



THE LIONS TALE

Alexandria Lions Club

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www.alexions.com

WE SERVE!

CALENDAR

July 23, 2008

SPEAKERS

July 30--Dr. David
Holcombe, Office of Public
Health

BIRTHDAYS

Belated wishes to

Susan Ballard 7/13

Ray Schrock 7/13

Patrick Cunningham 7/18

Happy Birthday to

Todd Brewer 7/27

There was no meeting last week following the installation banquet on July 15 at Lee J's. Lion Cathy Comeaux, PDG, was our special guest who installed our new officers. A number of awards and recognitions were given.

Lion Susan Ballard, our new Tail Twister, has instituted a protective program whereby Lions can pay \$5 to escape any form of harassment or fines from the Tail Twister. Some have referred to this program as "extortion" and others have gladly paid up.

The 2007-2008 Funds Donated totaled \$122,722, with the largest amounts going to the Lions Camp (\$82,256 in contributions, grants arranged and student counselor scholarships) and the Eye Foundation (\$34,365 in contributions and grants).

Hours donated totaled 770 to various fundraising activities and the Cubsight program.

The Club received the award for most contributions to the Children's Camp from District 8-I and the most contributions to the Eye Foundation from District 8-I

Lion Marion Chaney won the doorprize at today's meeting.



2007-08 Lion Board

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James Ballard

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Editor

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Our most informative speaker was Trooper Moreau from the State Police, Troop E.

He spoke on safety issues and tips. Although he receives NO compensation from Taser, he highly recommends the product. He spoke at length about the advantages of the Taser over a gun, especially for civilians. Many civilians don't have the fortitude to actually shoot someone with a bullet. The Taser is non-lethal and is less guilt producing so that more will use it. It also is easier to shoot with some accuracy and so is more effective. A civilian model differs from the police model and can cost as little as \$300. It has an effective distance of 15 feet. There are no proven deaths due to the Taser. Deaths attributed to the Taser are usually either coronary events or a fall. Pepper sprays are not incapacitating to an attacker and a Taser is, making it more effective according to Trooper Moreau. When asked about liability, the Club was reminded that the legal standard is what a "prudent and reasonable person" would do. However, Taser owners should take the same sort of precautions as a gun owner.

Safety tips:

- Don't stop to help a disabled motorist. Call *577 on your cell phone and as the police to help instead.
- Leave an escape path between your car and the one in front at a red light. Don't pull up too tight.
- Know your location (mile marker)
- It's ok to slow down and put on your flashers if you can't identify a police car in the dark. Stop at the nearest well lighted area.
- Never approach a police car. Exit your car when the officer motions to you. Some states prefer you stay in the car.
- Don't park near a van with a sliding door.
- Walk with confidence and women should change out of heels when leaving work for a parking area.
- Be aware of your surroundings
- Use ATMs in daytime and in busy areas
- Have your transaction ready
- If attacked, give up your valuables
- Resist if grabbed (may not want to if you see a weapon)
- Don't let waiters take your credit cards. Make sure your number isn't on the restaurant copy