

SOLAMOTION



SPECIAL OLYMPICS



Monthly Newsletter of the Special Olympics
Los Angeles Lions Club of Whittier
Volume 10, No. 3
October 26, 2019

Special
Olympics
Southern California

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Fellow SOLA Lions,

Have you ever watched people who love what they do? They work with smiles on their faces. They move with grace and ease. They attend carefully and lovingly to every detail. They never grow tired of what they do. They do it willingly, joyously for themselves, for you and for anyone else who shows the slightest bit of interest. They talk about what they do, sharing some part of it with others. When you love your work, you do it with passion. You want to do more and wherever you go, whomever you're with you want to do what you do, to share that passion and love of the work, because it feels so good. This to me describes our SOLA Lions Club members. This is why our **SOLA/SELA Special Olympics Softball Competition** held on Saturday, September 21, 2019, at the Rio Vista Park in Pico Rivera, was such a success. The athletes, coaches, and parents of the 13 teams were so appreciative for all of our SOLA Lions Club volunteers that day. Many of the team coaches commented that they **"Love coming to our competitions because the SOLA Lions members care about the athletes."** Thank you to all the members who came out to volunteer that day, to show your dedication, passion and love to the athletes!!! I am looking forward to all the competitions: Basketball, Swimming and Bowling, in 2020!!!!



How does this happen that the holidays are upon us so fast? **The SELA Christmas Party**, for our area Special Olympics athletes will be held on Saturday, December 7, 2019 at Simms Park, 16614 Clark Ave., in Bellflower. There will be over 300 athletes with their family/friends at the potluck dinner. Activities include dinner, a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus with presents and dancing. I encourage all SOLA Lions Club members to come volunteer, to help decorate the tables before the event, to serve, pass out drinks and desserts, but most importantly, to socialize with our guests of honor, our athletes. Volunteer assistance begins at 3:00 pm.

Thank you to Jeannie and David Williamson for graciously opening their beautiful home for our **Annual SOLA Lions Family Christmas Party**, Wednesday, December 18, 2019. There will be delicious food and desserts, and singing to get us all in the spirit of the holidays. More information to come on this event.

At our next meeting on Wednesday, November 6, **Casee Weiber**, Administrator, Volunteer Engagement of Special Olympics Southern California, Central Division, and **Teresa Borunda**, Senior Manager, Sports and Programs, Special Olympics Los Angeles and San Gabriel Valley Regions, will be attending our meeting and giving a presentation on the **CLASS A Volunteer Application** process. It is very important for as many members be at this meeting so we can register or reregister as a CLASS A volunteer, through Special Olympics, in order to continue to work with the athletes. I am excited to have both Casee and Teresa at our meeting to hear about this process and other volunteer opportunities our club may have through Special Olympics Southern California.

Looking forward to seeing all of our dedicated and passionate SOLA Lions very soon!!!

Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre



Our Title Sponsor

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

Regular Meeting
November 6, 2019

Friendly Hills Country Club
8500 S. Villaverde Drive
Whittier, CA 90605





September 21, 2019

SELA-Whittier Area Softball Competition



Thank You Pico Rivera for the Use of Rio Vista Park for our Softball Competitions





SOLA

We Appreciate our Deputy Sheriffs Helping Present the Awards Each Year



Softball Competition photographs taken by Lion Penny Lopez



Special Olympics
Global Messenger
Jared Kozak
Receives
Richard L. Van Kirk
Outstanding Outreach
Achievement Award



The SOLA Lions Club was thrilled to have one of its own Team Whittier Special Olympics athletes visit its regular Club meeting on October 16, 2019 to share his recently received award. Presented annually since 2001, the award is named after Special Olympics Southern California's first president.

A large part of Jared's contribution to Special Olympics is due to his involvement and leadership in the Global Messengers program, which he joined in 2017 to spread awareness of Special Olympics' mission. "Almost every time that there has been a need for a Global Messenger, Jared has answered the bell, even when he has received last-minute requests. His story, like all of our athletes, is amazing and Jared always does a wonderful job," said Brandon Adachi, Community Engagement Director at the Special Olympics' Los Angeles/San Gabriel Valley office.

Jared is always sharing the Special Olympics' Mission, along with the impact inclusive sports has had on his life and the lives of many other athletes. He participates in golf, bowling, athletics, and in the past basketball with the Southeast Los Angeles program.

After participating in the Law Enforcement Torch Run at such a young age, Jared grew up appreciating all that law enforcement agencies have contributed to Special Olympics and this is reflected in many of his presentations as a Global Messenger.



"Every time Jared speaks, it's incredibly impactful. These presentations were perfectly crafted because it not only shared Jared's Special Olympics and personal story, but also why he loves law enforcement and how important they are to him and all athletes," his nomination read.

Outside of sports and Special Olympics, Jared has worked as a host at Lascari's Restaurant for seven years. That's in addition to being an actor and appearing on two Nickelodeon series and the long-running ABC soap opera "General Hospital."

- Parts taken from SOSC news release

Team Whittier Golf Participates at SOSC Lakewood Golf Competition



Dear SOLA Family,

Since joining SOLA Lions Club in 2014, I have experienced many fantastic roles with the athletes of Southern California Special Olympics! This year, I was able to accomplish a new position as one of the Coaches of the Whittier Golf Team. Under the leadership of Head Coach Joan Kozak, I have been able to encourage ten of the finest golfers in the region, along with seeing them improve their golf techniques at each practice.

The other joy of being a coach is becoming a Unified Partner to one of our athletes, and participating in the annual competitions. On October 12th, my new friend Tony La Rue and I competed against three other teams in quest of a medal. In the end we finished in Fourth Place, and we were both honored to receive our ribbons that day. Our teammates took home various medals and ribbons as well, and Team Whittier finished with some impressive scores from the nine hole competition. It is such a delight to join these exceptional athletes this season, and I hope to be able to continue coaching next year.

Lion Jeff Martin
 SOLA Lions Club Secretary
 & Team Whittier Golf Coach





SAVE the DATES!

Many hands make decorating tables, greeting athletes, and serving food much easier and more fun. Please try to be at Simms Park by 3 pm to help. Thanks!



SOLA members, let's start thinking of donating \$10 gift cards for the SELA Special Olympics Christmas Party. Thanks!



SELA Christmas Party
for Special Olympics Athletes
December 7—Simms Park, Bellflower



SOLA Family Christmas Party
December 18

At the beautiful home of
Lions Jeannie & David
Williamson

8119 California Avenue
Whittier

Cost: TBD

Please RSVP to Jeannie by Friday,
Dec. 13 at cell: 562-688-5294



Dear SOLA Lions of Whittier,

Thank you for putting on such a wonderful baseball tournament last Saturday. On behalf of the HB Tidal Waves, we had a grand experience. As parents, we were especially impressed that we received team pictures by the end of the day!

On behalf of Temple Beth Shalom of Santa Ana, I also want to thank you for donating the left over lunches for our Mitzvah Meal Program. We were able to take the lunch bags to a shelter in Santa Ana that houses women and children. Talk about your work serving double populations.

We are so grateful!

Sheila Silver
 Mom - Special Olympics
 Volunteer - TBS Mitzvah Meals

cc: Coach Purcell
 Rabbi Heidi Cohen
 Cheryl Escoc



October and November Birthdays

10/7: Benjamin Feng 10/15: Theresa Rivas 10/23: Jan Berry 10/26: Larry Dicus
 10/31: Jill Wall 11/10: Marla Baker 11/13: Susan Sones 11: 31: Bob Warnock

October and November Wedding Anniversaries

10/10: Larry and Jane Dicus 11/17: Jerry and Rosa Masterson



**SOLA LIONS
 CLUB OFFICERS
 2019-2020**

Dr. Jung-Yul Choi	Lions Clubs International President, Korea
Larry Dicus	Past Lions Clubs International Director
Bob Stewart	California MD4 Council Chair
Gary Hall.....	4-L2 District Governor
Woodland "Woody" Hugh	4-L2 First Vice District Governor
Harry Shuster	4-L2 Second Vice District Governor
Daniel "Dan" Skewes.....	4-L2 Central Region Chair
Lupita Aree	4-L2 Zone B Central Chair
Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre.....	<i>President</i>
Theresa Rivas	<i>1st Vice President</i>
Penny Lopez	<i>2nd Vice President</i>
Jeff Martin	<i>Secretary</i>
Carol Copley.....	<i>Treasurer</i>
Jill Wall.....	<i>Special Olympics Liaison</i>
Ron Copley ...	<i>Im't Past President, Guiding Lion-Emeritus</i>
Jesse Lopez	<i>Sr. Director</i>
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David Williamson.....	<i>Jr. Director</i>
Gwen Stanga	<i>Jr. Director</i>



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Los Angeles Lions Club of Whittier
Volume 10, No. 2

September 10, 2019

Special
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As our new board members and I were being installed on June 18, 2019, I kept thinking of how far our SOLA Lions Club has come in 10 years. We began with a meet and greet and recruited 40 members that became SOLA. We knew we were going to work with Special Olympics athletes in the Whittier area, but in what capacity. Through many meetings with our members and Southern California Special Olympics staff, we had a direction: to help our athletes to become the best they can be, by offering more competitions, purchasing equipment and uniforms and getting the word out about our specialized club to other Lions Clubs.

We are a strong club, always keeping our mission statement *"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."*

As I mentioned in my installation speech, "We Are Ohana!" Ohana in Hawaiian means Family. The idea is also that family and friends are bound together and everyone must work together and not forget each other. Our club is bound together as a FAMILY WITH A PURPOSE.

There is always lots of work to be done for our Special Olympics athletes. I am looking forward to working with our board and all the members to achieve our goals.

We are looking forward to District Governor Gary Hall visiting our club on Wednesday, September 18. During his visit he will be installing two new members. Also I would like to invite you all to join us on Saturday, September 21 for our Annual Softball Competition at Rio Vista Park. More information is on the flyer in this newsletter on page 4. We will have 16 teams competing. Let's show our support in force and cheer on our athletes.

Yours in Lionism,
Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre



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Regular Meeting
September 18, 2019
Friendly Hills Country Club
8500 S. Villaverde Drive
Whittier, CA 90605



SPECIAL OLYMPICS

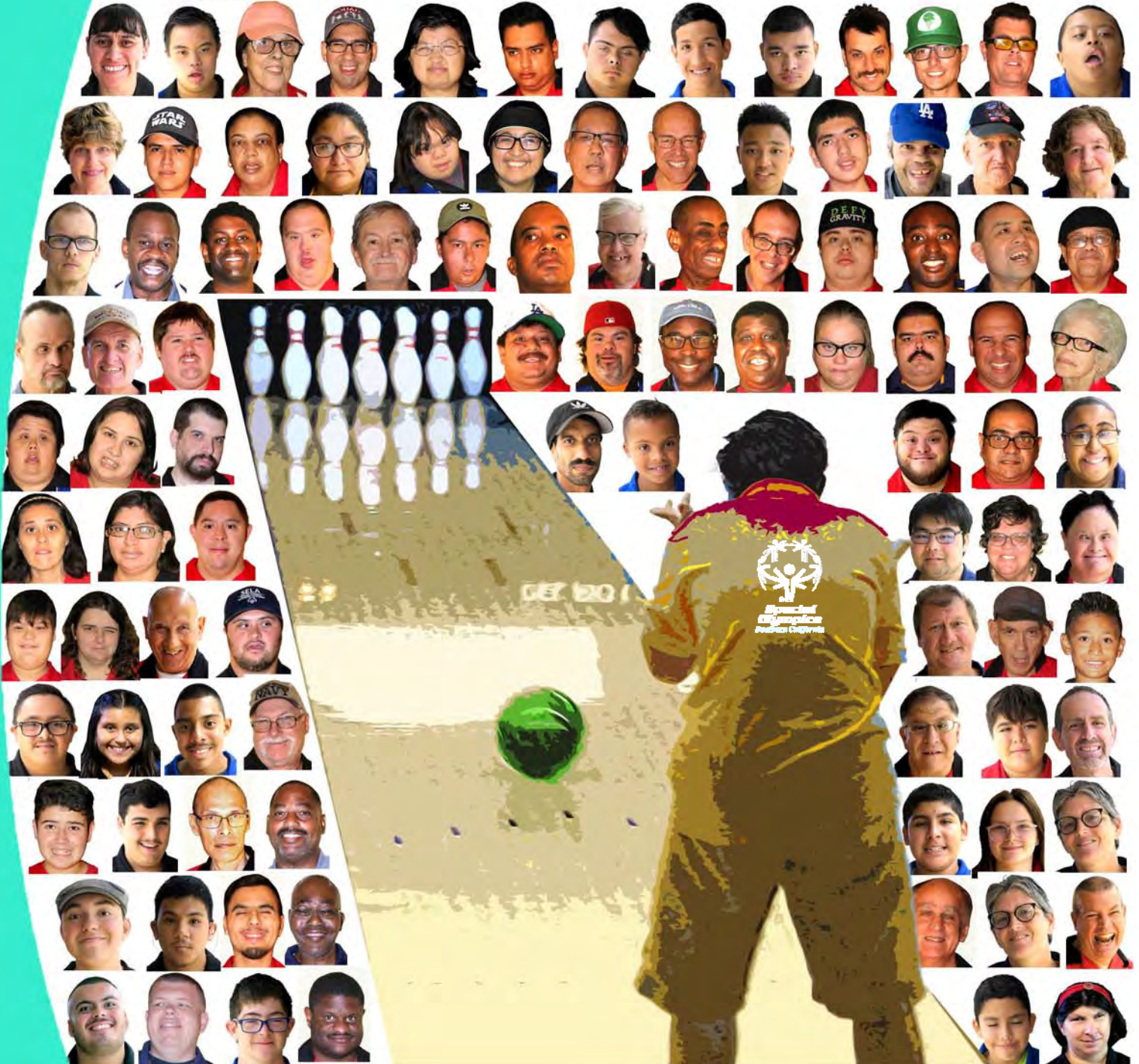


August 17, 2019

SELA-Whittier Area Bowling Competition

August is a challenging month for our SOLA Lions Club to sponsor a Bowling Competition since many members are out-of-town and the wonderful high school youth usually helping us are difficult to reach. Yet we still delivered an outstanding event under the leadership of Lion Jeff Martin and available SOLA members. Over 100 athletes and 50 coaches from Greater Los Angeles, the South Bay "This Is How We Roll" team, City of Carson, City of Norwalk, the Downey "Dukes & Dolls," Lakewood "Split Happens," Norwalk "Dukes & Dolls," and the Whittier "The Incredibowlers" used all 32 lanes at the Del Rio Lanes in Downey from 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM. Our Special Olympics athletes had a great time with many cheers, thanks to everyone's enthusiastic participation!

SELA Special Olympics Bowlers Hall of Fame



Thank You Del Rio Lanes for the Use of Your Beautiful Lanes





September 21, 2019

SELA-Whittier Area Softball Competition

Special Olympics
Southern California



Southeast Los Angeles (SELA) - Whittier Area Softball Competition

Hosted by SOLA Lions Club & the City of Whittier

Saturday, September 21, 2019

Rio Vista Park

8751 Coffman & Pico Road
Pico Rivera, CA 90713

Special Olympics athletes from Southeast Los Angeles and surrounding areas will compete in Softball & have the opportunity to visit Healthy Families.



SCHEDULE:

7:30am | Volunteer Check-In

8:30am | Delegation Check-In

9:30am | Opening Ceremony

10:00am - 3:00pm | Competition

11:30am - 12:30pm | Lunch (*Provided for registered athletes, coaches & volunteers only*)

Awards will be presented on each field after the last game is finished for that field

*Times are general and subject to change

TEAMS/LEVELS OFFERED: 16 Teams, B , C, & D Levels

ALLOTMENT: Invitation Only, Closed to Outside Regions

GAMES & VOLUNTEER INFORMATION:

Ruri Pierre | 1pierre1015@gmail.com

COMPETITION INFORMATION CONTACT:

Teresa Borunda | 562-502-1114

tborunda@sosc.org



President Ruri is requesting that all SOLA members meet at 7AM for set up at Rio Vista Park in Pico Rivera. Teresa Borunda at Special Olympics is hoping for 16 teams to compete, which means we'll need to set up and use four softball fields.



Membership



“There are amazingly wonderful people in all walks of life: some familiar to us, and others not. Stretch yourself and really get to know people. People are in many ways one of our greatest treasures.” - Bryant H. McGill

SOLA Lions Club is centered around serving our amazing athletes. Life long friendships are nurtured as we serve and volunteer together. Personally my life is much richer because I have been blessed by many friends in SOLA. The welcoming culture of SOLA Lions Club has been a core value since the beginning and I encourage you to find others who would join us in our mission. We are looking for people who have a heart for our athletes, serve with compassion and available to support our events with their time, skills and/or financial resources. Membership recruitment is about extending friendship to “some familiar to us and others not”. **Each SOLA Lion can sponsor new members.** This year we would love to welcome at least 10 new members in supporting our amazing Special Olympic Athletes!

Yours in Lionism
Penny Lopez
2nd Vice President



SOLA members,
let's start thinking of
donating \$10 gift cards
for the SELA Special
Olympics Christmas
Party.



New associate member
Julie Ton Fercho and
baby Benjamin receive
SOLA Lions Club
membership badges!



Past President Ron Copley
finally is able to present Lion
Jill Wall with Certificate of
Appreciation for her service
to SOLA and Special
Olympics this past year.



Looking forward to another great golf tournament fundraiser!



GRAB some postcards and send them to your friends, inviting them to **“Save the Date”** for our **May 4th Golf Tournament** at the beautiful and private Friendly Hills Country Club. **This is SOLA’s main fundraiser** to finance the many things SOLA does to provide the competitions, purchase equipment and uniforms and host celebrations for our local Special Olympics athletes!



September and October Birthdays

9/19: Carol Copley 9/21: Julie Ton Fercho, Harry Brown 10/7: Benjamin Feng
 10/15: Theresa Rivas 10/23: Jan Berry 10/26: Larry Dicus 10/31: Jill Wall

September and October Wedding Anniversaries

9/8: Ron and Carol Copley 9/13: Brad and Jan Harmer 10/10: Larry and Jane Dicus



Dr. Jung-Yul Choi Lions Clubs International President, Korea
 Larry Dicus Past Lions Clubs International Director
 Bob Stewart California MD4 Council Chair
 Gary Hall..... 4-L2 District Governor
 Woodland “Woody” Hugh4-L2 First Vice District Governor
 Harry Shuster 4-L2 Second Vice District Governor
 Daniel “Dan” Skewes.....4-L2 Central Region Chair
 Lupita Aree 4-L2 Zone B Central Chair



SOLA LIONS CLUB OFFICERS 2019-2020

Ruri “Peanuts” Pierre..... <i>President</i>	Ron Copley ... <i>Im’t Past President, Guiding Lion-Emeritus</i>
Theresa Rivas <i>1st Vice President</i>	Jesse Lopez <i>Sr. Director</i>
Penny Lopez <i>2nd Vice President</i>	Jeannie Williamson..... <i>Sr. Director</i>
Jeff Martin <i>Secretary</i>	David Williamson..... <i>Jr. Director</i>
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Los Angeles Lions Club of Whittier
Volume 10, No. 1 August 12, 2019

Special
Olympics
Southern California



CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF SERVING SPECIAL OLYMPICS ATHLETES



Our Title Sponsor

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June 19, 2019

SOLA Lions Club Installation Dinner



Teresa Borunda gives greeting from Special Olympics Southern California



PDG Alberto Montes De Oca installs Ruri Pierre as SOLA New President



SOLA Lions Club awarded plaque as a Founding Club of C.L.F.



PP Steve Nichols reflects on SOLA's first 10 years



New SOLA President Ruri challenges Club to meet new goals of "We Serve"



How SOLA is blessed to have Ron & now Ruri as President!



PID Larry Dicus thanks SOLA Lions



Lion David Williamson honored with MD4 Academy Awards Certificate of Appreciation



Lion Wayne Martin receives "Lion of the Year" Award



For service above & beyond Lion Steve Nichols presented "CLF Kay Fukushima Fellow" award



PDG Alberto Montes De Oca installs 2019-2020 Officers and Directors



Concerts In The Park



We have had a busy summer selling pizza. We sold 67 pizzas in one night, our largest night ever. On this highest sales night our pizza bakers ran out of pizza dough because we had sold so many!

A big thank you to Lion Steve Nichols for storing, hauling (to and from the park) and setting up all of the ice chests, tables and storage totes. Our slowest night we sold 20 pizzas. Thanks to everyone for all their hard work!

And thanks to 1st Vice President Lion Theresa Rivas for chairing this excellent SOLA Lions Club fundraiser.

**Thursdays
Parnell Park 7 p.m.**

June 27 Stevie Nicks Illusion
Fleetwood Mac Tribute

July 11 Selena
Selena Tribute Band

July 18 Neon Nation 80s

July 25 Blue Breeze Band
Motown

August 1 Hard Days Night
The Beatles Tribute

August 8 Electric Vinyl
Classic Rock



Thanks to the following Lions for helping at the SOLA Pizza Booth this summer:

Booth this summer:

Alberto, Brad, Carol, Dan M,
Dan S, David, Drew, Jeannie,
Jesse, Jill, Penny, Ron, Ruri,
Sarah, Sharon, Steve, Susan,
Theresa, Ursula +
Brent and Jan Berry



SPECIAL OLYMPICS



Ron's 80th Birthday Party and 4th of July Celebration

Thanks Ron and Carol
for a wonderful evening
celebrating your 80th
Birthday, complete with
dear dear friends,
delicious food and
fantastic fireworks.

Couldn't have been
more enjoyable! Thanks!





August 17, 2019

SELA-Whittier Area Bowling Competition

Special Olympics
Southern California



Southeast Los Angeles (SELA) - Whittier Area Bowling Competition

Hosted by SOLA Lions Club

Saturday, August 17, 2019

Del Rio Lanes

7502 Florence Ave,
Downey, CA 90240

Special Olympics Southern California athletes from Southeast Los Angeles and surrounding areas will compete in Bowling at the 2019 SELA-Whittier Bowling Competition.

SCHEDULE:

10:45am | Volunteer Check-in
11:15am | Athlete Check-in
11:45am | Opening Ceremony
12:00pm | Competition
After 3rd Game | Lunch
2:30pm | Closing

*Times are general and subject to change

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



ALLOTMENT: Open to invited SELA Athletes Only

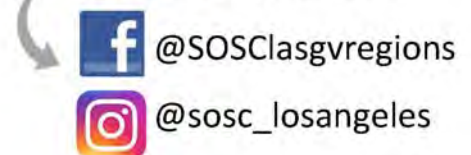
GAMES & VOLUNTEER INFORMATION:

Teresa Borunda | 562-502-1114
tborunda@sosc.org

DELEGATION REGISTRATION:

Teresa Borunda | 562-502-1114
tborunda@sosc.org

Follow Us On



NOTE: This competition each year is always challenging with special responsibilities to help each Special Olympics athlete play on two different lanes correctly. We need every member helping to make this competition successful. Thanks!



Lions International Convention - Milan, Italy

Dr. Jung-Yul Choi of Busan, Republic of Korea, was elected to serve as international president of Lions Clubs International at the association's 102nd International Convention, held in Milan, Italy, July 5 through July 9, 2019.

A member of the Busan Jae-il Lions Club since 1977, President Choi has held many offices within the association, including club president, cabinet secretary, district governor and international director.

In addition to his Lion activities, President Choi is chief executive officer of Koala Company, Ltd., an international trading company, and is also a past director of the Busan Sports Association. President Choi and his wife, Seung-Bok, have one son, four daughters & two granddaughters.



SOLA's Lions PID **Larry Dicus**, his wife **Jane**, and PDG **Alberto Montes De Oca** & wife **Sharon** lead the California delegation in the parade through the city of Milan, Italy at the **102nd Lions International Convention**.



August & September Birthdays

8/5: Larry Lopez 8/30: Brad Harmer 9/19: Carol Copley 9/21: Julie Ton Fercho

August & September Wedding Anniversaries

8/14: Jesse and Penny Lopez 8/16: Drew and Susan Sones 9/8: Ron and Carol Copley



Dr. Jung-Yul Choi	Lions Clubs International President, Korea
Larry Dicus	Past Lions Clubs International Director
Bob Stewart	California MD4 Council Chair
Gary Hall.....	4-L2 District Governor
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Volume 9, No. 9 June 17, 2019

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Lions:

What a great Swimming Competition we had this month at the City of Whittier's Palm Park swimming pool on June 1. We had 74 swimmers from 6 Special Olympics teams participate in the event. Over 30 Club members and family helped with the event as well as the Men's and Women's League Boards from Cal Hi and the Leos from Bell Gardens High School. In my opinion, the best part was many of our members stepped up and took on rolls that they had never done before. They did a great job.



On Wednesday, we will be installing a terrific slate of new Officers and Board members to run the Club this next year. I can ensure you that we are in good hands with this group leading our Club into the next ten years.

Starting on Thursday, June 27, we will be having our pizza booth at the City of Whittier Concerts in the park series. We will also be having the booth on July 8, July 15, July 22, July 29 and August 5. Besides making some money for our athletes we get to work with our fellow Lions and have some fun. Please plan on working at the booth.

We will be having a Club social at the Copley home on the 4th of July. It starts at 5:30 PM with fireworks at 9 PM. You are requested to RSVP by June 28 so food and tables/chairs can be planned.

The Board of Directors, at it's last meeting, set Monday, May 4, 2020 as the date for our next Golf Tournament fundraiser. It will be at Friendly Hills Country Club. Please put the date on your calendar. Also, dues are now due and need to be paid by July 1st.

It has been a pleasure to serve as your President this past year. I want to thank everyone in the Club for your support of me, the Club, and for participation in our competitions. I look forward to this next year events. Let's all give Ruri and our new officers and Board members our total support.

See you all at our Club Installation.

President Ron



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Installation Dinner
June 19, 2019
Friendly Hills Country Club
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2019 District 4-L2 Convention

DoubleTree Hotel - Cathedral City, CA
May 16-19, 2019



Colonel Richard Candelaria WWII Pilot - Keynote Speaker IP Mark & Carolyn Lyon Keynote Speaker Present 4-L2 DG John Nelson New DG-Elect Gary Hall

SOLA was well represented at this year's **District 4-L2 Lions Convention**. Three of our members - Brad, Jesse and Penny - were "first timers" and all three voiced their enjoyment over the three days of activities. This reporter interviewed Lion Jesse who was most exuberant about his experience; who felt, although the weather was perfect, "They could have dialed down the wind a little" during the golf tournament. He indicated that the most interesting aspect of the convention was listening to the 97 year old Colonel Richard Candelaria speak of his experiences as a decorated World War II fighter pilot in Germany; his story of being an Ace, being shot down, captured, and then escaping was spell binding.

It was another year of rubbing elbows and sharing club highlights with Lion leaders from some 40 clubs throughout the District. It was also a pleasure meeting guests ID Mark Lyon and his wife Carolyn from Connecticut, who we found out, they attended SOLA's Special Olympics Softball Competition last October. Mark shared how impressed he was with the event, our Club's organizing skills, and support of the Special Olympics athletes.

Lion Jesse did mention that next year he would like to see the Convention Committee plan some educational workshops concerning District activities and structure.

SOLA also took home, as we say in Special Olympics, some gold at the District level, as noted on the following page.

- Reported by Lion Drew Sones



District 4-L2 Lions Convention



Lion Carol Copley receives the Melvin Jones Fellow Award



Lion Ron Copley received an International President's Certificate of Appreciation from IP Gudrun for distinguished achievements in Lionism.



DG John Nelson and ID Mark Lyon present SOLA and Lion Pres. Ron Copley with Governor's Top Club Award, Honorable Mention, Medium Club Division.



Lion Jeff Martin was honored with Governor's Top Secretary Award, Honorable Mention.



DG John Nelson and ID Mark Lyon present Lion Wayne Martin with Governor's Top Club Newsletter Award, for Medium Club Division.



Lion Jesse Lopez receives \$25.00 for his golfing score in spite of the "windy conditions"! Not pictured, Lion David Williamson won "Hole in One" in the putting contest.



Lion David Williamson displays His collection of Lions Pins with four display cases like the above.



2019 SELA - Whittier Swimming Competition



Greater Los Angeles Aquatics Swim Team



Bellflower Torpedoes Swim Team



SELA La Mirada Swim Team



Cerritos Torpedoes Swim Team



Orange County Sharks Swim Team



Whittier Sea Monkeys Team

LOCAL YOUTH GROUPS ASSISTING SOLA LIONS WITH PRODUCING SWIMMING COMPETITION



Bell Gardens High School Leos Club
 Lion Cristina Guzman, Advisor



California High School Men's League Board & Women's League Board
 Jeff Ramirez and Laurel Moore, Advisors

Palm Park Aquatics Center, Whittier

Excellence is the Gradual Result of Always Striving to Do Better



SPECIAL OLYMPICS



Hosted by SOLA Lions Club and City of Whittier

"It Takes a Village" to Produce a Swim Competition





**PUT THIS
on YOUR
CALENDAR!**

**Concerts at
Parnell Park
start June 27**



**SOLA Pizza
Fundraiser**
Please Volunteer

**No
Meetings
in July**
Next Regular
Meeting
August 7



SOLA LIONS HAWAIIAN INSTALLATION

Wednesday, June 19, 2019
Friendly Hill Country Club
 8500 Villaverde Dr., Whittier
 Social 5:30 PM Dinner 6:00 PM

Price: \$30.00
 Hawaiian Attire

Menu

(Pick one of the two choices for your entrée)

- Macadamia Nut Crusted Chicken with Mango Relish
- Baby Back Ribs with Grilled Pineapple BBQ Sauce

Dinner includes Steamed Vegetables and Spam Fried Rice
 Dessert by Rita Custom Cookies
 Wine furnished by PDG Alberto & PP Sharon Montes De Oca

RSVP to Carol or Ron Copley
 roncopley@earthlink.net
 562-693-8330
 By Thursday, June 13



Bowling Competition
Del Rio Lanes - Downey
August 3



June 8-9, 2019

Team Whittier at the S.O. Summer Games - Cal State Long Beach

**Special
Olympics**
Southern California



Sarah (my Sarah) was an extraordinary volunteer this year at summer games and got to take the torch in to the closing ceremonies and set it for next year. It was quite emotional for me and she loved every minute of it.

- Coach Lion
Jill Walls



STATS

Alexandra Coward
100M 1st Place
50M Run 3rd
Softball Throw 1st

Sara Wells
100M Run 6th
50M Run 3rd
Softball Throw 1st

Sally Mosley
100M 3rd
50M Run 1st
Softball Throw 1st

EJ Perez
100M Run 5th
200M Run 3rd
Softball Throw 2nd

Steven Velasco
100M 4th
50M Run 1st
Softball Throw 1st

RJ Neil
100M Run 2nd
50M Run 3rd
Softball Throw 4th

John Rojo
100M Run 3rd
200M Run 3rd
Shot Put 5th

Felix Rivera
100M Run 8th
50M Run 3rd
Softball 1st

Mike Rivera
100M 6th
50M Run 1st
Shot Put 2nd

Julio Alvarado
100M Walk 3rd
50M Walk 6th
Softball Throw 2nd





In Memorial Lion Dean Crowley



On May 19, SOLA Lions lost a dear member and friend, Lion Dean Crowley, who was the former CIF-Southern Section Commissioner from 1993-99. Lion Dean died from pneumonia and complications related to leukemia. He was 85.

Because of his involvement with CIF, Lion Crowley made it possible for our own Special Olympics **Team Whittier** and athletes from Norwalk to participate in two 100 meter races as a Pre-Meet Exhibition before the crowd and top athletes at the So. California Interscholastic Federation Track and Field Masters Meet at Cerritos College on May 27, 2016. What an honor!

A very busy man and champion for kids, Dean Crowley also was an NCAA football official and worked several bowl games including the Freedom Bowl. Dean was a school teacher, a sergeant in the Army Military Police in Germany, and at Gahr High School in Cerritos was a coach, athletic director and vice principal.

In retirement Dean Crowley continued to serve athletics, helping the CIF State run some of its championships including its basketball tournament. "When he walked into a room he was 'Dean Crowley, The Commissioner.'"

Crowley's biography subtitled "The right man at the right time!" on the CIF-SS website states the five principles that Crowley adhered to during his time at the office: "everyone deserves a fair shot; service counts; rules are essential; amateur athletics must remain pure; and sportsmanship is essential."

Lion Dean Crowley is survived by his dear wife Lion Linda, five children and seven grandchildren.

Lion Dean was a terrific Lion. He joined the Whittier Host Lions in 2010 and then in 2015 transferred his membership to the SOLA Lions Club. He was instrumental in forming a strong relationship between CIF and Special Olympics here in Southern California. He is missed by all.



June and July Birthdays

6/16: Susie Ausdal 6/17: Ellen Peck 6/19: Ursula Bell 6/24: John Wall 6/26: Ron Copley
6/30: Jesse Lopez 7/5: Angelica Bio 7/9: Alberto Montes De Oca 7/21: Jeannie Williamson
7/22: Mark Elias, Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre

June and July Wedding Anniversaries

6/14: Dan and Pam Skewes, Wayne and Beverly Martin 6/18: Larry and Dottie Lopez
7/29: Jeff and Kaycy Martin



Gudrun Yngvadottir Lions Clubs International President, Iceland
Larry Dicus Past Lions Clubs International Director
Bob Stewart California MD4 Council Chair
John Nelson, Jr. 4-L2 District Governor
Gary Hall.....4-L2 First Vice District Governor
Woodland "Woody" Hugh 4-L2 Second Vice District Governor
Daniel "Dan" Skewes.....4-L2 Central Region Chair
Lupita Aree 4-L2 Zone B Central Chair



SOLA LIONS CLUB OFFICERS 2018-2019

Ron Copley.....	<i>President, Guiding Lion-Emeritus</i>	PDG Alberto Montes De Oca	<i>Immediate Past President</i>
Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre.....	<i>1st Vice President</i>	Jesse Lopez	<i>Sr. Director</i>
Theresa Rivas	<i>2nd Vice President</i>	Ellen Peck	<i>Sr. Director</i>
Jeff Martin	<i>Secretary</i>	Jeanine Williamson.....	<i>Jr. Director</i>
Carol Copley.....	<i>Treasurer</i>	Penny Lopez	<i>Jr. Director</i>
Jill Wall.....	<i>Special Olympics Liaison</i>		

SOLAMOTION



Monthly Newsletter of the Special Olympics
Los Angeles Lions Club of Whittier
Volume 9, No. 8 May 8, 2019

Special
Olympics
Southern California



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Lions:

What a great Basketball Competition we had last month at Whittier College. We had twelve teams and thanks to Lions Rosa and Jerry we fed 300 athletes, coaches and volunteers. Another great job. Lion Ruri did her usual spectacular job setting-up, organizing and planning the event. Lion Jeff did a great job on opening ceremonies and keeping the event moving all day. Lion Drew and Brad made sure all the athletes stayed healthy, while Lion Penny and Jesse took photos and made sure each athlete and coach went home with a photo folder. Our whole club turned out, worked all day and made it a very successful event. This is what we do - "Serve our Athletes" - and it takes everyone working together to make it happen. I am so proud of all of you. You are terrific and we all work so well together.



Our next event is our Swimming Competition at Palm Park here in Whittier on Saturday, June 1. We need everyone to attend and help put on this competition. We expect around 70 plus swimmers and they all always enjoy coming and competing in this event.

At our last meeting we all enjoyed having Bill Shumard attend and give us an update on what is happening in Special Olympics Southern California. We always look forward to his visits. At this meeting we also elected our new Club Officers for next year. Congratulations to Lion President-Elect Ruri Pierre and a terrific group of Officers and Board members. I believe the Club is in great hands for next year.

See you all at our next Club meeting and our Swimming Competition.

Until next month.....

President Ron



Our Title Sponsor

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 15, 2019
Friendly Hills Country Club
8500 S. Villaverde Drive
Whittier, CA 90605





An Evening with Bill Shumard

It's always a special treat to have Bill Shumard, CEO & President of Special Olympics, So. Calif. visit our club and bring us up to date on SOSC. Here's a summary of what Bill shared



“One of my great privileges is to be with you guys. What you've started, how you've grown . . . for being what you are . . I really mean that.”

Congratulations, Ron and Ruri, for your outstanding leadership over these 10 years!

For the last 10 years our Special Olympics athletes growth has been phenomenal. We've gone from 8,000 athletes to almost 38,000 . . . it's incredible. You guys know because you have been such a part of it . . .since the 2015 World Games . . . Bringing us to a whole new level which you also have experienced . . .

If one Google's "Charity Ratings of Non-Profit Organizations," Special Olympics has gone from one star to four stars. In 2005 when Bill became CEO, SOSC was ranked one star. Now for three straight years, we're **FOUR STARS!** Very big deal! What this means is: 90¢ of every dollar that "you" raise goes directly to "Sarah" (and other athletes). ★★★★★

Bill's one concern over the last few years – because SOSC has worked so hard and accomplished so much – that organizations like SOSC can experience burn out and a little bit of a stall. "If we're not careful we might go into a 'free fall.'" Bill wanted to make sure that that doesn't happen. "We've been doing some things to make adjustments to do better and avoid "burn out" among our staff and our volunteers. to regroup and to reprioritize."

- Restructuring . . going from non-regions to 3 divisions . . . thus decentralizing our organization
- Growing our referencing so we can continue to support our ever growing athlete base
- Really important: Emphasis on volunteers and what we're doing for volunteers.

SOSC has a Staff of about 80. It doesn't make sense to hire more people –not fiscally sound. "We need to grow our volunteer base." "You guys (SOLA) know what you're doing and you do it so well... That is the model for our future if we're going to continue to grow." Bill's happy to report, that this organization (SOSC) will not "stall."

A couple really good success stories . .

- People at Kaiser Permanente have felt included. "Thank you for the best experience . . . in their lives. We never ever knew how to serve until we partnered with Special Olympics."
- In 2015, the State of California, through Gavin Newsom, provided \$5 millions dollars for World Games. The following year the State of California gave SOSC \$500,000. This coming year the State of California will be giving Special Olympics \$1,500,000. SOSC is very grateful.

SOSC is being given the "Non-Profit of the Year Award" from State of California on June 5 in Sacramento.

SOSC's school program - Unified Sports – making a difference on school campuses for children with special needs. That has an impact!



May 1, 2019



SOLA Lion Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre Receives "Las Distinguidas Award"



Congratulations Lion Ruri, the Greater Whittier Area American Association of University Women honors



you - as one of three recipients for 2019 - for your significant contribution and service made to our community.



Pictured are SOLA Lions Club members able to be in attendance at the Awards Ceremony on April 13, 2019.

2019 SELA-Whittier Basketball Competition at Whittier College



Final Standing Gold Medal Winners

Red Division Pico Rivera Pirates Gold

Green Division SGV Red Tomahawks

Blue Division SGV Blue Tomahawks

Team Photos taken by Lion Penny Lopez



Whittier College Poets Help SOLA Lions Make It Happen - Thanks!





Serving Our Special Olympics Athletes Again - Swimming

2019 SELA-Whittier Swimming Competition

Hosted by SOLA Lions Club & City of Whittier

Saturday, June 1, 2019

Palm Park
5703 Palm Ave.
Whittier, CA 90601

Special Olympics Southern California athletes from Southeast Los Angeles will compete in Swimming at the 2019 SELA-Whittier Swimming 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 athlete, 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 |
| - * 25m Freestyle | - 50m Butterfly | - 4x50m Freestyle Relay |
| - * 25m Freestyle | - 50m Freestyle | - 4x25m IM |

** Denotes lower ability races*



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



Special Olympics
Southern California



50
YEARS

SUMMER GAMES
CHAMPIONSHIP

CAL STATE LONG BEACH

June 8 + 9





Team Whittier Track Team Update



This reporter was able to catch up with

Jill Wall even though, as the Head Coach of our very own Special Olympics **Team Whittier**, she has the speed to run on by me. The track squad competed on Saturday April 13th at Azusa Pacific and came away with some 48+ medals in all events. Our very own Sarah Wall received two medals; a Gold in the softball throw and a Bronze in the 100 yards dash. Twenty-seven Special Olympics athletes from our Whittier Team participated in the competition.

Jill, while most proud of her tracksters, also wanted SOLA to know that she has 20 fully registered volunteer aides to support the track athletes.

The next competition was scheduled for April 27th at the Boys Republic in Chino. This was the same date as our Basketball Competition so we kept our track team in our hearts and prayers as we watched the bouncing balls at Whittier College.

The Whittier Track Team practices every Saturday at the new track facility at Pioneer High School from 8:00 am to 10:30 am.

Jill also wants to remind all of us SOLA Lions that Albertsons, Vons and Pavilions have a check out donation program for supporting Special Olympics. If you buy groceries at these stores look for the donation information.



- Submitted by Lion Drew Sones





Please Participate!



**May 17—19, 2019
Lions District 4-L2**

Convention DoubleTree by Hilton Golf Resort
Cathedral City, California



June 3 - 7:30 A.M. Pre-SOSC Summer Games

Special Olympics Torch Run

Whittier Police & Team Whittier

Route starts at Leslie Pool Service, 16221 Whittier Blvd, runs West on Whittier Blvd, turns North on Colima Road to top of hill and passes torch to Hacienda Heights team.

Elected SOLA Lions Club Officers for 2019-2020 on May 1, 2019

Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre *President*
Theresa Rivas *1st Vice President*
Penny Lopez *2nd Vice President*
Jeff Martin *Secretary*
Carol Copley *Treasurer*
(Jill Wall *Special Olympics Liaison*)

Ron Copley *Immediate Past President*
Jesse Lopez *Sr. Director*
Jeanine Williamson *Sr. Director*
David Williamson *Jr. Director*
Gwen Stanga *Jr. Director*
(Ursula Bell *Sunshine Lion*)



May and June Birthdays

5/11: Dean Crowley 5/21: Steve Nichols 5/31: Jeff Martin 6/16: Susie Ausdal
6/17: Ellen Peck 6/19: Ursula Bell 6/24: John Wall 6/26: Ron Copley 6/30: Jesse Lopez

May and June Wedding Anniversaries

5/1: Daniel and Theresa McMillan 5/26: Wally and Marla Baker
6/14: Dan and Pam Skewes, Wayne and Beverly Martin 6/18: Larry and Dottie Lopez



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Larry Dicus Past Lions Clubs International Director
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Gary Hall 4-L2 First Vice District Governor
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Jesse Lopez *Sr. Director*
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Penny Lopez *Jr. Director*

SOLAMOTION



Monthly Newsletter of the Special Olympics
Los Angeles Lions Club of Whittier
Volume 9, No. 7 April 8, 2019

Special
Olympics
Southern California



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Lions:

Our spring Special Olympics sports season is starting with our Club providing competitions in swimming and basketball. We will be hosting a competition in basketball on Saturday, April 27 at Whittier College. We will have 12 teams again this year. This is only a few weeks away and as usual we need everyone to attend and volunteer. We will start setting-up at 7:00 AM. This is always a fun event. Our second competition we will be hosting is our swimming competition on Saturday, June 1 at Palm Park in Whittier. We expect around 70 swimmers at this competition. We need lots of volunteers for this swimming competition. I know we can hardly wait to put on these two competitions and serve our SO athletes.



I would like to thank 1st VP Ruri Pierre, 2nd VP Theresa Rivas, Lions Penny and Jesse Lopez for attending the MD4 (State) Lions Leadership Institute Training. These four dedicated Lions spent three long days learning about Leadership and Lions. The SOLA Lions Club will benefit for years to come for their attendance. A big "THANK YOU" to the four of you. In the past, Past President Susie Ausdal and Past President Susan Sones have attended this training.

We are all so proud of Ruri Pierre for being selected for the "2019 Las Distinguidas Award" given by the Greater Whittier Area – American Association of University Women. This award is given out to honor distinguished women from the community who promote and elevate the image of women through their professional and volunteer involvement in the community. Ruri is very deserving of this award.

See you all at our upcoming Basketball and Swimming Competitions.

Until next month.....

President Ron



Our Title 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
April 17, 2019
Friendly Hills Country Club
8500 S. Villaverde Drive
Whittier, CA 90605





Highlights of March 6 SOLA Lions Club Meeting



With PP Sharon and PDG/PP Alberto Montes De Oca finally back from their “world travels” again, having received the MD4 Lions Academy Awards “Club of the Year” on behalf of SOLA at the California Multiple District—4 Convention in Sacramento on February 9, Alberto presented the award to President Ron Copley and the SOLA Lions Club. Humbly, the Club gave themselves a standing ovation for receiving this amazing honor.

Ron shared that famed Chef Wolf Gang Puck was to treat SOLA Lions with a wonderful dinner in honor of our Club of the Year, but was unable to make it due to previous engagement. However, Mr. Puck suggested that Lion Sharon Montes De Oca fill in as Pastry Chef, and she created and distributed delicious chocolate Lions International Club emblems as a treat.



Also in attendance was PDG Manny Sanchez who presented PP Alberto with the 2017-2018 Centennial Club Excellence Patch to be sewn on the SOLA Lions Club Banner in recognition of our SOLA Lions Club excelling in community service, membership growth, communications and organizational operations.

President Ron also presented a “10 Year Service Pin” to PP Susan Sones. Congratulations Susan! Thanks for your faithful service!

Later in the meeting PP Susan Sones gave the results of last month's menu surveys asking members to suggest the favorite entrées provided by Friendly Hills Country Club's catering service in order to streamline the delicious meals we receive each meeting.





Highlights of March 20 SOLA Lions Club Meeting



Our guest speaker, **Laura Mayo**, newly appointed Assistant Vice President, Special Olympics Southern California (SOSC) Central District, enlightened us regarding the change in districting for SOSC.

In a nutshell, in Southern California the geographical areas that support our athletes have been redrawn. The three regions, **North** serving athletes residing in San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura counties and the Santa Clarita area; **Central** encompassing ALL of Los Angeles County, and **Southern** covering Orange County, the Inland Empire (Riverside County), and San Diego county.

As the goal of running a better program, the Central Area has been designated as the pilot where SOSC is working to fine tune the exact function of the restructured areas and the reporting methodologies as well as improving volunteer engagement.

Laura, who has been involved in this process since its inception, stated that “in the end, our goal is to run a better program, modifying changes as we go to make Special Olympics the best possible [experience] for our athletes.

Submitted by Lion Susan Sones



Also visiting our Club was the candidate for District 4-L2's 2nd Vice District Governor, **Lion Harry Shuster** from the West Covina Lions Club and his sponsoring team, our own associate member Dan Skewes, along with Campaign Manager PDG Chris Ohrmund from the Montebello Lions Club and Lion Lisa Mayo, also from the West Covina Lions Club.

Harry's goals as 2nd VDG are: increase relationship between Lions and Leos, encourage more clubs to visit other club meetings, and to promote his motto: “Leadership Shows Leadership.”

We're proud to have SOLA's First Vice President Lion Ruri “Peanuts” Pierre standing in the center of this picture.



Loving Individuals Offering Needed Service

Close friends through church and scouting, Past International Director Larry Dicus installed Brad Harmer as a new member of the Special Olympics Lions Club on April 3. During the installation PID Larry told the history of Lionism and explained the various parts of the Lions International emblem. Lion Drew Sones was Bradley's sponsor.

Everyone throughout California Lions knows that Lion **David Williamson** is the ultimate pin collector and pin trader enthusiast as he displays his massive collection at district and state conventions each year. Recently David acquired a very unique pin with which he wanted to honor his friend Lion **Wayne Martin** for his many years of friendship and service to two Lions clubs and District 4-L2, and Wayne being a garden railroad hobbyist.

The pin has the Lions International emblem on the front of a steam locomotive and the words "Home of the First Congressional Medal of Honor Winner" printed on the Valor medallion. Research states that on March 25, 1863 Army Pvt. **Jacob Parrott** was the first of a group of 6 men awarded the Congressional Medal for their actions in "The Great Locomotive Chase" in April 1862. They were the first ever to wear the Medal of Honor. Lion Wayne wonders who the first recipient of this Lions pin was and its history. "Thank Lion David, for this beautiful pin and honor."





Serving Our Special Olympics Athletes Again - Basketball

Special Olympics
Southern California



2019 SELA-Whittier Basketball Competition

Hosted by SOLA Lions Club & Whittier College

Saturday, April 27, 2019

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 2019 SELA-Whittier Basketball Competition.



SCHEDULE:

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

8:30am - 9:00am: Team 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: 12 Teams Max | C & D Levels

ALLOTMENT: Invitation Only | Closed to Outside Divisions

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Ruri Pierre

rpierre@cityofwhittier.org

562-567-9471

**FOLLOW
US ON**



@SOSClasgvregions



@sosc_losangeles

All SOLA members please arrive by 7:00 A.M. to help Lion Ruri set up.



Serving Our Special Olympics Athletes Again - Swimming

2019 SELA-Whittier Swimming Competition

Hosted by SOLA Lions Club & City of Whittier

Saturday, June 1, 2019

Palm Park
5703 Palm Ave.
Whittier, CA 90601

Special Olympics Southern California athletes from Southeast Los Angeles will compete in Swimming at the 2019 SELA-Whittier Swimming 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 athlete, 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 |
| - * 25m Freestyle | - 50m Butterfly | - 4x50m Freestyle Relay |
| - * 25m Freestyle | - 50m Freestyle | - 4x25m IM |

** Denotes lower ability races*



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



Special Olympics
Southern California



50
YEARS

SUMMER GAMES
CHAMPIONSHIP

CAL STATE LONG BEACH

June 8 + 9



MD-4 Lions Leadership Institute



Pictured are District 4-L2 participants

It's always a pleasure to announce the names of SOLA Lions Club members who attended the MD4's Leadership Institute held this year in Rancho Cucamonga, CA at the Lions Learning Center: 2nd VP Theresa Rivas, 1st VP Ruri Pierre, and Directors Penny and Jesse Lopez.



The **purpose** of the **Lions Leadership Institute** is to provide **Lions leaders** with an opportunity to sharpen skills to prepare them for **leadership** responsibilities at the club, zone, region, and district levels.

Asked at the SOLA Lions Club meeting on April 3, "What were some of the highlights of the Leadership Institute?"

"It was a fun event with over 60 people there

'We learned so much about Lionism. . . . and leadership

'Hearing what other clubs do was very helpful . . (e.g.) With the Seal Beach Lions Club every thing they do is a membership drive

'A yearly formal 'Orientation Meeting for New Members' might strengthen our SOLA's Lions membership

'Found the Mission Statements of each person quite interesting

'Ages of participants gave quite different outlooks

'Lots of stuff on LCI website

'I got to talk for 5 minutes Our 'Club of the Year' ranking by MD4 brought [inquisitive] comments

'Thanks SOLA for funding our way to this great Leadership Institute. . . .'



SOLA's close friend PDG Manny Sanchez was one of the instructors.



SOLA Lions Club Welcomes Another New Associate Member



It is with pleasure that we welcome a new Associate Member from the Downey Lions Club into the SOLA Lions Club, Dr. Julie Ton Fercho.

As you can see, Dr. Julie and her husband Derrick have a delightful baby boy, Benjamin.

Dr. Julie Ton is an Autism Program Specialist for the Downey Unified School District and looks forward to serving Special Olympics athletes.

Welcome to SOLA, Lion Julie!

Proposed Slate of SOLA Lions Club Officers for 2019-2020

Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre*President*
 Theresa Rivas*1st Vice President*
 Penny Lopez*2nd Vice President*
 Jeff Martin.....*Secretary*
 Carol Copley*Treasurer*
 Jill Wall.....*Special Olympics Liaison*

Ron Copley*Immediate Past President*
 Jesse Lopez.....*Sr. Director*
 Jeanine Williamson.....*Sr. Director*
 David Williamson.....*Jr. Director*
 Gwen Stanga.....*Jr. Director*

The Election of Officers will be held at the May 1 Regular Club Meeting



April and May Birthdays

4/7: Wayne Martin 4/10: Jerry Masterson 4/15: Manny Sanchez 4/23: Gloria Lopez

April and May Anniversaries

4/20: Dean and Linda Crowley 4/25: Gregg and Beatrice Williamson
 5/1: Daniel and Theresa McMillan 5/26: Wally and Marla Baker



Gudrun Yngvadottir Lions Clubs International President, Iceland
 Larry Dicus Past Lions Clubs International Director
 Bob Stewart California MD4 Council Chair
 John Nelson, Jr. 4-L2 District Governor
 Gary Hall..... 4-L2 First Vice District Governor
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 Penny Lopez *Jr. Director*

SOLAMOTION



SPECIAL OLYMPICS



Monthly Newsletter of the Special Olympics
Los Angeles Lions Club of Whittier
Volume 9, No. 6 February 20, 2019

Special
Olympics
Southern California

SOLA Honored with "Club of the Year" Award at California MD4 Lions Convention in Sacramento



MULTIPLE DISTRICT 4
ACADEMY AWARDS OF LIONS
4-L2 Whittier Special
Olympics Lions Club
PDG Alberto Montes de Oca, President
CLUB OF THE YEAR
2017 - 2018
FEBRUARY 9, 2019

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Lions:

WOW! Can you believe that our SOLA Lions Club was named "Club of the Year" for the State of California (MD4). The State has over 700 Lions Clubs. This award recognizes all your hard work this past year. It was because of everyone working together that made this possible. A special big thank you to Immediate Past President Alberto Montes De Oca for his leadership to make this possible. This award also recognizes our hard work in serving the Athletes of Special Olympics. You should all be very proud on this honor.



The spring sport season is starting with competition in swimming, basketball, track and field and Bocci ball starting. We will be hosting competitions in swimming and basketball in a few months. The dates for these competitions are not set at this time.

(Continued on page 3)



Our Title Sponsor

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Next Regular Meeting
February 20, 2019
Friendly Hills Country Club
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Whittier, CA 90605



California MD4 Convention in Sacramento



SOLA PDG Alberto summarizes Convention . .

The convention was well attended since we had 2 Lions running for the MD4 endorsement for International Director (PCC David Radtke and PDG Ken Ibarra). Ken Ibarra was the winner.

This was our 100th Annual Convention of the Lions of California.

Alberto's presentations were well received by all the California Lions and the Council of Governors, including all the dignitaries that were present: (Third Vice President Brian E. Sheehan, California endorsed candidate for Third Vice President Dr. Patti Hill and her husband Lion Greg Hill, PID Dr. Edward V. Cordes, PID Bill Iannaccone, Dr. Patrick Fueger from City of Hope, PID Joe Di Duca, PID Salim Moussan from Beirut, Lebanon, and his wife Lion Alia Haddad Moussan.)

The entertainment was Mr. Floyd A. Smith, great singer/songwriter. Great show.

The Academy Awards of Lionism: MD4 Small Club Project of the Year, MD4 Medium Club Project of the Year, MD4 Large Club Project of the year,

MD4 Club of the Year 2017-2018 won by SOLA Lions Club, Past President PDG Alberto Montes De Oca

MD4 Lion of the Year, MD4 LEO of the Year, MD4 Kay and Denise Fukushima Couple of the Year.



DG John Nelson, David Williamson, PDG Alberto and PP Sharon Montes De Oca, and PID Larry Dicus.



David Williamson, PID Larry and Jane Dicus, Lynn and PID Howard Hudson.



4-L2 District Governor John and Cheryl Nelson



President's Message (Continued from page 1)

At our last meeting, Coach/Lion Jill Wall announced that "Team Whittier" (our Whittier area track and field team) would be practicing at Pioneer High School on Saturday mornings from 9:30 to 11:00. Jill invites everyone to come out and attend the practices. Her track program keeps growing. The number of SO athletes in Southern California continues to show huge growth. In our SELA area that we serve, as an example, has an increase of 20 new basketball teams this year.

In closing, I would like to give a special thank you to PDG Alberto & PP Sharon Montes De Oca, Lion David & Lion Jeannie Williamson, PID Larry & Jane Dicus, and PDG Manny & Lion Lilly Sanchez for representing the SOLA Lions Club at the California State Lions Convention held in Sacramento. Carol and I were unable to attend as we were attending a family wedding in Paso Robles.

Again, I will state that we are all blessed to be working together to serve our Special Olympics Athletes.

Until next month.....

President Ron



Congratulations SOLA Associate Members Lion Daniel McMillan and Lion Dan Skewes

At District 4-L2's Annual Melvin Jones Fellow Award Luncheon last Sunday, two of our own associate members were awarded Melvin Jones Fellow Awards. Lion Daniel McMillan received his from his home club, East Whittier Lions Club for his "Dedication to Humanitarian Services." Lion Theresa Rivas is standing with her husband. Lion Dan Skewes won his at last year's District Raffle. Congratulations! Certainly well deserved!





Editor's Note: In light of our Club being honored by California Multiple District 4, I'd like to reprint 1st VDG Gary Hall's article which reviews SOLA's 2017-2018 "We Serve" activities.

A Message from 1st Vice District Governor Gary Hall



Hello, Fellow Lions of District 4-L2:

For this issue of the Lions' Roar, I am dedicating my article to the SOLA Lions Club. When I was presented with and read what this club had accomplished in one year, I wanted to share it with every member of our District. The list is very impressive and a strong message to all our Clubs about what service can be all about. Also, I extend my congratulations to current SOLA president Ron Copley and IPP PDG Alberto Montes de Oca for their dedication and leadership and also to all the members of the SOLA Lions Club for their service.

SOLA Lions Club is a specialty Lions Club, not a traditional Lions Club. The SOLA Lions Club was chartered in 2009 with the sole purpose of serving and supporting Special Olympics (SO) Athletes. SOLA's mission is: "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". SOLA supports Special Olympics Athletes for who they are: Champions! SOLA was the first Special Olympics Lions Club to support the athletes directly. After being formed, SOLA was asked by Lions Clubs International to develop a model for forming new Special Olympics Lions Clubs around the world. After three clubs were formed, all new SO clubs were called "Champion Lions Clubs" (named after the Athletes). Now there are Campion Lions Clubs all over the world.

In 2017-2018, the SOLA Club conducted competitions for local Special Olympics athletes in the greater Los Angeles area in four sports: swimming, basketball, bowling and softball. The Club conducted all aspects of the competitions, including planning, executing and follow-up for each competition held. Each competition includes set-up, registration of athletes, teams, volunteers, opening ceremonies, actual competition, lunch, final competition, medal presentation and clean-up. The Bellflower High School LEO (Leadership, Experience and Opportunity) Club members are also part of the volunteer base. In addition to the competitions that were conducted last year, the SOLA Club hosts the annual SO Athletes Christmas Party which was attended by approximately 350 athletes. SOLA held fundraisers during the year. These raised over \$17,000.

Following are some of the other events SOLA participated in last year. "Tip-A-Cop" fundraiser that brought in over \$2,500; "End of Spring Season" celebration where over 70 athletes were served pizza; and "Kids Against Hunger" that created over 10,000 meals for the hungry here in Southern California. They helped acquire baseball equipment for all SO teams in the Los Angeles area. The Club purchased new sweat suits for the Whittier athletes in swimming and track and field, and warm jackets for the coaches.

The SOLA Lions Club continues to have a major positive impact on the SO athletes they serve. The Lions/Special Olympic Partnership in Southern California and the world is strong and getting stronger. SOLA Lions continue to have a positive impact for this partnership.

As always, remember. "WE SERVE BETTER TOGETHER"

Reprinted from District 4-L2 Newsletter "Lions' Roar" with permission from 1st VDG Gary Hall

Thank you 1st VDG Gary Hall for this very nice article about SOLA.



SOLA Lions Club Welcomes New Member



SOLA Lions welcome **Bradley Harmer** as a new member.

Brad is married to his wife Jan and has two grown daughters, Jessica and Elizabeth. He and his family are long time members of the East Whittier Presbyterian Church and has served as a Trustee and this is where Drew and Susan met the family.

He was an Assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 41, serving for many years with SOLA member Drew. He still sits on the District Eagle Review Board.

Brad served in the United States Air Force in Vietnam and was awarded a Purple Heart.

He is a Master Auto Mechanic and has managed several auto repair shops in Whittier and La Habra.

He is a former Lion with the La Habra Lions Club and worked at the Corn Festival for years. He is a good story teller and has many to share about his adventures throughout his life. Just ask him about the quart size plastic bottle jump or his war experiences or his Knighthood.

Welcome Brad!

Submitted by Lion Drew Sones



February and March Birthdays

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

February and March Anniversaries

2/14: Lilly and Manny Sanchez, Jeannie and David Williamson



Gudrun Yngvadottir Lions Clubs International President, Iceland
 Larry Dicus Past Lions Clubs International Director
 Bob Stewart California MD4 Council Chair
 John Nelson, Jr. 4-L2 District Governor
 Gary Hall..... 4-L2 First Vice District Governor
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SOLA LIONS CLUB OFFICERS 2018-2019

Ron Copley..... <i>President, Guiding Lion-Emeritus</i>	PDG Alberto Montes De Oca <i>Immediate Past President</i>
Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre..... <i>1st Vice President</i>	Jesse Lopez <i>Sr. Director</i>
Theresa Rivas <i>2nd Vice President</i>	Ellen Peck <i>Sr. Director</i>
Jeff Martin <i>Secretary</i>	Jeanine Williamson..... <i>Jr. Director</i>
Carol Copley..... <i>Treasurer</i>	Penny Lopez <i>Jr. Director</i>
Jill Wall..... <i>Special Olympics Liaison</i>	

SOLAMOTION



Monthly Newsletter of the Special Olympics
Los Angeles Lions Club of Whittier
Volume 9, No. 5 January 15, 2019

Special
Olympics
Southern California



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Lions:

I hope everyone had a great Holiday Season and everyone is ready to get back to serving our Special Olympics Athletes. What a great year we had as a club in 2018. Our District Governor, John Nelson has nominated our club for the "Club of the Year" in the State of California. The results will be announced, in February, at the Lions MD4 Convention in Sacramento. Lion PDG Alberto and Lion Sharon Montes De Oca along with Lion David Williamson will be representing our club at the convention.



We have been receiving many positive comments about the club this past year and it is all because of all of you. The most recent being an article written in the current Lions District 4 -L2 newsletter (see page 4 of this newsletter) by 1st Vice District Governor Gary Hall. It is all of us working together to serve our athletes that makes us successful. Alberto and I both received International President Gudrun's "Presidents Leadership Medal" from President Gudrun, at the International Presidents Reception on December 29, for putting on the Special Olympics Softball Competition in October during the LCI Board visit. Alberto and I accepted the medals on behalf of the SOLA Lions Club. This would not have been possible without the hard work of the entire club. Your hard work and dedication is what makes us a successful club. THANK YOU!

I want to give a special shout out to Lions Jeannie and David Williamson for having us to their lovely home for our Club Christmas party. What a great job they did. We had a great turnout and everyone had a terrific time. THANK YOU!

We should all be looking forward to our upcoming swimming and basketball competitions. Information and dates will be announced shortly.

2019 will be another year we look forward to serving our athletes and enjoy their efforts, desires, smiles and pure competitiveness. We are all blessed to be working together to serve our Special Olympic Athletes.

Until next month.....

President Ron



Our Title Sponsor

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
January 16, 2019
Friendly Hills Country Club
8500 S. Villaverde Drive
Whittier, CA 90605





December 1, 2018 Simms Park, Bellflower

Special Olympics Athletes Christmas Party







A Message from 1st Vice District Governor Gary Hall



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SOLA Family

Christmas Party



Thanks you Lions
Jeannie & David Williams

For hosting SOLA's
Wonderful Christmas Party

Delicious Food, Grand Fellowship,
Singing Carols, at a Beautiful Home



IP Gudrun's Visit and the Lions Rose Parade Float



Our International President Gudrun Yngvadottir and her husband, PID Dr. Jon Bjarni Thorsteinsson honored our District and Lions Float, Inc. by visiting us and riding on LCI's float in the Rose Parade.

The theme of the 2019 Rose Parade was "The Melody of Life" and our float's theme was "Rockin' the Vest". The float honors the memory of PID Karla Harris (Wisconsin) who was instrumental in recording the "Rockin' the Vest" video. Her husband Lion Clarence and daughters Lions Casey and Clarren rode on the float.

Many Lions and friends assisted in decorating the float at Phoenix Decorating in Irwindale, CA. Lions were able to view the completed float while attending the Dec. 31st breakfast event sponsored by the Pasadena Host Lions. Each year, the Pasadena Host Lions donate the proceeds of the breakfast event to Lions Float, Inc. towards the cost of the float. This year LCI also contributed \$75,000 towards the float.

Also included in the festivities for our International President were meeting with MD-4 Club Presidents and an evening reception, organized by our District. Both events were held at the Rosemead Doubletree Hotel.

-by PDG Chris Ohrmund, from District 4-L2 "Lions Roar" Newsletter



ROCKIN' THE VEST

During the festivity meetings on days prior to the Rose Parade, various Lions were honored by IP Gudrun, including

PDG Alberto Montes De Oca and Lion Pres. Ron Copley (SOLA) received an IP Leadership Medal for coordinating the Special Olympics event for the LCI Board of Directors during their visit in October.

PDG Manny Sanchez (Montebello) and PID Larry Dicus (Whittier Host) also received IP Leadership Medals for their outstanding efforts to start the Kids Sight Program in our area.



PID Larry Dicus asked your SOLAMOTION editor, Lion Wayne Martin, to design a "more readable" sign for this year's Lions Float—above is the result.





SOLA Lions Serving Special Olympics Athletes in 2018



IP GUDRUN VISITS SOLA SERVING

BASKETBALL BOWLING NEW

WHITTIER GOLF TEAM

SWIMMING SOFTBALL CHRISTMAS PARTY



January and February Birthdays

1/2: Gwen Stanga 1/9: Dan Skewes 1/11: Drew Sones 1/19: Sarah 1/28: Craig Peck
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