



Newsletter

OF THE

SAN ANTONIO FOUNDER LIONS CLUB
The Oldest Lions Club in the World



Volume 91, No. 7 San Antonio, Texas December 18, 2014

**LIONS LUNCHEON MEETING - First and Third Wednesdays
Petroleum Club—8620 N. New Braunfels—Suite 700 - 11:45 a.m.**



January 7, 2015

Bill Land

**Play by Play Announcer
for the Spurs**

“The San Antonio Spurs”

Anyone that follows the San Antonio Spurs basketball team will certainly know of and recognize Bill Land. He and Sean Elliott are the television announcing team that broadcast the games. Bill is now in his 12th year as the primary play by play announcer for the Spurs on Fox Sports Southwest. Bill graduated from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, a college about 20 miles across the Mississippi River and Northeast of St. Louis, Missouri. Not surprising, his degree is in mass communications. He began his career as sport director at stations in Wisconsin and Kansas before becoming a play by play announcer for 16 sports, including football, baseball, softball, soccer, women’s basketball, swimming and diving, and even synchronized trampoline. Can you imagine all the dead air-time he has had to fill during those events? In addition he has done radio play by play for several colleges, including Wichita State, Oral Roberts, and Tulsa University. He and his wife, Gayle, are the proud parents of two sons, Taylor and Cooper, both of whom play professional basketball in Australia. Bill is a life-long Chicago Cubs baseball fan and is desperately hoping they make it to the World Series in his lifetime.

Chairman Arthur Browne, Jr.
Chaplain of the Day Tammy Swann
Pledge of Allegiance Jan Wolf
Introduction of Guest Speaker George Harvey
Introduction of Guests Irene Guzman
Greeter at the Front Door Jan Wolf

January 21 2015

Joe Libby

Speaker and Entertainer

**“Positive Thinking -
It Ain’t Brain Surgery”**



Joe Libby is a speaker, entertainer, author, and solutions provider in the San Antonio area. For nearly three decades, his unique programs of ventriloquism, magic, audience participation, and comedy have made corporate, association, and family events exciting, fun, and unforgettable. His clients include USAA, Catholic Life Insurance, Walmart, and the University of the Incarnate Word. Joe’s story is one of overcoming a life-threatening situation and what he learned about living each day with a positive attitude. He believes part of his job is to provide information and guidance that will help make each event a huge success. Joe is the founder of *Fund Raising Solutions*, which helps schools, churches, and nonprofit organizations raise money with no-risk, no-hassle solutions. He is also a well-known family entertainer and has just published his first book *The Secrets to Planning Your Fun, Memorable, and Stress-Free Birthday Party!*, which is available at Amazon and many other bookstores.

Chairman Arthur Browne
Chaplain of the Day Tammy Swann
Pledge of Allegiance Pat Guerra
Introduction of Guest Speaker David Splittek
Introduction of Guests Maeve Reddin
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Meeting Minutes of December 3, 2014

Lion President Arthur Browne Jr. welcomed everyone to the meeting at 11:45 .m. Past District Governor Lion Rod Chisholm then led the group in song, at first for “God Bless America” and then “The Eyes of Texas”. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Lion Dean Neugent. Lion Chaplain Tammy Swann offered the Prayer of the Day and asked us to remember those Lions who are ill or have health issues. Our guests of the day were announced by Lion Dick Porter: Tracy Wiggins, guest of Lion Tammy; Jan Fogg, guest of Lion Mary Jane Chisholm; Sandra Grove, guest of Lion Irene Guzman; and the Guellero Family, Albert, Ahulibamo, and daughter Imaloi, who is our 2014 Peace Poster Winner. Welcome, and please return again.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome – Lion President Arthur Browne Jr. welcomed all to our 99th Club Anniversary Year! We are the oldest Lions Club in the world! Lion President Arthur reminded us of the phone bank at KLRN on Monday December 8th, 6-8:30 p.m. Dinner will be provided for the volunteers. All present were also reminded of the upcoming delivery dates for the annual Poinsettia project.

Our Founder Christmas Gala will be Tuesday December 16th, here at the Petroleum Club. Lastly, our Club will deliver toys for the Elf Louise project on Monday December 22nd.

Lion May Nell Neugent was called to the podium to be recognized for her work chairing the 2014 Peace Poster Contest. This year’s theme was “Peace, Love, and Understanding”. She was given a Certificate of Appreciation. We all know that this is a time-consuming project that required numerous visits to local schools and countless phone calls. Lion May Nell has helped this important project grow

over the past few years! Thank you so much.

Lion May Nell spoke about our winner Imaloi Guellero’s attractive poster that has been sent on to the District level to continue the competition. Our Club presented her with a \$100 check for her work and a Certificate of Appreciation.



THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Immediate Past District Governor and Founder Club Past President Lion Rod Chisholm described December 3, 1909, in our country’s history. It seems that one Merkle Landis, a Treasurer of the Pennsylvania Carlisle County Bank, wanted to boost bank deposits over the year 1908. He began encouraging customers to start saving funds to improve the amounts of money they would have in 1909 to help out at Christmas for those in need. Thus was born the first “Christmas Club” for the 1909 Holiday period. This was a successful activity and it did increase the bank’s deposits. It was also good public relations for the bank and the community! Christmas Club accounts are still popular in our country today.

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER

Founder Club Lion Marie Senter introduced our Speaker, Asten Jones, Mental Health Specialist at Haven for Hope. Ms. Jones' topic was "The Rest of My Story – My Life As It Was and As It Is". Asten was born in San Antonio and was very open about having had a problem childhood. She was sent to live with her grandparents at age 12. After high school, she joined the military and then went to college to study Social Work. Unfortunately drugs and alcohol caused her to drop out of school. She and her mother began hitch hiking around the country. An unexpected pregnancy and the birth of a son caused her to stay clean and sober for four years. Her fiancé adopted her son to keep him out of foster care. After other problems, Asten re-contacted a case worker and asked for help. She enrolled into rehab for the last time and was introduced to the wellness clinic on campus at Haven for Hope. She received a combination of care for both her mental illness and addiction simultaneously. She reports that it was the greatest thing to ever happen to her. Today she has a full and productive life and is allowed to work on the campus that saved her life. She assists people who, like her, who are dually diagnosed.

Asten uses her story to convey to people that there is life after abuse, degradation, and hopelessness. Asten works

with two case managers on Prospect Courtyard to assist over 700 clients. She is a Peer Support Specialist, someone who has lived the life, walked the walk, and won the game of life. Her only regret is the she could not reach her Mother who lived homeless the last three years of her life, fully addicted to heroin.

Asten Jones shared the details of her problems and life style with us and the difficulties in accepting help from others to recover. She also shared her passion for helping others recover. She told us of her Grandmother's efforts to teach her Opera and even agreed to share a song with us before she ended her presentation. She has a lovely voice.

We felt honored to have visit with us! Lion President Arthur thanked Asten Jones for her time and presentation and gave her our Gift of a Texas Limestone paperweight.

Lion President Arthur conducted the Tail Twister Drawing. There was no winner today.

Adjournment - The group joined hands and we sang our closing song "Til We Meet Again".

- Respectfully submitted by Lion Maeve Reddin



**Founder Lions . . . Thank you. Thank you.
I thank each of you for the generous Christmas
Bonus. I appreciate you and am grateful for your
support, prayers, and love this past year, especially
the past two months. I am overwhelmed.**

- Judy Hall

Thank you Founder Lions

December 18, 2014

Dear Mr. Arthur Browne,

Sandra and I would like to extend our profound appreciation to the Lions Club for their timely gift of clear vision to a needy senior couple. We find ourselves in uncomfortable and unfamiliar territory having to rely on other's charity (love) for our necessities. The fact that your service club provides such charity is a wondrous testament to your dedication to your vision and mission guidelines. In this day and age, it is far too easy to become jaded; but your Club is a shiny beacon of hope demonstrably demonstrating that there is still good out there combating the prevalent negatives we all face daily. Thank you for caring.

As a result of your gift and your utilization of such a fine optometry institution, my wife received early detection of future complication issues affecting her sight. Because of financial restraints I had neglected my vision for eight years and apparently forgotten the wonderful sensation of clear crisp vision which was made evident the moment I peered through my new glasses; what a difference. You should be proud for giving the gift of sight.

We would be remiss if we did not thank the faculty and students of Eye Institute of the University of the Incarnate Word for their professionalism, dedication, and service. And again we thank the San Antonio Founder Lions Club for their humanitarianism.

Sincerely, James and Sandra Carson

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Fiesta Parades - 2015 – President and Fiesta Chair Lion Arthur Browne states that the Founder Lion Club Fiesta Parade Ticket Policy for 2015 will remain the same as in prior years. As in the past, members may sign up for tickets during the first meeting of January. Requests of 20 or fewer tickets will be sold on the first two rows ***if possible***. Requests of 21 or more will be sold on the first three rows ***if possible***. As was the policy last year, money must be turned in by February 15 or sooner. Those tickets not paid for by February 15, will be released and sold to the public. The reasons for this procedure is:

- Members that turn in unsold tickets in March or April deprive the Club Office of selling tickets to the public.
- Calls come in from the public in January (and earlier) for tickets and they are told that we are sold out.
- When unsold tickets are returned by members in March or April, the Club Office must scramble to sell the unsold tickets.
- It is critical that the Club operate as efficiently as possible to obtain the maximum income potential possible since the Club has few income avenues.
- Since some members have not adhered to the policy in the past, tickets will not be dispensed until funds are received.



Pictured—Row 1—KLRN Chair Lion Dave Splitek, Arnold Flather, Marty Ross, Nancy Richter, Rod Chisholm, Rick Newburg, Arthur Browne, Patty Browne, Tammy Swann, Tracy Wiggins, and Brad Swann. Thank you, Founder Lions, for volunteering at KLRN on December 8, 2014. We understand there was a bit of competition as to the Founder Lion that raised the most during this pledge drive. You might ask Lion Tammy and Rod about this.

Thank you to all Founder Lions that made phone calls and visited individuals in person to sell



poinsettias this year. Thank you also to the volunteers that delivered poinsettias. Special thanks to Lions Marty Ross and Paula Blacklock, 2014 Poinsettia Co-chairs. 2014 delivery volunteers included: Dave Splitek, Gary Morrison, Brenda Smith, Mary Thomas, May Nell Neugent, Arthur and Patty Browne, Daniel Espinosa, Mary Jane and Rod Chisholm, Robbie Parman, Pat Davis, George Harvey, Dick and Bobbye Porter, Maeve Reddin, Nancy Richter, Marie Senter, and Warren Weir. And, a special thanks to Lion George Harvey and Dave Splitek for volunteering on a special delivery date to deliver poinsettias to the local churches. You are all appreciated.

Prayers and hugs for all Lions and loved ones dealing with health issues.
You have been missed and we hope to see you in 2015.
May 2015 bring health and happiness to all.

I've seen better days, but I've seen worse.
I don't have everything that I want, but I do have all I need.
I woke up with some aches and pains, but I woke up.
My life may not be perfect, but I am blessed.

Lessons Learned in Life



Merry
Christmas
to all . . .

ELF LOUISE PROJECT

For the fourth consecutive year, the Founder Lions Club has participated in the Elf Louise Christmas Project. Santa Rod Chisholm with Elves Anne Kelly, sister of Lion Rod from Washington D.C., Tammy, and Danielle Swann, and Sleigh Driver Brad Swann brought Christmas joy to some twelve families and thirty children they saw along the way. Thank you for your time and effort to brighten this Christmas for some of the children in San Antonio.

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM PRESIDENT ARTHUR . . .

The festive Petroleum Club was the venue for the December 16th Founder Lions Club Christmas Gala. Lion President Arthur welcomed the group and gave a special welcome to District Governor Sam and Vicky Pantusa, Immediate Past District Governor Lion Rod and Mary Jane, Past District Governor Lion Warren Weir and his guest Beverly, and Past District Governor T. J. and Juanita Tijerina, All family, spouses, and friends were thanked for attending as their presence made our event even merrier. Appreciation was expressed to Bobbye Porter for staging the beautifully decorated tables, and President Arthur thanked the Lee High Madrigal Chorus decked out in their Dickenson attire. Lion Tammy and her husband Brad were thanked for arranging for our gathering to be at the Petroleum Club. Lion Tammy then gave wonderful invocation. All present were then invited to enjoy our meal as the Madrigal Choir strolled through the room providing lovely holiday music.

Past President Lion Rod Chisholm presented us with a *This Day in History* Report and then began to give us his own version of the poem *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*, which included references to the Lions Den, Poinsettia selling, eyeglasses collection, and the Texas Lions Camp. Tables of guests then banded together to answer Christmas Trivia and the evening was concluded with greetings for a Merry Christmas and Healthy, Happy 2015 from President Arthur.



Top Left—Lion Dick Porter, Arthur Browne.

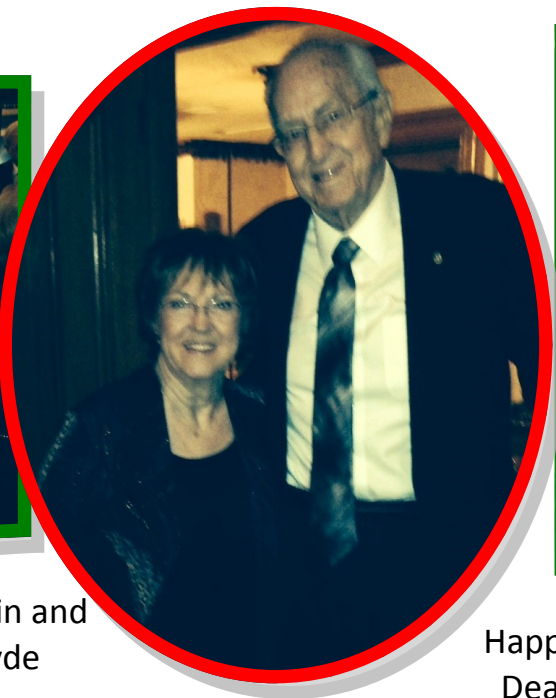
Top Right—Charles Curry, Mary Thomas, Bill and Dorothy Becker.

Left—George and Margaret Harvey, Tammy and Brad Swann, Tracy and Lieutenant Colonel Michael Wiggins

Season's Greetings



Maeve Reddin and Burma Hyde



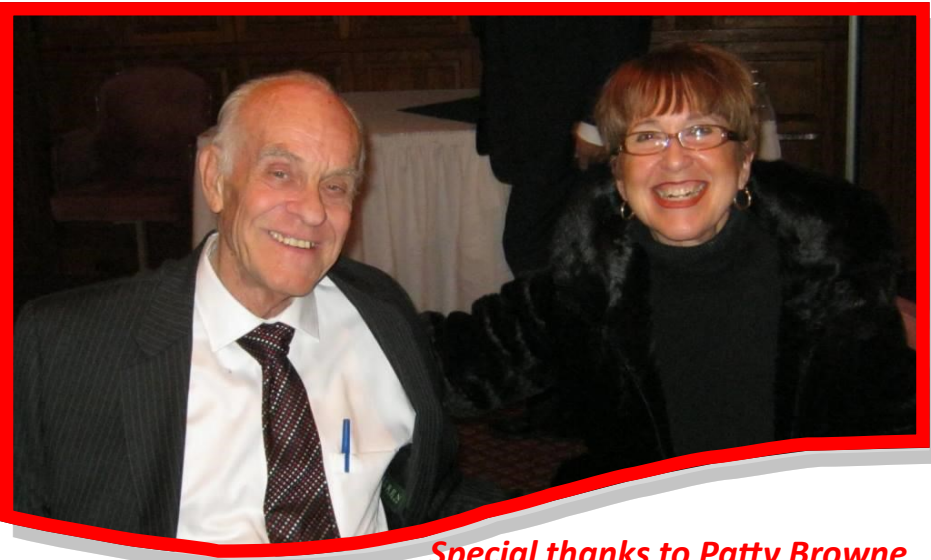
Happy Holidays from May Nell and Dean Neugent and Marie Senter



Patty Browne, Pamela Flather, Jackie Wynn, and Arnold Flather are all smiles as Arnold is home for the Holidays



Nancy Richter, Warren Weir and Beverly Pickett are in a festive mood



Special thanks to Patty Browne and Rick Newburg for taking photos of the evening.



Rod and Mary Jane Chisholm and to the right we find Dick and Bobby Porter



Wonder if Rick Newburg is thinking about someone special in Nigeria . . . Merry Christmas to you and Blessing.



Governor Sam blinks and 2014 is history.

Happy Birthday Founder Lions

Paula Blacklock - December 31

Brenda Smith—January 3

Jan Wolf - January 4

Jim Wheeler - January 4

Pat Guerra - January 29



San Antonio Founder Lions Club
P. O. Box 593008
San Antonio, Texas 78259

SAN ANTONIO FOUNDER LIONS CLUB

OFFICERS

Arthur Browne, Jr. President
May Nell Neugent Immediate Past President
David Splittek First Vice President
George Harvey Second Vice President
Gary Morrison Secretary
Mary Thomas Treasurer
Bill Becker Bingo Chair
Dick Porter Parliamentarian
Marty Ross Membership Chair
Gladys Vidal Lion Tamer
Rick Newburg Tail Twister
Tammy Swann Chaplain

PRESIDENT EMERITUS

Henry Simms

DIRECTORS

Andy Barbieri Paula Blacklock Rick Newburg
Robbie Parman Marty Ross Tammy Swann

ADVISORY DIRECTOR

Gary Morrison

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Judy Hall – Executive Director

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