

News from the Lion's Den

October 2016



New Vision Screeners

Congratulations to Bob Rugur, Merrell Greene and Julie Blaise for completing the required state training to be Certified Vision Screeners in the Day Care and Pre Schools!! Great work!! Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club now as 6 certified vision screeners, keeping our Plusoptix Vision Screening Camera very busy.



Shop Till You Drop

Houston Cy-Fair Lions did KidSight Vision Screening at the Cy-Fair Women's Association's Shop Till You Drop event at the Berry Center. We screened 135 people, with 116 of those being children. Twelve children were referred for a complete eye examination. Thanks to Lions Kim, Mazher and Keith who approached

families with children to invite them to have the free Vision Screening. Lions Merrell and Bob and granddaughter Esmerelda were invaluable to our team. We were given a supply closet as our darkened screening room, and it worked out perfectly.



Children's Magic Show

Our 3rd Annual Children's Magic Show took place at the Berry Center Theater. We had over 160 in attendance. Magician C J Johnson kept the children and adults entertained with his many magic feats. The kids especially loved being called on the state to assist in the magic.





Lions Sandy, Chuck, Dorothy, Bud and Paul greeted people at the door and collected tickets for the Magic Show.



Texas Lions Camp Campers and Families

We invited the Handicapped TLC Campers and their families to our first meeting this month. We had 7 of the 13 campers present. Each camper gave a brief talk about their TLC experience, and parents reported on their experience with their child at Camp for a week.





Our handicapped campers and families.

We had a full house for our Diabetic campers and families. We had 15 out of the 27 sponsored Diabetic Campers and their families attend our dinner. We met some new faces, and said good bye to a few who aged out of TLC. Parents and kids were pleased and loved the experience of Camp. These two camper meetings are some of the highlights of our year for us Lions. Thanks to everyone who came and shared their experiences and thoughts with us.



Below are some letters I have received from Campers who were unable to attend our dinners, usually do to participation by the Camper in various school events and sports.

Dear Lions Club Members...

I am sorry I am not able to attend the dinner in person but I did want to express my sincere gratitude to each of you for sponsoring me to

attend the Lions Camp for the past two years. It is nice to have a place to go that everyone understands the day to day struggles those of us with Type 1 diabetes face. Camp is not only fun but also a place to learn more about diabetes and the care we need each day. My favorite thing about camp this year was the ropes. I also won the certificate for best in workshop. I really am sad this is the last year I can attend, I will turn 16 in October. I am truly going to miss it next year.

Sincerely...
Abbie Dees

Edwin: "I had fun making new friends. The staff members were all really nice, kind people. They were there for everything any of us unit in 5 needed anything. I learned that novolog is fast acting compare to lantus which slow acting insulin that I inject twice a day. I'm a pen user and seen other kids use different methods of injecting their insulin was very new to me. I had so much fun being at the pool every single day. I also enjoyed riding the horse named Lefty. Camping out was also very awesome. I cant wait to be there next summer if everything works out. Thanks to everyone in my family I had a different, awesome, mind opening summer. I also want to thank you, for sponsoring me.



Edwin on Lefty

From Jordan: When I first heard that I would be able to go to a session of Texas Lions Camp this summer, I was immediately excited. Before this session I had only gone once, and I really enjoyed myself, so I was definitely ready to go back. But I have to say, I had a lot more fun the second time around. I wasn't as shy as I was the first time, I let loose and let myself enjoy every moment I had there. I met a lot of amazing people there. Including Dr. Ponder, and my counselors Aubrey, Kat, Claire, and Elsa; also the med staff for my wing Shelby and Tina. And I will never forget my bunk mates: Jaden, Camdyn, Danielle, Claire, Hannah, Allie, Meredith, Sarah, AK, Katherine, and Kresel. I loved each and everyone one of them and we all easily got along. I actually still talk to the majority of them now. We created a group chat to keep in touch with each other. From hanging out in the pool to staying up late at the camp out watching stars shoot across the sky, I always had a great time. We were all sad to leave. I remember on the last day we squeezed in together on two beds and just talked about anything and everything. One of the most fun times I had in a while.

I would like to thank the people who sponsored me for both of my trips to camp (even though the first thank you is probably outdated). You sponsoring me opened me to new opportunities to meet new people and try new things. You opened me to a place that will always hold some of my favorite memories. This would have never happened without the help of my sponsors and I am very grateful for that.

From Mom (Emeka): Ironically, Jordan had to choose between Lions Camp and volleyball tryouts this summer. She chose camp without a second thought. I received a call the day before I picked her up in Kerrville that she would receive a chance to

try out for the team. I apologize profusely for us not showing up personally tonight, because Jordan made the team and has a volleyball game tonight.

When I drop off Jordan anywhere, I usually have a little anxiety. I usually worry about blood sugar highs, lows, food choices and anything else that could possibly go wrong. I trusted the doctors and educators at the Lions Camp with my daughter's health and a little bit of freedom. I knew she would have the freedom to eat a little more and express her feelings among her real peers. It was great time for me to release the stress and get much needed rest.

The camp focuses on the children but the break I received as a caregiver is priceless. I cannot thank you all enough for the generous gift of sponsoring my child.



Emeka and Jordan

Upcoming Events

BOB DOWDEN DINNER

Saturday, October 1, 2016
The Grand Palace
314A Pruitt Road
Spring, Texas 77380
45 North and the Toll Road
Tickets: \$25.00

Doors open at 4:00pm - Dinner served at 5:30pm. This is a big fundraiser for the Texas Lions Camp. We have reserved a table for 10, so if you would like to attend, please let Lion Sandy know at 281-550-2798.

Sunday Oct. 2, 2016, **Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club Biking for Sight Annual Bike Ride**, starts at Montgomery High School Athletic Complex in Montgomery, TX. Workers need to be there by 6:30AM. We will need people to work registration tables, to place signs, to drive around the course and pick up stranded riders, to move supplies from rest stop to rest stop, etc. This is a full Club project and everyone is to help. Workers need to be at the Montgomery Athletic Complex no later than 6:30 AM. It is typically about 10 degrees cooler there, and there is a brisk breeze through the stadium, so bringing a light weight jacket for the morning may be called for. The weather looks to be perfect, cool in the morning, and sunny.

Saturday Oct. 8, 2016, Vision Screening at Cub Scout event at LDS Church, 10055 West Rd.

Tues. Oct. 11, 2016, 7 PM, regular Lions Club meeting. Our guest speaker will be from Cypress Assistance Ministries.

Tues. Oct. 25, 2016, 7 PM, regular Lions Club meeting. Our guest speaker will be Sandi McKey, DC, from Pure Life Chiropractic.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to Lion Bud Casey Oct. 6, Lion Julie Blaies Oct. 10, and Lion Mazher Poonawala Oct. 23. Remember, birthdays are good. The more you have, the older you get.

Lion Jonathan Dies

The lion in the picture at the top of this newsletter for the past several years has died suddenly at the Houston Zoo. Jonathan was 18 years old, and has lived at the Zoo since 2006. He was extremely loved by the community and his keepers, and was extremely affectionate and loved people. It sounds as if Jonathan the lion would have made a great member of the Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club. He will be missed.



Jonathan the Lion at the Houston Zoo