

News from the Lion's Den

July 2016



Lion Robert Berry Inducted

Lion Robert Berry, who joined our Lions Club in March of this year, was inducted into the Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club by DGE Mark Roth. Prior to being administered the Lion's oath, Robert was informed of the history of Lions Clubs International, from its start in 1917, the challenge for Lions to take up and become "Knights of the Blind" by Helen Keller in 1925, and the start of Leader Dog Program in 1939. In 1949 the Texas Lions Camp was started for children affected during the polio epidemic of the time. The Lions Eye Bank of Texas was started in 1953 and now provides corneas to those in need on demand. During Sight First I and Sight First II campaigns, Lions Clubs International raised funds to eradicate River Blindness in third world countries. DGE Mark explained that Lions Club members learn leadership skills through our Club. Lion Robert then repeated the Lion's oath, and was presented his pin and certificate.

DGE Mark Roth Installs Officers

District 2-S2 Governor Elect Mark Roth, of the Heights Lions Club, installed the officers of the Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club for the 2016-2017

year. DGE Mark stressed how important our Club is in the area, and said that we are doing what Lions Clubs are supposed to do. Installed were:

Lion Tamer: Stedman Douglas

Tail Twister: Don Robinson

2nd Year Directors: Terry Alderman and Dorothy Casey

1st Year Directors: Becca Franco and Mazher Poonawalla

Membership Chairperson: Bud Casey

Vice President: Keith Blaise

Treasurer: Chuck Martin

Secretary: Sandy Martin

President: Paul Yackley

President Paul then read a long list of accomplishments that this Club has done in the past year. His goals for the next year is to continue to improve, and for this to be his last year as president for a while.



Builder Key Award

DGE Mark Roth presented Lion Chuck was a Builder Key Award for having sponsored 10 people into Lions Clubs. Congratulations Lion Chuck.

Aruba Presentation

Lions Chuck and Sandy gave a slide show presentation on their recent trip to Aruba. While expecting a lush tropical island with lots of beautiful tropical flowers and fresh fruits, what they really encountered was a small island that only grows cacti and prickly bushes. The southwest side of the island has white sandy beaches, shallow waters and no waves, while the opposite side is very rocky, with very strong waves and current. They described the different terrain of the island. One of the highlights of their visit was with the Aruba Lions Club, where they were warmly welcomed. The Aruba Lions Club was formed in 1947, and provides dental care for the elderly, as well as hospital beds, crutches, walkers and wheelchairs for those in need. One of their fundraisers is to build and sell tickets for a brand new house each year, with the lucky winner receiving the keys to the house.



Upcoming Events

There will NOT be a PSC meeting on July 6.

Saturday July 9, Anti- bullying Kick Ball Tournament at our fields. Please help at the Concession Stand.

Tues. July 12, 7PM, regular Lions Club meeting at the Lion's Den.

Tues. July 26, 7PM, regular Lions Club meeting.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy 91st Birthday to Lion Don Robinson on July 20

Happy Anniversary to Lions Karen and Robert Berry on July 4, and to Lions Bob and Merrell on the same day. May the fireworks help them celebrate!

Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club Achievements for the Lions Year 2015-2016

Collected approximately 7,900 used eyeglasses which were taken to the Conroe Noon Lions Club Eye Glass Recycling Center for distribution around the world.

Presented 1754 3rd Grade students with personal dictionaries in eleven elementary schools in the Cy-Fair School District.

Began KidSight Early Vision Screening with purchase of Plusoptix Vision Screener in Sept, and start of Kidsight Screening in Day Care Centers on Oct. 14, 2015. 1602 children have been screened, with 210 of those being referred for a complete eye examination. We did screenings at 46 different Day Care Centers and Preschools, plus 4 community screenings.

Christmas baskets and bags of fresh fruits and vegetables were given to 60 needy families in the Cy-Fair area, with 316 people being served from this project. We enlisted the assistance of Scout Troops within the area for this project.

We purchased Christmas gifts for 12 children in Harris County who would otherwise not have Christmas.

Continue to recycle cardboard, newspapers/magazines, tin and aluminum cans, plastics and clothing to keep our Earth healthy.

Using \$1000 from the District 2-S2 Emergency Relief Grant, we purchased needed items for Cypress Assistance Ministries for flooding victims, and delivered the items to CAM.

Held our 2nd Annual Children's Magic Show at the Berry Center, which was very successful.

Sponsored 24 children to Texas Lions Camp in 2015, invited the campers and their families to dinner to hear about their experiences. This year we had 32 children accepted to Texas Lions Camp, with 13 more on waiting lists or with incomplete applications.

Hosted 7 Texas Lions Camp Counselors for dinner and learned about their experiences at TLC.

Held our 16th Annual Biking for Sight Bike Ride in Montgomery, TX.

Assisted Prairie View A&M Lions Club with two vision screenings on their campus.

Sold live wreaths for Wreaths Across America at Ace Hardware. Lions members placed wreaths on the graves of soldiers.

Participated in Holiday in the Park in Jersey Village, but unfortunately were unable to do KidSight Vision Screening as we could not get the tent dark enough for the camera to work properly.

Attended Texas Lions Camp Work Day in April, with 4 Lions and 6 Venture Scout participants. We stained the Frontier Village front and painted the ceiling support poles.

Worked with 3 Lone Star College students on Community Service, with them assisting in Vision Screening and the Concession Stand. We introduced these students to what it means to be a Lion and the impact we have on our community.

Participated at the Strike Level (highest) for Texas Eye Bank Bowl-A-Thon, with 4 Lions members participating.

Gave scholarship to a 10 year old girl to participate in the Pre Teen American Miss National Pageant. She is one of our Type 1 Diabetic campers, and plans to speak about Type 1 Diabetes at the pageant.

Lions members assisted our own Lions Bud and Dorothy Casey in the deconstruction of their flooded office after the flooding this spring.

Presented scholarships to two students at Montgomery High School for use of their Athletic Complex for our Bike Ride.

Began the use of a Credit Card machine at the Concession Stand, which has increased sales as many people don't carry much cash now.

Purchased purple polo shirts for Club members to wear to meetings and projects, allowing the public to recognize us as the Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club.

Purchased yellow polo shirts for Club members who assist with the KidSight Vision Screening to look professional.

Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club was awarded the only highest Centennial Service Award for 2014-2015 in the District.

Received a Partner Award from the Soaring Eagle Scout District for our continued partnership with Scout troops in the area.

Received 100% Award for continuing contribution to the Texas Lions Camp. We have made our 100% contributions each year for the past 67 years.

Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club, and Lions Chuck and Sandy, were presented with a special plaque for outstanding dedication and service for the KidSight Vision Screening Program during the District Convention.

Purchased a table and filled it for the Bob Dowden Dinner in Oct.

Purchased a table and had members attend the Leader Dog Dinner this spring.

Began the Lion's year last July with 23 members, now up to 30 members.

63 eye examinations and eyeglasses purchased for needy children in the Cy-Fair School District.

\$1700 donated to Scouting Organizations.

We are a mighty Club and a great presence in our Community. Thanks to all of you for all you do.