SOLAMOTION

Monthly Newsletter of the Special Olympics Los Angeles Lions Club of Whittier Volume 11, No. 2 October 28, 2020

Special . **Olympics** Southern California

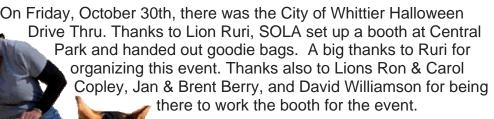


PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone and welcome to the 2020 Holiday Season!! This weekend is a "new" Halloween experience for all of us. As usual SOLA is keeping busy during the pandemic.

October began with the first time virtual installation of SOLA officers. After months of trying to plan an in-person installation at Friendly Hills Country Club, it was decided to take it on to zoom so everyone could participate. Lion Manny Sanchez did the honors during the Western themed event. I personally want to thank Manny for helping out

together a virtual trail ride for the club.



The first ever digital SOLA member directory is out now thanks to the beautiful work and efforts of Lion Wayne. A thank you also goes to Lion David for working with Lion Wayne on this project.

Lions Penny and Gwen are doing a special segment at each meeting focusing on getting to know our SOLA members better. We learned a little more about Lion Gwen, like she was an Anthropology major in college. Thanks for sharing Gwen!! Don't be surprised when you hear from Penny or Gwen, that we want to know you.

Until we can all come together in-person, be safe and stav well.

SOLA Lions President Lion Theresa



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

Regular Meeting Zoom Nov. 4, 6pm

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

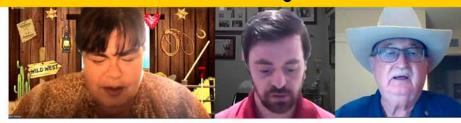




SOLA Lions Club Installation Zoom Meeting - October 7, 2020



Outgoing President Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre receives President's Scrapbook



Special Olympics Athlete Jared Kozak shares his story as a SOSC Global Messenger and TEAM WHITTER Athlete. Newly retired President & CEO Bill Shumard "dropped in for a quick greeting." Lions Gwen Stanga gave the Invocation, Jeff Martin lead the Flag

Salute and and Dan Skewes sang "God Bless America." PDG Manny Sanchez recognized and thanked last year's officers and installed the incoming 2020-21 Board of Directors.







PDG Manny Sanchez Installs 2020-21 SOLA Lions Club Officers







Incoming President Theresa Rivas takes SOLA members On a Virtual Horseback Ride



SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Lion Jeff Martin honored with Melvin Jones Fellows Award for Outstanding Service



SOLA Lions Club 2019-2020 Board of Directors





Ron Copley Immediate Past President
Jesse Lopez Sr. Director
Jeannie Williamson Sr. Director
David Williamson Jr. Director
Gwen Stanga Jr. Director
Jill Wall Special Olympics Liaison

IN COMING





SOSC Welcomes Its Next President & CEO - Calvin Lyons



Special Olympics Southern California is very excited to announce that the Board of Directors has unanimously selected Calvin Lyons as SOSC's next President & CEO, effective on Monday, September 28.

Calvin joins SOSC from the Boys & Girls Clubs, where he served as the President and CEO of the Metro Los Angeles Clubs for the past four years and prior, in the same position for the Clubs in King County, Washington.

A passionate advocate for those in his care, Calvin built strong partnerships with school districts, elected officials, community organizations, and donors to secure the necessary support and funding to

increase the reach and impact of the Clubs in the neighborhoods they served. During his tenure with the Boys & Girls Clubs, Calvin was responsible for building and implementing long-term strategic plans, leading hundreds of employees, operating robust sports programming, and managing budgets in excess of \$20 million. Most recently, Calvin guided the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Los Angeles through the COVID-19-related transition to a digital format for its after-school programming with an unwavering focus on the organization's mission to enable young people to reach their full potential.

"We are extremely fortunate to welcome a proven leader like Calvin to SOSC, not just because of his expertise in long-term strategic planning and leading organizations through change, but also because he is a true servant leader with a personal passion for our mission," said SOSC Board of Directors Chair Kelly Johnson. "We look forward to giving Calvin our full Board support as he ensures our athletes, Unified partners, and families have a strong advocate and champion and as he leads SOSC through these challenging times and into the next phase of our history."

Calvin received his Bachelor of Science from Purdue University and his Master of Business Administration from Pepperdine University. He also completed the Executive Leadership Program at Seattle University. Calvin enjoys spending time with family, following nearly every sport, and playing chess on the many boards he has collected from around the world.

Calvin succeeds SOSC President & CEO Bill Shumard, who announced his plans for retirement last November after guiding the organization through 15 years of phenomenal growth. Bill remains committed to supporting Calvin and the organization and will continue to be involved on a part-time basis as President Emeritus through 2022.

"This has been the best job I've ever had...and I've had some really good ones," said Bill. "I'm sure Calvin will feel the same way and share my lifelong passion for excellence in serving our great athletes, and I look forward to supporting him as he guides us into the future."

Under Bill's leadership, SOSC achieved unprecedented growth in its athlete base, expanding from 8,000 to serve 38,200 athletes, while simultaneously earning SOSC the coveted 4-star rating from Charity Navigator.

"We will be forever indebted to Bill for the compassion, dedication, and leadership he has brought to SOSC," said Kelly.



SOLA Lions Work City of Whittier's

DRIVE THRU HALLOWEEN

chat for

needed

to see

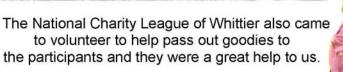
The SOLA LIONS CLUB sponsored a booth at the City of Whittier Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department, Adaptive Recreation Program's Drive Thru Halloween on Friday, October 30. We were stationed at Central Park in Uptown Whittier from 3:00pm -6:00 pm, SOLA Lions decorated their booth and made over 200 bags of goodie treats containing Candy Corn, Hersey's chocolates, Milk Duds, Reeves' Peanut Butter Cups, and also S'More kits too, to pass out. We had approximately 40 participants and their family members visit our booth.

Special Olympics Los Angeles

SOLA Lions Club is a special interest Lions Club, only working with participants who are involved

in Special Olympics. For many of the participants this was the first outdoor social activity they have participated in since the pandemic started and you could tell by the BIG SMILES on their faces when they saw us. The SOLA members were also very happy to see them and be able to

a few minutes with their families, if they were doing OK and if they anything.







SOLA AT WORK DURING COVID-19

The Covid-19 has shut down our Clubs normal Special Olympics Competitions and activities. Our club was looking for a way we could still serve our athletes during the Covid. We thought about sending out "We Miss You" cards to the athletes. We contacted Special Olympics and asked about addresses for the athletes that we serve and how we might be of service to them. They responded that their

address list for the athletes

wolunteered to contact the the list for them.

Lions contact 440
SELA area. Durwe asked how doing, told were missed, their address for an email. who conproximately each were:

Susan Sones, Ron Copley,

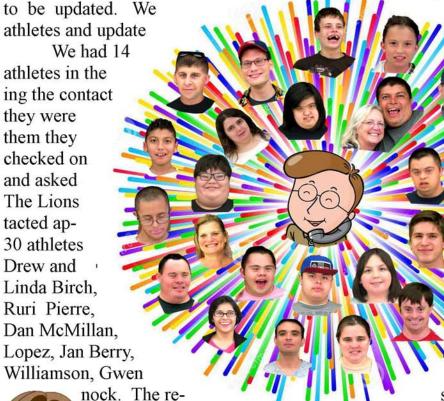
Theresa Rivas, Ursula Bell, Jesse

Jeannie & David Stanga, and Bob War-

sults of our survey have Olympics. They were very

pleased with what we were able to do for them. We are designing a "We Miss You" card to send to each athlete on the list. SOLA will be send-

ing a card along with a gift to each of the athletes on the list.



been sent to Special





Hey SOLA Members -Have you signed up for the Special Olympics Southern California Newsletter yet? If you haven't, we encourage



you to do so. It's well done and keeps you up to date on everything they have going on like competitions, dances, heartwarming stories of athletes, coaches, fundraising ... virtually everything Special Olympics Southern California. It's a great way to stay up to date and signing up is as easy as 1, 2, 3 ...

Simply go to <u>www.SOSC.org</u>, select '<u>get involved</u>, then select '<u>e-newsletter sign up</u>' from the drop down list. Just fill out some very basic info ... like your name & email address, and soon you will be receiving emails. (They don't inundate you with information) It's really pretty great.

- Lion Jill Wall



October, November and December 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 11/21: Bob Warnock 12/6: Penny Lopez 12/24: Cristina Guzman

October, November and December Anniversaries

10/10: Lary & Jane Dicus 11/17: Rosa & Jerry Materson 12/18: Bob & Monica Warnock



Dr. Jung-Yul Choi	Lions Clubs International President, Korea
	Past Lions Clubs International Director
Claudia Miller	
Woodland "Woody" Hugh	4-L2 District Governor
Harry Shuster	4-L2 First Vice District Governor
Jacky Lu	4-L2 Second Vice District Governor
Robert Williams	4-L2 Central Region Chair
Lenora Perri	4-L2 Zone B Central Chair



SOLA LIONS CLUB OFFICERS 2020-2021

Theresa Rivas	President
Jesse Lopez	1st Vice President
David Williamson	2nd Vice President
Drew Sones	Secretary
Carol Copley	Treasurer
Jill Wall	Special Olympics Liaison

Im't Past President
Sr. Director
Sr. Director
Jr. Director
Jr. Director

SOLAMOTION

Monthly Newsletter of the Special Olympics
Los Angeles Lions Club of Whittier
Volume 11, No. 1
August 21, 2020

Special OlympicsSouthern California

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

LOS ANGELES

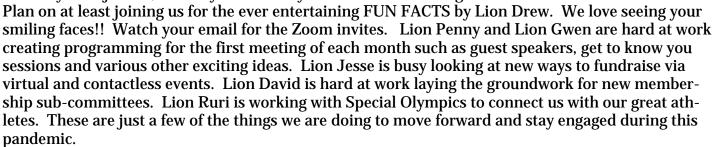


PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Everyone!!

Welcome to the SOLA 2020 - 2021 Year!!! We are facing unprecedented times this year and will be blazing new trails. We are facing struggles such as staying connected to each other during this pandemic, no Special Olympic events for our athletes until at least the spring, fundraising without gathering and attracting new members during virtual meetings and events. As Lions we are resilient and meeting these challenges head on.

We are having regular scheduled meetings via Zoom. I encourage each of you to join us, even if you can't stay for the whole meeting.



I want to give a big shout out to Lion Ron Copley for his work on securing a sponsorship from PIH Health in the amount of \$5,000.00!! GREAT JOB!! Thank you Lion Ron for all of your work to secure this gift for the work SOLA does for Special Olympics athletes! **Thank you PIH Health!**

Please be sure and join us for our VIRTUAL Installation on Wednesday, October 7th @ 6:00 PM. Watch your email for more details.

If you need help during this time please feel free to reach out. We are here to support you and each other anyway we are able during these challenging times. Thank you for your continued support and participation with SOLA!!

I am sending a big virtual hug to each and everyone of you!! BE SAFE and HEALTHY. Remember to check in on your family, friends, and neighbors.

Lion Theresa



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Regular Meeting
Zoom Sept. 2, 6pm

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





SOLA Lions Club Officers for 2020-2021 in Sheltering-Down Mode



Theresa Rivas	President
Jesse Lopez1st Vice	President
David Williamson2nd Vice	President
Drew Sones	Secretary
Carol Copley	Treasurer
Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre Im't l	Past Pres

Jill WallSpecial Olympics Liaison*	
Penny Lopez	Sr. Director
Gwen Stanga	Sr. Director
Mary Beth Duke	Jr. Director
Daniel Diaz	Jr. Director
Ursula Bell	Sunshine Chair*

*appointed chairs



Jared Kozak, a Man of Many Talents



Our very own Special Olympics Athlete and SOSC Global Messenger, Jared Kozak, is an amazing actor and is currently on General Hospital, The Loud House, and the Casagrandes Series. We're excited to let everyone know that his series, The Casagrande Family, just won an Emmy. Jared plays/voices CJ, a child with Down Syndrome, on the series.

About the series - The Casagrandes follows a large, loving family living together in the big city. A companion to the Emmy Award-winning The Loud House, the new 2D-animated series highlights the culture, humor and love of growing up in a multi-generational Mexican-American family, and is set to debut October 14 on Nickelodeon.

Thanks, Lion Jill Wall, our Special Olympics Liaison, for providing this information.



SOLA Lions Club Recognized for "Acts of Kindness"

In an article in the Summer 2020 edition of the "**Friendly Hiller Magazine**," Cathy Warner, Whittier City Councilwoman, wrote about giving in Whittier. The following is part of that article: "During these challenging times, many folks in our community have stepped up to show acts of kindness. Most of the time, these deeds of kindness were performed without fanfare or audiences. They were done because of the good intentions held by so many of our residents". She went on to give examples. "Members of the Special Olympics Los Angeles Lions Club were able to collect and donate latex and multi-purpose gloves, disinfecting wipes, hand sanitizer, bleach and other medical equipment to PIH Health. Lions Ron and Carol Copley shared that the nurses screening donations at the front door gave them a BIG thank you and said how much they needed and appreciated the supplies they delivered". She went on to say that "Whittier truly is a community that cares".



We need your help to keep

Special Olympics going. Unfortunately, Special Olympics has been removed from the CA budget. They are still providing virtual programs for all athletes and doing their best to keep all athletes engaged at no cost to the athletes. Given our current situation around the world, things are tougher than ever for our athletes and Special Olympics relies heavily on those funds to continue their

wonderful work. We ask that you please sign the petition (link below) to have Special Olympics added back into the budget. Please feel free to share. We truly appreciate your help.

Thank you very much!

https://www.votervoice.net/SpecialOlympics/campaigns/75141/respond



Update Regarding SOSC's Plans for the 2020 Fall & 2020-2021 Winter Sports Season

In an effort to keep athlete and volunteer safety at the forefront as we continue to navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic, we are unable to offer any official in-person activities or gatherings through March 2021. This includes:

- All Fall 2020 Sports Season training and competitions for Golf, Soccer, Softball, Tennis, and Volleyball.
- All Winter 2020-2021 Sports Season training and competitions for Bowling and Floor Hockey

This decision was not made lightly and was made after careful consideration for the safety and well-being of all of our athletes and volunteers.

Healthy Lifestyle Challenge

We will continue to offer and encourage participation in SOSC's <u>Healthy Lifestyle Challenge</u> (HLC). It has proved to be an effective online platform with room to adapt and add content. As was the case when we originally launched HLC, the goal is to provide a means of maintaining a connection with all of you and to provide you with resources to stay active and healthy and socialize with athletes. This Summer we have added many new features to HLC that have been well-received. This includes opportunities for athletes to virtually participate with other people on a Zoom workout, on their own, or with their team. We will continue to add features and provide incentives to encourage participation as we enter into the Fall and Winter Seasons.

In addition to HLC, we will look to implement programming in new areas to help reach more athletes. This includes, but is not limited to the following programs in development:

- Walking & Running Clubs
- Virtual Walking Challenges
- E-Sports
- Fall & Winter Season Celebrations
- Virtual Young Athletes
- Virtual Athlete Leadership

We'll provide additional updates as we launch new programming.

Thank you and stay healthy and safe.



We Miss Our Athletes





July, August and September Birthdays

7/21: Jeannie Williamson 7/22: Mark Elias, Ruri Pierre 8/2: Daniel Diaz 8/5 Larry Lopez 8/27: Linda Birch 8/30: Brad Harmer 9/19: Carol Copley 9/21: Julie Ton-Feng

July, August and September Anniversaries

7/15: John & Jill Wall 7/29: Jeff & Kaycy Martin 8/13: Derrick & Julie Ton-Feng 8/14: Jesse & Penny Lopez 8/16: Drew & Susan Sones 9/8: Ron & Carol Copley 9/13: Brad & Jan Harmer



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Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre	
Gwen Stanga	
Mary Beth Duke	
Daniel Diaz	Jr. Director

SOLAMOTION

Monthly Newsletter of the Special Olympics
Los Angeles Lions Club of Whittier
Volume 10, No. 7 May 27, 2020

Special OlympicsSouthern California



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Fellow SOLA Lions,

READY, SET, GO!!! YAHOO! GREAT JOB!!! That is what we would have been saying and hearing in April, May and June as we sponsored our Basketball and Swim Competitions and cheered on our athletes at the Summer Games. What a different time we have gone through, but hopeful we will get back to planning and implementing competitions for our Special Olympic athletes very soon.



Also remember our Annual Golf Tournament is only one year away, on May 3, 2021 and much work will be needed to be done, throughout the year!! We will be contacting all the members to assistance with this major special event.

Congratulations to our new 2020-2021 Officers, listed further in our newsletter. I am looking forward to working with you each and every one of you!!!!

Our ZOOM meetings have been well attended and I hope to see YOU on June 3, 2020 at 6:00pm. We will email the ZOOM link to you soon.

I would like to share one of my favorite verses from author Maya Angelou.

"Each of us brings to the world unique talents, gifts and abilities. Even if we don't know what it is, or value what we do, someone somewhere will benefit from YOUR presence. No one can do what YOU do exactly like the way YOU do it. It is this uniqueness that makes YOU valuable to the world. We are each as unique and valuable as the other. It is designed that away. A gift from God. When YOU do what YOU do, exactly the way YOU do it, You are sharing God's gift, bestowed for the good of the world."

Thank you SOLA Lions members for your love, compassion, dedication, talents, and skills (some you may not have known you possessed) to keep our Special Olympics athletes in the forefront and for looking out for each other. That is what life is all about: CREATING RELATIONSHIPS.

Lion President Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre



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Zoom June 3, 6pm

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









SOLA Lions Club Donation to PIH Health

We went over to our SOLA Lions storage room and removed, with the permission of President Ruri, what we had in storage and PIH Health Hospital needs now. They put out a list through the Whittier Chamber as what they needed. I was surprised to see what we had available in our pizza booth and first aid supplies. Carol and I delivered the supplies we had to the Hospital this afternoon. A list of what we delivered is:

475 Latex Gloves (3 Sizes)
200 Multi-Purpose Gloves
80 Extra-Large Disinfecting Wipes
1 Bottle – 32 Fluid Oz Clorox
Cleaner and Bleach
2 Bottles – 40 Fluid Oz of Hand
Sanitizer



The nurses, at the front door doing the screening, gave us a big THANK YOU and they said how much they needed and appreciated the gift from our SOLA Lions Club.

Lions Ron and Carol Copley

Thanks Ron for the update and for thinking about how SOLA could respond to PIH request for needed virus protection supplies SOLA had on hand and then delivering it to the hospital. You're the man!

Lion Wayne Martin

Good thinking & Bravo! Inspector Jesse Lopez

Wow! Congratulations and well done!

Makes me proud to be a Lion and see your outstanding support to PIH!

PID Larry Dicus.

Thank you Ron for going to the storage and gathering all of that stuff.

Thank you Ron and Carol for taking the Sola donation to PIH. Dan and Theresa

Fantastic news SOLA Lions! Thank you for your generous donations to PIH Health. They are also in need of isolation gowns if you happen to know of a resource for those. Stay healthy and well!

Carol Crosby, President/CEO, Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce



Our Own PID Larry Dicus Reports . . .

Lions Respond to Pandemic

The Covid-19 pandemic continues to impact the way we live, work, learn, and play. SOLA Lions leaders were among the first to respond to a request from PIH Health's Whittier Hospital for personal protection and cleansing supplies.

California Lions Clubs and Districts enabled by Lions Clubs International Foundation and California Lions Foundation disaster and matching grants are responding to Covid-19 related community needs:

supporting first responders and healthcare workers with face masks and other PPE, feeding the vulnerable and elderly,

feeding veterans and their families,

supporting food banks,

and many more creative ways that make a difference.

For example, just last week, District Governor Gary Hall and District Global Service Chairperson Tommy Chen presented 6,000 face masks to PIH Health in Whittier. The face masks had been donated to a Lions Club in China by a local business man, with instructions for them to provide the face masks to a U.S. health care organization. *Please see photo below*.

Four California Lion Districts have been awarded \$10,000 COVID-19 Emergency grants from Lions Clubs International Foundation and have used the funds to provide PPE to local hospitals in their communities.

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) grant applications may be obtained by Lion Districts utilizing the following criteria:

- 1. Follow the Emergency (EMR) grant criteria of having at least 100+ people infected (confirmed cases) in the immediate area/district.
- 2. \$10,000 maximum grant amount.
- 3. Funds available only to address active and immediate cases; not future outbreaks.
- 4. Funds must be used for Lions to work with local medical and emergency management services that are addressing the outbreak. This could be for sourcing medical supplies, quarantine- related



expenses, etc. for those infected.

5. All requests are being considered on a case-by-case basis.

It is great to know that Lions are providing valuable resources and services to their communities during this health crisis.





2020-2021 SOLA Lions Club Board of Officers-Elect

Theresa RivasPresident	
Jesse Lopez1st Vice President	
$\textbf{David Williamson}2 nd \ Vice \ President$	
Drew Sones Secretary	
Carol CopleyTreasurer	
Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre Im't Past Pres.	
Jill WallSpecial Olympics Liaison*	
Penny Lopez Sr. Director	
Gwen Stanga Sr. Director	
Mary Beth DukeJr. Director	
Daniel DiazJr. Director	
Ursula Bell Sunshine Chair*	
*appointed chairs	





May and June Birthdays

5/13: Sharon Montes De Oca 5:21: Steve Nichols 5:31: Jeff Martin 6/9: Gregg Williamson 6/16: Susie Ausdal 6/17: Ellen Peck 6/19: Ursula Bell 6/24: John Wall 6/26: Ron Copley 6/20: Jesse Lopez

May and June Anniversaries

5/1: Dan McMillan & Theresa Rivas 5/26: Marla & Wally Baker 6/12: Brent & Jan Berry 6/14: Dan and Pam Skewes, Wayne & Bev Martin 6/18: Larry & Dottie Lopez



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
	4-L2 First Vice District Governor
Harry Shuster	4-L2 Second Vice District Governor
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Daniel McMillan	4-L2 Zone B Central Chair



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Penny Lopez	2nd Vice President
Jeff Martin	Secretary
Carol Copley	Treasurer
Jill Wall	Special Olympics Liaison

Ron Copley Im't Past President,	Guiding Lion-Emeritus
Jesse Lopez	Sr. Director
Jeannie Williamson	Sr. Director
David Williamson	Jr. Director
Gwen Stanga	Jr. Director
<u> </u>	

SOLAMOTION

Monthly Newsletter of the Special Olympics
Los Angeles Lions Club of Whittier
Volume 10, No. 6
March 25, 2020

Special OlympicsSouthern California



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Fellow SOLA Lions,

As I have been "Sheltering Down" like all of you, I reflect on what is important in my life, my faith, family, friends and community.

I think of the activities our SOLA Lions Club members have for our Special Olympics athletes, their family member, friends and community. For many of our athletes, being in the Special Olympics is an opportunity for them to develop skills, not only in sports training, but in socialization and developing a sense of belonging in their communities. Many of you know I am currently working with



some of our individuals with special needs and they are athletes in Special Olympics. I am not asked, "When do we go get more toilet paper or cleaning supplies?" but asked constantly, "When are we going to have practice and competitions again? I miss seeing my friends."

This definitely reconfirms that the opportunities our SOLA Lions Club provide is very very important to our athletes and their families. We work to put on competitions and raise funds for our athletes, but **we do a lot more** than that. We provide that basic need of humans, to be loved and to develop relationships.

If you are around town and you see one of our athletes, please stop and just say, "Hi, how you doing" and reassure them that things will get back to "normal" soon, and they will be able to get back to practice and compete, but most importantly be able to see their friends again.

Just a side note, in case you did not get our emails: <u>All SOLA Club meetings at Friendly Hills Country Club have been cancelled till mid-May.</u> Friendly Hills Country Club is closed until then and we will inform you when we will meet again as soon as we know. The Golf Tournament in May 2020 has been rescheduled for May 3, 2021. Also both the SOLA Special Olympics Basketball and Swim Competitions have also been cancelled. Special Olympics Southern California Special Olympics has cancelled all programs including, and until after, the Summer Games in June.

Once we are able to come together I am positive our members will be coming back with a renewed spirit and energy to help our athletes.

Thank you to all of our members for your dedication to our athletes and family members. We will be back to the norm soon, but in the meantime be safe and stay healthy!!!!

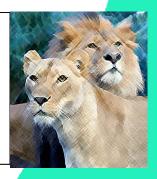
Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre



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Regular Meeting Canceled—TBA Friendly Hills Country Club 8500 S. Villaverde Drive Whittier, CA 90605



STECIAL OLYMPICS

Bill Shumard, Special Olympics So. Cal President and CEO



SOLA Lions Club President Ruri Pierre presents Bill Shumard with special retirement card and gift.

"Great to be with you. One of my favorite days: I started off this morning just down the road at the L. A. Sherriff's Academy speaking to the law enforcement Torch Run Kick-Off. What a great day to start there and end up here.

"As Lion Ron said, 'It's been 11 years!' I can still remember the day Lion Ron came to my office . . . He's a pretty big guy, very intimidating . . . He wouldn't leave my office without a "Yes." I remember the very first [Club] meeting at [the Oralingua School of the Hearing Impaired]. And now we're here [Friendly Hills Country Club]. Great progress! And Ruri, to see you advance to the Presidency! You guys are a real joy to me and I hope you know that.

"As Ron said, I announced in the late fall my thoughts about stepping down. I'm going to be 70 at the end of this year . . . As much as I love

working 60 hours a week I just can't do it anymore. The board has been very gracious and very generous and so after this 15th year as president and CEO of this great organization - The best job I've ever had - I will become President Emeritus for 2 years.

"A national search has started for my replacement. I told the board it's their job to replace me and my job is to give them easy choices . . . we've built a very special culture and I'm very jealous for that culture and hopeful we'll continue with new leadership. So the next time I come I hope I'm bringing my successor with me. We are in very good shape and good position as an organization. Our athlete count stands at a little over 38,000. It's a good time to bring in a new leader.

"You remember the World Games in 2015. What a great role [SOLA] played, how much fun we had — I could sense then that our organization was "burning out" in that we needed to adjust the way that we did business.... You know, we go from San Diego to San Luis Obispo. With head-quarters in Long Beach, we have 9 regional offices in the field. We are in the process of rejiggering the work load so we can better serve more athletes with more volunteers.... There's half a million people in our footprint with intellectual disabilities. I gently tell our staff we're underachieving. We have a lot of work left to do and so we need more volunteers.... We need more clubs and more people with great passions like you.

"Back to the World Games. I don't think I've had any greater thrill or honor than what we all accomplished with the World Games. Two of the great things that came out of the World Games:

1. The State of California funding. At that time our governor, Gov. Gavin Newsom, was the Lieutenant Governor – good friend of Maria Shriver. Maria Shriver was on the World Games board and thanks to Maria, Lieutenant Governor Newsom (at that time) gave \$10,000,000 to the World Games.

"So we asked, "How about some help?" They [the State of California] started out the first year with \$500,000, second year \$800,000, third year \$1,000,000. Last year they gave us \$3,000.000. We are grateful for that. It's a little scary because I'm a tax payer, and we're still under the radar. I want to make sure that we're diversified so that we're not relying upon any one true source.

(Bill Shumard's message continues on page 3)



Bill Shumard Message Continued



2. A great partner, our Official Medical Provider, Kaiser Permanente. Kaiser Permanente came aboard in the World Games. [And now] we're getting ready to sign our second multi-year contract. They provide medical service for our athletes in a host of areas.

"Special Olympics has become a first rate Sports organization. We have an official medical provider now.

"When I first became CEO and I went to an event it was really sad because one team would come out outfitted in "Fruit of the Loom" and the team right next to them might have on \$200 Warm-Ups. And I said, "There's no equity here. These athletes deserve better." Two years ago we got a uniform deal. Everybody looks alike now. Everybody is suited up the way they should be. Everybody is getting proper medical care.

"We've still a story that needs to be told more and more, over and over, and on bigger platforms that our athletes deserve the very best. And you're the folks that help provide that.

"Continuity, Stability and Longevity build great organizations. We have that at Special Olympics and a lot of that is thanks to great folks like you. I think the future's bright."

Bill, the Special Olympics Lions Club wishes you the best in your retirement and thanks you for all you have done for Special Olympics and our SOLA Lions Club. We wish you the best in the future and hope to see you often.

Upcoming Dates

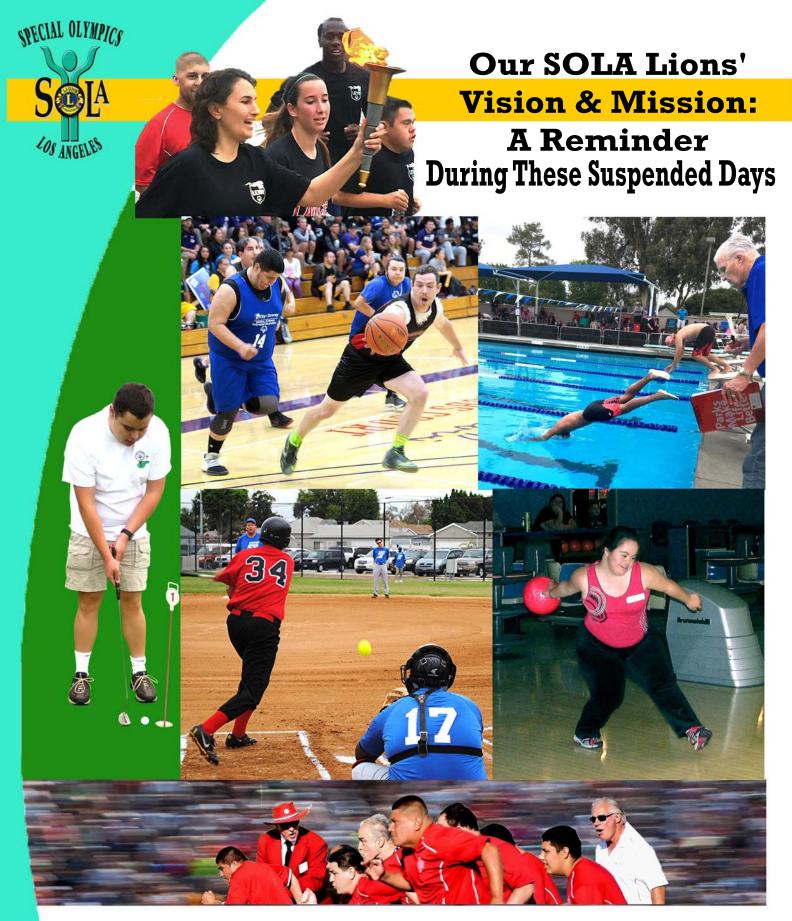
April 18 - SOLA-SELA Special Olympics Basks par Competition—Whittier College

April 30-May 3 - District 45 of the Solvention—Gate of College

May 4 - SOLA Golf Tournament Solvention—Gate of College

May 16 - SOLA-SELA Special Olympics Souther Charles Summer Games—CSU Long Beach

Our SOLA Golf Tournament has been posponed to Monday, May 3, 2021



"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."



Keeping Healthy - Avoid Spreading the Coronavirus



Courtesy of garyvarvel.com



March and April Birthdays

3/4: David Williamson 3/8: Jay Prestelle 3/19: Daniel McMillan 4/7: Wayne Martin 4/10: Jerry Masterson 4/15: Manny Sanchez 4/18: Brent Berry 4/23: Gloria Lopez

March and Aprill Anniversaries

3/25: Craig and Ellen Peck 4/1: Gwen and Florin Stanga



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
Daniel McMillan	4-L2 Zone B Central Chair



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Theresa Rivas	1st Vice President
Penny Lopez	2nd Vice President
Jeff Martin	Secretary
Carol Copley	Treasurer
Jill Wall	Special Olympics Liaison

Ron Copley Im't Past President,	Guiding Lion-Emeritus
Jesse Lopez	Sr. Director
Jeannie Williamson	Sr. Director
David Williamson	Jr. Director
Gwen Stanga	Jr. Director
-	

SOLAMOTION

Monthly Newsletter of the Special Olympics
Los Angeles Lions Club of Whittier
Volume 10, No. 5 February 18, 2020

Special OlympicsSouthern California



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

READY, SET, GO!!!! Fellow SOLA Lions members, get your tennis shoes, water and towel ready, because we are coming into our busy season!!

First of all, Congratulations to Lion Carol Copley, for receiving the Melvin Jones Award, at the Melvin Jones Recognition Luncheon, **February**, **9**, at the Friendly Hills Country Club. Thank you Lion Carol for all your dedication of keeping our finances straight, being our treasurer for many years and also for helping at ALL the Special Olympics competitions and parties and events for our athletes. We are truly blessed to have you on our team!!



Special Olympics is now in its Spring/Summer season and the athletes have started their practices in swimming, athletics (track and field), basketball, flag football and bocce.

March 4, we will have our friend Bill Shumard, the CEO of Special Olympics Southern California, at our meeting. Bill will give us an update on how Special Olympics is doing. Bill has been a tremendous supporter of our SOLA Lions Club and we are very happy when he can come to visit us.

Our first SOLA Special Olympics competition, Basketball, will be held on **April 18,** 2020, at Whittier College. We are expecting 12-14 teams to register. We also have Whittier College athletes volunteer as Fans in the Stands, Scorekeepers and Team Escorts, in addition to the Men's League Board from California High School and the Leos from Bell Gardens helping us too. If you have never been to this competition I strongly urge you to come and volunteer. YOU WILL HAVE THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE!!

Our second competition, Swimming, will be in **May**, at Palm Park (date to be determined). We will have approximately 60 swimmers competing in a variety of races, 25M, 50M, Butterfly, and Relays, etc.

The Special Olympics Southern California Summer Games will take place on **June 6-7, 2020**, at CSU, Long Beach. Over 1,000 athletes from the Southern California area will be competing in Athletics, Basketball, Bocce, Flag Football, and Swimming. This is a great way to spend a Saturday or Sunday, with your family and friends, supporting our athletes.

May 4 is a big day. It is our annual **SOLA Golf Tournament** at the Friendly Hills Golf Club. Benefiting our local Special Olympics Athletes. It will be a great day of play at the prestigious Friendly Hills Golf Course.

- President's Message continues on Page 5



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.

Regular Meeting February 19, 2020 Friendly Hills Country Club 8500 S. Villaverde Drive Whittier, CA 90605





SOLA Golf Tournament

We are excited to announce that the SOLA Golf Brochure is here!! Please reach out, pass out and sign up with the brochure!! New this year is a Helicopter Ball Drop!! We are looking forward to the fun of a helicopter hovering over the golf course!!

Mark your calendars, the SOLA Golf Tournament will be held MONDAY, MAY 4th 2020 at Friendly Hills Country Club!

You can make a difference in the life of a Special Olympic Athlete by playing in the tournament, encouraging your family and friends to participate, posting the brochure to your social media outlets, dropping off brochures to local business and many other opportunities to promote this great event.

Not a golfer? No problem! We have tee sign sponsorships available for \$ 100. Put your name out there as a supporter. Do you like to eat? Join us for the banquet after the tournament for \$50 per person.

We appreciate any and all support. For a full list of sponsorship opportunities please check out the SOLA golf website at www.solagolf.com. Need an electronic version of the brochure? Email solalions@gmail.com.

A few dates to keep in mind:

Early Bird registration ends March 4^{th} and is available ONLY online. Regular registration closes April 24th.

We look forward to seeing you in May!!

Sincerely, Lion Theresa, SOLA 2020 Golf Chair



COUNTRY CLUB 10:00 AM Registration

NOON Shotgun Starts

www.solagolf.com



SOLA Lions Club Meetings



Pasadena Host Lions Club members Dick Kasten and Tom Kester visited SOLA on January 15th to promote their Club's Centennial Celebration Party on March 21.





SOLA Lions Club Secretary Jeff Martin honors Lion Susan Sones with a Membership Advancement Key in honor of her fantastic sponsorship of new members on January 15th, 2020.



SOLA Lions Club President "Peanuts" Pierre presented Daniel Diaz his Lions Membership Certificate on January 15th with a hearty "WELCOME" from all our SOLA Lions!



SOLA Lion "Rudolph" Williamson's neighbors, Carry and Aieda Klingfus, played the roles of Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus at the SELA Christmas Party on December 7, 2019. Thanks for helping us out at the last minute!













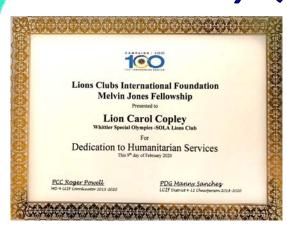


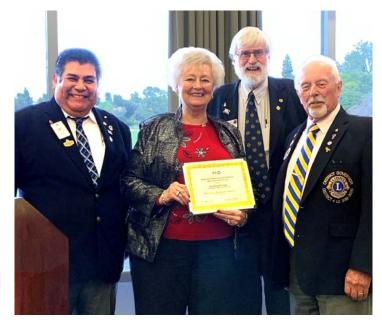




District 4-L2 Melvin Jones Recognition Luncheon

Congratulations Lion Carol Copley





For her dedication to humanitarian services as a member of Lions Clubs International, Carol Copley was honored at the 2020 District 4-L2 Melvin Jones Recognition Luncheon on February 9, 2020. Standing with her in the above picture are PDG Manny Sanchez, PCC Roger Powell, and current DG Gary Hall.

Upcoming Dates

March 4 - SOLA Lions Club regular meeting: Special Olympics CEO Bill Shumard speaks

March 21 - Pasadena Host Lions Club's 100th Anniversary Celebration

March 21-23 - MD-4 LIONS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE Rancho Cucamonga, CA

April 18 - SOLA-SELA Special Olympics Basketball Competition—Whittier College

April 30-May 3 - District 4-L2 Lions Convention—Cathedral City See pages 6-7.

May 4 - SOLA Golf Tournament Fundraiser

May (Date TBA) - SOLA-SELA Special Olympics Swimming Competition—Palm Park

June 6-7 - Special Olympics Southern California Summer Games—CSU Long Beach



SOLA President Ruri Pierre's Message Continues



All proceeds from the tournament go directly back to our athletes to provide uniforms, equipment and additional competitions. So SOLA Lions Members, WE NEED YOUR HELP!! We need golfers, sponsors and Tee-Sponsors, so ask your friends, family, neighbors and business owners. For more information on the Golf Tournament, please go to **www.solagolf.com**. We also need members to serve on a variety of committees to make this the best tournament we have ever had!! Remember, we do this for all of our ATHLETES!!!

Just a reminder to our SOLA members, to complete the "CLASS A" volunteer process online, I will have the instruction forms at the next meeting. Please complete the process by March 16, so that you will be registered by our first competition in April. Thank you!!

As you can see there is a lot going on in the next few months with our Club and I am so excited for all the competitions, to see the athletes, coaches, family members and volunteers again!!!

President Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre



February and March Birthdays

2/13: Mary Beth Duke 2/15: Rosa Masterson 2/25: Lilly Sanchez 3/4: David Williamson 3/8: Jay Prestelle 3/19: Daniel McMillan

February and March Anniversaries

2/14: David and Jeannine Williamson 2/14: PDG Manny and Lilly Sanchez 2/19: Alberto and Sharon Montes De Oca



Dr. Jung-Yul Choi	Lions Clubs International President, Korea
Larry Dicus	Past Lions Clubs International Director
Bob Stewart	
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
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Ron Copley Im't Past President,	Guiding Lion-Emeritus
Jesse Lopez	Sr. Director
Jeannie Williamson	Sr. Director
David Williamson	Jr. Director
Gwen Stanga	Jr. Director
•	



82nd Annual Lions District 4-L2 Convention "Celebrating Serving Better Together"

Doubletree by Hilton Golf Resort, 67967 Vista Chino Cathedral City, CA 92234 Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, April 30, May 1-3, 2020

For Hotel Reservations Contact:

Doubletree Hotel Reservations: (844-543-9184) Lions 4-L2,
Code: "LI5"

King and Queen - \$143.00 per night plus taxes
Rooms Held Until 4/16/20

For Suites please contact Hotel Reservations

Convention Registration Please PRINT (Reproduce this form for additional registrations.)

Name_					-	Club	Name of the Control o	
. L	.ast	Fire	st (as d	esired	on bad			
Address			-	-		_Phone)	
Non-Lio	n/Spous	se / Guest_			7007			
		La	ast	49770	F	irst (as c	lesired on	badge)
Contact	Email							
		Circle	Curren	t Statu	s in Lie	ons		
	First Tim	er Melvin	Jones	Fellow	Dele	gate	Alternate	
DO	G VDC	9 PDG	CS	CT	RC	ZC	Dist. Cha	iir
Clu	b Pres.	Club Seci	retary	Pres	. Elect	PCC	PID	ID

Convention Events & Cost	Early Bird Received by March 15 th	Registration Received after March 15 th	How Many	Amount Enclosed
PACKAGE DEAL Includes Registration and All Meals. (Does not include any sporting event).	\$ 160	\$ 232		
Registration ONLY – Mandatory for all Lions, Spouses and Guests, and to participate in ANY sporting event/meal.	\$45	\$55		
Sunday Registration ONLY (at Convention)	\$55	\$65		
Friday: Golf (10:00am)	\$60	\$70		
Friday: Tennis (Morning)	\$25	\$35		
Friday: Bowling (4:00pm)	\$12	\$20		
Friday Evening First Nighters' Party	\$30	\$40		
Saturday Lunch-Featuring Parade of Club Banners, Presentations by: Visiting PID Bruce Beck and Troy Zeeman "Active Shooter Preparedness Training". Menu-Chicken Stir-fry.	\$36	\$46		
Saturday Evening Governor's Banquet Menu-Braised Short Rib. Entertainment: Songs of Sinatra and The Rat Pack	\$46	\$56		
Sunday Breakfast Meeting, Memorial Service	\$25	\$35		
LEO Registration	FREE	FREE		
NOTE – NO MEALS SOLD AT THE DOOR		Total Amou Enclosed	nt	

Special Dietary Needs	Accessibility Needs	
	Convention Dress: Lions Attire	

For convention registration, paying by check, please mail the registration form along with your check or money order Payable to: "Lions District 4-L2", in the memo write "Convention".

For convention registration, paying by credit card: By signing, you accept and agree that all credit card transactions are subject to a \$10.00 handling fee. Any change requests or cancellations must be received by April 5, 2020. Notification of changes or cancellations must be submitted in writing, via mail, or by email at ohrmu@aol.com no later than April 5, 2020.

If paying by credit card complete:	_Circle type of card: M/C	Visa	Amer. Express
Full Name on Card:			
Credit Card Number:	Z	ip Code	
Verification Code:	Expiration	Date:	
Signature:	Date	ə:	

SOLAMOTION

Monthly Newsletter of the Special Olympics Los Angeles Lions Club of Whittier

Volume 10, No. 4 January 8, 2020

Special OlympicsSouthern California





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Fellow SOLA Lions,

Happy New Years!!! I hope you and your family had a fun and blessed holiday season. Our SOLA Club members started the holiday season with the Annual SOLA/SELA Christmas Party for our Special Olympics Athletes on Saturday, December 7, at Simms Park, in Bellflower. There were over 300 in attendance, with our SOLA members, as elves, helping to serve dinner, drinks and deserts. Thank you to Lions David and Jeannie Williamson for securing the surprised

visitors, Santa, Mrs. Claus and Rudolf the Red Nose Reindeer. The athletes were so thrilled to visit with Santa, Mrs. Claus and Rudolf and to receive presents. The spirit of LOVE was definitely at this party and I want to THANK ALL the SOLA Lions Club members who volunteered to put smiles on our athletes, family members and friend's faces and hearts.

A big THANK You to Lions David and Jeannie Williamson for opening up their beautiful home for our Annual Holiday Party on December 18. The house was wonderfully decorated!!!! District Governor Gary Hall and his wife celebrated with us. We all enjoyed the delicious dinner from Lascari's, and the yummy desserts. Thank you also to Lions Susan and Mary Beth for helping with the dinner and desserts and Lion Steve for being an excellent bartender.

After dinner our very own maestro, Lion Wayne, played the piano and led us in singing Christmas Carols. This year we had additions of Lion David on drums and couple of others with rhythmic sticks to add to the band. If this didn't put you in the holiday spirit, I don't know what would!!!

-President's Message continues on page 7



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.

Regular Meeting January 15, 2020 Friendly Hills Country Club 8500 S. Villaverde Drive Whittier, CA 90605







SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Thank You City of Bellflower for Allowing Us to Use Simms Park Community Center!

Many Volunteer Hands Make this Party Successful!





IP Dr. Jung-Yul Choi Reception

At the December 30 reception for International President Dr. Jung-Yul Choi and his wife Seung-Bok, Lions Float Inc. and Dist. 4-L2 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 IP's Certificate of Appreciation were PDG Larry Wehage, District 4-L2 Cabinet Secretary Nancy McAfee, and our own SOLA Associate Member PDG Manny Sanchez.



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, International President Choi has held many offices within the association, including club president, cabinet secretary, district governor and international director. He also served numerous times as a DGE Group Leader and served on 11 committees as a member of the International Board of Directors. In addition, he was a chairperson of the 39th OSEAL Forum in 2000 and a host committee chairperson at the 95th Lions International Convention in Busan in 2012, the largest convention ever held in Lions history.

In recognition of his service to the association, International President Choi has received numerous awards, including the Humanitarian Partnership, Senior Master Key Award, 100% District Governor Award, International President's Leadership Awards, International President's Awards and an Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor the association bestows upon its members. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

In addition to his Lion activities, International 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.

International President Choi and his wife, Seung-Bok, have one son, four daughters and two grand-daughters. (Copied from Lions Clubs International website)



SOLA Lions Pres. Ruri sponsored a table at the reception. Pictured are Lions Jesse and Penny Lopez, Theresa Rivas and Dan McMillan, Ruri Pierre, Jeff Martin, & Daniel Diaz



SOLA Lion Secretary Jeff Martin stands proudly with Lions International President Dr. Jung-Yul Choir and his wife, Seung-Bok





2020 Has Another SOLA Golf Tournament Fundraiser!

SOLA President's Message continues from Page 1

On December 30, I was privileged to join several Lions Club Presidents to meet our International President Jung-Yul Choi, at the DoubleTree Hotel in Rosemead. President Choi stated membership in the Lions Club has been decreasing in the United States and he encouraged us to increase our membership, not just with younger people, put retirees, who have the time and resources to serve as a Lion. He also said that if each member just brought in three new members a year that would really boost the membership.

President Choi also said he really liked the ideas of the specialty clubs, like our SOLA Lions Club and that may be the wave of the future for clubs with younger members. After the Presidents' hour long meeting, a reception was held at the hotel with Lions Club members from all over California. There were approximately 160 Lions in attendance.

SOLA Lions Club members, Jesse and Penny Lopez, Theresa Rivas, Dan McMillan, Jeff Martin, Daniel Diaz and I attended the reception. President Choi came to each table and introduced himself and his wife to everyone.

As stated above, President Choi stated the importance of increasing members. **Is there at least 3 people you have wanted to invite to our monthly meetings?** I **challenge** you to invite them to our Special Olympics competitions — Basketball in April and Swim in June — and to our meetings between now and June 2020!

Our next meeting will be on **January 15**, at 4:30 pm, at the Friendly Hills Country Club, for the Golf Tournament Meeting and 5:30pm, member meeting. Pasadena Lions Club President Jhoana Hirasuna will present a program about their 100 year celebration of their club this year. I am looking forward to seeing you all at our next meeting and having a very FUN and SUCCESS-FUL 2020!!!

President Ruri "Peanuts" Pierre



Contests

Putting Contest
Hole-in-One
Closest to Line Drive
Closest to the Pin
Helicopter Golf Ball Drop
Top 4-some Shoots for
\$100,000
\$1,000,000 Shot Opportunity
For details visit:
www.solagolf.com

It's time for SOLA Lions Club members to wholeheartedly advertise our May 4th SOLA Golf Tournament among friends and businesses. Our Golf Tournament Brochure will be available shortly.





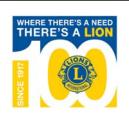
The theme for the upcoming **2020 Tournament of Roses**, 131st Parade, is "**The Power of Hope**" and the Lions Clubs theme **is** "**Hope for 20/20.**" The float depicts a young Lion Cub and young Owl wearing glasses and reading the Book of Hope realizing they can see now as a result of Lions Vision Screening programs. LCI's float theme "Hope for 20/20" fits perfectly around one of LCI's five signature projects-Vision.





December and January Birthdays

12/6: Penny Lopez 12/24: Cristina Guzman 1/2: Gwen Stanga 1/9: Dan Skewes 1/11: Drew Sones 1/19: Sarah 1/28: Craig Peck



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