



THE LIONS TALE

Alexandria Lions Club

P.O. Box 13

Alexandria, Louisiana 71309

318.640.5020

www.alexlions.com

WE SERVE!

March 25, 2009

CALENDAR

Outback fundraiser ticket deadline is April 15

USA/Canada Forum in Memphis Sept 24-26

SPEAKERS

April 1st- Doug Ireland, Director of Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame

April 8th- Eric Moran, Owner Alexandria Aces

April 15th - Club Forum

April 22nd- Outback Fundraiser

April 29th-TBA

BIRTHDAYS

Markay Dunn Reeves 3/25

Percy Dauzat 4/3
Tony DeMarco 4/4

Door Prize

Richard Beeson's name was drawn for the \$15 Door Prize

The Club's luck with 2 Card Draw continues. Lion Marion Chaney looked for the joker on behalf of the table, and Lion Aaron tried as well, but the jokers couldn't be found. The kitty is growing!

Lion President Bob Hollingsworth read the slate for a final time and the Club voted by acclamation to accept the slate. The officers and Board for 2009-2010 are:

President—Lion Viola Britt
1st Vice-President (president-elect)—Lion Hank Smart
2nd Vice-President – Lion Paul Blais
3rd Vice-President—Lion Mary Wilmore
Tail Twister—Lion Chuck Tosten
Lion Tamer—Lion Susan Ballard
Sec/Treasure—Lion Aaron McAllister, PDG
Ex Officio—Lion Bob Hollingsworth
Board: Pam Wunderlich, Joe Daniels, Floyd Morgan, Darryl Andrews, Henry Masson and Stacey Auzine.

Twenty-four Lions worked a total of 117 ½ hours at the Forest Hill Nursery Festival. We sold \$1278 in state project raffle tickets. We sold \$2152 in tickets for the lawn care package. Great job, Lions! Special thanks to Lion Pam for all her hard work. She secured donations from Lowe's in Alexandria and Pineville for the lawn care package.

Our Outback Fundraiser is Wednesday, April 22, Administrative Professionals Day. We have two seatings: 11:00 and 12:30. Take out tickets are also available. Tickets are \$15 and are a choice of steak or chicken, salad, bread, green beans, tea or cola, and cheesecake, with or without raspberry sauce. Gratuity is NOT included in the ticket cost. Many Club members plan to wear vests or polos and help the servers with water and tea. We are ordering extra brochures so that every guest will know what our club is about and the projects we support. See Lion Susan for tickets to sell to friends and co-workers. DEADLINE IS APRIL 15!



2008-09 Lion Board

President

Bob Hollingsworth

1st Vice-President

Viola Britt

2nd Vice-President

Dave Perry

3rd Vice-President

Hank Smart

Secretary/Treasurer

Aaron McAllister

PDG

Tail Twister

Susan Ballard

Lion Tamer

Joe Daniels

Membership Chair

Michael Kearney

Ex-Officio

James Ballard

Board Members

Paul Blaise

Bill Bush

Joe Crouch

Beverly Price

Mary Wilmore

Pam Wunderlich

Editor

Viola Britt

308-2077

vvbritt@gmail.com

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Our speaker this week was Don Guillory, the Executive Director of the Rapides Parish Coliseum. He started by presenting a brief history of the coliseum. If you don't include BR and NOLA, the Coliseum is the 3rd largest building in the state at 136,000 sq. ft.

The national average for bookings is 30 per year. The current average at the coliseum is 40-48. The annual revenue impact is \$3 million. There are 8 full-time employees and more than 150 part-time. We are considered a "low secondary" market with a population base of 120,000 in the parish. Lafayette is a "high secondary" market but has a population of a half million.

The major problem at the coliseum is expenses. The utility bill runs \$140,000 and labor expenses have increased 30% in the past 3 years, mostly due to minimum wage increases.

According to Mr. Guillory, the future of the Coliseum depends on the April 4 vote for the maintenance tax. This is a 1.5 mil tax over 10 years. It should bring in \$180,000 per year so that the building could be brought more up to date. With the homestead exemption, a \$75,000 house will not pay the tax. A home worth \$100,000 will be assessed \$3.75 per year. A \$1 million home will pay \$138 per year.

During the question and answer period, there were some spirited questions. One Lion pointed out that businesses pass costs along to customers. There were a number of questions about the types of events that sell well at the coliseum.