



NORTH FRESNO LIONS CLUB

ROAR



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August 31, 2020

Monthly Newsletter

Carol Mills, FUSD Trustee, Explains Fall School Plans

Message from the President

Lion Ralph Handly



Greeting Lions.

I hope that this Roar finds you healthy and at least in reasonable spirits. It is hard to keep a balanced attitude in these very trying times. But I am confident that we all will get through this in due time.

Our Zoom meetings are interesting. We are getting better at getting through them. Thank you, Kaden, for hosting us through this. We all are somewhat new to this type of meeting so I wanted to mention a few things that would make our meetings go a little smoother.

1. When you sign on, make sure your background is what you would like to project. I am not sure how Keith does it, but he has a different background each time.

2. Remember that we can see you as you are. It would be nice if you could center you smiling face in the center of the picture.

3. Any background noise comes right through your microphone. Control it if you can.

4. Look into your camera when you are speaking, that way we can read your lips if needed.

5. Watch the little microphone in the bottom of your screen. If there is a line across it, you are muted. Sometimes you can unmute yourself by pressing the space bar on your computer. Enough of that.

We announced that our Fall Fundraiser Dinner will be Sunday, October 11. We will be selling Tahoe Joe's dinners for the very reasonable price of \$20 each. All of the dinners, of course, will be available for take-out only. This will be our major Fall fundraiser, so we need to sell these tickets. I would like to see each one of us commit to selling at least 10 tickets. At \$20 each, this is an easy sell, and in fact you may want to buy several extras and donate them to others. Details to follow.

We also decided that we will try to have a live meeting on the north patio at Yosemite Falls on September 14th. I will try to have a zoom meeting there as well for those who will not feel comfortable being out.

Even though we are in very unusual times, we are still in Lions for a reason. Our motto is "We Serve", and we need to keep reminding ourselves that we still need to be of service to someone. Keep on serving!!

Ralph

Lion Marilyn arranged for Carol Mills, long-time Fresno Unified School District Trustee, to join us by Zoom on Aug. 17 and share how FUSD will set up and handle Fall remote learning. Carol is a native Californian, raised in a blue collar household and the first in her family to attend college. She went on to get her law degree at McGeorge School of Law and currently is a lead attorney with the California Court of Appeals. She is passionate about education and the opportunities afforded from higher education or a skilled trade. She represents the Fresno High area on the FUSD Board



First, Trustee Mills clarified the District is operating under the Governor's order requiring schools in "red flag" counties to only have distance learning when schools initially open. Fresno is red-flagged based on high positive test rate, rising cases, under-testing, rising hospitalization and almost at capacity for beds and ventilators. The district will hold a Summit with teachers for training on August 15, then August 18 at 9 am will be the start of the school year. Teachers have been adapting to remote teaching since school was closed in the Spring, but the Fall session will be graded and more rigorous in terms of attendance and learning. The first day of school will be orientation on how it will all work and what is expected.

There are school sites set up for distribution of meals everyday as FUSD is a 100% free lunch district. A very large proportion of youth are very poor and hungry every day. Breakfast and lunch will be distributed weekdays from 7 am until 9 am. All students were to receive a laptop, and the district is setting up mobile hotspots so all students have Internet access.

Protocols and schedules for K-12 grades are slightly different, but basically there will be 4 hours of live instruction daily with breaks for homework, play, and lunch built in. For example, Kinders will start at 9am for 30 minutes of live instruction, then a 30 minute break where the teacher is still available. It will go back and forth like this with plenty of break time until end of day at 2 pm. There are protocols at each level and what the child should be able to do. There will be case managers to help those falling behind. Absences will be treated the same as if school were on campus with School Attendance Review Boards monitoring attendance and following up with letters to parents leading to hearings if non-compliant.

There will be ability for students to meet with social workers, psychologists, or special education instructors either one on one or in very small groups of 2-4 children. This would also include non-English learners or children not at grade level. Some services would have to be done in-person, and the district has to submit specific plans and get waivers from the state for in-person. All of the specifics are posted on the district website.

Several Lions had questions, especially those with children. Lion Jose has 4 children in FUSD, all in different grades needing to use computers at the same time and needing them not to crash. Gwen wanted to know about PE and setting fitness goals. Mills answered all questions and followed up with some Lions or referred their concerns to the appropriate district representative.



Lions News

Save the Dates

August 31 Jim Franklin of the Cornerstone Church

Via Zoom, LOD Larry Holody has secured Jim Franklin, pastor of the Cornerstone Church in downtown Fresno to speak to us about safely opening Sunday Services.

Sept. 17, Thursday, Breakfast at Somerford Place

September 13-19 is Assisted Living Week and IPP Bob McCollister will head up the fabulous breakfast brigade to cook eggs, pancakes, sausage and/or breakfast burritos for the staff at Somerford Place as a thank you for their efforts for their memory-care residents. NFL will meet, set up, and cook to serve meals from about 9:30 am to 11:30 am on their lovely outdoor patio. This is during staff's lunch break. All NFLers are welcome to help serve, cook, and visit with staff. More details to come, but the date and approximate time are correct. If you want to help cook, serve, or donate to pay for food, email Marilyn at mkwatts4052@aol.com or call 559-709-8015.

Oct. 11 Virtual Dinner Fundraiser at Tahoe Joe's

Lions Ralph, Bo, and Mary have put together an easy, not in-person fundraiser to fatten our charitable coffers. Members will be selling meals (\$20) to Tahoe Joes for purchasers' choice of Steak, Chicken, or Ribs with Mountain Mashers and Blue Lake Green Beans and Choice of Soup or Salad. Pick up will be between Lunch and Dinner hours on Sunday, October 11 at Tahoe Joe's on Cedar and Herndon. President Ralph is requesting each member sell at least 10 tickets. We have already sold one as our speaker, Jill McCarthy, wants to buy one. Tickets will be available soon as well as more details.

Nov. 11 Veterans Day Parade

For the third year, NFL will have one or more entries into the annual Veterans Day Parade. Hank, Roy, Cesar all own classic cars perfect for the largest event in the nation honoring our veterans.

First Week in December Annual Poinsettia Sale

COVID or no COVID, North Fresno Lions will hold our annual Poinsettia Sale. Plants are sold by members as well as sponsorships. Then plants are delivered the first week of December by Belmont Nursery for pick up by members who are responsible for delivering plants to purchasers. This fundraiser typically nets over \$2,000. Lion Gwen is chair of this fundraiser. Price of plants and further details TBD. Flyers usually come out in November to aid sales.

In-Restaurant Meetings to Resume in September

Members of the Board have decided to resume weekly meetings at Yosemite Falls Cafe on Cedar south of Ashlan in September. They have scoped out the safety practices of the restaurant, how the outdoor area is set up, and believe we will be safe meeting in person. They do understand that members have various levels of risk and may not feel like the time is right yet. With that in mind they are also exploring whether we can also Zoom from the restaurant so all members can participate. Our first in-person meeting at YFC will be on September 14 as the 7th is Labor Day. The 14th is also a board meeting day so that meeting will start at 11 am with the lunch meeting at 12:15. The outdoor area is to the south side of the restaurant. Email reminders will go out in advance of the first meeting. The zoom meetings have attracted about 15-17 members and have been a great interim way to keep the club going.

2021 Dates

January 29-31 MD4 Convention in Reno, Nevada

Mark your calendars early for our Annual MD4 Convention. More details to follow

February 1 Annual Student Speaker's Contest

Lion Larry Holody will again chair the annual student speaker's conference probably securing excellent speakers from Clovis West again. More details to follow.

February near President's Day Flag Day program at a local grade school

Lion Marilyn is planning on organizing a Flag Day program with a poster contest and educational and awards assembly at a local grade school.

April 10 Annual Crab Feed and Auction

Our date for the Annual Crab Feed and Auction has already been secured - April 10, Saturday at the Clovis Veteran's Memorial. Mark your calendars now.

April 18 Hinds Hospice Angel Babies Walk/Run

After having this year's event canceled, NFL is looking forward to cooking and serving a hearty breakfast to the 2021 participants.

April 23-25 MD4-A2 Convention in Santa Maria

Mark your calendars for the Convention.



Happy Bucks!

Happy Bucks!! Virtually! Members Donate \$455 in month of August!

President Ralph continues to collect/solicit Happy Bucks during Zoom meetings. Members are generously stepping up! Here are this month's Happy Bucks for the Administrative account.

David Price \$50 Happy bucks for the Year

Pat Woodard \$50 Happy Bucks for the Year

Gwen Blomgren \$5 for Sue's birthday, \$16 Happy Birthday for great grandchildren

Larry Holody \$5 Happy Birthday and Stay Safe!

Bo Boehringer \$57 Happy Anniversary for him and Sheila

Phil Price \$10 Happy Bucks for the year and \$30 for his and Jonell's anniversary

Sue Davis \$87 Happy 87th Birthday to me

Subby Salanitro \$5 Happy Birthday to Sue

Bob McCollister \$80 Happy Bucks

Allen Layne \$25 Missing the club

Marilyn Watts \$10 Both daughters working remotely, one still home

Bernie Sankey \$25 Happy Bucks

Grand Total \$455

The Activity Account also collected \$140 from Roy Yeram for Crabfeed tickets refund and \$100 from Bob McCollister just to contribute. Grand Total \$240.

Thank you everyone for stepping up and keeping our fundraising going even when we can't meet or fund raise in person. We will get through this together.

If you want to contribute, send your money to Gwen with an explanation of why you are contributing and you will be in next month's Happy Bucks section!

Aug. 24: Jill McCarthy, Community Liaison for Hinds Hospice

Lion Subby Salanitro secured Jill McCarthy, Community Outreach Liaison for Hinds Hospice to speak via Zoom at our August 24 meeting. Jill has her MBA from Craig School of Business at California State University, Fresno. She has worked for Hinds for 15 years.

According to McCarthy, the hospice care industry is changing. Over 20 companies are now providing hospice services inside of the hospitals particularly. If you want Hinds Hospice to care for you or your loved one, you have to specifically ask for Hinds. NFL has a long history of supporting Hinds and having loved ones cared for by Hinds.

McCarthy stressed hospice care is no longer for end of life care, i.e., a place you go to die. Hospice is a philosophy of medical care that focuses on a patient's symptoms and pain management. The goal is for the patient to be comfortable and have more quality in their days. The requirement for lengthier care is having a physician sign off that the patient needs hospice care with updates every 90 days. They must see the patient face to face. Physician referrals are the first step.

Hinds has always also supported the family in their caregiving and later in their grief. Since the pandemic and patients being more isolated, she is seeing the patients decline more rapidly unfortunately. Hinds runs a palliative care home on Twain Street as well as caring for patients in their own homes or hospitals.

During the pandemic, no COVID patients are admitted to the Hinds Home on Twain as they could not be kept isolated. They are still open for hospice care for other diseases. The COVID patients are given skilled nursing palliative care in their own homes or in nursing care facilities. Staff that care for them wear full PPE gear and follow all guidelines. She is proud that there have been no infections with staff. They are not able to see their patients as often in the nursing facilities, but in their homes, other than the PPE gear, there is the same care and frequency.

They employ LVNs and RNs to attend to the physical needs; social workers and hospice aides to help with emotional needs; and chaplains to help patients and families cope with spiritual needs. Unfortunately, the army of volunteers that Hinds uses to

assist patients cannot see patients during COVID. The staff help patients and families in myriad ways -- helping families reconnect and repairing rifts between family members to dealing with letting go and making funeral arrangements.

They take Medicare, Medi-Cal, and private insurance. In addition to direct care to patients, Hinds also offers Grief Support Groups to the families after the loss of a loved one. Currently the groups are all remote by Zoom. One on one grief counseling is also available and costs \$35 as they had a lot of people not show up for sessions when it was free.

After retiring from active management of Hinds Hospice in Fresno, founder Nancy Hinds and her husband began a new mission of global palliative care partnering with Global Partners in Care GPIC and have established hospitals and hospice in the Kitovu Parish of Masaka in Uganda, East Africa. Lion Ralph and Medical Ministries International have collected, donated, and shipped life-giving used medical equipment and supplies to aid Nancy Hinds' efforts in Uganda.

Unfortunately, their fundraisers were all canceled during the pandemic, and they like everyone else are getting creative and virtual to raise money. The Angel Babies Walk-Run that we provide breakfast for in April was canceled, so they held a virtual walk-run to continue the wonderful grief support provided by Angel Babies. They also continue to fund raise through the Ray of Hope, which is individual personal letters to friends asking for donations to Hinds.



Update on Service Projects

WE SERVE

Porterville Library Book Drive

In the last Roar, I reported we had collected a total of 842 books and 150 DVDs and CDs. This month I collected another 19 books and 2 DVDs and CDs from Toni Eames and a set of CDs from Gwen, so we have 861 books and 154 DVDs and CDs. A friend of Toni's has 5 boxes of books for the drive, but I need more garage space before picking them up, so I suspect we are over 1000 books. Way to go, NFL!

Somerford Place morale booster and thank you project

Last month I reported we wrote cards to Somerford Place staff (48 people total) to thank them and boost their morale and sent 65 postcards for general consumption. This month we delivered personalized pen pal notes to the 36 residents. The staff gave us tips as to the residents interests like dogs, tennis, or cooking to name a few, so the letters could be personalized. The director reported that the notes far exceeded their hopes for the residents' mental health and spirits. The staff have been overseeing making of cute cards for the residents to send back to us. (see picture) I

have already gotten two letters back from my "pen pals" and have already written them back. It was very sweet because one is obviously higher functioning and helped the other one write back to me. Please let me know when you get one back and write back to them.

Many thanks to all the NFLers who stepped up and wrote cards in both of the efforts. Thank you to Kaden Ferretti, Sue Davis, Pat Woodard, Bob McCollister, Bo Boehringer, Liz Smith, Ralph Handly, Gianna Provenzano, Gwen Blomgren, Marsha Conant, and myself. We rock when we Serve!! Thank you all.

Many of you have already volunteered for the next phase - preparing breakfast for the staff on September 17 during Assisted Living Week (see Upcoming Events write up). Thank you in advance to Mary de la Torre, Kaden Ferretti, Liz Smith, Gwen Blomgren, Gianna Provenzano, Bob McCollister and myself for volunteering. It is great to be of use during this nasty pandemic. Any one else wanting to help, let Bob McCollister or Marilyn know.





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International President's Flag By Lion Gwen

Past International President Lion Bill Biggs asked me to present to our club the friendship flag given to him for our club by Lions Club International President Dr. Jung-Yul Choi, together with individual President pins for each of our members. When we get back to meeting in person again, I will bring the pins and flag to our meeting.

Lion Bill has had the pleasure of meeting and working in Lionism with Dr. Choi who is CEO of an international trading company in the Republic of Korea. He is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and has held the office of Club President of the Busan JAE-il Lions Club, cabinet secretary, district governor and international director where he served on 11 committees as a member of the International Board of Directors.

Dr. Choi has received many awards and honors, including Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor bestowed by Lions International. Lion Bill has great affection and respect for Dr. Choi and was happy to share the Friendship flag with our club.



SEPT BIRTHDAYS

11..... Lion Mary De La Torre

SEPT ANNIVERSARIES

30..... Lion Mary & Tony De La Torre

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

4..... Lion Ron Nyberg

10..... Pat Woodard

13..... Lion Gianna Provenzano

14..... Lion Phil Price

18..... Lion Tony Kedzior

23..... Lion Marilyn Watts

25..... Lion Hank Ramirez

25..... Lion Subby Salanitro

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

28..... Lion Mike & Brenda Neer



COMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- 7:** No Meeting, Labor Day
14: Board Meeting, 11:00;
Zoom, before mtg.
14: LOD: Jose Rodriguez;
Prg: TBA
17: Serve B'fast at
Somerfor Place
21: LOD: Kaden Ferretti;
Prg: TBA
28: LOD: Roy Yeram;
Prg: TBA

- 5:** LOD: Marilyn Watts;
Prg: TBA
11: Tahoe Joe's Fund-
raising dinner
12: Board Meeting, 11:00;
YF Cafe, before mtg.
12: LOD: Dale Woodard;
Prg: TBA
19: LOD: Mary DeLaTorre;
Prg: TBA
26: LOD: Bob Boehringer;
Prg: TBA



Lions Club Meetings in Fresno

Monday
NORTH FRESNO: 12:15 pm.
Yosemite Falls Cafe,
4020 N. Cedar.

FRESNO HOST: Noon, 1st & 3rd
Yosemite Falls Restaurant, 4020 N. Cedar.

FRESNO UNLIMITED: 5:30 pm
2nd & 4th Tue, Hinton Center

Thursday
EAST FRESNO: Noon, 1st & 3rd,
Hometown Buffet, 458 W. Shaw
Clovis

Thursday
FRESNO PRIDE: 6:00 pm 2nd & 4th
Roundtable Clubhouse, 5702 N.
First

WE SERVE



September 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day No Meeting 	8	9	10	11  Patriot Day	12
13	14 Board Meeting: 11 am prior to meeting LOD: Jose Rodriguez Prg: TBA IN-PERSON MEETING	15	16	17 <i>Serve Breakfast at Somerford Place</i>	18 <i>Rosh Hashanah</i>	19
20	21 LOD: Kaden Ferretti Prg: TBA	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 LOD: Roy Yeram Prg: TBA <i>Yom Kippur</i>	29	30			



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**Thank You Note from
Somerford Place Residents**