



Seal Beach Host Lions Club

The Growl

Seal Beach, California, U.S.A.

Volume 69 Number 7

Jan. 2007

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Michael Gallipeo, Dewey Linehan, Jackie Maloney, Mary Newton, Mike Haley, Bob Heenan, Barbara Locastro, Dan Sinks, Tom Ahrens

Membership Director:

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Tail Twister:

Bruce Gormley

Lion Tamers:

Dave Hubbard, Karen Russell

Past President:

Tom Ahrens

Leo Advisor:

Scott Newton, Mary Newton, Brad Barras, Herb Groom, Nancy Grgas, Allyn Mattox, Keri DaPron

SealBeachLions.com

Mike Narz

Growl Editor:

Herb Groom

The President's Message:



This month started right out with the Seal Beach Christmas Parade on the first. Once again, we did an excellent job of running the parade and I did an excellent job of waving in the parade. I want to thank George Dooley for furnishing and driving Jacqui and myself through the parade in his Pontiac GTO.

Big thanks to all the members who worked at the Youth Center Tree lot. I understand that someone made sure that we were scheduled to work on the days that there were no tree deliveries. The Story Telling Santa on the eleventh drew a large crowd of kids.

On the sixteenth we had Breakfast with Santa at the Library. Once again we had a great crowd come out for pancakes and sausage and it's always fun to see the kids sitting on Santa's lap. In conjunction with Breakfast with Santa we also had our Casa Youth Shelter event. The kids staying at the shelter are brought over for breakfast after which a group of Lions goes back to the shelter where we give them gifts. Lion Scott Newton did a great job putting together the gifts this year. The kids were very appreciative. That night we had our annual Christmas Party. It was one of the best parties I have been to partly because Lion Carol Linehan did a great job of putting it together and partly because I got Buzz back. The kidnappers arranged to have him returned to me during the party. It was quite an emotional reunion. That marked the end of our events in December and now we are into 2007. In January we have the Melvin Jones Dinner on the twenty-seventh. I hope to see you there.

Happy New Year,
Lion President Bill

Meeting schedule: First and Third Wednesday of the month. Meetings begin at 7pm sharp and are held at 'The Lone Star SteakHouse', 6575 E. Pacific Coast Highway, Long Beach, CA

E-mail: President@SealBeachLions.com - Secretary@SealBeachLions.com -

More information & updates at - <http://SealBeachLions.com>



CLUB CALENDAR

January 1 – New Years Day

January 3 – Lions General & Board Meeting 7:00pm

January 7 – LEO District Meeting

January 10 - Vets. Bingo

January 12 – Seal Beach Lions Anniversary – 68 years young!

January 15 – Martin Luther King Day

January 17 – Lions Program Night

January 19 – LEO's 10 Year Anniversary

January 21 – 4-L4 District Cabinet Meeting

January 22 – Leo Meeting 6:30pm

January 27 – Melvin Jones Fellowship Award Dinner

February 2 – 4 – MD-4 Convention, Fresno

February 4 – Superbowl XLI

February 7 – Lions General & Board Meeting 7:00pm

February 12 – LEO Meeting 6:30pm

February 14 – Valentines Day

February 14 - Vets. Bingo

February 18 – Chinese New Year – Year of the Boar (Pig)

February 19 – Presidents Day

February 21 – Lions Student Speaker Contest 7:00pm



Veterans Corner:



Missing Man Fly-by

Pilots fly this magnificent and solemn aerial maneuver for presidents, potentates, astronauts, and other pilots of note as a tribute and showing of love, respect, and camaraderie for a brother pilot. This maneuver is sometimes flown with the wingman spiraling off or it is flown consistently with a hole where another should be.

The formation finds its birth in World War I when British fighter pilots flew over the funeral of German ace Manheim "The Red Baron" von Richthofen as a sign of respect by his fellow aces.

Though used infrequently and privately during the War, the first written account of the maneuver shown publicly is by the RAF in 1935. The United States first began the tradition in 1938 during the funeral for Major General Oscar Westover with over 50 aircraft and one blank file.

During World War II, the fly-by evolved into a ceremonial tradition as part of RAF programs, which included the evolution of the "pull-up".

The fly-by, or -'Missing Man formation'- in the United States was still seldom used until the Second Indochina War, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia when the public at large caught its first glimpse.

The USAF Thunderbirds were the first military aerobatics unit to ever perform the maneuver. They flew it for the first time to honor the men and women who were then POWs in Vietnam. Aerial demonstration squadrons have now adopted the formation and perform it during ceremonial events such as National POW-MIA Recognition Day, Memorial Day, during funerals and at internment of repatriated remains of Prisoners of War and Missing in Action.



Storytelling Santa:

They arrived in droves. 117 children in total, to be exact – the largest crowd the club has witnessed in the six years of carrying out the event. At one point many were wondering, “If any more arrive, where are we going to fit them all?”

The littlest ones were carried about in cuddling arms, while bigger ones walked in tandem holding the hand of a parent and in the other perhaps a blanket to sit on.

Once again ‘Storytelling Santa’ did an outstanding job in bringing good cheer to the community of Seal Beach while reading aloud various Christmas stories to the very well attended congregation.

I’d like to thank my beautiful family of Ann, R.J. and Andrew who organized and hosted this year’s event, held Monday the 11th of December, along with fellow Lions in my absence.

Many praises to Lions Bruce Gormley, Carol Linehan, Eddie Maginnis, Herb Groom and Renee Schulte for generously volunteering their time in helping set up and break down the room, serving cookies and orange drink, and handing out candy canes to all the children who sat for a Polaroid photo opportunity with Saint Nicholas himself and then taking home the image as a keepsake.

Special kudos to Lion Bill Howes and the folks at the Sony Pictures property department for use of the lovely chair Santa sits in and too McDonalds and Pavilions for donating the orange drink and cookies.

Respectfully submitted,
Biff Horvatin / hg



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On Saturday, December 16th, the Seal Beach Lions put on the annual breakfast with Santa at the Mary Wilson Library. We served delicious pancakes, sausage, bananas, oranges, milk, orange juice and coffee to our community - free of charge. Santa was there for the children to get their picture taken with. (Thanks Santa!)

Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Special thanks to our many Lion volunteers that made this event possible, including Herb, Dave, Alan, Dewey, Eddie, Bruce, Mike, George L, Dan, Bill V, Geri, Barbara, Nancy, President Bill, some Leos and anyone else that contributed in any way.

A special thank you to Javatini's for helping out with coffee and Lion Kathleen from the Recreation Department for all her work.

From our donation jar, we will be giving the City of Hope \$86 and Sight First Campaign \$85.

Thanks again for all of your help,
Lion Robin Alexander, chairperson





Seal Beach Lions Holiday Christmas Party:

The Holiday Christmas Party was attended by 46 Lions, spouses and friends. I sure had a good time at Spaghettini Restaurant where we had the event Saturday Night, December 16th.

The room looked exceptionally festive with the beautiful centerpieces that Lion Jackie M. made. The food and service were excellent. Buzz finally made an appearance in a Steelers Uniform. Pres Bill was overwhelmed with gratitude to get Buzz back for the holidays.

We played some Games. The game 'Guess How Many Candy Canes' was won by Carol Wolf (Lion Stan's wife) with a guess

of 235. There were actually 238 different size Candy Canes in the Basket. The Cross Word Puzzle with 31 words/sentences was voted still better than the Annual Song and the Truths went over quite well. Instead of having one winner we had an honest raffle where everyone received a gift certificate from the different merchants in town.

Some truths that more than one Lion stood up for: I went to Parochial School, I dye my hair and I'm a good cook and like it.

No body could believe that Lion Diane K was shy in large crowds, Lion Cathy B was a virgin till she was 21, Lion Eddie rode a school bus 60 miles one way to school, Jacqui H was held at gun point for over 8 hours, that Lion Carol was accused of being in a knife fight in 8th grade, Lion Mark had a growth removed from his head when he was young, Lion Dewey was hit by a cab as a youngster, Lion Jackie M did synchronized swimming in high school and the list goes on.

For those Lions who were not able to make it this year please try and plan to join us next year. This is an event where we sit back and relax and have someone else wait on us and just enjoy a festive dress up evening out.

Lion Carol Linehan, Chairperson