



NORTH FRESNO LIONS CLUB

ROAR



We Serve

Chartered November 3, 1949

1917 **103 Years** 2020

December 3, 2020

Monthly Newsletter

Danny Alfaro of Synergy Talks Physical Therapy

Message from the President

Lion Ralph Handly



We wish you a
Happy Holiday
and a
Happy New Year!
Stay Well and
Be Safe!



LOD Keith Ginsburg receives physical therapy at Synergy and introduced the owner/therapist, Danny Alfaro to talk health and healing. Keith had hip replacement surgery and his recovery has greatly benefitted from the water therapy at Synergy.

Alfaro is a 2011 graduate of California State University at Fresno in Physical Therapy and did a post graduate internship in Folsom with a renowned Practitioner. He learned the bio-mechanics of joints that foster rehabilitation.

He first talked about his values as his values are what set him apart from other PT clinics. He never overbooks, each person deserves one on one personal attention without being rushed for the next appointment. He only allows higher paid, trained staff to do massage not low paid, less trained staff.

He has invested in more technology than any other valley clinic. The water therapy that Keith uses is the only one in the valley and involves a pool heated to 96% - 98% with jets, and the water can be raised or lowered depending on height and what body part is being worked. It has a camera to track movement and efficiency. Keith uses ankle weights in the water to increase strength and improve his progress.

Alfaro also has a Hyperbaric Chamber, also the only one in the Valley at a PT clinic. The chamber increases pressure with pure oxygen to promote healing. He has a Class 4 Laser Therapy machine which works the client's deep tissue and increases the metabolism. He offers virtual classes including chair Yoga once a week. Alfaro is the only PT in the valley who is licensed to sell CBD the ingredient in marijuana that is does not make you high. It relieves pain naturally.

All COVID protocols are honored at Synergy. They mask, limited the number of patients at a time, sanitize and clean after each patient. Synergy is highly recommended by Lion Keith Ginsburg.



Lions News

December Kases for Kids Benefits from your Amazon orders

Kases for Kids is a Lion's District Project that has been replicated world wide. They collect suitcases, toiletry items, and school supplies for foster children so they don't have to transport their belongings in black plastic bags. Our own Lion Kaden Ferretti is the founder and current Director. Especially this year, many people are purchasing a larger share of items and Christmas gifts on Amazon. Kases for Kids can benefit from your Amazon orders when a buyer goes to Amazon Smiles and chooses Kases for Kids. Amazon will donate a percentage of your order made through their Smiles program to Kases for Kids.

December North Star Family Center collecting Toys and Gifts for Foster Children's Christmas

Lion Mary Dela Torre announced that North Star Family Center is collecting Toys and other Gifts for the children they have in foster care for a Merry Christmas. You can drop gifts or money at their office at 6051 N Fresno St Suite 105. Thank you for any help you can give.

December 15 Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Lion Subby Salanitro sent around a sign-up sheet for Bell Ringing shifts on December 15, in front of Hobby Lobby on Blackstone. Shifts are 2 hours and you can sign up with Subby at the next two meetings or phone him to volunteer 559-930-5711. This is the Salvation Army's main fundraising season.

Prayers Needed for North Fresno Lions

Lion Jose Rodriguez has had family members and employees of the funeral home test positive for COVID-19. Please pray for a speedy recovery.

Lion Cesar Alvarez will be having heart surgery very soon. Please pray for the skill of his surgery/medical team and his speedy recovery.

Lion Mary de la Torre's sister's family came down with COVID. Her brother-in-law has such a serious case of COVID that he had to be hospitalized. There were no beds in outlying towns so he had to be airlifted to a hospital in Tehachapi. Prayers for the entire family, especially the brother-in-law are needed.

Lion Sue Davis is having some serious vision problems due to bleeding. Pray for her healing and excellent vision.

Lion Pat Woodard is still in rehab after surgery and prayers are still needed for her healing and springing from captivity.

Please be careful when you have to go out, mask up, social distance, wash your hands frequently and don't touch your face. It is very scary when it hits so many of our Lions' family.

Annual Report from Ear of the Lion/Lions Hearing Foundation

Lion Subby Salanitro has taken over processing of hearing aids requests for Lion Allen Layne. He reports NFL has sponsored 17 people in the last 11 months. Fourteen have already received their new hearing aids from the Ear of the Lion.

November 9 Michele Woodard enlightens NFL about Foster Commodities

Michele Woodard is the daughter-in-law of LOD Dale and Pat Woodard. She has been married to son, Kevin, for 26 years. They have a son aged 22 and twin boys aged 20. She is a graduate from Sacramento State University and has worked for Foster Commodities for 28 years, first as an Account Clerk and now as Account Manager.

Foster Commodities is a family-owned business since 1939 based in Modesto, California. They are now headquartered in Livingston. They have processing plants in Livingston, Fresno, Farmersville, Oregon, Washington and feed mills in California, Colorado, and Oregon. They make cooked chickens in Porterville and have a corn dog plant in Alabama. They also own 19 almond ranches in California.

They are proud to be Antibiotic-free and non-GMO. They use everything, even the manure, and sell the poultry by-products for pet food, the manure for fertilizer (organic and regular). They are also proud that their Salmonella rates are the lowest of all chicken processors as well as COVID rates.

All 5,000 employees are tested in California and have a below 1% infection rate. They follow all protocols to keep their food products and employees safe. They package under Foster Farms and other brands like Kirkland for Costco. They are still family and privately owned and generate \$14 million in profits.



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

CANCELLED

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.

Nov. 2: Kevin Meikle, Director of Aviation, Fresno Airports

LOD Bo Boehringer introduced Kevin Meikle, who is the Director of the Fresno Air Terminal also known as FAT and the Director of Chandler Field. He has 30 years in the business and 18 at FAT as Director.

They have launched what they call FAT Forward which includes developing Fresno Yosemite International domestic and international flights, Commercial, Private and Military usage. The goal is to provide safe, efficient, convenient facilities for the multitude of uses. They are proactive in enabling regional growth by trying to predict the future needs to plan for the growth.

Neither airport uses taxpayer monies. They are supported 100% by user fees. They receive no subsidies. Every user must pay their fair share and no less or more. They also get rent on the land they own, like from Piccadilly Inn-Airport and business parks. They must be fiscally responsible and self sufficient per Federal regulation under the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration).

Fresno Yosemite International consistently ranks in the top 100 airports by number of passengers. Atlanta is #1 and LA is #2. The City of Fresno owns the airport and out of the top 100, cities own and operate about 1/3. Their catchment area mostly includes Fresno County, but also Salinas/Gilroy, Modesto and Bakersfield. They offer direct flights to O'Hare, DFW, Denver, Sacramento, Phoenix, Portland, Seattle and 4 international destinations in Mexico. They service 8 commercial airlines currently with over 1 million passengers infusing the local economy with an estimated \$928 million.

They were projecting surpassing a 14% growth rate in 2020 although in March and April due to the pandemic they basically dipped to nothing - a -93% drop. They are slowly growing out of the decline and only servicing 50-60% of last year's numbers. This is actually pretty good as LAX is only serving 20% of their normal flights and passengers. FAT is outperforming the rest of the country. They are focusing on safety features in the airport to bring back customer confidence.



He stated air flights are safer than trips to the grocery store. They have installed acrylic shields, many hand sanitizer stations and require masks.

The capital improvement projects are still planned, such as the expansion of the parking garage and of the terminal. They are planning a new International facility with a separate second concourse after the checkpoints. They also need runway expansion and are in discussions as to where to do this.

Currently they are spending a lot of time talking to Network Planning for all of the Airlines to find out their plans and possibilities for new carriers out of Fresno. The ag industry provides a good portion of their customers, for example John Deere is headquartered in Chicago and the reason they provide direct flights to O'Hare Airport. The U. S. Forest Service tankers fly out of FAT also. They are courting Sun Country Airlines to service the Hmong population in Minnesota and Spirit Airlines.

The Department of Defense pays a flat rate annually to use the runways and facilities for the Air National Guard adjacent to the airport. The lease is renewed every 5 years and based on usage. Uber and Lyft pay a fee to pick up and drop off about 10,000 people monthly. They have their own police and fire also.

Nov. 16: John Alkire updates Lions on the Big Fresno Fair

LOD Bob McCollister invited John Alkire to update us on the Big Fresno Fair. We have had him speak in year's past and toured the Fair Museum, but this year we were curious as to how the Fair was affected by the pandemic.

He has been CEO of the Big Fresno Fair for 16 years and won several awards for their innovation. It is the largest public event in our area serving 1.6 million people and holding 250 extra events on fair grounds including Hmong New Year. They add \$77.1 Million to the economy and have provided 1.6 million meals over the last 10 years through their Feed The Need program.

Also at the end of the Fair each year, Catfish Falls (a fun fishing experience, catch and release) is drained and the fish go to the Poverello House to feed 12,000 homeless. They also have added 98,000 pints of blood to the Central California Blood Bank by giving free tickets to those giving blood. They have a 4.0 scholar awards program giving away computers, gift cards and even cars. Each year 30,000 to 35,000 school children get free tickets to the fair.

The Fair is the pride of Fresno Community with all the wonderful programs to help the community and the entertainment it provides. Sadly, this year due to the pandemic, the fair had to be cancelled. Alkire noted this year they did some very creative out of the box thinking and were able to salvage some of what makes the fair the fair.

They held a Drive Through Food Fair with 18 food stations and entertainment throughout the venue. They served 26,000

cars in 2 weeks and generated \$1.75 million in food sales. The 4-H youths were able to show their animals and have them judged. Then they held a virtual livestock sale which generated some revenue for the youth (about 30% off of normal).

The Horse Racing is normally a huge revenue source and they salvaged some money by selling their dates for the races to Golden Gate. They will be laying off employees starting in December.

Alkire has saved some money for the Fair by retiring early on August 31 from the state as CEO. That savings helps save other employees' jobs. However, he will still be working on the Fair as the Fair Foundation hired him for fundraising and executive director and curator of the museum. They held a virtual on-line auction to fundraise which was off 45% of normal. They are planning 3 new exhibits and Italian, Jewish and German heritage exhibits.

They have 28 neon signs and are in the process of acquiring 5 new signs including the Pontiac Band aid sign, Castillo's Restaurant, The Fresno Bee and the Virginia Hotel. To help with the signs they have started an Adopt a Sign Program requiring a \$1,000 to \$2,500 annual donation.

Fresno is very lucky to have such a creative and dedicated director.



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Hank Ramirez (right) receives the Diamond Centennial Award from Lions International from President Ralph Handy for bringing in more than 5 new members.



John Alkire, Director of the Big Fresno Fair,
 See story on previous page



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3..... Lion Larry Holody
- 9..... Evelyn Avedikian
- 10..... Cathy Good
- 20..... Dee Lewis
- 20..... Lion Terance Frazier
- 21..... Kathy Nyberg
- 26..... Lion Sally Lewis
- 28..... John Ferretti
- 30..... Lion Fred Stein
- 30..... Lion David Price
- 31..... Lion Gwen Blomgren

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 11..... Lion Ron & Kathy Nyberg
- 24..... Lion Tom and Cathy Good

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1..... Richard Espinosa
- 21..... Lion Mel Kilner

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 7..... Lion Ralph & Barbara Handy
- 26..... Lion Kaden & John Ferretti

COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

- 3:** Pick up Poinsettias at Blomgren Hanger
- 7: LOD:** Ken Aminian; Prg: TBA
- 14: Board Meeting,** 11:00; YF Cafe, before mtg.
- 14: LOD:** Phil Price; Prg: TBA
- 15: Salvation Army Bell Ringing,** Hobby Lobby
- 21: Dark for Holidays**
- 28: Dark for Holidays**

JANUARY

- 4: LOD:** TBA
- 11: Board Meeting,** 11:00; Zoom, before mtg.
- 11: LOD:** Hank Ramirez; Prg: TBA
- 18: LOD:** Cesar Alvarez; Prg: TBA
- 25: LOD:** Abraham Bernal; Prg: TBA



Lions Club Meetings in Fresno

Monday
 NORTH FRESNO: 12:15 p.m.
 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



December 2020



Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

		1 <i>Election Day</i>	2	3	4	5
	LOD: Bob Boehringer Prg: Kevin Meikle, Dir. of Aviation					
6	7 Board Meeting: 11 am pre-meeting LOD: Pat Woodard Prg: TBA	8	9	10	11  <i>Hanukkah</i>	12
13	14 LOD: Bob McCollister Prg: John Alkire, Dir. Big Fresno Fair	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 LOD: Gwen Blomgren Prg: TBA <i>Winter Solstice</i>	22	23	24	25  <i>Christmas</i>	26
27	28 LOD: Ron Nyberg Prg: TBA	29	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>		



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