



WE SERVE!

CALENDAR

Installation Banquet on June 25. Plan to be here for a very special lunch and awards.

SPEAKERS

May 14—Lions Forum
Hear all about the Board meeting and plans for next year.

BIRTHDAYS

Geoffrey Bergman May 7

Dave Perry May 9

THE LIONS TALE

Alexandria Lions Club

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May 7, 2008

Lion Susan Ballard led the pledge of allegiance and **Lion Rev. Gary Van Horn** led in prayer.

Guests today were Paul Pharris, son and guest of Lion Kermit, and the charming Marie Masson, guest of Lion Henry. Paul was on a short visit home from Memphis, where he is working on a Master of Fine Arts.

The **2 Card Draw** is playing with a smaller deck each week. But **Lion Susan Ballard** and **Lion John Paul Adams** couldn't find the jokers.

The Door Prize was \$20 and goes to \$5 next week since **Lion Brent Caplan** was a winner.

Announcements:

- **The Golf Tournament** is **May 19**. Contact **Lion Mike Kearney** at 445-9328 if you can help. We have 14 teams signed up. He could use a few more giveaways for the golfers if you'd like to advertise by putting your name on golf tees or whatever. Also, Outback is providing a steak dinner for golfers. Lions are welcome to come to the dinner, but you need to sign up with Lion Mike by May 16.
- Watch for a sleepy Lion Susan next week. She's planning to stay up all night at the Bear Bash with Leo Jenny's graduating class.
- Your editor is in trouble with our Tail Twister. He wanted me to sing, but I was trying to make notes for the newsletter. He's threatening me for insubordination.



2007-08 Lion Board

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Lion Joe Daniels introduced our speaker, **Bob Tompkins** of the Alexandria Town Talk.

He is a sportswriter and has had many interesting experience in meeting famous athletes. Lion Joe is a "sports junkie" and wanted Bob to share stories with the Club.

He opened with a number of jokes. He then started telling stories about his experiences. He has covered SuperBowls, BCS Championships, and all sorts of events. But he believes that the Masters Tournament in Augusta is the most meaningful.

August National is one of the only venues that tells the networks how it will be. He decried major league baseball allowing the networks to dictate an evening World Series. He believes that the World Series should be played in the daytime so that the youth of America can listen, just as he did as a child. Augusta also does not allow promotions.

He has a number of favorite personalities. Arnold Palmer is a very common man; very friendly and open. Nolan Ryan also had a common touch. And Dale Murphy, the homerun hitter of the 80's is one of the nicest guys.

Archie Manning has been very open and friendly and supports many good causes in Louisiana. He is very approachable, more so than Terry Bradshaw, another famous quarterback. Tompkins is hopeful than the Manning boys will be as open as their dad.

Johnny Unitas had an influence on him. Unitas was the speaker at Tompkins' high school for an athletic banquet. As the school paper's sportswriter, Tompkins was able to interview Unitas. Unitas was very encouraging of Tompkins' ability.

Tompkins should have known at an early age that sportswriting was for him. He got in trouble as a 5th grader for writing a story about a fictitious basketball game instead of paying attention to his teacher.

Sports is about more than talent. As Yogi Berra said, "90% of the game is half mental."