

SOLAMOTION

Monthly Newsletter of the Special Olympics
Los Angeles Lions Club of Whittier
Volume 8, No. 3 Special October-November Edition 2017



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Lions,

November is here, Wow! How fast this year has gone and how many events has SOLA organized and executed during the year.

We had Basketball, Bowling, Softball, & Swimming where we served so many Special Olympics Athletes. These events are full energy and excitement.

Then we had our year-end Athletes Party for Swimming and Track and Field where we had over 70 athletes and their families participating. During this event, SOLA members served the meals while the athletes and coaches received their certificates.

This summer was full of excitement while SOLA members manned the SOLA Pizza Booth at the Concerts in the Park in Whittier, selling pizza and soft drinks and having a great time dancing to the tunes of different bands over the summer and raising some needed funds to continue doing the great work that we do for our Special Olympics athletes.

And then, we jumped into our largest fundraiser event, the Golf Tournament. Wow! This year was the best we have had all because of you, the members of SOLA. Give yourself a pat on the back because you deserve it! As you know, 100 percent of the money raised goes back into the community to support our athletes with uniforms and gear so needed to perform in the sports competitions.

We just finished our 2nd year participating in the Project Anthem/Lions bagging food to be distributed by Anthem and this year we bagged 10,000 bags. SOLA members, you are amazing! Other events that SOLA members have participated: Tip A Cop, Wake Up Whittier, and visitations to other Lions Clubs.

As you see, SOLA Lions have been very busy and the year is not over yet. We have one large event coming up in December and it is the SOLA / SELA Christmas Party for the Special Olympics athletes and their families. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be present to have their picture taken with the athletes and SOLA members (elves) will be helping to feed approximately 200 athletes and their families as they receive Christmas gifts and dance the night away.

Thank you SOLA members for being who you are and for giving so much of yourselves to make SOLA a Special Olympics organization the best it can be.

Sincerely,

PDG Alberto Montes De Oca President 2017-2018



**our
DIAMOND
sponsor**

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Our SOLA Lions Club meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 5:30 p.m.

**Next Regular Meeting
November 15, 2017
Friendly Hills Country Club
8500 S. Villaverde Drive
Whittier, CA 90605**





The 3rd Annual SOLA Golf Tournament Fundraiser



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Thank you to all our wonderful sponsors, and to all the volunteers who worked very hard to raise an estimated \$17,000 profit for our athletes.

- Lion Marla Baker, Golf Tournament Chair

October 13, 2017 California Country Club, Whittier



SPECIAL OLYMPICS



Bowling



Competition



Special Olympics Bowlers strike **GOLD!**

SPECIAL OLYMPICS



October 21, 2017 Del Rio Lanes, Downey



Photography by Lions Penny Lopez and Ursula Bell



Spotlight on S. O. Athlete



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When you see Jill cheering on the Lakewood team at the next Tournament, stop by say "Hello". You'll make her day!

- submitted by Lion Ursula Bell with the help of Rosa & Dolores.



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11/10: Marla Baker 11/11: Linda Crowley 11/13: Susan Sones

Dec. 2
SATURDAY



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SOLA Lions again participated in the Lions International Project "Kids Against Hunger" along with Leos and Anthem CareMore workers on Saturday, November 4, 2017. Over 10,000 sealed bags filled with dry food ingredients were boxed for distribution to the hungry. - Pictures by PDGs Manny Sanchez & Alberto Montes De Oca



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| Rob Manning | California MD4 Council Chair |
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SOLA Lions Club Holiday Party

Wednesday - Dec. 13, 2017 - 6:00pm

Home of Wally & Marla Baker

1331 S. 7th Ave. Hacienda Hts.

No street parking - stack park in driveway

Cost: \$25 Includes Mediterranean Style Dinner,
beverages including wine too, dessert
per person and wonderful holiday fellowship.

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SPECIAL OLYMPICS



Bowling



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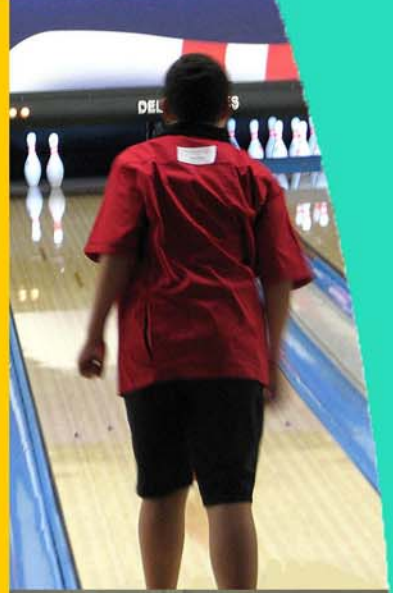


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October 21, 2017 Del Rio Lanes, Downey



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SOLA Lions Club's Board of Directors always have a full agenda of important decisions to make each month



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SOLAMOTION

Monthly Newsletter of the Special Olympics
Los Angeles Lions Club of Whittier
Volume 8, No. 2 September 25, 2017



Special
Olympics
Southern California



SOLA Softball Competition Made Evening News

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Lions,

Thank you for your commitment and participation to SOLA.

The power of "We" is what makes any organization become successful and you have demonstrated it very well. We just finished a fantastic Softball Competition and again thanks to all of you that made this event so much fun.

As "We" move forward, "We" have to remember how important our fundraising events are, and just around the corner we have one coming up, our Golf Tournament! This is our biggest fundraiser. This is the time we raise the funds needed to continue doing the work we do with the Special Olympics Athletes. But, like I said before, it is the power of "We" that makes who "We" are.

The Golf Committee under the leadership of our 1st VP, Lion Marla Baker, have been working very hard and have accomplished so much during the last few months, but now is where "We" come in. "We" need Golfers, "We" need Gifts, "We" need Volunteers, "We" need You! Friday, October 13th, will be the big day and we want to make this Golf Tournament to be the most successful one yet.

A special thanks to 1st VP Lion Marla Baker, Lion Jesse Lopez, Lion Amy Gaytan, Lion Dave Williamson, IPP Lion Susan Sones, and Lion Ron Copley for your continuous leadership.

Sincerely,

PDG Alberto Montes De Oca
SOLA President 2017-2018



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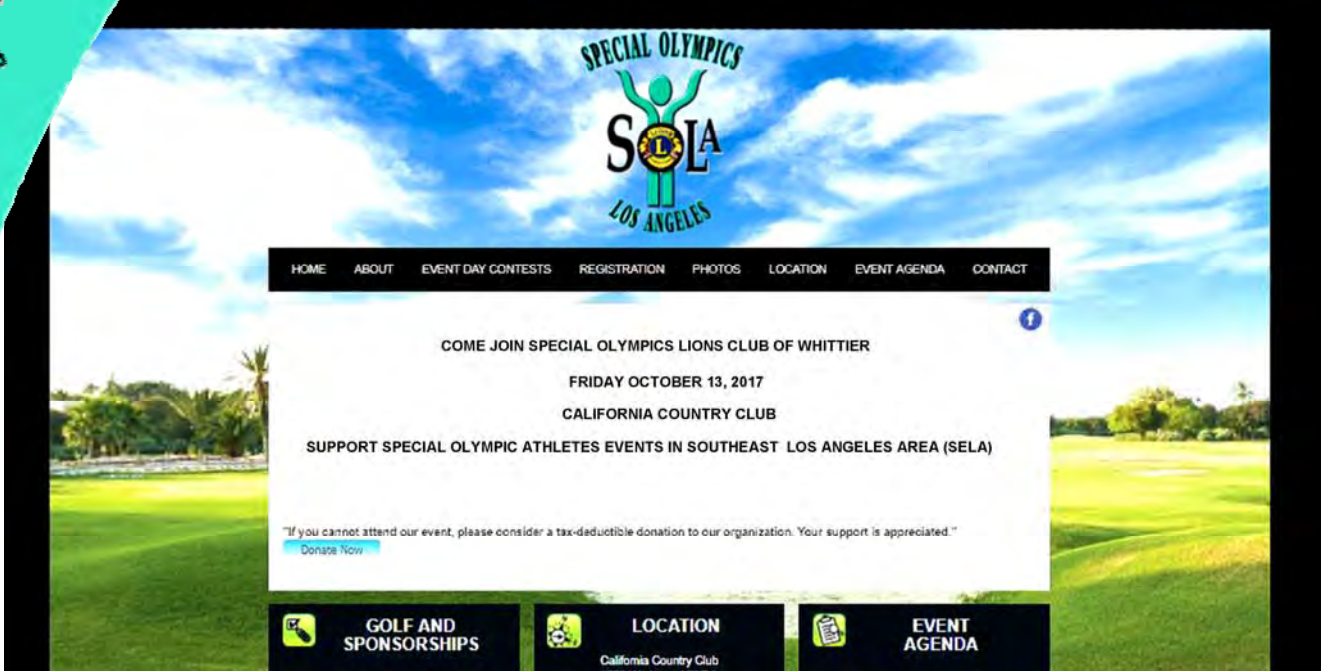
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October 13, 2017 11 am

Just days away - SOLA's Annual Golf Tournament



Thanks to Lion Jesse Lopez - We have a SOLAGOLF.COM website

PIH HEALTH
our **DIAMOND** sponsor

2017 SOLA Lions Club GOLF TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2017

**California Country Club
1509 Workman Mill Road
Whittier, CA 90601**

A fundraiser to support our local Special Olympics Athletes.

Looking forward to our BEST golf tournament yet!



SOLA Celebration Party for S.O. Whittier Teams



On August 25th our club hosted all of our Special Olympics Whittier Swimming & Athletics athletes at their season's end celebration party. All together we hosted about 70 athletes, family & friends, and SOLA members ... it was a huge success. We gathered at the Senior Center Uptown and enjoyed pizza, cake, and ice cream; then presented each athlete with a certificate and applauded all of their efforts and achievements during the spring season. You could definitely see how much they truly enjoyed themselves by all of the smiles on all of their faces, they were so very proud to be recognized in front of everyone. Thanks so much to SOLA and to all of our wonderful SOLA club members that were able to come out to mingle with the athletes while providing them with a great party.

On behalf of the athletes and their families and friends, thank you all from the bottom of our hearts for all you do for our athletes.
Coach Jill Wall

PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING DATES TO YOUR CALENDAR

Oct. 19
THURSDAY



TIP-A-COP - Local law enforcement will serve you to raise funds for local Special Olympics programs.
4:30-9:15 pm 15810 Whittier Blvd., Whittier



Oct. 21
SATURDAY



SELA-SOLA Whittier Area BOWLING COMPETITION
Del Rio Lanes - 9:00 am— 2:00 pm. 7502 Florence Ave., Downey.
SOLA Lions and all volunteers, please arrive by 8:00 am to help set up the bowling competition lanes and greet the athletes.

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SATURDAY



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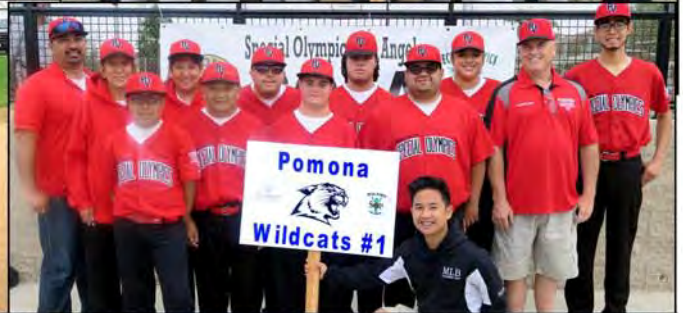


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SPECIAL OLYMPICS



SELA-SOLA Whittier Softball Competition



Rio Vista Park - Pico Rivera - Sept. 16, 2017





SOLA Spotlight on YMCA Stride Program

Do you know what it is?

I didn't, and learned about its existence when interviewing *Tony La Reaux* for our Summer **SOLAMATION** featured athlete article. I learned that Tony attends the "Stride Program" at the Uptown Y Family Center, 5 days-a-week from 8:30am to 2:30pm. Tony thinks of it as "going to work."



I called "our very own" Lion Penny to arrange a visit and was warmly welcomed by STRIDE's teachers and "consumers" (that's what program participants are called). Following is an Interview with Penny Lopez, Executive Director of Administrative Service of the YMCA of Greater Whittier. She used to oversee the STRIDE program and still writes Grants for STRIDE.

STRIDE has been part of the Y's outreach program since 1975. It is designed to meet the needs of the Intellectually and Developmentally Disabled Adults Community (*IDD*) in our city and surrounding area.

One can't just "walk in" and apply though. Consumers must be referred by their *Regional Center* which assigns a Case Worker to assure that the best possible program is chosen for the consumer.

Stride is open to Special Needs persons who graduate from the IDD program at a High School. IDD High School Graduation age is 22. Program is at capacity currently with 30 adults.

Program Goals:

- **Help everyone achieve their highest potential.**
- **Help integrate "consumers" into the community by increasing their independence and enhancing their quality of life.**

Consumers learn **life skills** (e.g.: set a routine, learn communication skills, practical math, computer usage, read simple instructions, healthy lifestyle,

Consumers learn **responsibility for others**; community integration by outings into the community (e.g. Farmer's Market, visit to library, eat out at a restaurant, Dodger Stadium, trip to Camp Arbolado).

Consumers **help in the community** through volunteering at Goodwill, Bridge of Faith, Meals on Wheels and the YMCA by sorting clothes, newspapers etc.; run a "coffee-shop" where, in the morning, two consumers sell coffee and snacks and learn to count money and make change.

You can visit Stride, just make an appointment, or wait for the Open House. Ask for Sienna, 562-945-5304

On a personal note: One of Penny's relatives is Tim. Tim attended STRIDE where he discovered his love for Bowling and Swimming many years ago. He also took part in the Special Olympics program. Tim is now working at the Marriot Residence Inn and has for 30 some years; he has no problems using the Bus system by himself, has a great sense of humor and can remember things that interest him forever!

Penny finds IDD consumers to be the most genuine people with a funny sense of humor.

Submitted by Lion Ursula Bell





And that.....as they say.....is a wrap!! Thanks to all of our wonderful teams that played their hearts out today and showed what good sportsmanship is all about, thanks to all of the coaches, Leo's, Cal Hi Men's and Girl's League Boards, to Rachel & Teresa & Scott of Special Olympics, the Umpires, plus thanks to all of the SOLA Lions that were able to come out today. A special thanks to the City of Pico Rivera for providing the field and personnel to help us all out and to the Sheriffs that came out, kept us all safe and handed out medals. What a fantastic day!

- Lion Jill Wall, SOLA's Special Olympics Liaison



Special Olympics Southern California Scott Evans thanks both the City of Pico Rivera and our SOLA Lions Club with appreciation plaques during the opening ceremonies at the Softball Competition.



September and October Birthdays

9/7: Amy Gaytan 9/19: Carol Copley 9/21: Harry Brown
10/15: Theresa Rivas 10/20: Andrea Bodnar 10/26: Larry Dicus

September and October Anniversaries

9/8: Ron and Carol Copley 10/10: Larry and Jane Dicus



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Volume 8, No. 1 July-August Summer Edition 2017



**Special
Olympics**
Southern California



Lions Celebrate Centennial in Chicago!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Lions.

Thank you for your participation on our 9th Installation of Officers for the year 2017-2018. Your commitment to SOLA is what makes this Specialty Lions Club so unique and strong.

As we embark in a new year of service, let's recommit ourselves to serving our community and the Special Olympics Athletes. You may wonder how we are going to achieve this. It is very simple. Invite one friend, family member, co-worker, or business associate to one of our events, or to a meeting. Share your enthusiasm with them and express your appreciation of the Special Olympics Athletes. I think if we work together on this, we can make our Club grow and will give us more manpower for those projects that we want to do. Remember new members bring new ideas and new ideas create a healthier club. Participation is the price of membership and service is what we do best!

Thank you SOLA officers and members for stepping up to the plate and taking on the commitment to continue guiding SOLA through this new year of growth.

Thank you for being a great Lion!

Sincerely,

Alberto Montes De Oca
President
2017-2018



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Lions Centennial Convention

June 30—July 4, 2017 Chicago

Our Club was well represented at this year's LCI Convention in Chicago! Attending and representing SOLA were Alberto and Sharon Montes de Oca, David and Jeannie Williamson, Drew and Susan Sones, Lilly Sanchez and our favorite District Governor and honorary SOLA Lion Manny Sanchez along with Associate Members Dan Skewes and PID Larry Dicus.

This Convention was special as it was the 100th Anniversary of Lions and it was held in the City where Lionism was founded and where our International Headquarters is based.

Chicago rolled out the red carpet for the more than 50,000 Lions attending the 100 years celebration. Banners hung on the street lights throughout the Miracle Mile welcoming the Lions from all over the world. The City closed a major thoroughfare for our International Parade of Nations for the 4 ½ hours it took for the thousands of Lions from across the world (many in their native costumes) to show Chicagoans what Lions look like.

The five-day extravaganza began with the Opening International Show featuring the Beach Boys and their iconic California Surf sounds and ballads. That opening night was electric with Lions from all over the world dancing in the aisle and surging to the front of the stage to sing along with such songs as "Good Vibrations," "California Girl" and "Surfin' Safari."

This Convention was more than a business meeting for Lions Clubs International with each day filled with seminars, workshops, special events on a multitude of topics.

The Plenary sessions were filled with music and entertainment such as the Beatles cover band American English, the Blue Brothers Revue, Charlie Daniels, the Chicago Gospel Choir, African Children's Choir, David Archuleta of American Idol, Patti LaBelle and the Mandela Art Dancers and much

more, such as a laser light show, International Flag show.

We heard speakers such as former U.S. Vice President Al Gore and former U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki Moon and Stan Brock, this year's Humanitarian Award winner (highest honor bestowed to a non-Lion). Mr. Brock is the founder of Remote Area Medical which brings lifesaving medical service to those areas of the world where there are no doctors.

Then we experienced the Closing International Show featuring the band Chicago named after the city and performing in its name sake city and before the Lions of the world. Once again, the convention center was rocking and rolling for almost two hours.

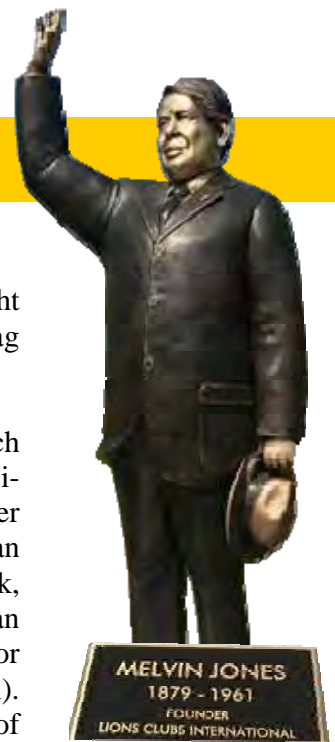
Finally, on Tuesday July 4, 2017 we met the 101st Lions Clubs International President, Dr. Naresh Aggarwal, from India. Our new President greeted us with the Indian greeting of "Namaste," which means "I salute the Devine in you." President Aggarwal presented his focus this year of embracing our motto "We Serve". His theme is "The Power of We". You can learn more about our new Lions International President in the July/August Lion Magazine in the mail now.

The 100th Anniversary Convention was an experience your SOLA Lions will not forget as we so enjoyed the ambience of Chicago and learning how much Lions across the world are making a difference.

By the way, Chicago is a great place to visit to enjoy the mid-western hospitality.

I encourage all Lions to make plans to attend next year's convention in Las Vegas. June 29 – July 3, 2018.

Submitted by Lion Drew Sones





Athlete

Spotlight of the Month

Meet Tony La Reau also known as "The T-Man!"

The first time I saw Tony, who is deaf, and his Dad George, they were communicating so intensely their fingers and lips moving in unison while they were smiling at each other, that I had to take a photo. When sharing the photo with SOLA friends, Ron Copley shared that he had known Tony for quite some time and that Tony has improved his stroke tremendously.

Being deaf, I wondered, how can Tony compete? Parents are not allowed on deck during competition. Tony cannot hear the starter air horn. What to do? Father George asked Ron (our starter at the Swim meet) if he could give Tony the start instructions by putting his hand on Tony's back and lifting it when the starter's air horn went off. Ron agreed and Tony was able to compete on "equal turf".

Tony is a Member of the *Sea Monkeys* (our Whittier Swim Team) and competed in 3 races that day. How do we applaud a deaf athlete? WAVE. Wave higher than your shoulders. The more vigorously you wave, the louder you "clap" for Tony.

When I interviewed Tony and his parents at their home, I enjoyed their warmth, love and the twinkle in Tony's eyes. Mom Ruth shared that Tony has always wanted to make everyone smile – even as a little child. He made me smile and took my breath away when I saw the plethora of shining Bronze, Silver, Gold medals along with ribbons for Gold, Silver and Bronze achievements on display. An awe-inspiring sight and only a part of his achievements.

Tony will be 24 on September 16th. He was only 15 months old when he started the Infant Program at Leffingwell Elementary. This is a very special program in the District and the reason Tony's parents moved to Whittier. George and Ruth wanted to give their son the best education available. Tony's parents and his sister, Sarah, who also happens to be Tony's role model, are very encouraging and supportive of his activities and communicate with him in sign language. Tony loves technology. He has a phone, which he uses for texting friends and also has an itouch that he uses out in the community.

During the week Tony attends the Uptown Whittier YMCA's 30-hour week STRIDE program*.

He is a dedicated athlete, enjoys swimming (butterfly is his hardest event), basketball, and bowling. Tony practices his swimming skills 3 days a week at the Uptown Y.

He likes to try new things. Recently he tried MMA boxing, right here at a boxing store on Whittier Blvd. What else does he love? Rides at the O.C. Fair, movies with friends, Game Night at the Park, Sign Language Class, Pizza, Mexican food, VWs, helping his neighbor raise funds for Special Olympics in the Hot-Chocolate-Booth* at Christmas time and skiing! His favorite place to ski? Big Bear.

On the weekend Tony and his Parents attend *Holy Angels Catholic Church of the Deaf* in Vernon. Tony serves as a Eucharistic Minister. He enjoys assisting the priest in administering the sacraments of Holy Communion.

Remember, next time you see Tony compete...
.... WAVE !



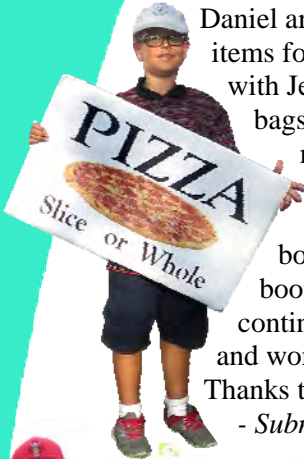
Submitted by Lion Ursula Bell



Concerts in the Park

Our second year selling pizza at Parnell Park during the six week concert series has been, again, a successful fundraiser. Although it doesn't come easy, without hard work, it sure is fun for all those who participate. Each Thursday, we start early. Around 4 pm Steve Nichols lands at the park with his truck and trailer full of coolers filled with ice and soda. Marla and her grandson Daniel are not far behind bringing the booth setup items for selling those sodas. The pizzas arrive with Jesse and Penny Lopez with big insulated bags filled with hot, hot pizza. More and more volunteers arrive: Peanuts, Jill and Sarah and Ursula are regulars. They love to dance to the concert music while putting pizza slices on plates and grabbing sodas out of the coolers for the customers, passing it through the netted booth window. Alberto takes the money and (tips for donations too)! Susan Sones is yelling out the booth window to passers by "pizza, pizza get your pizza". We spend these evenings as we meet to continue our support of Special Olympic Athletes. This club is blessed with a dedicated group of men and women who have spent many hours making our Lions Club a great support to Special Olympics. Thanks to the many SOLA volunteers over the past weeks that helped to make this fundraiser worthwhile.

- Submitted by Lion Marla Baker



Team Whittier Joins in Whittier Law Enforcement Torch Run in support of Special Olympics Southern California Summer Games



June 5, 2017 7:30 am



October 13, 2017 11 am

Latest Information about SOLA Golf Tournament

It's that time of year again for our 3rd Annual Golf Event. SOLA LIONS is going to have fun raising funds for our local Special Olympic competitors. This year's golf event will be held at California Country Club at 11:00am and will be memorable for a variety of reasons:

1. **This year our golfers and attendees will win Cruises, Money, Sporting Event Tickets, & golf gear!**

2. Our club decided to purchase a Perfect Golf Events package to assist us in fundraising, getting players and sponsors. With proper advertisement of word of mouth, social media, and advertising; we should have plenty of sponsors and participants.

3. Our Club has a www.solagolf.com website to easily promote opportunities for tournament sponsors, Golfer foursomes, & Friends of SOLA and signing them up; while handling finance reporting, and volunteer organization.

4. We have a goal!!!- \$50K gross.

Our sponsor opportunities include everything from being a title sponsor (**NAME OF TITLE SPONSOR PRESENTS SOLA GOLF 2017**) to being a tee box sponsor.

Check www.solagolf.com to get involved. Plus, we have sponsor opportunities to advertise inside our swag bag and our awards ceremony afterward.

Please continue handing out our flyers and continue to ask your frequently visited shop owners, restaurant owners, & businesses to visit our www.solagolf.com website for sponsor and golf sign-up opportunities. Share in our Facebook about your volunteering supporting our athletes. Let's make August a great month for our Tournament kickoff.

Tentative Schedule of events and some of the Golfing Prizes:

11:30-12:45- Putting Contest: **Carnival Cruise "Guaranteed Winner" Putting Contest** – SOLA GOLF will present a 4-night/5 day Carnival Cruise Certificate to the winner.

1:00 PM- SHOT GUN START- LUNCH ON THE COURSE. All Foursomes will start on WHITE TEES. When a foursome scores 2 under Par, next hole they play from BLUE TEES. When a foursome scores 4 under OR better, next hole they play from the BLACK TEES. If a foursome goes scores 2 over par, Next hole they play from ORANGE TEES, 4 over or more, next hole they play from RED TEES.

HOLE IN ONE CONTEST- Pebble Beach Golf Vacation or \$10,000 Cash Hole in One Contest – Golfers have a chance to win a vacation for two for a Pebble Beach Golf Vacation or \$10,000 in cash. Vacation includes 2 night/3 days lodging, 18 holes of golf each day and a \$1,000 airfare credit per person for travel.

LONGEST DRIVE- Big Ticket "Guaranteed Winner" Long Drive Contest** – Let SOLA GOLF give our Longest Drive winner a certificate to redeem for two (2) tickets to a professional sporting event (NBA, NFL, MLB, NHL, NASCAR or PGA) in our LA area. Winner selects an event in each category and will receive two tickets to one of their choices.

CLOSEST TO THE PIN- Big Ticket "Guaranteed Winner" Closest to the Pin** – Let SOLA GOLF give our CTPP winner a certificate to redeem for two (2) tickets to a professional sporting event (NBA, NFL, MLB, NHL, NASCAR or PGA) in our LA area. Winner selects an event in each category and will receive two tickets to one of their choices.

4 PLAYERS WIN \$\$\$-Four (4) Players \$100,000-Winning Foursome will have a chance to shoot for \$100,000. After golf is over, we will send the winning foursome to shoot our Special 175 yard hole for a chance to win \$100,000.

5:00PM-8:00 PM- **DINNER AND WINNERS ANNOUNCEMENTS. JOIN US FOR FUN & RAFFLE PRIZES whether you golf or not!**

Submitted by Lion Jesse Lopez

GO TO: www.solagolf.com



District 4-L2 Installation of Officers



International Director Howard Hudson installed Theresa "Tessy" Prumatico as District Governor for 2017-18 along with her cabinet on July 22 at Bruce's Restaurant in Santa Fe Springs. Among many awards given, SOLA Lions Club was honored with a California Lions Foundation Founding Club Award, presented by PID Larry Dicus, and Jeannie Williamson was chosen by her husband David to receive a Melvin Jones Fellow Award he won at the District 4-L2 Convention last May 21st.



July and August Birthdays

7/2: Linnea Pueschel 7/9: Alberto Montes De Oca 7/21: Jeaninne Williamson
 7/22: Mark Elias, Peanuts Pierre 8/5: Larry Lopez

July and August Anniversaries

7/15: John & Jill Wall 7/29: Jeff & Kaycy Martin
 8/14: Jesse & Penny Lopez 8/16: Drew & Susan Sones



SOLA LIONS CLUB OFFICERS 2017-2018

Naresh Aggarwal	Delhi, India
Larry Dicus	Past Lions Clubs International Director
Rob Manning	California MD4 Council Chair
Tessy Prumatico	4-L2 District Governor
John Nelson	4-L2 First Vice District Governor
Gary Hall	4-L2 Second Vice District Governor
Art Luna	4-L2 Central Region Chair
Robert Williams	4-L2 Zone B Central Chair
Alberto Montes De Oca	<i>President</i>
Marla Baker	<i>1st Vice President</i>
Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre	<i>2nd Vice President</i>
Jeff Martin	<i>Secretary</i>
Carol Copley	<i>Treasurer</i>
Ron Copley	<i>Guiding Lion—Emeritus</i>
Susan Sones	<i>Immediate Past President</i>
Jill Wall	<i>Special Olympics Liaison</i>
Ellen Peck	<i>Director</i>
Jill Wall	<i>Director</i>
Jesse Lopez	<i>Director</i>
Jeaninne Williamson	<i>Director</i>



SOLAMOTION

Monthly Newsletter of the Special Olympics
Los Angeles Lions Club of Whittier
Volume 7, No. 10
May 25, 2017



Law Enforcement Torch Run

Join the **Whittier Police Department** on
Monday, June 5th at 7:30 a.m.

as they carry the flame of hope for Special Olympics Summer Games. The route starts at Leslie Pool Supply, 16221 Whittier Boulevard, Whittier, CA 90603. The Team Whittier Athletes will be running with them.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



日本からのご挨拶 ライオンドリュー
と私はクルーズの休暇を楽しんでいます。
私たちは何も見逃しましたか？
愛と抱擁、ソライオンズクラブ会長
ライオンスーザン

Greetings from Japan! Lion Drew and I are enjoying our cruise vacation. Have we missed anything?

Love and hugs,
SOLA Lions Club President
Lion Susan



JAPAN

The Mission of the SOLA Lions Club is "to take an active interest and participate in the mission and vision of the Special Olympics, to help provide sports and training programs for any individual with intellectual disabilities and thereby improve their lives and the lives of everyone they touch." Our SOLA Lions Club was chartered in March 2009 and is the third Lions Club in the world formed to serve Special Olympics.

Our SOLA Lions Club meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 5:30 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting
June 7, 2017
Friendly Hills Country Club
8500 S. Villaverde Drive
Whittier, CA 90605





SELA - Whittier Swimming Competition - May 6, 2017



Photos by Lions Ursula Bell, Penny Lopez, and Alberto Montes De Oca

I Am a Swimmer, I Am a Champion



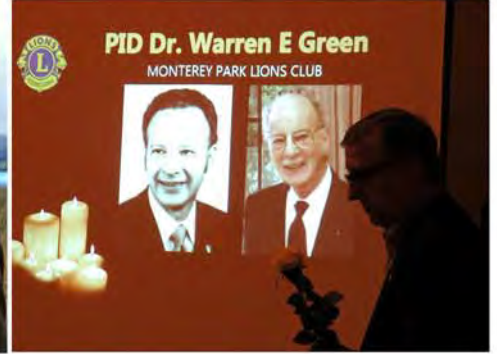
**Special
Olympics**
Southern California





2017 District 4-L2 Lions Convention

May 18-21, 2017



The 4-L2 District Convention, held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in San Diego, was excellent. DG Manny Sanchez has given wonderful leadership this year as topped by this event! Everyone was inspired by our honored speaker, ID Bill Phillipi and wife Vickie. Our District was saddened with the deaths of 11 Lions this past year including PID Warren Green. The leadership elected for the Centennial 2017-2018 year are Theresa Prumatico - Governor, John Nelson - 1st VDG, and Gary Hall - 2nd VDG. Our own David Williamson won the LCIF Melvin Jones Fellow lottery and Lilly Sanchez won \$50 from the raffle ticket drawing! A super weekend!



SOLA Lions Club Receive Honors



SOLA Lions Club Governor's Top Club Award—Honorable Mention—Medium Size Club Division

Jeff Martin Club Secretary - District Excellence Award - Medium Division

Wayne Martin
 • Club Monthly Bulletin Award
 • International President's Certificate of Appreciation

Carol Copley • The Al Ohrmund Supporter Award & MD4 Academy Award of Lionism

Ron Copley • **Melvin Jones Fellow Award** from District 4-L2
 • Al Ohrmund Supporter Award from Past District 4-L2 Governors
 • MD4 Academy Award of Lionism

Jeannie Williamson
 Kay K. Fukushima Fellow Award from California Lions Foundation

Alberto Montes De Oca
 • Past District Governor's Certificate
 • Governor's IP Medallion Award

PID Larry Dicus MD4 Excellence Award for Leadership





Athlete Spotlight of the Month



**Ashley
Comacho**

**Whittier
Sea Monkeys
Swim Team**



Ashley is 10 years old and a valuable member of the Whittier Sea Monkeys. She started weekly swimming lessons at age 7 at the Whittier Y. When she was 8 she joined the Sea Monkey's Swim Team. She was then the youngest swimmer and swam with 12 and 13 year olds.

Ashley continues her weekly swim lessons at the Uptown YMCA and, thanks to coach Amanda, Ashley has learned not only to swim freestyle, but also the backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly! 2017 is the first year in which she is swimming against athletes of the same age.

Ashley enjoys the support of her Mommy, Daddy, Brother "Boss," Brother "Uhie," Grandma, Godmother Diana, and until March, the support of her beloved Grandpa who died of cancer early this year. Ashley herself is a cancer survivor and, as fate would have it, she and Grandpa were in hospital at the same time.

Ashley's two brothers are extra special to her – with "Boss" Jason being the "strict," and Uhie (Giovanni) being the "Soft" one.

She is a determined and busy athlete, who attends not only school, but also North Park Academy of the Arts, where she learns Media, Dance, Arts and Music. She especially loves "Acro Dancing" (acrobatic Jazz dancing) and is busy attending daily classes at Dance Image. Actually, the only day Ashley rests is Sunday; all other days are filled with school, art and dance classes.

Her Role model? Marcus (her brother's best friend) – she wants to be like him. He is extra special to her and her inspiration. Her favorite subject in school is MATH! Her favorite treat: Starbucks.

She loves her I-Pad, however, Jazz dancing may be even dearer to her heart. Come see her perform at the Whittier Theatre with her friends this June 23, 24 & 25.

- submitted by Lion Ursula Bell with the help of Ashley & Tony Comacho





Your Acclamations are Appreciated. It's our Honor to Serve!



At our Swimming Competition, **Kelly Sheehy**, Development Manager for SELA Special Olympics, presented to President Susan a plaque to the SOLA Lions. The plaque stated "In sincere appreciation for your support of the 2017 Special Olympics Spring Competition Season". The presentation was appreciated by all in attendance. We all enjoyed Kelly's attendance at the competition and her kind remarks.

- submitted by Lion Ron Copley



Scott Evans, Asst Vice President, Field Operations & Volunteers for Special Olympics Southern California, was our speaker on May 17th. A tennis player, Scott and his wife have three children. Scott lived in Zimbabwe, Kenya from age 3 to 13 before moving to the USA, where he attended Bible College in pursuit of becoming a pastor. Scott's passion is volunteering, as it "Feeds the soul, and you become healthier when you volunteer." Scott was a volunteer with SOSOC for 15 years prior to joining the staff. The most valuable resource in life is "Time." Scott thanks SOLA for what we do for Special Olympics athletes.

-submitted by Lion Jeff Martin

**Concerts in the Park on Thursdays
Come help with SOLA's Pizza Booth**



**Many hands make it fun and the work easy!
Be sure to sign up to help at club this week!**

- June 29 Stone Soul Motown
- July 6 Smooth Santana
- July 13 Hard Days Night—Beatles tribute
- July 20 Swing Cats Big Band
- July 27 Betamaxx 80s
- August 3 Mariachi Divas



"The price of greatness
is responsibility"

**SOLA
LIONS CLUB
INSTALLATION
OF OFFICERS**

July 19, 2017
5:30 PM

Friendly Hills Country Club
8500 Villaverde Drive, Whittier

Dinner Served

Cost: \$25/person — RSVP by Sunday, July 16
to Lion Carol Copley 562-693-8330
Email: carolcopley@earthlink.net



Special Olympics Southern California

2017

SUMMER GAMES



ATHLETICS



BASKETBALL



BOCCE



GOLF



GYMNASTICS



SWIMMING

JUNE 10-11 CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

Summer Games is the culminating competition for the spring and summer season. More than 1,100 athletes will compete for medals and ribbons in six sports. All competitions, events, and exhibits are FREE and open to the public, unless noted.

EVENTS

SATURDAY, JUNE 10 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Opening Ceremony - 9:30 a.m.

Breakfast with Champions Fundraiser (ticket required) 11:15 a.m.

Competitions - 12:00 - 5:00 p.m. followed by Awards Ceremonies

SUNDAY, JUNE 11 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Competitions followed by Awards Ceremonies

Closing Ceremony - 3:00 p.m.

GET INVOLVED

Become a fan in the stands, Volunteer, Become a Sponsor. SOLA Lions will be in attendance at the LIONS Mobile Screening Unit with Healthy Athletes performing hearing testing for all athletes. www.sosc.org/summergames

May and June Birthdays

5/11: Dean Crowley 5/13: Sharon Montes De Oca 5/21: Steve Nichols 5/31: Jeff Martin
6/3: Brenda Brown 6/16: Susie Ausdal 6/19: Ursula Bell 6/24: John Wall 6/26: Ron Copley
6/30: Jesse Lopez

May and June Anniversaries

5/1: Dan & Theresa (Rivas) McMillan 5/26: Wally & Marla Baker
6/14: Wayne & Beverly Martin, Dan & Pam Skewes



Bob Corlew International President, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, USA
Larry Dicus Past Lions Clubs International Director
David Radtke California MD4 Council Chair
Manny Sanchez.....4-L2 District Governor
Tessy Prumatico.....4-L2 First Vice District Governor
John Nelson4-L2 Second Vice District Governor
Maggie Cardenas4-L2 Central Region Chair
Lisha Valles 4-L2 Zone B Central Chair



SOLA LIONS CLUB OFFICERS 2016-2017

Susan SonesPresident Susie AusdalImmediate Past President
Alberto Montes De Oca1st Vice President Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre..... Special Olympics Liaison
Marla Baker2nd Vice President Theresa Rivas.....Director
Jeff MartinSecretary Jill Wall.....Director
Carol Copley..... Treasurer Drew Sones.....Director
Ron CopleyGuiding Lion - Emeritus

SOLAMOTION

Monthly Newsletter of the Special Olympics
Los Angeles Lions Club of Whittier
Volume 7, No. 9 April 25, 2017



Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre Honored by the State of California with **Woman of the Year Award** Presented by State Assembly Majority Leader Ian Calderon on March 30, 2017



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SOLA Lions and friends,

Once again, we have had an exciting month of activities! Our Basketball Competition, hosted by Whittier College, found eleven Special Olympics teams pounding up and down the court with energy, focus and excitement as three-point baskets, free throws and tussles for possession of the balls happened. Every SO athlete, Whittier College volunteer and SOLA Lion that participated were filled with amazing competitive spirit and love for the game. Whittier City Councilman, Fernando Dutra, came out to see the action and participated in the awards ceremonies! Thanks to everyone who supported our athletes!

The April 19th meeting was packed with special Lions activities. Global Leadership Coordinator Gary Hall joined us to introduce himself as the candidate running for the position of Second Vice District Governor of District 4-L2. He was joined by part of his campaign team PDH Chris Ohrmund and Dan Skewes. Voting will take place at our District Convention in San Diego in May.

Additionally, our own Associate Member, David Williamson, presented information on the newly founded California Lions Foundation and ways that we as individuals and as a club can contribute and be eligible for grants to fund our projects.

The highlight of the meeting was the presence of District Governor Manny Sanchez, who inducted our newest member, Margie Hood, who was sponsored by PID Larry Dicus. Welcome Margie! We are so delighted to count you among the ranks of SOLA Lions and have already seen that you truly have a heart dedicated to service!

Lest I forget, we were delighted to have Pam Skewes (Lion Dan's best half!) and Lion Joe Corey, a member of Whittier Host Lions, join us for the evening. You are always welcome at SOLA meetings and events.

As we look forward, our annual Swim Competition will be held on Saturday, May 6th, at Palm Park. Come on out to see our Special Olympics swimmers in action! Boy, can they slice through the water...ALWAYS an impressive event!

See you in May!
Yours in service,
Susan



The Mission of the SOLA Lions Club is "to take an active interest and participate in the mission and vision of the Special Olympics, to help provide sports and training programs for any individual with intellectual disabilities and thereby improve their lives and the lives of everyone they touch." Our SOLA Lions Club was chartered in March 2009 and is the third Lions Club in the world formed to serve Special Olympics.

Our SOLA Lions Club meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 5:30 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting
May 3, 2017
Friendly Hills Country Club
8500 S. Villaverde Drive
Whittier, CA 90605





Congratulations Peanuts!

Woman of the Year 2017 Award

Lion Ruri Pierre

On Thursday, March 30, 2017 California State Assembly Majority Leader Ian Calderon celebrated Women's History Month by honoring distinguished women of the 57th Assembly District who have made a difference in the community. One of the nine women honored was our own Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre. Following is the write-up on Ruri that was submitted by Greg Alaniz, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Community Services for the City of Whittier:



Upon receiving the application for the 2017 Distinguished Women of the Year Awards 57th Assembly District, only one special lady came to mind, Ms. Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre. What a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge this truly remarkable woman who has made Senior Services and Therapeutic Recreation her life's mission. Ms. Pierre has been a City of Whittier employee for almost 35 years, currently running the Senior Citizen and Therapeutic Recreation programs. For most people this would be enough to fulfill their life; however, Ms. Pierre dedicates her "spare" time by being an instrumental leader for Special Olympics.



Ms. Pierre has been involved with the Special Olympics for approximately 40 years. Beginning as a volunteer while attending California State University Fresno in 1976, she realized her love of coaching and made sure the Special Olympic athletes were able to attend as many tournaments as possible. She has coached Special Olympians in several sports and has developed the City of Whittier Special Olympics Program into one of the finest in all of Southern California. Whittier has athletes participating in swimming, basketball, bowling, softball, and track and field.

Ms. Pierre has mentored many other coaches and is always willing to share her experience with other program coordinators. Recently, Ms. Pierre helped start a Special Olympics Program in the City of Pico Rivera. She calls thousands of athletes and coaches friends (they know that she loves them). In 2010, she was awarded the "Harahan Award" by Special Olympics Southern California for being the "Volunteer of the Year" for the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Valley Regions.

In 2009, she helped form a Special Olympics Lions Club in the Whittier area which is specifically dedicated to serving the athletes of Special Olympics. Ms. Pierre was also instrumental in working with the Lions Club to start four much needed Special Olympics competitions. She helps coordinate an annual Christmas Party for 350 athletes and coaches. Ms. Pierre was a major leader in the Whittier Host Town which housed, fed, and entertained 116 Special Olympic



Athletes from Macau, China. She has helped form other Special Olympic Lions Clubs throughout the world. In 2012, she was awarded "Lion of the Year" for the SOLA Lions Club. In 2016, she was awarded a "Melvin Jones Fellowship" which is the highest award within the Lions Club. Ms. Pierre does this all with grace and selflessness, like no other person I have known. Ms. Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre has a passion for assisting people with disabilities and has been an instrumental leader in the areas of senior services and therapeutic recreation instilling a sense of community for everyone she comes in contact with.



Athlete Spotlight of the Month

EJ Perez Team Whittier Athletes



In this, our first monthly installment of our new featured article “Athlete Spotlight of the Month”, we’d like to introduce to you EJ Perez, one of our Team Whittier Athletics (Track & Field) Athletes. EJ has provided some insight into who he is and what he likes about participating in our local Special Olympics program.

EJ is 16 years old and is currently a student at Cal High. We asked EJ some questions and here are his answers, in his own words

- What sports do you like? *Running and softball throw*
 - What sport do you currently compete in and which have you participate in the past? *100 meters 200 meters softball throw*
 - What do you like to do best? *200 meters*
 - How long have you been involved in Special Olympics? *2 years*
 - Who is your role model? *Sissy Miranda*
 - Who is your biggest influence? *My mom*
 - Who or what inspired you to do Special Olympics? *My mom*
 - What has been your best achievement so far? *The gold medals and making friends*
 - Do you train or work to improve? *Yes. What do you do? treadmill and track*
- Why did you pick these sports to compete in? *Because I feel free when I run.*
- Is there anything else you'd like to share? *Yes thanks to special (Olympics) I'm getting better at running.*

EJ is a great addition to our team and his dedication to his sport is awesome! His parents, Gloria & Eddie, and sister, Miranda, are also great volunteers and a tremendous help to the entire team! They help all of our athletes and jump in and do whatever needs to be done. Gloria is also a cleared Volunteer-A. We have extended an invitation to EJ and his parents to join us at an upcoming SOLA meeting as our guests for dinner. I know you will all make them feel welcome. - Submitted by Lion “Coach” Jill Wall



SOLA welcomes new member **Margie Hood**

installed on April 19 at our regular SOLA Lions Club meeting by our District Governor Manny Sanchez. Lion Margie was sponsored by Associate Member PID Larry Dicus, and is the mother of Jane and Larry Dicus’ son Eric’s wife Heidi. We have appreciated already her help at our recent basketball competition.



April 8, 2017 Whittier College - Donald E. Graham Athletics Center

2017 SELA-Whittier Basketball Competition



SPECIAL OLYMPICS



SOLA

Whittier College Athletes Help SOLA Lions Make It Happen





Coming soon, SOLA Lions!

SELA - Whittier Swimming Competition - May 6, 2017

Special Olympics
Southern California



2017 SELA-Whittier Swimming Competition

Hosted by SOLA Lions Club & City of Whittier

Saturday, May 6, 2017

Palm Park
5703 Palm Ave.
Whittier, CA 90601

Special Olympics Southern California athletes from Southeast Los Angeles will compete in Swimming at the 2017 SELA-Whittier Swimming Competition.



Again this year we will be going back to Palm Park in Whittier for our swimming competition. With 60 or 70 swimmers, this venue size fits us well. We have had many of the parents of the swimmers tell us how much they like this facility. The Whittier Special Olympics swimming program is growing and we should have a large turnout of swimmers attending our competition.

SCHEDULE:

- 8:00am—8:30am: Volunteer Check-in
- 8:30am—9:00am: Athlete Check-in
- 9:00am—9:30am: Opening Ceremony
- 9:00am - 2:00pm: Competition
- 2:00pm—2:30pm: Closing

**Times are general and subject to change*

*** Lunch will be provided for all registered athletes, coaches & volunteers.*

SWIMMING:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| - * 15m Walk | - 25m Backstroke | - 100m Freestyle |
| - * 15m Floatation | - 25m Breaststroke | - 200m Freestyle |
| - * 15m Unassisted Swim | - 25m Butterfly | - 400m Freestyle |
| - * 15m Assisted Swim | - 25m Freestyle | - 100m IM |
| - * 25m Kickboard | - 50m Backstroke | - 100m Backstroke |
| - * 25m Freestyle-Lower Ability | - 50m Breaststroke | - 4x25m Freestyle Relay |
| - * Denotes lower ability races | - 50m Butterfly | - 4x50m Freestyle Relay |
| | - 50m Freestyle | |



ALLOTMENT: Open to SELA Swimming Athletes Only | Closed to Outside Regions

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Ruri Pierre
rpierre@cityofwhittier.org | 562-567-9471



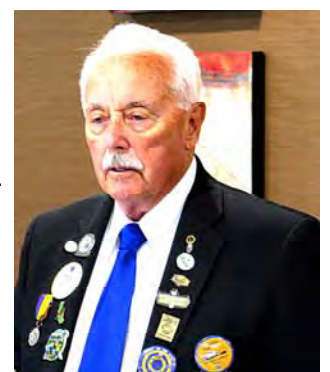
@SOSClasvregions
@sosc_losangeles



Two well-known District 4-L2 Lions spoke at our April 19th meeting:

Lion David Williams (SOLA Associate Member) gave an informative presentation about the California Lions Foundation.

Lion Gary Hall announced his candidacy for the District 2nd Vice District Governor position to be voted on at the convention.





PROPOSED SOLA LIONS CLUB OFFICERS 2017-2018

Alberto Montes De Oca *President*
 Marla Baker *1st Vice President*
 Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre *2nd Vice President*
 Jeff Martin *Secretary*
 Carol Copley *Treasurer*
 Susan Sones *Immediate Past President*
 Jill Wall *Special Olympics Liaison*
 Ron Copley *Guiding Lion - Emeritus*
 Theresa Rivas *Director*
 Ellen Peck *Director*
 Jesse Lopez *Director*
 Jeannine Williamson *Director*



**Save the Date!
October 13, 2017**

Check out the new SOLA
golf website being set up
by Lion Jesse Lopez!
More to come!

www.solagolf.com



April and May Birthdays

4/7: Wayne Martin 4/10: Jerry Masterson 4/15: DG Manny Sanchez 4/23: Gloria Lopez
 5/11: Dean Crowley 5/13: Sharon Montes De Oca 5/21: Steve Nichols 5/31: Jeff Martin

April and May Anniversaries

4/20: Dean & Linda Crowley
 5/1: Dan & Theresa (Rivas) McMillan 5/26: Wally & Marla Baker



Bob Corlew International President, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, USA
 Larry Dicus Past Lions Clubs International Director
 David Radtke California MD4 Council Chair
 Manny Sanchez 4-L2 District Governor
 Tessy Prumatico 4-L2 First Vice District Governor
 John Nelson 4-L2 Second Vice District Governor
 Maggie Cardenas 4-L2 Central Region Chair
 Lisha Valles 4-L2 Zone B Central Chair



SOLA LIONS CLUB OFFICERS 2016-2017

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 Alberto Montes De Oca *1st Vice President*
 Marla Baker *2nd Vice President*
 Jeff Martin *Secretary*
 Carol Copley *Treasurer*
 Ron Copley

Susie Ausdal *Immediate Past President*
 Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre *Special Olympics Liaison*
 Theresa Rivas *Director*
 Jill Wall *Director*
 Drew Sones *Director*
 *Guiding Lion - Emeritus*

SOLAMOTION

Monthly Newsletter of the Special Olympics
Los Angeles Lions Club of Whittier
Volume 7, No. 8 March 20, 2017



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Happy Saint Patrick's Day Fellow Lions!

Per my "Ancestry.com" results I am 28% Irish! However, I gave up drinking "green beer" in my early college days. I will admit to having a corned beef to prepare for tonight's dinner in the 'fridge and am looking forward to it. My point being that no matter what our individual ancestry is, we are all brothers and sisters in Lionism.



March strolled in "like a lamb" and our meetings have been well attended and informative. On March 1st our guest speaker was Joan Kozak, a friend and Special Olympics volunteer and golf coach who works tirelessly alongside our own Jill Wall. We learned that there is a need for golf equipment, practice and tournament facilities for our Special Olympics golfers. How exciting is this?!?!? A Special Olympics golf team is a long overdue accomplishment for SOLA! Lion Ron Copley continues to work with Jay Prestelle, Friendly Hills Golf Pro and Lion Jeff Martin has agreed to contact Pico Rivera Golf Course management to introduce them to the possibility of their participation.

Speaking of golf, Lion Marla and the SOLA Golf Tournament Committee have been meeting regularly to finalize the brochure and brainstorm our plan of action to make this, our Third Annual SOLA Golf Tournament a success. Thanks to Lion Jesse Lopez for introducing us to a *Golf Planning and Task List* that provided some very exciting and interesting ideas for us. Perfect Golf Event .COM prepared this extensive document and it has given the committee much to mull(igan) over.

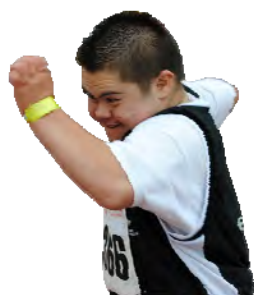
I get to again acknowledge PDG and our First VP Lion Alberto Montes de Oca for taking over leadership of our March 15th meeting at the last minute. Additionally, thanks to Lion Mary Beth Duke for delivering the agenda to Lion Alberto. As always it was our pleasure to have DG Manny Sanchez present to promote our Centennial Convention, deliver District Directories and ask for articles about our club activities to possibly be published as part of the Centennial Celebration.

We had the pleasure of extending a warm welcome to Marjorie Hood, family member of PID Larry Dicus. We also were excited to welcome three "young Lions" (as Lion Dan McMillan calls them!) from the East Whittier Lions Club: Lion Abram Garcia, Proud Lion recipient & Certified Guiding Lion; Lion Eduardo (Eddy) Granados, Proud Lion recipient; and Ada Becerra, future Proud Lion and Certified Guiding Lion. We were thrilled to see the excitement and interest that these Lions presented. They are well on their way to exemplifying our Lions motto, "We Serve". Thanks for visiting the SOLA club. We look forward to working with you and watching you grow in Lionism.

Our Basketball Competition will be held on Saturday April 8th at Whittier College. We are preparing for an 11-team competition so will need all the support we can get to work alongside the Whittier College athletes in providing this fun event for our athletes.

With March days running past us rapidly (Will the month "go out like a Lion"?), we look forward to our April meetings featuring Lion David Williamson presenting information regarding the new California Lions Foundation and later in the month, Lion Gary Hall, who is campaigning for Second Vice District Governor.

With a grateful heart for each of my SOLA brothers and sisters,
Lion Susan



The Mission of the SOLA Lions Club is "to take an active interest and participate in the mission and vision of the Special Olympics, to help provide sports and training programs for any individual with intellectual disabilities and thereby improve their lives and the lives of everyone they touch." Our SOLA Lions Club was chartered in March 2009 and is the third Lions Club in the world formed to serve Special Olympics.

Our SOLA Lions Club meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 5:30 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting
April 5, 2017
Friendly Hills Country Club
8500 S. Villaverde Drive
Whittier, CA 90605





Spotlight on

New Golf Coach



Joan's son, Jared

Joan Kozak—New Special Olympics Whittier Golf Coach

Joan Kozak attended the SOLA Lions Club meeting on March 1 as the guest of Jill Wall and Sarah. Joan is in the beginning stages of forming a Special Olympics Golf Team in Whittier and would very much like to partner with our club in her efforts. She will be reaching out to those that are interested in assisting her with securing a practice location and possibly a tournament location as well.

Of course, many coaches and unified partners will be needed as well to ensure its success, so if anyone would like to be a Special Olympics certified coach in Golf (or any other sport), Lions Jill Wall and Ruri Pierre will be happy to send the information on trainings as it becomes available.

A little about Joan ... she is married to Marc and they have two sons, Jeremy and Jared. Jared is 27 years old and has been a Special Olympics athlete for 10 years. He played on the Whittier Special Olympics Basketball Team, *Net Force*, until they disbanded and now he's on the Whittier Athletics (Track) Team which he enjoys very much. Both Marc and Joan are golfers and participated in our annual SOLA Golf Tournament last year with Ernie and Carol Ybarra. We are very excited to have Joan, and her passion for our athletes and golf, leading this effort. Whittier Golf is just around the corner.

- Submitted by Lion Jill Wall



Lion Ruri Pierre with a Whittier Special Olympics Athlete at the 2015 SOLA Golf Tournament



2017 SELA-Whittier Basketball Competition

Special Olympics
Southern California



2017 SELA-Whittier Basketball Competition

Hosted by SOLA Lions Club & Whittier College

Saturday, April 8, 2017

Whittier College– Donald E. Graham Athletics Center

13847 Earlham Drive
Whittier, CA 90602

Special Olympics Southern California athletes from Southeast Los Angeles and surrounding areas will compete in Basketball at the 2017 SELA-Whittier Basketball Competition.

SCHEDULE:

8:00am - 8:30am: Volunteer Check-in

8:30am - 9:00am: Athlete Check-in

9:00am - 9:30am: Opening Ceremony

9:30am - 2:00pm: Competition

12:00pm - 1:00pm: Lunch

2:00pm - 2:30pm: Closing

*Times are general and subject to change

** Lunch will be provided for all registered athlete, coaches & volunteers.



LEVELS OFFERED: (4) C Level Teams, (4) D Level Teams, (3) B Level Teams

ALLOTMENT: Invitation Only | Closed to Outside Regions

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Ruri Pierre
rpierre@cityofwhittier.org
562-567-9471

FOLLOW
US ON



@SOSClasgvregions



@sosc_losanjeles

All SOLA Lions Club member aboard for this very busy SOLA event!



March 15, 2017

Proud Lions Visit SOLA Club Meeting



Standing with DG Manny Sanchez and SOLA members PID Larry Dicus, PDG Alberto Montes De Oca, and Lion Theresa Rivas are visiting members of the East Whittier Lions Club: Proud Lion Abram Garcia, Ada Becerra, and Proud Lion Eddy Granados with their club president Dan McMillan (also a SOLA associate member). In order to receive the "Proud Lion Award, one must accomplish the following five tasks: Attend a Cabinet Meeting, Visit another Lions Club, Participate in a Lions Club Project, Attend a Zone, Region, or District Function, and Bring a guest to a Lions Club meeting.

Upcoming Special Olympics Events

SOLA/SELA Basketball Competition at Whittier College, April 8, 2017

SOLA/SELA Swim Competition at Palm Park, May 6, 2017



City of Hope

Lions Day at City of Hope March 26, 2017

9:00 am

City of Hope 1500 East Duarte Road,
Duarte

Lions are recognized by City of Hope.

Tour of Hospital and Luncheon.

For more information contact
Committee Chair PDG Bill Walters
lionbill4L2@sbcglobal.net

Save the Date!



October 13, 2017
starting at 12 noon

The Flame of Hope is Lit!!

SPECIAL OLYMPICS
WORLD WINTER GAMES
AUSTRIA 2017

Heartbeat for the world



“On Thursday, 2 March the Flame of Hope for the Special Olympics World Winter Games Austria 2017 was lit during a formal torch lighting ceremony in Athens, Greece. In keeping with tradition, this ceremony took place in similar fashion to the original torch lighting of the Olympics, at the Zeppelin Palace in Athens.”
 - Special Olympics News Release

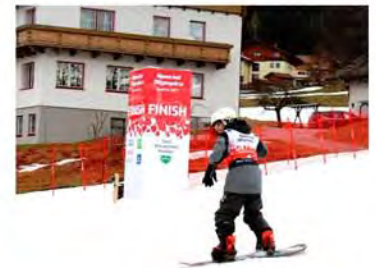
Living in Southern California, it’s hard to imagine the fantastic Special Olympics World **Winter Games** happening this month with temperatures in the high 80’s here in Whittier. But 2,700 athletes from 107 home countries are competing in winter sports in Schladming and Graz, Austria. Like our World Summer Games LA 2015, it is complete with a Torch Run, Host Towns, Awards Ceremonies, and the Healthy Athletes Program, of which **Lions Clubs International** is a major sponsor.

The spectacular Opening Ceremony was Saturday, March 18 at the Stadium Planai in Schladming, with a march of athletes, the Special Olympics Flag and Flame of Hope, and entertainment by international stars and the dance company “Ich Bin O.K.” Closing Ceremony will be Friday, March 24 at Stadium Graz. “The Flame of Hope will be extinguished but the ‘Heart beat of the world’ will continue to live.”

Special Olympics competing winter events are Speed Skating, Figure Skating, Floor Hockey, Floorball, Stick Shooting, Alpine Skiing, Snowboarding, Cross Country, and Snow Shoeing. Two demonstration events featured this year are Dancing, and MATP (Motor Activity Training Program).

What a wonderful opportunity Special Olympics gives these athletes—one of inclusion and community. We celebrate these athletes, for they show the world that they are truly champions.

-Submitted by Lion Wayne Martin





Golf Committee meeting at 4:30 pm on April 5th at Friendly Hills Country Club before SOLA Meeting at 5:30 pm.



A new SOLA Lions Club Directory has been printed and distributed. A special thanks to those who advertised in it to cover the cost of printing. Want second copy? Please ask.



We were delighted to welcome Margie Hood to our meeting Wednesday evening. She is the mother-in-law of one of Jane and Larry Dicus's sons and hopes to become a member of our SOLA Lions Club. We look forward to her friendship and support!



March and April Birthdays

3/4: David Williamson 3/8: Jay Prestelle 3/19: Dan McMillan 3/28: Gabriel Sanchez
4/7: Wayne Martin 4/10: Jerry Masterson 4/15: DG Manny Sanchez 4/23: Gloria Lopez

April Anniversary 4/20: Dean and Linda Crowley



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Alberto Montes De Oca <i>1st Vice President</i>	Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre <i>Special Olympics Liaison</i>
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Ron Copley <i>Guiding Lion - Emeritus</i>	

SOLAMOTION

Monthly Newsletter of the Special Olympics
Los Angeles Lions Club of Whittier
Volume 7, No. 7 February 22, 2017



“ Special Olympics Southern California enriches the lives of more than 28,000 athletes with intellectual disabilities and their communities in Southern California through sports, education, and athlete health.”



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow SOLA Members,

February was a particularly quiet one for us activity wise. We had great attendance at both the meeting on the 1st and on the 15th. District Governor Manny presented Melvin Jones participation pins to those who attended the January District meeting as well as a lovely certificate of commendation to Lion Wayne thanking him for his graphic design work for the International President's visit as we started the new year.

Second Vice President Marla held the first "official" meeting of the Golf Tournament committee and revisions to the brochure advertising the October 13th event were worked on and submitted to our amazing Lion Wayne for mock up.

Thanks to Past District Governor and First Vice President Alberto for manning the helm at our February 15th meeting in my absence. I am told that the meeting ran smoothly and that Lion Drew, as always, provided our pride with some amusing fun facts.

Let it be known that our hearts and prayers go out to the family, friends and colleagues of Whittier Police Officer Keith Boyer who lost his life on Monday, February 20th while on duty protecting and defending our community. We also send our prayers to Officer Patrick Hazell, Officer Boyer's partner, who was wounded in this tragic event. We also pray for Officer Hazell's family. Our community of Whittier, a small town in the middle of a big city, mourns the loss of one of our finest officers and community members. We pray for peace and understanding of this senseless tragedy.

With love,
Susan



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Next Regular Meeting
March 1, 2017
Friendly Hills Country Club
8500 S. Villaverde Drive
Whittier, CA 90605





Spotlight on

Whittier Coach and Athlete



Whittier Swimming Team Coach Christina Liebert and son Trent



I asked Trent what he liked about the Sea Monkeys. This is what he said:

“I like to swim under water.”

“I like to win the medals.”

“I like talking to my new friends.”

“You just have fun.”

Hi, my name is Christina Liebert. I am the new Special Olympics Head Swim Coach for the City of Whittier. A little background on me. I am a mother of 3 boys, one who has special needs since he was 3 months old. His name is Trent. Thanks to prayers being answered, he is an athlete on Whittier's Sea Monkey's Swim Team. I was a volunteer assistant coach last year with the Sea Monkeys. I have been swimming competitively since I was 9 years old. I taught swim lessons for a few years as well as being a life guard in my younger years. I am also a Red Cross CPR Instructor. I have been a para educator for special education for the last 6 years. When I was asked if I would like to be the Sea Monkey's Head Coach it was as if someone was listening to my list of life long dreams. This has been an amazing dream come true.

Thank you Christina for coaching our Whittier Special Olympics Swim Team! Congratulations Trent for being a Champion!



January 1, 2017

Small World—Happy Encounter with IP Bob Corlew



As new Lions, we decided to go to the Lions Rose Parade Breakfast on January 1st. Penny's parents were visiting us from Oahu, Hawaii, so we brought them as our guests. We found a table to the side and before we knew it two District Governors joined us at our table. They invited Penny's parents to meet the International President who was at the breakfast. Bob Corlew gave them his President's pin. We had a great morning meeting new friends and touring the Lion Rose Parade float.

My dad is a retired Pastor and typically not a club "joiner". He called yesterday to say that he attended a Lions club meeting as a guest in Hawaii. He is going to join the club with Penny as his co-sponsor. The Rose Parade breakfast is a great opportunity to introduce new people to Lionism!

Penny & Jesse Lopez





February 21, 2017

In Memoriam - Police Officer Keith Boyer

Our SOLA members, along with his family and the whole City of Whittier, grieve for the loss of a wonderful police officer who was senselessly killed when responding to what appeared to be a simple traffic accident. The driver opened fire, killing Officer Keith Boyer and wounding Officer Patrick Hazell.

Officer Keith Boyer, 53, was a 28-year veteran of the Whittier Police Department. "Keith was very humble; he was always smiling, positive, energetic and intelligent," Whittier Police Chief Jeff Piper said. "He was the best of the best." He also was a friend of students at La Serna High School where he served in the "Officer on Campus" program.



To his family and loved ones, the SOLA Lions Club wishes peace to bring comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts. May you be comforted by the outpouring of love surrounding you by fellow officers and the whole Whittier community.

Our SOLA Lions Club also wishes to thank the entire Whittier Police Department for their generous support of Special Olympics through the LA World Summer Games 2015 Whittier Host Town, local athletic competitions, and the yearly "Tip-a-Cop" and "Torch Run" events. Thanks!

Upcoming Special Olympics Events

SOLA/SELA Basketball Competition at Whittier College, April 8, 2017

SOLA/SELA Swim Competition at Palm Park, May 6, 2017



City of
Hope™

Lions Day at City of Hope March 26, 2017

9:00 am

City of Hope 1500 East Duarte Road,
Duarte

Lions are recognized by City of Hope.

Tour of Hospital and Luncheon.

For more information contact
Committee Chair PDG Bill Walters
lionbill4L2@sbcglobal.net

Save the Date!



October 13, 2017
starting at 12 noon

A New Champions Lions Club in South Africa



Some great news! Under the leadership of VP Gudrun Bjort Yngvadottir, the Bryanston Champions Cyber Club has been officially chartered! The Club is made up primarily of Special Olympics South Africa colleagues, including 11 athletes! Annemarie Hill also joined the Club!

We are thrilled that the Bryanston Champions Cyber Club has joined the ranks of the PID Shah-led Friends of Special Olympics Kenya Champions Club in Kenya, to continue to add to the footprint that Champions Lions Clubs are having in communities around the world.

More to come on the activation of this Club, and we could not be happier to share this new development.

Best wishes,

David S. Evangelista
President and Managing Director, Special Olympics Europe-Eurasia





Thank you for your continued support!



"Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

- Athlete Oath



www.sosc.org



February and March Birthdays

2/8: Aaron Sotelo 2/13: Mary Beth Duke 2/15: Rosa Masterson 2/25: Lilly Sanchez
 2/28: Joseph Nichols 3/4: David Williamson 3/8: Jay Prestelle 3/19: Dan McMillan
 3/28: Gabriel Sanchez

February Anniversary 2/14: David and Jeannie Williamson



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SOLAMOTION

Monthly Newsletter of the Special Olympics
Los Angeles Lions Club of Whittier
Volume 7, No. 6 January 25 2017



We Serve Special Olympics Athletes



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year to SOLA Lions and Friends!

WOW! What a fantastic way to kick off 2017! We had 27 SOLA members and associate members at our first meeting of the new year! Additionally, four guests joined us and District 4-L2 Governor Manny Sanchez dropped in at the last minute to spend some time with us.

Our guests included Past International Director Larry Dicus, Lions Mike and Cheryl Zozaya of the new Orange County [Special Olympics] Champions Club, and our guest speaker, Bill Shumard, President and CEO of Southern California Special Olympics.

Lion President Mike and Lion Cheryl brought us up to date on the activities of their Champions Lions Club (a Branch Club of the Huntington Beach Lions Club), including participating in a "Turkey Bowl" charity bowling event and initiating a softball clinic designed to bring new Special Olympics athletes into competition. The membership of the Champions Lions Club is growing and they look forward to adding more clinics and events.

Our 2nd Vice President, Lion Marla Baker, has already started planning and organizing this year's 3rd Annual Shotgun Golf Tournament fundraiser, to be held in the afternoon of October 13. Lion Marla enthusiastically solicited many members to sign up for the Golf Committee.

Bill Shumard, our guest speaker, enthralled us with exciting news and information about new strategies SOSOC is taking to serve more Special Olympics athletes. (*I've written the key points of his presentation on page 6 of this newsletter.*) In closing, Bill thanked us for all we do for our local S.O. Athletes and noted that he is looking forward to a strong continued relationship with our Club.

WHEW! What a meeting! Looking forward to seeing ALL of you at our next meeting on February 1, 2017.

SOLA Lions,
Hear Us Roar!

Susan



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February 1, 2017
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8500 S. Villaverde Drive
Whittier, CA 90605



SPECIAL OLYMPICS



Everyone had lots to eat and lots of fun!

SOLA/SELA-Annual Christmas Party 2016



SPECIAL OLYMPICS



December 14, 2016



SOLA CHRISTMAS PARTY
THANK YOU SUSAN & DREW SONES

The Centennial Lions Rose Parade Float 2017

Lions Int'l President Bob Corlew and First Lady Dianne Honored



By Sharon Gioviazzo, *President & CEO World Services for the Blind, Little Rock, ARK.*

As I was on the last leg of my trip this evening I had to reflect on the events of the week. But, words cannot begin to describe the experience.

As early as I can remember a New Year's tradition was to watch the Tournament of Roses Parade. At the age of 31, I lost my sight. So for the last 16 years I would not turn on the TV to watch it, because it would make me sad. It was not many things that saddened me about losing my sight; parades and fireworks were two of those things.

So this year California Lions invited me to walk along side of the 100 year Lions Club float. I also was able to participate in helping decorate the float.

This morning Jan 2nd we began at 5:30 am making our way through residential neighborhoods in Pasadena to be dropped off to walk to where the floats are staged. Then at 8:02am the stealth bomber does its flyover to officially launch the 128th Annual Rose Parade and we began the 5.5 mile journey.

With about a million people lining the parade route, 50 million people watching in the US and it is guessed about another 70 million watching worldwide Lions Clubs International 100 years of service was showcased.

The theme of the parade **Echoes of Success** rang throughout the parade but to Lions that is something that echoes throughout the world everyday as the largest humanitarian organization in the world with more than 1.4 million members changing lives everyday. Lions from all over the US play a pivotal role in creating sustainable independence right here in Little Rock for people who are blind and visually impaired everyday.

World Services for the Blind was highlighted as one of their service projects. Lions have assisted World Services for the Blind in their mission since 1947 to serve more than 13,000 people from all fifty states and from 58 countries to gain the skills needed to live independently and have careers in their fields of choosing.

So the experiences were awesome. Thank you California Lions for everything. Thank you for the warm welcome again and for allowing me to join you in Lionism.

Copied from Facebook. Permission requested



Lions International President Bob Corlew spoke to over 350 Lions from throughout California at a reception at the Double Tree Hotel in Rosemead on Sunday evening.



An Evening with Bill Shumard, SOSC President and CEO



It's always a treat to have Bill Shumard speak to us about how Special Olympics Southern California is finding new ways to meet the needs of the athletic community it serves. Here's just a taste of his presentation:

- In 2005 Special Olympics served 8,000 athletes of an average age of 37. By the end of 2016 more than 28,000 athletes of an average age of 16 are being served.
- Special Olympics Southern California is a financially stable entity thanks, in part, to the 2015 World Games. Even the State of California now recognizes the importance of Special Olympics and supports the athletes with big bucks through the

Department of Education. Over 150 California high schools now offer Unified Sports programs.

- There is a new Strategic Plan being worked on that will spread 12 sports over 2 seasons. Some sports like Bowling and Field Hockey will have "their own season." This change is designed to encourage our athletes to participate in more than one sport.
- A concept called "Team Wellness" (Bill likened it to "Boot Camp") for our athletes is focusing on year-round physical fitness and healthy nutrition. This ties into the "Healthy Athletes" program.

Charity Navigators, America's largest independent charity evaluator, in 2005 rated the Special Olympics organization with only one star ★; in 2016 *Charity Navigators* now rated us with 4 stars ★★☆☆. Our resources are considered to be in good hands.

- Albertsons, Vons and Pavilion grocery stores now have a "check stand donation" system that, as of July 21, 2016, contributed 1.2 million dollars to the Special Olympics treasuries in Southern and Northern California.

- Summarized by President Susan Sones

Upcoming Special Olympics Events

SOLA/SELA Basketball Competition at Whittier College, April 8, 2017

SOLA/SELA Swim Competition at Palm Park, May 6, 2017



To answer visitors questions about what Lions do, Lion Wayne was asked to create a 3-fold brochure to be passed out at the Float Palace and at the Showcase of Floats after the parade. 5000 copies were printed and distributed.

Save the Date!



October 13, 2017
starting at 12 noon



January 28, 2017

Let's Help the New Champions Club in Orange County

Softball Clinic

Presented by:



Here is the flyer we shared at last night's meeting. The clinic is designed to generate interest by Special Olympics athletes in softball. There are currently only 2 teams in all of Orange County. The hope is to get enough players interested to form additional teams so that we are able to host/ sponsor a competition like SOLA.

Supporting:
Special Olympics
Southern California



Sunday, January 29th, 2017 | 1:00-4:00pm
Fountain Valley Recreation Center & Sports Complex
16400 Brookhurst St., Fountain Valley

This is our first official event working with Special Olympics Orange County. We have assisted at the spring and fall games as well as the Turkey Bowl fun raiser for SO Orange County.

Special Olympics athletes are invited to join in on an exciting day of softball! Athletes will go through a Series of stations to develop their skills and see if they may be interested in joining a team. All ability levels are welcome! There is no cost to participate, however **ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED**. Valid Athlete Application (Athlete Medical) needs to be on file with Special Olympics.

Snacks and water will be provided to participants. Food Trucks will be onsite selling a variety of items.

Volunteers are also welcome!



To sign up as an athlete or volunteer, visit:
<https://goo.gl/forms/0MohrU5aPeoABlp33>

For more information, please contact:
Mike Zozaya mazumpire@yahoo.com

If SOLA members are interested in signing up as volunteers there is a link on the flyer to do so. If members are planning on attending the event, please let me know so I can contact them if the event is cancelled due to rain. Right now we are hoping to have all the fields playable with the current weather forecast, but a lot of rain could fall and wash out/damage the fields and then we would have to cancel. Questions? Call. Great meeting last night and looking forward to a long working relationship with SOLA.

Mike Zozaya, President, OC Champions Lions Club, Cell:948-280-3318



District 4-L2 Recognition and Calendar

At the January 1st reception for IP Corlew and Lady Dianne, Lions Float Inc. expressed their appreciation to “those who went above and beyond to assist in the International President’s visit and/or the support of our Float.” Among those receiving the International President’s Certificate of Appreciation were our own Lion Lillian Sanchez (SOLA Lion) and her husband, our District Governor, Manny Sanchez (Montebello Lion). Congratulations!



On December 28 our very active associate member Lion Dan Skewes and his wife Pam (along with others) were honored at Rancho Amigos Rehabilitation Center’s Tree of Life Ceremony for service performed and giving of themselves to further the association, a sponsored project of District 4-L2. Congratulations!



District 4-L2 Calendar

Saturday	January 21	3rd District Meeting PIH Hospital in Whittier, Auditorium Lower Level 8-9:30 am Breakfast Buffet Cost: \$12 by 1/17, Contact Lion Ron Copley for RSVP 9:00 am Call to Order—Business Session New Member Orientation follows
Sunday	February 26	Melvin Jones Recognition Luncheon 1:30 pm Monterey Hills Restaurant, Monterey Park
Sat-Mon	March 4-6	MD4 Leadership Institute in Ontario, California
Sunday	March 26	Lions Day at the City of Hope



January and February Birthdays

1/9: Dan Skewes 1/11: Drew Sones 1/19: Sarah 1/28: Craig Peck 2/8: Aaron Sotelo
2/13: Mary Beth Duke 2/15: Rosa Masterson 2/25: Lilly Sanchez 2/28: Joseph Nichols

January and February Anniversaries

2/14: David and Jeannie Williamson



Bob Corlew International President, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, USA
 Larry Dicus Past Lions Clubs International Director
 David Radtke California MD4 Council Chair
 Manny Sanchez 4-L2 District Governor
 Tessy Prumatico 4-L2 First Vice District Governor
 John Nelson 4-L2 Second Vice District Governor
 Maggie Cardenas 4-L2 Central Region Chair
 Lisha Valles 4-L2 Zone B Central Chair



SOLA LIONS CLUB OFFICERS 2016-2017

Susan Sones *President*
 Alberto Montes De Oca *1st Vice President*
 Marla Baker *2nd Vice President*
 Jeff Martin *Secretary*
 Carol Copley *Treasurer*
 Ron Copley

Susie Ausdal *Immediate Past President*
 Ruri “Peanuts” Pierre *Special Olympics Liaison*
 Theresa Rivas *Director*
 Jill Wall *Director*
 Drew Sones *Director*
 *Guiding Lion - Emeritus*