1775** - The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere and William Dawes occurred as the two men rode out of Boston about 10 p.m. to warn patriots at Lexington and Concord of the approaching British.

**April 19, 1775** - At dawn in Massachusetts, about 70 armed militiamen stood face to face on Lexington Green with a British advance guard unit. An unordered 'shot heard around the world' began the American Revolution.

**April 20, 1914** - Miners in Ludlow, Colorado, were attacked by National Guardsmen paid by the mining company.

**April 21, 1918** - During World War I, the Red Baron (Manfred von Richtofen) was shot down and killed.

**April 22, 1864** - "In God We Trust" was included on all newly minted U.S. coins by an Act of Congress.

**April 23rd** - Established by Israel's Knesset as Holocaust Day in remembrance of the estimated six million Jews killed by Nazis.

**April 24, 1800** - The Library of Congress was established in Washington, D.C.

**April 25, 1967** - The first law legalizing abortion was signed by Colorado Governor John Love, allowing abortions in cases in which a panel of three doctors unanimously agreed.

**April 26, 1986** - At the Chernobyl nuclear power plant in the Ukraine, an explosion caused a meltdown of the nuclear fuel and spread a radioactive cloud into the atmosphere, eventually covering most of Europe.

**April 27, 1865** - On the Mississippi River, the worst steamship disaster in U.S. history occurred as an explosion aboard the *Sultana* killed nearly 2,000 passengers, mostly Union soldiers who had been prisoners of war and were returning home.

**April 28, 1789** - On board the British ship *Bounty*, Fletcher Christian led a mutiny against Captain William Bligh

**April 28, 1945** - Twenty-three years of Fascist rule in Italy ended abruptly as Italian partisans shot former Dictator Benito Mussolini. Other leaders of the Fascist Party and friends of Mussolini were also killed along with his mistress, Clara Petacci. Their bodies were then hung upside down and pelted with stones by jeering crowds in Milan.

**April 29, 1992** - Riots erupted in Los Angeles following the announcement that a jury in Simi Valley, California, had failed to convict four Los Angeles police officers accused in the videotaped beating of an African American man.

**April 30, 1789** - George Washington became the first U.S. President as he was administered the oath of office on the balcony of Federal Hall at the corner of Wall and Broad Streets in New York City.