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April 2009

The Lions' Roar

Overland Park Host Lions Club
Overland Park, Kansas
www.optlions.org



WE SERVE

Nominating Committee Report . . .

Here Are Candidates for 2009-10 Club Offices

Election of officers will be held at the regular club meeting of April 11. The Nominating Committee, comprised of Lions Mae Claxton (chairperson), Paul Roerman and Grant Rogers reported the following list of candidates at the March 28 meeting:

President: Bob Larson
1st Vice President: Neal Nichols
2nd Vice President: Paul Roerman
Secretary: Carole Collyard
Treasurer: Roger Claxton
Lion Tamer: Art Meganck
Tail Twister: Ken Collyard
Director, 2007-2010 (*continuing*): Janette Sanders-Reh
Director, 2007-2010 (*continuing*): Grant Rogers
Director, 2008-2011 (*continuing*): Dottie Bloome
Director, 2009-2011: Edson Parker
Membership Committee Chairperson: Heather Lanigan
Membership Committee member (*continuing*): Grant Rogers
Membership Committee member: (*to be announced*)

The Nominating Committee report on March 28 fulfilled the constitutional requirement of two weeks' prior notice to members.

The slate of candidates reflects changes in the club's Constitution and By-Laws that were approved by the membership on March 14. There will now be only two vice presidents and four directors instead of three and six.

Voting on April 11 will be by written (secret) ballot.

Candy Day Effort Results in Collection of \$1008! Next One Set for May 8, 9 at 91st Street Hy-Vee

Lion Janette Reh, club Candy Day chairperson, reports that during our last outing--April 3 and 4--we collected \$1008.37. This is one of the best Candy Day weekends in many years! Twelve Lions worked two-hour shifts—including Lion Treasurer Roger Claxton who stood *three* of those shifts—in front of the Wal-Mart store near 119th Street and Metcalf.

Club members who helped out besides Lions Janette and Roger were Lions Ron Bloome, Larry Lavelly, Art Meganck, Neal and Beverly Nichols, Edson Parker, Paul Roerman, Ben Starks, and Darrel Stone.

The next Candy Day for this Spring is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, May 8 and 9. We will work at the Hy-Vee Store at 6801 West 91st Street (about two blocks east of Metcalf)

Visitation to Kansas City, KS Club Branch Meeting and Special KSSB Program Scheduled for April 14



Mark Tuesday, April 14 on your calendar for a special treat—a visit to the Kansas State School for the Blind and the new Kansas City, KS Lions Club Branch. The meeting—a luncheon—begins at 11:45. Cost of the luncheon is \$5 per person. The meeting will be held in the main administration building on the campus at 1100 State Avenue, KCK.

The program will feature vocal presentations by KSSB students, who are using this event as a fund raiser to help cover expenses of their 2009 Spring prom.

Our Board of Directors voted to make a cash donation to the students to help; we have challenged the Turner Lions Club, sponsors of the KCK Club Branch, to do the same!

Pasta Dinner and Auction Overcome Snowstorm; Over \$500 Profit Estimated When All Results Are In



Billie Warden digs into her dessert while Lion Dale and Lion Jack McLain look on as if wondering, can she eat the whole thing? In center background are Robyn Rogers and Trish Rogers, daughter and wife of Lion Grant Rogers. At right background are Lorraine and PID Bob Tonjes of the Prairie Village Lions Club.

In spite of almost six inches of snow in the afternoon and early evening, preceded by a full day of rain, our club's third annual Pasta Dinner and Silent Auction turned out to be reasonably successful on Saturday, March 28. **Over \$900 in revenue was raised by dinner ticket sales and the auction of many donated items.**

Treasurer **Lion Roger Claxton** says that some expenses are yet to be paid and an unknown amount of ticket-sale money is still outstanding. Final net profit should be somewhere between \$500 and \$600, he said.

The dinner and auction was held at the Overland Park Christian Church, 75th and Conser Streets. **Lion Dale Warden**, a member of the church, provided access to the building—unlocking entry doors, adjusting thermostats, disarming security alarms and similar tasks.

Meatballs and spaghetti sauce were prepared several days in advance by **Lions Dottie Bloome, Mae Claxton, and Carole Collyard** and kept frozen until the afternoon of the event. Tossed greens salad was mixed on site. Desserts were donated by club members and/or their spouses. These were sold separately at \$1.50 per serving.

Lion Roger Claxton went above and beyond the call of duty Saturday when he went home for his snow blower and spent a good part of the afternoon clearing the walkways around the entrance of the building. Unfortunately, laments *Ye Olde Editor*, we didn't get a picture of that essential and much-appreciated bit of work.

Many members and friends of the club donated items for the silent auction.

April and May are busy, busy months! See the Calendar of Events on Page 3.

The Big Lion's Message for April . . .



What an amazing bunch of Lions we have! We braved snowy weather to attend the February 28 meeting. We did it again just a month later, on March 28, to attend our morning meeting when the forecast was for horrendous weather. That morning was not so bad, but by the time of our Pasta Dinner and Silent Auction that evening, weather conditions had really deteriorated. Nevertheless, our members turned out to work the event or to attend and enjoy the festivities.

While the weather had a definite impact on attendance at the Pasta Dinner, we still cleared almost \$600 and had a good time of fellowship while doing so. A special thanks to Lions Carole Collyard, Dottie Bloome, and Mae Claxton for the hours of work they put into preparing for the event. Others helped as well, but those ladies deserve special accolades.

On March 14 we had a working meeting, packing Shoeboxes for Soldiers. We had guests, including children, there to help and the atmosphere was truly exciting as the boxes were filled and prepared for mailing. We know the packages have arrived in Iraq as we are beginning to receive thank you notes from some of the soldiers. For the success of this project special thanks go to Lion Paul Roerman and Lion Mae Claxton.

And finally . . . Candy Days on April 3 and 4. Just over \$1,000 in donations was received. This was possible because of the dedication of Lion Janette Reh, who is our club's Candy Day chair, and the service of the 12 Lions who stood 2-hour shifts over those two days. Lion Roger Claxton actually did three of those shifts, for a total of six hours of service. Thanks to all.

Big Lion Beverly

Board of Directors Notes

Meeting of April 4 (unofficial notes): (1) Minutes of March 7 meeting and Treasurer's reports for March accepted. (2) Approved request of Lion Dale Warden to become Member-at-Large. (3) Discussed participation in Overland Park "Mardi Gras" days, June 6, 2009. Popcorn, soda pop, and water concessions are not available. Agreed that if a reduced price for space is granted to give out Lions balloons to children who attend. (4) Voted to donate \$50 to the Blue Valley West High School Leo Club to help with cost of transportation to the Lions International Convention in Minneapolis this summer. (5) Voted to donate \$500 to the Atonement Lutheran Church Tanzania eye-clinic mission trip this summer. (6) Voted to make a donation to the Kansas State School for the Blind Spring Prom fund and to publicize the April 14 KCKS Lions Club meeting at the school where students will sing as part of a fund raiser. (7) Approved May 8 and 9 for the next Candy Days. (8) Approved rental of Lenexa Community Center as site of Club's 52nd anniversary dinner to be on Saturday evening, May 9.

2010 Kansas Lions State Convention to be in Olathe; Overland Park Host Lions to be Host Club for Event

The Kansas Lions State Convention will be held at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Olathe in May, 2010. Our club has been asked to serve as host club in planning and carrying out the various activities.

Our Board of Directors agreed to coordinate the convention program and to ask other Lions Clubs in this area to assume specific roles to make it a success.

No theme has been selected to date, but because the 2010 Lions International Convention is to be in Sydney, Australia, some thought has been given to a "Down Under" idea.

Keep your eye on this space for further details as they develop.

Program Notes . . .

March 14: Work Day—we packed over 30 Shoeboxes for Soldiers.

March 28: PowerPoint® presentation by Dr. Erica Persons, representing the Atonement Lutheran Church mission trip to Tanzania this summer (the group will work at an eye clinic there). The program was arranged by Lion Paul Roerman.

Next Meeting (April 11): Election of officers; Program about Habitat for Humanity with Mark Naster as speaker.

April 25: Janet Reh to present program about Service Dogs.

Stark(s) Reality

Well, it happened again! Sometime ago I wrote about my collection of "pennies from heaven." I sincerely believe that Alice's son, who died a few years ago, leaves these little mementos scattered about for me to find in moments of sadness or stress, to remind me that even though I feel like I'm alone, I am not!

On March 27, as I went shopping for a sympathy card for a dear, long-time friend, who recently lost her husband of many years, I got my reminder. After parking my car at the mall, I got out, looked down—and there, ground into the debris on the concrete, was a round object, seemingly the same color of the surface on which it rested. When I picked it up, Lo! and Behold! It was a penny. My mind instantly kicked back to these tragic days when Phil fought his valiant battle with a brain tumor, days that were both an inspiration and a desolation to those who loved and suffered along with him.

Oh, memories can sear and burn 'tis true; but what would life be without them? It is hard to comprehend, without the comfort of reminiscing, that our existence could be pretty bleak and barren—but, oh the joy of looking back to times spent with friends and family, travels shared and love expressed. Memory truly is a precious Gift from a benevolent and caring Father.

As I was searching for a card, I came across a tiny book titled, *Dance While You Can*. I just had to buy it, as dance—in a sense—has been my salvation. One of the quotations said, "Dance while you can—I will not stand to the side and allow the music in my heart to fade away and die—I will dance to my own life song." What a revelation, all from having found a penny.

As I have recounted many times, years ago when Alice's youngest sister died, her children made as the theme of her obituary a song by Lee Ann Womack titled, "I Hope You Dance." In the lyrics there is a choice: you can sit it out or dance, and the hope is that you choose to dance. That has been my choice. When it comes your time to choose, "I Hope You Dance"!

—by Lion Ben Starks



Lion Edson Parker and his wife Dolores contemplate a bid at the children's table—maybe something for a grandchild?—during the Silent Auction while Robyn Rogers (right) wonders how much more of Daddy's money she can bid. In far-center background, Lion Mae Claxton surveys the scene. NOTE: The child's rocking horse at left was hand-made by Lion Roger Claxton.



With all the other things we've got going, don't forget to plan for the **USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum** to be held in Memphis, Tennessee September 24-26. Remember that Kansas Lions will be hosting the Forum right here in Overland Park in 2013. By attending this year, you'll see some of the things we need to do when it's OUR turn!

Women do the work while the men stand around . . . ?



Top picture: Lions Dottie Bloome and Carole Collyard stir up a couple of pans of spaghetti sauce and meatballs while at the lower left, Lion Ken Collyard stood around and drank coffee. That's really not true! Lion Ken did more than his share in bringing supplies into the church building, setting up tables and helping with take-down chores at the end. In the lower right picture, Lion Grant Rogers looks as though he's ready to tackle a second dessert of his own, but actually he issues "last call"—and announces special price cuts—for remaining desserts as the Pasta Dinner and Silent Auction draws to a close.



The Overland Park Host *Lions' Roar*
 An official newsletter published more-or-less monthly by the
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www.oplions.org
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Corrections Corner . . .

The special mid-March issue of the *Roar* included a list of individuals and groups who donated goods or money to the Shoeboxes for Soldiers project.

Marie Lear should have been on that list. She sent a donation to help with the cost of postage.

The Club heartily thanks Marie heartily for her help and *Ye Olde Editor* apologizes for the omission.

Calendar of Activities

April

- April 11 Regular Club meeting
 Election of officers for 2009-2010
Program: Mark Naster speaking on "Habitat for Humanity"
 At the Wyndham Garden
- April 14 (Tuesday)..... 11:45, Visit to Kansas State School for Blind
 1100 State Avenue, Kansas City, KS
 Vocal concert by students, fund raiser for Spring Prom
- April 25 Regular Club meeting
 At the Wyndham Garden
Program on service dogs, presented by Janette Reh

May

- May 2 7:30 a.m., Board of Directors meeting,
 Mimi's Café, Oak Park Mall
- May 8, 9 Candy Days
 Hy-Vee Store, 6801 West 91st Street
 (South side of 91st Street, about 2 blocks east of Metcalf)
- May 9 Regular Club meeting
 At the Wyndham Garden
 Ben Starks is responsible for program
- May 9 (Evening) **52nd Anniversary Dinner**
 Lenexa Community Center, 13420 Oak
 (North of West 94th Street, east of Pflumm about a block)
- May 23 Regular Club meeting
 At the Wyndham Garden
- May 28-30 Kansas Lions State Convention
 Airport Hilton Inn, Wichita

**Condensed Treasurer's Reports
 (March 2009)**

GENERAL OPERATING ACCOUNT (Administrative Funds)

Beginning Balance	\$ 5879.80
Income:	
Meals	\$ 242.00
Membership dues	125.00
Tail Twister	68.00
Total Income	\$ 435.00
Expenses:	
Club supplies	32.15
Meals and meeting room	194.50
OPHLC Endowment Fund	300.00
Total Expenses	526.65
Income less expenses	(\$ -91.65)
Ending Balance	\$ 5,788.15

SERVICE ACCOUNT (Projects and Charitable Funds)

Beginning Balance	\$ 15,364.95
Income:	
Kansas Lions Band Camp	\$ 125.00
Metcalf Avenue of Flags	253.00
"Shoeboxes for Soldiers" income	176.00
Pasta Dinner and Silent Auction	961.85
Total Income	\$ 1,515.85
Expenses:	
Pasta Dinner and Silent Auction	\$ 393.21
Service Fund Disbursements	
KS Lions Band Foundation	1000.00
Peace Poster Contest Expense	18.00
CARES Service Dog School	500.00
KSDS Washington, KS Dog School	500.00
OPHLC Endowment Fund	300.00
Shoeboxes for Soldiers	829.85
Eyeglasses for indigents	200.00
LCIF Campaign SightFirst II	3,000.00
Total Expenses	6,741.06
Income less expenses	\$ (5,225.21)
Ending Balance	\$ 10,319.74

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2009 Schedule

Saturday	May 16	Armed Forces Day
Monday	May 25	Memorial Day
Sunday	June 14	Flag Day
Saturday	July 4	Independence Day
Monday	September 7	Labor Day
Wednesday	November 11	Veterans Day

(Flags raised at 6 a.m., lowered at 4 p.m. on each of these dates)