



Lake Ridge Lions' Club Newsletter

March 2008
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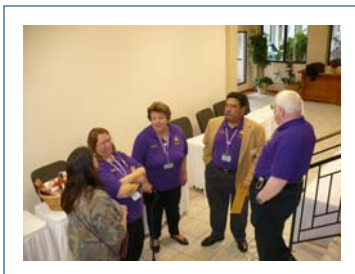
From the King Lion's Den

By King Lion Tony Reyes

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"You can't get very far until you start doing something for somebody else." – Melvin Jones' personal code



Spring is on the way! I can hear the birdies singing, the flowers are ready to sprout, baseball is just around the corner, GOLF, oh oh – here come the weeds.

The Winter Conference was a great success based on the comments heard from many of the attendees. This could not have happened without the help of each and every member. I THANK YOU ALL!! See the short summary of the conference further on in this news-letter. By the way, I believe we made a few dollars for our admin budget as well as for the District's.

On Monday, March 10th we will have a presentation on the Northern Virginia Lions Youth Camp (NVLYC) and a short discussion on the bingo fundraiser. I can't believe that bingo is only 4 months away. I can hear it now –PULL TABS! PULL TABS! CHANGE! CHANGE!...

The Aquia Harbour Host Lions are having a hold 'em poker tournament on SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2008. For ticket information call: Jim Whalen on 540 659-6550 - Dave Coder 540 288-0198, Mike Shepherd 540 840-2099 or Walt Kreutzer 540 720-7169.

Saturday, March 22nd is our next trip to the bank, um I mean Atlantic City. See Lion Nancy Hilleary for details. So far I believe we have 35 or so gamblers signed up so what are you waiting for? Come join the party.

On Monday, March 24th we will have our District Governor Joe Volpe making his official visit. We will also be inducting two new members that night. Please plan on attending to make the governor and our new members welcome.

I have appointed a nominations committee to come up with next year's slate (wow is this almost over?). PDG Lion Gene will chair the committee comprised of himself, Lion Mike Quinlan, Lion Mike Yuenger and Lion Janet Dyess. Jump on out there and let them know the positions you'd like to be considered for next year. If not, you might just get drafted.

Lion Jack Edmundson is in the process of making arrangements for our next fundraiser – White Cane Days. This will take place in April – be prepared to work your shifts. No, I didn't mean shift- ☺

Until next issue, YIL **Lion Tony**

Bland Contest

By Lion Sharon Diefendorf

The Bland Music Scholarship Competition sponsored by the Lions of Virginia, District 24, Region V, Zone 1 was held on Sunday, February 24, 2008, at the Dumfries United Methodist Church. The competition was hosted by the Dumfries-Potomac Lions Club. There were two vocal contestants and nine instrumental contestants. The contestants ranged in age from 11 to 17 years old.

First prize in the vocal category was awarded to Rebekah Plummer. Second prize vocalist was awarded to Whitney B. Cooper. First prize in the instrumental category was awarded to Amanda R. Urena, who played the piano. Second prize was awarded to Phillip M. Munck, who played the cello; and the third prize was awarded to Carol T. Farn, who played the piano.

All of the contestants received a certificate and a new Lions Bland pin marking the 60th anniversary of the Bland Competition.

In 1948, the Lions of Virginia worked to establish a living perpetual memorial to James Bland and the Virginia Lions Bland Music Scholarship program was established to assist and promote cultural and educational opportunities for the musically talented youth in Virginia. Each year an award is given at the state level in the amount of \$2,000 to the first place contestants in both vocal and instrumental competitions held at the Annual Virginia Lions State Convention in May of each year.

The District's Bland contest will be held on March 30th.

This Day in History

By King Lion Tony Reyes

March 3, 1887: Helen Keller meets her miracle worker

On this day in 1887, Anne Sullivan begins teaching six-year-old Helen Keller, who lost her sight and hearing after a severe illness at the age of 19 months. Under Sullivan's tutelage, including her pioneering "touch teaching" techniques, the previously uncontrollable Keller flourished, eventually graduating from college and becoming an international lecturer and activist. Sullivan, later dubbed "the miracle worker," remained Keller's interpreter and constant companion until the older woman's death in 1936.

Sullivan, born in Massachusetts in 1866, had first hand experience with being handicapped: As a child, an infection impaired her vision. She then attended the Perkins Institution for the Blind where she learned the manual alphabet in order to communicate with a classmate who was deaf and blind. Eventually, Sullivan had several operations that improved her weakened

Continued at *This Day in History* on page 4

"Irish Proverb: You never miss the water till the well has run dry."



Basket of Chocolates & wine won by Mitch Bukzin (raffle at the Winter Conference)



Club Birthdays & Anniversaries!

Don't forget to wish the following Lion a Happy Birthday!

Mitch Bukzin (3/29)

The following Lions are celebrating Anniversaries this month:

Janet Dyess (1996); **Nancy Hilleary** (2006); **Mike Yuenger** (1987); and Affiliate Lion **Gale (Dunn) Kilpatrick** (2005).

IT'S GREAT TO BE A LION!!!

Spring Forward

By Lion Michelle Henshaw

Remember to set your clocks forward one hour on Sunday, March 9th.

The transition officially happens at 2:00 AM (local standard time), which becomes 3:00 AM local daylight time.



Winter Conference Luncheon 2008

"Irish Proverb: Everyone is wise until he speaks.."

Did You Know?

By Lion Michelle Henshaw

Interesting things you can find on the web! While "surfin' the net" one day, I found the following info...

According to the Lions' International website, January 2008 marked the **20th anniversary of the Peace Poster Program**. "For the past two decades, Lions clubs have sponsored the Peace Poster Contest in schools and sponsored youth groups. The program provides children, ages 11 through 13, with a creative outlet to discuss their feelings for peace. Through the contest, Lions have made connections, received media exposure and had fun. The theme of the 2007-08 contest is "Peace Around the World."

Also, did you know that July 1987 marked the **20th Anniversary of Women Lions**? And did you know that women are the fastest growing group of Lions? According to the Lions' International website women make up "nearly 20% of all members and taking on numerous leadership roles within the association, including 30.5% of council chairpersons.



Winter Conference Registration 2008

This Day in History Continued from page 2

eyesight.

Helen Adams Keller was born on June 27, 1880, to Arthur Keller, a former Confederate army officer and newspaper publisher, and his wife Kate, of Tusculumbia, Alabama. As a baby, a brief illness, possibly scarlet fever, left Helen unable to see, hear or speak. She was considered a bright but spoiled and strong-willed child. Her parents eventually sought the advice of Alexander Graham Bell, the inventor of the telephone and an authority on the deaf. He suggested the Kellers contact the Perkins Institution, which in turn recommended Anne Sullivan as a teacher.

Sullivan, age 20, arrived at Ivy Green, the Keller family estate, in 1887 and began working to socialize her wild, stubborn student and teach her by spelling out words in Keller's hand. Initially, the finger spelling meant nothing to Keller. However, a breakthrough occurred one day when Sullivan held one of Keller's hands under water from a pump and spelled out "w-a-t-e-r" in Keller's palm. Keller went on to learn how to read, write and speak. With Sullivan's assistance, Keller attended Radcliffe College and graduated with honors in 1904.

Helen Keller became a public speaker and author; her first book, "The Story of My Life" was published in 1902. She was also a fundraiser for the American Foundation for the Blind and an advocate for racial and sexual equality, as well as socialism. From 1920 to 1924, Sullivan and Keller even formed a vaudeville act to educate the public and earn money. Helen Keller died on June 1, 1968, at her home in Westport, Connecticut, at age 87, leaving her mark on the world by helping to alter perceptions about the disabled.

Editor's Note

By Lion Michelle Henshaw

Remember to send your articles for the newsletter by April 8th for them to be included in the April edition of our Club's newsletter.

To submit an article, contact Lion Michelle via telephone (571-332-8891); email (mlhenshaw@comcast.net); or simply hand over a handwritten/typed note at the dinner meeting.

Pictures in this newsletter are courtesy of Lion Michelle.




Winter Conf.: Winner of Friday night's 50/50 drawing

Winter Conf.: Lion Mike Q., introducing Stephanie Brosnahan of the American Diabetes Assoc.



Calendar of Events

						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	31					1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Daylight Savings Begins	10 Dinner Meeting	11	12	13	14	15
16 Palm Sunday	17 Board Meeting St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20 Spring Begins	21 Good Friday	22 Atlantic City Trip
23 Easter	24 Dinner Meeting	25	26	27	28	29

Program Roster

Meeting Date	Program Assignee	Topic if Known
March 10	Gina Reyes	NVLYC
March 24		<i>District Governor Joe Volpe's Official Visit</i>
April 14		
April 28	Mike Garit	?
May 12		
May 26	No Meeting	Holiday
June 9	Mike Yuenger	?
June 23	No Meeting	Installation of Officers

Topics that we should have programs on include: Sight presentation, Canine Companions, Leader Dogs for the Blind, Northern Virginia Lions Youth Camp, Safety, and Sight & Hearing Unit (just to name a few).