

NORTHSIDE LION



December 2023/January 2024

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Lion Frank Stowers



It is hard to believe that Thanksgiving has come and gone and that Christmas is fast approaching. I hope that all enjoyed their time with family and friends as you celebrated what you are thankful for. And as a Lion, we have much to be thankful for as an organization that provides numerous helping hands. As we celebrate the Christmas season, my prayer is that we each find a way to be a hand reaching out to help someone else (and not just during the Christmas season).

Through the work of many of the members of the club, our annual *Roar with Laughter* held on October 21 was a great success, raising approximately \$9,000. Thank you Lion Mark Singh for your continued effort, management and participation, with *The Silent Heckler*, to make this event a continual success year after year. Funds raised help us support a number of great causes.

The Midland Northside Lions Club also conducted the annual Lions Peace Poster contest, resulting in winners from each of the five campuses participating this year: Goddard, Bowie, Trinity, Bynum, and St. Ann's. Lion Don Eckerty once again coordinated this event for the Club. The winning posters have been sent to the District level in Sweetwater to be considered at the District contest prior to hopefully proceeding to the Texas state competition.

(Continued on page 2)



DECEMBER & JANUARY PROGRAM SCHEDULE

12/14 Lion Don Eckerty: Africa safari
12/14 6:30 p.m. Christmas Dinner
1/11 Melissa Milan, West Texas FC
1/25 Business meeting

ROAR WITH LAUGHTER



Lion Dr. Rob McGuire, Dana Ritter and Phil Newell were three of the performers.

Midland Northside Lions Club held its 20th annual *Roar with Laughter* hilarity revue comedy/variety fundraiser on Saturday, October 21 at the Hispanic Cultural Center. There were ten acts, each about 10 minutes long: comedy presentation by Lion Mark Singh and *The Silent Heckler*; jokes and juggling by Phil Newell; funny songs by Lion Dr. Rob McGuire; standup comedy by Chris Crawford; dances by the Hispanic Cultural Center dancers; comedy with music by Dana Ritter; jokes by Lion Doug Lunsford; comedy magic by Bronson Chadwick; standup comedy by David Hurta; and songs by John Wojtkun, Jr. Lion Aaron Battles was the emcee.

Lion Mark included in his act a tribute to long-time performer/raconteur PID Marshall Cooper from Lubbock, who is no longer able to participate.

There were 22 door prizes awarded and delicious refreshments from Texas Roadhouse and drinks sponsored by Lion John Wojtkun. As usual, John Wojtkun, Jr. provided the sound system. About 110 people attended and we raised \$8,836.

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PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

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On the Lions International Youth Exchange program, the Club has already accepted a student from Mongolia to participate in the program and inquiries have been made from other nations as well. Additionally, Midland Northside approved sponsoring up to 1½ students for the 2024 exchange program. We were hopeful that the West Side Lions Club would join in sponsoring 1½ students as well, but they decided to sponsor only one.

Thursday, December 14th, Lion Don Eckerty will be presenting pictures of his recent African safari in our morning meeting. That evening, please remember our Christmas dinner at 6:30 for members, spouses, and invited guests. Location for the dinner is **Fuoco Italian Cuisine**, at 4610 N. Garfield St., Midland, TX. Lion Aaron Battles is coordinating the dinner for us so please reach out to him if you have not done so for your “reservation”. We hope you and yours will be able to join us.

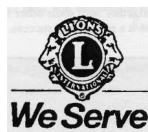
In closing, please enjoy this season of celebrating the Christmas season with family and friends and find a way to offer a helping hand to someone in need.

EDITOR’S NOTE

Thanks to members, spouses, friends, sponsors and supporters for making our 20th annual Roar with Laughter fundraiser a success. Specials thanks to our performers, all of whom did a great job. Lion Doug Lunsford made his debut in our program and Dana Ritter did a solo act even after her performing partner Patsy Allen could not attend.

We have started working on the youth exchange program. Since West Side Lions Club has decided to sponsor only one student, we will also be sponsoring one. We plan to host three girls from June 29 to July 20 in Midland.

Merry Christmas, happy holidays, and a very happy, prosperous and successful 2024!.



PROGRAM

December
January

CHAIRS

Don Eckerty
Mark Singh

GOVERNOR’S MESSAGE

District 2-A1 Governor Lion Chris Maxwell



Greetings to all our Lions. May the blessings of Christmas bring you and your loved ones health and happiness throughout the year. Special thoughts go to friends who are going through difficult times; may the Lord bless you and give you strength and peace.

Looks as though the clubs in our district have been very busy in November and December with service projects. Service projects included food drives, vision screenings, breakfast with Santa, parades, clothing drives and diabetes fairs to name a few. My thanks to you and your club for the service that you are doing in your community. Please make sure that your project gets reported to LCI. Plus, it is okay and worthy to pat yourself on the back and post something about your project in your social and local media. Let everyone know what Lions are doing.

I am very proud to announce the district winners of the **Peace Poster contest**. This year we had six posters entered into the contest. Five posters from schools in Midland and these were all sponsored by the Midland Northside Lions Club. We had one poster from Sweetwater and sponsored by the Sweetwater Lions Club. All were masterpieces and were very hard to judge. These talented children deserve praise for their artwork. Sophie Douget wins first place from Midland Trinity, second place goes to Lyda Babb from Saint Ann’s - Midland, and third place goes to Sophia Bruckman from Sweetwater Middle School. This is a great project for all Lions clubs to be involved in. The kit cost is \$11.99 and if you want to participate next year, the new Peace Poster contest kits go on sale January 15th.

Our **District 2-A1 Mid-Winter Conference** will be in San Angelo this year on January 12th and 13th. The meeting host will be the San Angelo Downtown Lions Club. Traditional game night on Friday evening and then general meeting on Saturday. Our keynote speaker will be PCC Tom Blase. Lion Tom is currently the Director of the Texas Lions Camp and one of our own from District 2-A1. Spending many years in Midland and now Junction. This should be a great meeting and I really hope that you can attend. Watch for the registration form to follow.

In closing may the Spirit of Christmas inspire us all to lead a better life and help others in need. We hope that the New Year will lead us to better times, when once again, we can all do what Lions do and help others in need. WE SERVE!

CLUB NEWS

The meeting on October 12 concentrated on making final plans for our *Roar with Laughter* fundraiser. Members were reminded about the District cabinet meeting in Midland on Saturday, October 14 (and six members showed up). The club agreed to be a sponsor for the district newsletter for \$50.



On October 26, Courtney Smith and Lyndsey White from Midland ISD did a presentation on the upcoming \$1.4 billion bond election. They said that among many other things, it would fund new Midland and Legacy High Schools and a new elementary school. The high schools would include grade 9. Midland Freshman and Legacy High School buildings would be converted to two more middle schools. The club also reviewed *Roar with Laughter* and declared it a success, even though attendance and funds raised were down a little from last year. Lion Don gave a schedule for Peace Poster presentation ceremonies at five schools.



David Sanchez, shown with Program Chairman Lion Dan Corrales, was our speaker on November 9. David is the Superintendent of city parks. He has a staff of 5 supervisors and 25 workers who maintain all the city parks in Midland. The club agreed to sponsor one student on the Lions International Youth Exchange program for next summer and possibly jointly sponsor another with the West Side Lions Club if they wish to do so.

NORTHSIDE SCRAPBOOK



Peace Poster Chairman Lion Don Eckerty, Art teacher Amanda Lunson and Lion John Wojtkun posed with winners Sophie Douget (first), Katie Li (second) and Sophia Johnson (third) on November 7 at the Trinity School competition of the 35th Lions International Peace Poster contest. The theme was “Dare to Dream.” The top place winners at Goddard were Lily Quiroz, Xavian Reyna, and Rhett Gevecker; at St. Ann’s School they were Lyda Babb, Juliana Kelly and James Bradford; at Bowie Fine Arts, Zena Patel and Amaya Camacho; and at Bynum School, Elijah Barr, Hector Galindo and Hayden Hall. The winners were awarded Barnes & Noble gift certificates, \$50 for first, \$30 for second, and \$20 for third. The first place winning posters went on to the District 2-A1 contest..

SMILE

A little boy who had spent a week at a dude ranch excitedly told his mother: “Mom, I even saw a man who makes horses.” “Are you sure?” asked his mother. “Yes,” the boy replied, “He had a horse nearly finished when I was there, and he was just nailing on the feet.”

John: “Did you hear what happened to the scientist who mixed poison ivy and a four-leaf clover?”
 Jim: “No, what happened?”
 John: “He ended up with a rash of good luck.”

Mother to fussy son: “Twenty years from now you’ll be telling some girl what a great cook your mother was ... now eat up your dinner.”

If there had been three wise women who went to Bethlehem, they would have asked for directions, arrived on time, helped to deliver the baby, cleaned the stable, prepared some meals, and brought some practical gifts.

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President	Frank Stowers
Vice President	Dan Corrales
Secretary	Don Eckerty
Treasurer	John Wojtkun
Immediate Past President	Bill Kelton
Membership	Dr. Brian Flowers
Attendance	Frank Stowers
<i>WE SERVE Breakfast</i>	Mark Singh
	Aaron Battles
Chaplain	Bill Kelton
Eyeglass	Dr. Robert McGuire
Lions Camp	Bill Kelton
Newsletter	Mark Singh
Pancake Breakfast	Tom Ochs
Peace Poster Contest	Don Eckerty
Public Relations	Dan Corrales
<i>Roar with Laughter</i>	Mark Singh
Scholarship	John Wojtkun
Social Media	Liz Lazcano
Website	Mike Seerey
Youth Exchange	Frank Stowers

WORDS OF WIT AND WISDOM

Busy is just a euphemism for being so focused on what you don't have that you never notice what you do.

Jodi Picoult

Borrow trouble for yourself if that's your nature, but don't lend it to your neighbors.

Rudyard Kipling

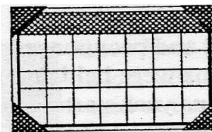
Civilization advances by extending the number of important operations which we can perform without thinking of them.

Alfred North Whitehead

Life is short and we never have enough time for gladdening the hearts of those who travel the way with us. Oh, be swift to love! Make haste to be kind.

Henri Frederic Amiel

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Thursday, December 14, 6:30 p.m.
Northside Lions Club Christmas dinner
Fuoco Italian Cuisine restaurant

Saturday, January 13, 2024
District Mid-winter conference
San Angelo

Saturday, April 27, 7 to 10 a.m.
31st annual *WE SERVE Breakfast*
Midland Park Mall food court

Saturday, October 19, 7:30 p.m.
21st Annual Roar with Laughter hilarity revue
Hispanic Cultural Center



Merry Christmas! Happy Holidays!

NORTHSIDE LION is published bi-monthly by the Midland Northside Lions Club, P. O. Box 4122, Midland, TX 79704. The editor and producer is Lion Mark Singh (phone 432-694-0147, email mmsingh@suddenlink.net). **The club's website is: www.midlandnorthsidelions.org. We are also on Facebook.**

Midland Northside Lions Club meets on the second and fourth (except in June, November and December) Thursdays of the month at 7:00 a.m. **in the Rotary Community Room in the Cowden Dining Hall at Midland College, 3600 N. Garfield, Midland, TX 79705.**