

**RUIDOSO VALLEY NOON
LIONS CLUB**

REFLECTIONS
OFFICIAL CLUB YEARBOOK

2007-08

**"You can't get very far until you start
doing something for somebody else."**

Melvin Jones



Lions Club Objects

- * TO CREATE and foster a spirit of understanding among peoples of the world.
- * TO PROMOTE the principles of good government and good citizenship.
- * TO TAKE an active interest in the civic, cultural, social, and moral welfare of the community.
- * TO UNITE the Clubs in the bonds of friendship, good fellowship, and mutual understanding.
- * TO PROVIDE a forum for the open discussion of all matters of public interest; provided, however, that partisan politics and sectarian religion shall not be debated by Club members.
- * TO ENCOURAGE service-minded people to serve their community without personal financial reward, and to encourage efficiency and promote high ethical standards in commerce, industry, professions, public works, and private endeavors.

Lions Code of Ethics

- * TO SHOW my faith in the worthiness of my vocation by industrious application to the end that I may merit a reputation for quality of service.
- * TO SEEK success and to demand all fair remuneration or profit as my just due, but to accept no profit or success at the price of my own self-respect lost because of unfair advantages taken or because of questionable acts on my part.
- * REMEMBER that in building up my business, it is not necessary to tear down another's; to be loyal to my clients or customers and true to myself.
- * WHENEVER a doubt arises as to the right or ethics of my position or action towards others, to resolve such doubt against myself.
- * TO HOLD friendship as an end and not a means. To hold that true friendship exists not on account of the service performed by one to another, but that true friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.
- * ALWAYS to bear in mind my obligations as a citizen to my nation, my state, and my community, and to give them my unswerving loyalty in word, act, and means, and deed. To give them freely of my time, labor, and means.
- * TO AID others by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my aid to the weak, and my substance to the needy.
- * TO BE CAREFUL with my criticism and liberal with my praise; to build up and not destroy.

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Background

Lions Clubs International Historical Overview. In 1917, a Chicago insurance agent named Melvin Jones convinced his luncheon club, the Business Circle of Chicago, that it should ally itself with other independent clubs to form a national organization that would be dedicated not only to networking for business and social purposes, but to the improvement of the community as a whole. Among the groups invited was the Association of Lions Clubs, which was headquartered in Evansville, Indiana, and led by Dr. W. P. Woods. At the time of the meeting on June 7, there were several Lions Clubs already in existence, some of which had been organized in 1916. These Lions Clubs were an outgrowth of a now-defunct fraternal organization called the Royal Order of Lions.

The Business Circle of Chicago and other Clubs agreed to rally under the Lions name and a convention was scheduled for October 1917 in Dallas, Texas. Thirty-six delegates representing 22 clubs from nine states heeded the call and approved the "Lions Clubs" designation. Dr. Woods was elected as the first President. Guiding force and founder Melvin Jones was named acting Secretary, thus beginning an association with Lions that ended only with his death in 1961.

During the first convention, the members began to define what the Association was to become. A Constitution and By-laws were adopted, the colors of purple and gold approved, and a start made on developing the Lions Clubs Objects and Code of Ethics. Remarkably, considering the materialism of the era, both the Objects and Ethics encouraged Lions to put service ahead of profit, and to uphold the highest standards of conduct in business and other professions.

Community leaders soon began to organize Clubs throughout the United States. The Association went "International" with the formation of a club in Windsor, Ontario, Canada in 1920. Clubs were later organized in Mexico, China, and Cuba. By 1927, membership stood at 60,000 in 1,183 Clubs.

In 1925, Helen Keller addressed the Lions International Convention in Cedar Point, Ohio. She challenged Lions to become "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness." From this time, Lions Clubs have been actively involved in service to the blind and visually impaired.

In 1935, Panama became home to the first Central American Lions Club with the first Club in South America being organized in Columbia the following year. Sweden, then France, brought Europe into the Association in 1948. Japan had clubs by 1952, and the "Eastern Bloc" was unblocked in 1989 with the formation of clubs in Hungary, Poland, and Estonia. In 1990, a Club was chartered in Moscow and today hundreds of Lions Clubs are demonstrating the value of service to one's community in countries once closed to voluntary action.

Background (Cont'd.)

In 1987, Lions Clubs International became the first major service organization to admit women as members. Lions Clubs International has grown to more than 1.3 million men and women in over 45,000 clubs located in 200 countries and geographic areas. Today, Lions extend their commitment to sight conservation through countless local efforts, as well as through their international SightFirst Program and Lions World Sight Day, a global partnership of United Nations agencies, eye care and philanthropic organizations and health professionals, held the second Thursday of each October to increase awareness of the need to eradicate blindness. Lions also collect and recycle eyeglasses for distribution in developing countries year-round and especially during May, which is Lions Recycle for Sight Month.

In addition, Lions make a strong commitment to young people through youth outreach programs. Lions also work to improve the environment, build homes for the disabled, support diabetes education, conduct hearing programs and, through their foundation, provide disaster relief around the world. Based on a recent report of Lions Clubs worldwide, it is estimated that each year Lions clubs donate approximately \$449 million and 76 million hours, which is equivalent to 36,500 people working full time for a year!

Melvin Jones - A Profile. Melvin Jones was born on January 13, 1879, in Fort Thomas, Arizona, the son of a United States Army captain who commanded a troop of scouts. Later, his father was transferred and the family moved east. As a young man, Jones made his home in Chicago, Illinois, became associated with an insurance firm, and in 1913 formed his own agency. He soon joined the Business Circle, a businessmen's luncheon group, and was shortly elected Secretary. This group was one of many at that time devoted solely to promoting the financial interests of their membership. Because of their limited appeal, they were destined to disappear. Melvin Jones, however, had other plans. "What if these men," he asked, "who are successful because of their drive, intelligence and ambition, were to put their talents to work improving their communities?" Thus, at his invitation, delegates from men's clubs met in Chicago to lay the groundwork for such an organization and on June 7, 1917, Lions Clubs International was born. It was stipulated that clubs were not to be social in nature nor were members permitted to promote their own business interests.

Jones eventually abandoned his insurance agency to devote himself full time to Lions at International Headquarters in Chicago. It was under his dynamic leadership that Lions Clubs earned the prestige necessary to attract civic-minded members. The Association's founder was also recognized as a leader outside the Association. One of his greatest honors was in 1945 when he represented Lions Clubs International as a consultant in San Francisco, California, at the organization of the United Nations.

Background (Cont'd.)

Melvin Jones, the man whose personal code, "You can't get very far until you start doing something for somebody else," became a guiding principle for public-spirited people the world over, died June 1, 1961, at 82 years of age. The Lions International Melvin Jones Memorial is located in Fort Thomas, Arizona.

Helen Keller's Speech at the 1925 Lions International Convention.

"I suppose you have heard the legend that represents opportunity as a capricious lady, who knocks at every door but once, and if the door isn't opened quickly, she passes on, never to return. And that is as it should be. Lovely, desirable ladies won't wait. You have to go out and grab 'em.

I am your opportunity. I am knocking at your door. I want to be adopted. The legend doesn't say what you are to do when several beautiful opportunities present themselves at the same door. I guess you have to choose the one you love best. I hope you will adopt me. I am the youngest here, and what I offer you is full of splendid opportunities for service.

The American Foundation for the Blind is only four years old. It grew out of the imperative needs of the blind, and was called into existence by the sightless themselves. It is national and international in scope and in importance. It represents the best and most enlightened thought on our subject that has been reached so far. Its object is to make the lives of the blind more worthwhile everywhere by increasing their economic value and giving them the joy of normal activity.

Try to imagine how you would feel if you were suddenly stricken blind today. Picture yourself stumbling and groping at noonday as in the night; your work, your independence, gone. In that dark world wouldn't you be glad if a friend took you by the hand and said, "Come with me and I will teach you how to do some of the things you used to do when you could see?" That is just the kind of friend the American Foundation is going to be to all the blind in this country if seeing people will give it the support it must have.

You have heard how through a little word dropped from the fingers of another, a ray of light from another soul touched the darkness of my mind and I found myself, found the world, found God. It is because my teacher learned about me and broke through the dark, silent imprisonment which held me that I am able to work for myself and for others. It is the caring we want more than money. The gift without the sympathy and interest of the giver is empty. If you care, if we can make the people of this great country care, the blind will indeed triumph over blindness.

Background (Cont'd.)

The opportunity I bring to you, Lions, is this: To foster and sponsor the work of the American Foundation for the Blind. Will you not help me hasten the day when there shall be no preventable blindness; no little deaf, blind child untaught; no blind man or woman unaided? I appeal to you Lions, you who have your sight, your hearing, you who are strong and brave and kind. Will you not constitute yourselves Knights of the Blind in this crusade against darkness? I thank you."

Early Lionism in New Mexico. Lionism began in New Mexico over 75 years ago. The following account was written by Lion Life Member C. B. 'Hap' Beyer in 1973 and reflects his recollections of the early days of Lionism in New Mexico. It is important to remember that much of what was accomplished during these early formative years eventually impacted the birth of the Ruidoso Evening Lions Club in 1949 and the Ruidoso Valley Noon Lions Club in 1969.

The First Lions Club in New Mexico The record indicates that their numbers were twenty-two. But reason leads us to believe that the head count must have been at least twice that number if we were to include their ladies and guests, for this was the Charter Banquet of the Albuquerque Lions Club. The figure twenty-two represented the number of the City's business and professional men who had accepted invitations to affiliate with the organization men were beginning to know as the International Association of Lions Clubs. The date was May 22, 1923, and they had assembled at the downtown Y.M.C.A. to hear a speaker bearing the unfamiliar title of District Governor extol the virtues of that Association. Afterwards, the District Governor would present the Charter to them, which would confer upon each of that group of twenty-two men present, membership in an organization having as its aim and purpose, service to mankind without, in turn, demanding compensation or recompense for such service.

Who were these men who, by affixing their signatures to the application for membership previously presented for their consideration, and, further, by their very presence at that memorable meeting, were to be listed at a future day as the "Founding Fathers of Lionism," not only in their own City, but in New Mexico as well? Let us answer that question by recording not only who they were, but what they were, that those who have followed, and will follow, may honor them for their role, and that the few of that original group, who still survive, may know of such honor. And as we list their names and occupations we do not contemplate the office that any one member thereof may have held in that first Lions Club in our state and city, but, rather, the thought that the honors accorded them as "Founding Fathers" be shared equally by each. We extend Honors to:

Background (Cont'd.)

Mr. V. S. Bentley, Commercial Traveler	Mr. Earl J. Brown, Retail Grocer
Mr. A. E. Bruce, Insurance	Mr. M. R. Buchanan, Ice Company
Mr. A. J. Coates, U.S. Veterans Bureau	Mr. W. A. Disque, Wholesale Grocer
Mr. Philip Hubbell, County Official	Mr. E. E. Harbert, Automobile Sales
Mr. John F. Linn, Transfer Company	Mr. H. E. Livingston, Office Supplies
Mr. Oscar M. Love, YMCA	Dr. E. C. Matthews, Oculist
Mr. Mayer Osoff, Ladies Wear	Mr. Price C. Pincham, Typewriters
Mr. George Roddy, Justice of the Peace	Dr. C. A. Schumaker, Dentist
Mr. Claude H. Spitzmesser, Retail Clothing	Mr. D. A. Watner, Attorney
Mr. H. V. Watson, Banker	Mr. Bernard Wiles, Gas & Electric Co.
Mr. Don T. Wilson, Auto Garage	Mr. S. T. Vann, Jeweler

These, then are the men whose names we inscribe upon the Honor Roll of Lionism in our state.

That we may further be reminded of our beginning, let us recall that, on April 9, of that same year of 1923, six weeks prior to that initial meeting of the Albuquerque Lions Club, a similar meeting for like purpose, and, doubtless, with the same District Governor officiating, was held in the city of Phoenix, in our neighboring state of Arizona. With the two cities of Albuquerque and Phoenix serving as a nucleus, there was established an entirely new District with the numerical designation of District 21, Lions International, which was composed of the states of New Mexico and Arizona, and a portion of the state of California. It is interesting to note that up to and including the year 1928, five District Governors presided over the affairs of the newly created District: one from Los Angeles, two from Phoenix, and one each from Tucson and Albuquerque. Isolated, with its nearest Lions Club neighbor on the North located in Colorado, on the East and South in Texas, and on the West in Arizona, the fledgling Albuquerque Club was compelled to maintain its identity and existence pretty much on its own until the year 1928, when a drastic change in the makeup and conduct of the affairs of our Association occurred in New Mexico. It may be well to state here that I was not a Charter Member of the Albuquerque Lions Club, my membership dating from June 5, 1926, as attested by my certificate of membership carrying the original signature of our founder, the late Melvin Jones, whom I came to know quite well through the years, and who was, on several occasions, a guest in my home. Through service as an officer of my Club and three terms as District Governor of original District 40, followed by a year on the Executive Council of the International Board of Governors, it was my privilege to live through, and actually see made, a portion of the early history of Lionism, in New Mexico. I make the statement factually and not for the purpose of extracting kudos from the reader.

Background (Cont'd.)

From One, Many. But time marched on and the word was passed. In 1927, a second Club was organized in the city of Santa Fe, and by early 1928 a total of seventeen Clubs had been established in the state, listed here, but not necessarily in the order given:

Alamogordo	Albuquerque	Artesia
Carlsbad	Clovis	Deming
Farmington	Gallup	Hot Springs
Las Cruces	Los Lunas	Portales
Roswell	Santa Fe	Taos
Texico-Farwell	Tucumcari	

These would be the Charter Clubs of a new District soon to be formed. The remainder of Hap Beyer's article can be found in Appendix I.

Ruidoso Valley Noon Lions Club Historical Overview. In the late '60's, Lion Elmer Pirelli, who was a long time member of the Ruidoso Village Council and the Ruidoso Evening Lions Club, decided to start a new Lions Club in Ruidoso that met at noon. As a result of his recruiting efforts, the Ruidoso Valley Noon Lions Club was chartered 26 November 1969 with 54 Charter Members. The Club's first President was Lion Elmer Pirelli.

From 1969 to 1988, the Club met at the Whispering Pines Restaurant in the Upper Canyon, after which they moved to the Ruidoso Inn for meetings. Today, the Club meets at the Cree Meadows Restaurant. In the early years, the sponsorship of the Mule Races at Ruidoso Downs and Friday Night Bingo were the big fundraisers. Student scholarships and holding bingo sessions at the Care Center were two of the Club's many community service projects during that time.

Today, the Ruidoso Valley Noon Lions are the third largest Club in NM. The Club's membership has stayed above 50 for the last several years and the prospects are excellent of growing the membership in the near future as more and more people in the community become cognizant of what Lionism is all about. The Club's big fund raisers are the annual Crafts, Guns, and Collectibles Show each May and Antiques & Collectibles Show each August. The primary community service projects are providing eye exams and glasses for folks in need and the photo eye screening of youngsters in Lincoln County and Mescalero.

Background (Cont'd.)

The Lions Emblem, Colors, Motto, & Mission. The current Lion emblem was adopted at the 1919 International Convention. Today, Lions throughout the world are recognized by it. It consists of a gold letter "L" on a circular purple field. Bordering this is a circular gold area with two Lions profiles facing in opposite directions from the center. The word "Lions" appears at the top and 'International' at the bottom. The Lions face both past and future — showing both pride of heritage and confidence in the future.

The official motto of the Association is simply "We Serve." The official slogan is Liberty, Intelligence, and Our Nations Safety. The Association's colors are purple and gold, which were chosen when LCI was founded in 1917. Purple, which represents loyalty to country, friends, one's self, and the integrity of mind and heart, is the color of strength, courage, and dedication to a cause. Gold symbolizes sincerity of purpose, liberality in judgment, purity in life, generosity in mind and heart, and commitment to mankind.

Mission: To create and foster a spirit of understanding among all people for humanitarian needs by providing voluntary services through community involvement and international cooperation.

Ruidoso Noon Lions Service Projects

LINCOLN COUNTY FOOD BANK. The Lincoln Food Bank provides a standard, healthy box of food to those who need it. The folks at the Lincoln County Food Bank follow the guidelines and the experience of Food Banks throughout our nation. A family in need is presented with a big box, already made up by staff, containing the basic foods recommended by hunger relief organizations throughout the nation. Twenty-two items are in that box which weighs in excess of 40 pounds. Hot dogs, fresh milk and eggs are added by the Food Bank worker. Clients are invited to select from flour, sugar, lard, and desserts (from Lawrence Bros Bakery) and an array of cans and boxes. The Club provides an annual donation of \$500 to the Lincoln County Food Bank.

LINCOLN COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM SUPPORT. Head Start is a comprehensive child development program designed to foster healthy development in low-income children. Program grantees and delegate agencies deliver a range of services, responsive and appropriate to each child's and each family's heritage and experience, that encompass all aspects of a child's development and learning. The overall goal is to increase the school readiness of young children in low-income families. Seventy-five percent of the Lincoln County Head Start Program budget is federally funded. The other 25% must come from the community donations and volunteers. The Club annually donates \$1000 to the Lincoln Head Start Program which is used for emergency assistance to provide warm clothing, shoes, blankets, heaters, dental services, etc. where needed.

RUN FOR THE BEACH. Local effort that raises funds to pay for mammograms for women who cannot afford them. The Club has been annually donating \$250 to this charity.

ASPENFEST PARADE BAND FEED. Each year in October to celebrate fall, the Aspenfest occurs in Ruidoso which includes a large parade. Numerous NM high school bands march in the parade. It has been a long standing tradition of the Club to provide a lunch (hot dogs, chips, and a drink) for the members of the bands after the parade is over. Average cost is \$250.

SANTA'S HELPERS. From 1998 to 2007, the Club made wood toys (300-500 toys) for needy kids. The toys were distributed through the local Santa's Helpers Project. In 2008, the Club decided to not make the wood toys but rather make an annual donation of \$250 as well as helping them prepare the gifts for the kids.

PEACE POSTER CONTEST. The Lions International Annual Peace Poster Contest is an opportunity for hundreds of thousands of 11 to 13 year olds from around the world to artistically create their hope for peace. Through an art medium, using only pictures and no words, children render their vision for world peace. Lions Clubs can sponsor the program in their community for children in local schools or organized, sponsored youth groups. The Club annually sponsors a Peace Poster Contest with at least four schools in Lincoln County and Mescalero participating. The Club buys the entrant's kits for each participating school and presents cash prizes to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rdplace winners. Average annual cost is \$250. Lions Tom Pugh and Chris McCool are Co-Chairs of this committee

Ruidoso Noon Lions Service Projects (Cont'd.)

NEW HORIZONS DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER SUPPORT. The New Horizons Developmental Center in Carrizozo is a care center for mentally challenged folks. It has a maximum capacity of 19 residents who receive a small monthly stipend to cover their personal needs. The Club adopted the Center several years ago and provides an annual Christmas Party where the residents receive gifts purchased by the Club. This year, the Club downsized somewhat on the number of gifts purchased for each resident. Average cost of gifts is \$500.

CHRISTIAN SERVICES SUPPORT. Founded in 1987 and housed at the Gateway Church of Christ, Christian Services maintains a clothing room and food bank stocked by donations from the community. Around 50 to 100 local individuals are helped weekly. Also housed in the Gateway building, the Gateway Disaster Relief Team responds to 10-20 incidents each year. They provide on-scene support to emergency services personnel and the individuals affected by the emergency as well as open the Gateway building as an emergency shelter. They also provide financial support to families and victims of disasters. The Club provides an annual donation of \$1000 to Christian Services.

LIONS CRANE READING FOUNDATION. One of NM's very exciting Lions projects is the Lions Crane Reading Program, which seeks to improve NM students' reading proficiency. Many students report symptoms of headaches, seeing double, getting dizzy, eyes burning, and/or blurry vision during and after reading which in the past was thought to be normal. Research has now shown that these symptoms are really a sign of some underlying problem, which if not remedied, will adversely impact the students reading and hence learning ability. If a child is having reading problems, the Program first provides an examination of a child's eyes, which will reveal if eye glasses are needed. Once it has been determined the child's eyes are functioning optimally (either uncorrected or corrected), the child's reading proficiency is enhanced through the use of templates and computer assisted phonics and reading speed enhancement programs. The Club has been annually donating \$500 to the Foundation.

LINCOLN COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY/ANIMAL SHELTER SUPPORT. The Lincoln County Humane Society is a non-profit, 501(c)(3), organization which relies on community funding to help provide compassionate care and shelter for abandoned pets. They promote responsible pet ownership and secure permanent, loving homes for the adoptable animals in their care. Our financial donation helps support the daily operations of the shelter. The Club has been annually donating \$500 to this important project.

LCIF & CAMPAIGN SIGHTFIRST. LCIF or Lions Clubs International Foundation is Lions helping Lions serve the world. Donations provide funding in the form of grants to financially assist Lions districts with large-scale humanitarian projects that are too extensive for Lions to finance on their own. The Foundation aids Lions in making a greater impact in their local communities, as well as around the world. The Club annually donates \$1000 to LCIF (part of which can be designated for Campaign SightFirst II) through the Melvin Jones Fellow Award which is given to a worthy member of the Club.

Ruidoso Noon Lions Service Projects (Cont'd.)

NM LIONS EYE FOUNDATION. The New Mexico Lions Eye Foundation (NMLEF) was formed in 1995. In 1996, a matching grant of \$40,000 from LCIF permitted the Foundation to purchase a 34' motor home specifically designed and compartmented for use as an eye screening vehicle. Delivery was taken of the vehicle on November 2, 1996 and thereafter equipment was installed to permit eye screenings. The first screening was conducted in Albuquerque on January 25, 1997. Under the NMLEF constitution, each screening must be sponsored by a Lions Club in Multiple District 40. In fiscal year 2000-2001, a contract was entered into between the Foundation and the NM Department of Health to provide certain services for diabetics and in return receive reimbursement of expenses. Donations by NM Lions Clubs help pay the maintenance expenses of the van and to help NM needy citizens receive eye operations. The NM Lions Operation KidSight Program is now part of this Foundation. The annual Club donation is \$500.

LIONS SURVIVOR CAMP. The Lions Survivor Camp, a summer program aimed at providing physical activity to children that are deaf or hard of hearing and their hearing siblings, is held in June each year at New Mexico State University. The program is sponsored by donations from Lions Clubs, local businesses, and the New Mexico Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. It focuses on the development of physical motor skills and fitness by emphasizing balance, agility and cardiovascular endurance. Following exercises that teach participants new physical skills, they compete against one another to test their progress. The children participate in activities such as swimming, dancing, gymnastics, horseback riding and rock climbing, as well as outdoor and gymnasium games. The Club has annually donated \$500 to the Camp (The Camp was not held this year).

THE WAREHOUSE PROJECT. The Community United Methodist Church of Ruidoso led the construction effort of the Warehouse Project, a non-denominational community youth center. The 6200 square foot facility is located immediately behind the Cornerstone Bakery and is staffed by adults at all times. It includes recreation space, a computer lab, an arts & crafts area, and meeting rooms with state-of-the-art computer and audio/visual equipment. The Warehouse will house a center-based program for youth to have a safe, supervised place to meet, do homework, have recreation and participate in other activities after school, in the evening and on the weekends. Cost of construction, furnishings and equipment for The Warehouse has cost more than \$500,000 for. Donations are needed to sustain the Project. The Club annually donates \$500 to The Warehouse Project.

RELAY FOR LIFE. Relay For Life is an American Cancer Society fundraising activity conducted in communities across America. Collected funds are used for such things as research, training of Cope volunteers, free lodging at Hope Lodges, and Reach to Recovery support for breast cancer patients. The Club has supported this project for the last five years with an annual donation of \$1000. The Club has modified our support of this project by setting aside an annual allotment of \$1000 for folks who are undergoing cancer treatment to help pay expenses. Any remaining money at the end of the year will be given to the Relay for Life.

Ruidoso Noon Lions Service Projects (Cont'd.)

LEADER DOGS FOR THE BLIND. Founded in 1939 by Lions Club members, Charles Nutting, Don Schuur and S.A. Dodge, Leader Dog has successfully matched and graduated over 13,000 person/dog teams since its inception. The dream of these men became vision and independence for thousands. The dedicated staff at Leader Dog is over 100 strong. The facilities, located on the original 14 acres first purchased by the founders, have morphed from a farm with numerous outbuildings to a superb residence center, a stellar kennel, and well manicured grounds. This complex is home to students, dogs, all service departments and the support staff that enable Leader Dog to enhance the lives of blind and visually impaired individuals from all over the world. The Club purchases a Memorial Brick (cost is \$100) for Lions and Lion's loved ones who have passed away. The bricks are then placed in a memorial garden at the Leader Dog facility in Rochester, MI.

NM LIONS OPERATION KIDSIGHT. Five to six percent of young children (3-6 years old) will have a vision problem. Amblyopia or "lazy eye" is the most common cause of visual impairment in childhood. Amblyopia will lead to loss of sharp vision in one eye unless it is detected and treated in the preschool years. Amblyopia can be caused by any condition that affects normal vision development or use of the eyes such as: strabismus (esotropia where eyes turn in or exotropia where eyes turn out); myopia or nearsightedness; hyperopia or farsightedness; cataracts; astigmatism; anisometropia (refractive errors differ in each eye); anisocoria (pupil sizes are different; coloboma (a gap in part of the structures of the eye); and ptosis (drooping eye lid). To address this problem, the Club conducts an annual photo eye screening of preschool children in Lincoln County and the Mescalero Apache Reservation. The Club recently bought its iScreen digital camera for \$8000 which will include no costs for the next three years for picture evaluations. The Club is also helping to lead an effort to get the NM Lions Operation KidSight Program operational all over NM. Lions Bill Allen and Bryson McCool are Co-Chairs of this Committee.

EYE EXAMS & GLASSES FOR NEEDY PEOPLE. A signature project in which the Club sponsors needy folks for an eye exam and glasses. The Vision Assistance Committee reviews individual requests to determine if the person is eligible for our support. Once approved, an appointment is made for the person with a local ophthalmologist. In some cases, the ophthalmologist (as well as the provider of the glasses) will charge the Club at a reduced rate. Annual costs over the years range from \$1500 to \$3000 depending on the number of folks applying for assistance. This committee is co-chaired by Lions Bill Allen and Curt Dimberg.

NOB HILL SCHOOL EYE POWER CLUB. When a young child is diagnosed with a vision problem and must wear glasses, it takes a minimum of two weeks of wearing the glasses before the child feels comfortable wearing them. A residual problem also is the other kids making fun of the child because they wear glasses. To encourage the young child to wear their glasses, they are invited to join the Eye Power Club after they successfully complete their initial two weeks. They are presented a certificate and toy. The Club donated \$100 to help pay for the toy prizes.

Ruidoso Noon Lions Service Projects (Cont'd.)

LINCOLN COUNTY MEALS ON WHEELS. Meals on Wheels is the name for programs that deliver meals to individuals at home who are unable to purchase or prepare their own meals. The Lincoln County Meals on Wheels program delivers a limited number of meals warm and ready-to-eat and frozen meals for the weekends when there is no delivery. Most clients of Meals on Wheels programs are elderly. Meals on Wheels programs operate entirely independent of each other making qualification for a program in an area strictly limited to funds available. The Club began supporting this worthwhile project this year with a donation of \$500.

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS. Several months ago, the Club voted to start annually granting a \$1000 scholarship to a deserving Ruidoso graduating senior. The scholarship could be used only at New Mexico universities and would be based on need, community service activities, and scholastic excellence. The scholarship would be paid in two installments, the second paid upon proof of satisfactory completion on the first semester. Recently, the Club approved granting two \$1000 scholarships instead of one.

COLLECTION OF USED EYE GLASSES FOR RECYCLING. Since 1969, the Club has collected used eye glasses via collection boxes placed at various locations in Ruidoso and Ruidoso Downs. Every two months, the boxes are emptied and glasses collected and boxed up. The boxes of glasses are handed off at MD40 Council Meetings to PDG Ernest London who transports all of the collected glasses for NM to the recycling plant in Texas. The Club collects 1200-1500 pairs of used eye glasses annually. Lion Chris McCool is Chair of this Committee.

HIGHWAY CLEAN UP. The Club has been assigned a mile of highway on the airport road that we are responsible to keep the trash picked up. The Club sets up 3-4 work days annually to pick up trash. This project has proven to be a good means of making the Club visible to the community. Lion Tom Pugh is Chair of this Committee.

BOY AND GIRL SCOUTS. The Club has always supported the local Boy and Girl Scout troops as needed. This year, the Club donated \$250 to the local Girl Scouts to help with administrative costs.

OTHER/DISCRETIONARY. Invariably, the Club will be asked to support some worthwhile cause during the year that is not a budgeted item. The request is brought before the Board, and if approved, is paid out of Other/Discretionary Funds. Discretionary requests received and supported this year were:

* Silver City/Peru Lions Joint Vision Assistance Project	\$250
* LC Community Theater Ad	\$150
* LC Chamber Music Association	\$250
* Cord of Wood For Needy Lady	\$185
* Materials for Ramp for Needy Man	\$165
* Gas Card For Needy Family	\$100

Ruidoso Noon Lions Service Projects (Cont'd.)

Event	Hours Worked	\$ Donated/Cost
Eye Glass Collection/Packaging	25	N/A
Santa's Helpers	48	\$250
Aspenfest Parade Band Feed	41	\$265
Peace Poster Contest	25	\$200
New Horizons Christmas Gifts/Party	25	\$285
Vision Assistance	100	\$1,384
Highway Cleanup	15	N/A
Ruidoso HS Scholarships	24	\$2,000
NM Lions Band	100	\$900
Retreat - (Planning)	96	N/A
Leader Dog	N/A	\$200
LCIF/Campaign SightFirst II	N/A	\$1,000
Lincoln County Food Bank	N/A	\$500
NM Lions Crane Reading Foundation	N/A	\$500
Lincoln Co. Head Start Clothes/Shoes	N/A	\$1,000
Nob Hill School Eye Power Club	N/A	\$100
Girl Scouts	N/A	\$250
Christian Services	N/A	\$1,000
Run For The Beach	N/A	\$250
Cord of Wood, Gas Card, & Ramp Material for Needy Folks	N/A	\$450
Lincoln County Humane Society	N/A	\$500
NM Lions Eye Foundation	N/A	\$500
Lincoln Co. Chamber Music Association	N/A	\$250
Lincoln Co. Meals on Wheels	N/A	\$500
Lincoln Co. Community Theater	N/A	\$150
Mescalero Children's Summer Camp	N/A	\$250
The Warehouse	N/A	\$500
Silver City/Peru Lions Vision Aid	N/A	\$250
Mescalero Child Wash. DC Trip	N/A	\$240
Camera / Demos / Eye Screenings	428	\$8,963
* Ruidoso / Fall	18	\$0
* Las Vegas	48	\$190
* Taos	8	\$35
* Espanola	8	\$25
* Albuquerque	16	\$75
* Las Cruces	8	\$48
* Santa Fe	64	\$200
* Mescalero	42	\$0
* Ruidoso / Spring	50	\$0
* Capitan	24	\$0
* Corona	28	\$0
* Carrizozo	12	\$0
* Hondo	12	\$0
* Carlsbad	12	\$50
* Artesia	12	\$40
* Farmington	16	\$100
* Gallup	20	\$200
Admin/Processing	30	\$0

927

\$22,637

Note: Some of the donations listed were made by Lions personally.

Ruidoso Noon Lions Fundraisers

SUMMARY

Event	Hours Worked	Income
Antiques & Collectibles Show	405	\$6,587
Chili Cook-Off	68	\$1,800
Club/Business Partnership	100	\$3,050
Crafts, Guns, & Collectibles Show	421	\$14,106
	994	\$25,543

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES SHOW. The Club has annually co-hosted the Antiques and Collectibles Show (chaired by Lion Bill Allen) with Ameriwest Shows since 1992. The Show always occurs the weekend before Labor Day. The Club is allowed to keep all proceeds from the pre-Show ticket sales. The Club also receives revenue from its food concession, a percentage of the door proceeds, and a bonus from Ameriwest. Ameriwest provides a picnic style dinner on Saturday night at Cedar Creek for the vendors and Club members. The Club provides a "Cowboy Breakfast" at Cedar Creek for the vendors on Sunday morning which is directed by Lion Bill Allen.

CHILI COOK-OFF. The Club was asked this last year if we again wished to support a weekend Chili Cook-Off. Several years ago, the Club cooked a brisket dinner for vendors on Friday night for the Rotary Club who sponsored the Chili Cookoff. This year the Chili Cook-Off director asked the Club to support the two-day event by parking cars, taking tickets, selling drinks. The Club received an \$1800 donation for our efforts.

CLUB/BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS. Under the leadership of Lion Mike Schattner, the Club began a Club and business partnership project where local businesses were asked to team up with the Club to help serve our community. The businesses would make a donation at a particular level i.e., Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze and Club Supporter). In return the business would receive free advertising at our Club events, tickets to our Shows, sponsorships in our Golf Tournament, and a plaque. The following businesses signed up this year:

WAL-MART STORES, INC.	Gold	\$800
RUIDOSO FORD	Gold	\$500
CITY BANK NEW MEXICO	Silver	\$300
OTERO CO ELECTRIC COOP	Silver	\$300
SIERRA BLANCA MOTORS	Silver	\$250
JENNIE DORGAN REAL ESTATE	Bronze	\$200
GOLDEN ASPEN MOTORCYCLE RALLY	Bronze	\$150
LAWRENCE BROTHERS IGA	Bronze	\$150
RAINBOW LAKE CABIN & RV RESORT	Bronze	\$150

Ruidoso Noon Lions Fundraisers (Cont'd.)

JOSIE'S FRAMERY	Bronze	\$100
SIERRA BLANCA CABINS	Bronze	\$100
TEAMBUILDERS COUNSELING SERVICES	Bronze	\$100
TOTAL ESCROW SERVICE, INC.	Bronze	\$100
AMERICAN OXYGEN CO., INC.	Supporter	\$50
PIONEER BANK	Supporter	\$50
VILLAGE BUTTERY, INC.	Supporter	\$50

CRAFTS, GUNS, & COLLECTIBLES SHOW. Club recently held its 8th annual Crafts, Guns, & Collectibles Show. When the Show started in 2001, it was strictly a gun show and co-hosted with a gun dealer from Alamogordo who received 50% of the profits. The Show has grown to include crafts and collectibles and is no longer "co-hosted" which means the Club no longer splits the profits with any one. Below is the financial report for the Show over the last several years.

INCOME:	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Table Rentals	\$4,945	\$7,405	\$7,850	\$6,800	\$8,025
Admissions	\$4,276	\$4,910	\$5,194	\$4,300	\$6,078
Food Concession Net	\$1,078	\$1,390	\$1,160	\$1,050	\$1,110
Rifle Raffle Net	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,050	\$1,795
Total Income	\$10,299	\$13,705	\$14,204	\$13,200	\$17,008

EXPENDITURES	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Conv. Center Lease	\$875	\$875	\$875	\$875	\$1,125
Advertising	\$300	\$375	\$500	\$1,452	\$840
Security/Tips	\$100	\$200	\$350	\$250	\$700
Supplies/Stamps	\$0	\$414	\$375	\$233	\$237
Total Expenses	\$1,275	\$1,864	\$2,100	\$2,810	\$2,902

Income Less Expenses	\$9,024	\$11,841	\$12,104	\$10,390	\$14,106
Stacy's Cut	\$3,973	\$2,613	\$2,736	\$0	\$0

\$5,051 \$9,228 \$9,368 \$10,390 \$14,106

Ruidoso Noon Lions Officers & Board of Directors

2007-08

President - Vic Dunham (7/07 - 11/07) Chuck Maly (11/07-06/08)

1st Vice President - Mike Schattner

2nd Vice President - Tony Duarte

3d Vice President - Doug Fuqua

Secretary - Bryson McCool

Treasurer - Larry Woods

Lion Tamer - Curt Dimberg

Tail Twister - Mark Jones

Membership Chairman - Bill Wooley

2 year Director - Rod Smith

2 year Director - Chris McCool

1 year Director - JB Terrell

1 year Director - Bill Allen

2008-09

President - Mike Schattner

1st Vice President - Tony Duarte

2nd Vice President - Doug Fuqua

3d Vice President - Bill Wooley

Secretary - Jerry Grace

Treasurer - Larry Woods

Lion Tamer - Curt Dimberg

Tail Twister - Mark Jones

Membership Chairman - Bill Wooley

2 year Director - Rick Spargo

2 year Director - Gary Henry

1 year Director - Rod Smith

1 year Director - Chris McCool

2007-08 Ruidoso Noon Lions Club Awards

Club Tail Twister Award Lion Mark Jones

For outstanding performance as the Club's Tail Twister. Lion Mark has relentlessly, and sometimes ruthlessly, fined fellow Lions who stray from the "straight and narrow" resulting in the Club's Admin Account blossoming.



Club Treasurer Award Lion Larry Woods

For outstanding performance as the Club's Treasurer, a position he has held for the last two years. During this time, he has provided timely reports for the Board Meetings and worked diligently to get the Club's financial reports from 203-07 up to date and square with the IRS.



President's Appreciation Award Lion Bill Allen

For outstanding performance as Chair of the Antiques and Collectibles Show and Co-Chair of the Vision Assistance and Operation KidSight Committees. Lion Bill's contributions have resulted in a very profitable fundraiser and a smoothly running vision assistance function.



Lion of the Year Award Lion Curt Dimberg

For outstanding performance as Lion Tamer, Co-Chair of the Vision Assistance Committee and Chair of the Scholarship Committee. Lion Curt's efforts have resulted in a smoothly running vision assistance function and the Club's first student scholarships in many years. Lion Curt has also supported the Club's efforts to work with other Lions Clubs to get Operation KidSight going in their communities. His exceptional efforts as Chair of the Rifle Raffle resulted in an \$1800 net profit.



2007-08 Ruidoso Noon Lions Club Awards

Lion of the Year Award

Lion Mike Schattner

For outstanding performance as 1st Vice President, Chair of the Program's Committee, and Chair of the Club-Business Partnership Committee. Lion Mike's many contributions and outstanding leadership ability have resulted in very interesting meetings and the unique ability to partner with local businesses and have helped Lion Boss Chuck and the Club to have one of its best years ever..



Special Recognition Award

Lion Vic Dunham

For outstanding performance as Club President, Chair of the Golf Tournament Fundraiser Committee, and overall "great Lion." From 2004 through 2007, Lion Vic was the guiding force whose efforts helped make the Club's many fundraisers and service projects so very successful.



Melvin Jones Fellow Award

Lion Bill Wooley

For unselfish service to his Club, community, and Lions International for over 22 years. Lion Bill's unrelenting enthusiasm, his "get 'er done" attitude, and his unique sense of humor have resulted in him being one of the Club's most effective leaders.



Past President's Award

Lion Chuck Maly

For outstanding service as Club President during 2007-08. Lion Boss Chuck has conducted the Club's weekly and Board meetings with amazing efficiency and organization resulting in effective and concise meetings. Lion Boss Chuck has overseen the Club's annual fundraisers and service projects which have all been very successful.



2007-08 Ruidoso Noon Lions Club Awards

100% Attendance Awards

Bill Allen
Don Blair
Jim Burrow
Curt Dimberg
Jerry Grace
Gary Henry
Mark Jones
Chuck Maly
Bryson McCool
Chris McCool
Leo Mitchell
Mike Mohrhauser
Mike Schattner
Jack Scott
Rod Smith
JB Terrell
Larry Woods
Bill Wooley

2007-08 Memories

2007 Crafts, Guns, & Collectibles Show



(L-R). Lions Jim Burrow, Jack Pruitt, and Chuck Maly working in the kitchen.



(L-R): Lions Jack Pruitt and Don Blair work the Food Concession Stand which provided some delicious brisket sandwiches that sold like hotcakes.

2007 Antiques & Collectibles Show

**Ruidoso Noon Lions Club
& AmeriWest Shows**
PRESENTS
**Antiques &
Collectibles Show**

Friday August 24th 5PM - 9PM
Saturday August 25th 10AM - 6PM
Sunday August 26th Noon - 5PM

Ruidoso Convention Center
111 Sierra Blanca Dr. (Turn at Post Office on Mechem)

\$4.00 Admission Kids under 12 Free

Thank-You for Supporting the Ruidoso Noon Lions



(L-R) Lions Bill Wooley, Gary Henry, Mike Schattner, Jim Burrow, Bryson McCool, and Chris McCool working the food concession.



Lion Jim Burrow brewing the cowboy coffee.



Kitchen Boss Lion Chris McCool (R) giving instructions to Lion Mike Mohrhauser (L).

2007-08 Memories

2007 Antiques & Collectibles Show (Cont'd.)



(L-R) Lions Mike Mohrhauser, Leo Mitchell, Gary Henry, Tony Duarte, and Kent Martin starting the cooking fires.



Ruidoso Noon Lions arriving at the camp site at 7AM to begin the cowboy breakfast preparations.

On 24-26 August 2007, the Ruidoso Noon Lions co-hosted (with Ameriwest Shows) their annual Antiques and Collectibles Show at the Ruidoso Convention Center. The Club's food concession featured their renowned brisket sandwiches that were very popular with the Show attendees. On Sunday morning, Lion Bill Allen and his cooking team provided a cowboy breakfast at Cedar Creek Campground for the vendors. Needless to say, the vendors look forward to this event each year. The Show was very successful with the Club netting \$6,600. Twenty eight Lions and three friends of the Club worked the Show.



(L to R) Lions Kent Martin, Jack Scott, and Tony Duarte up frying the bacon and sausage.

2007-08 Memories

2007 Santa's Helpers Project



President Chuck Maly (L) and one of the Club's newest members, Lion Jerry Grace (R), filling bags of candy.



Lions Jack Scott (L) and Rod Smith (R) on the back pack "assembly line."



L-R: Lions Larry Woods, Bryson McCool, Bill Allen, and Bill Wooley filling more bags of candy. (Lion Curt Dimberg is taking picture)

In past years, the Ruidoso Noon Lions would construct 300-400 wood toys that would be donated to the local Santa's Helpers Project. It was decided that this year we would do something a little different by providing a \$250 donation and labor. Part of the items that will go to 800 needy kids in Lincoln County is a back pack filled with goodies such as school supplies and candy. Club members gathered on 6 and 13 November in the Project Director's office to fill the 800 back packs. An assembly line was set up and the back packs were filled in an astonishing orderly fashion (for Lions!). The children will also receive a special present and a set of clothes in addition to the back pack.

2007-08 Memories

2007 New Horizons XMAS Party

The New Horizons Developmental Center in Carrizozo is a 19 resident facility for mentally challenged folks. The New Horizons residents each receive a small monthly stipend for personal effects which is not enough to buy themselves anything special for Christmas. The Ruidoso Noon Lions "adopted" the residents several years ago to ensure they each received something for Christmas. The residents provide their wish lists to the Club and gifts are purchased based on their input. On 14 December, Lions Gary Henry, Beth Jones, and Mark Jones arrived at the facility where a party was held, the gifts were distributed, and everyone enjoyed cake and ice cream. Needless to say, the smiles on the residents' faces were worth a million dollars!



Lion Beth Jones poses with some of the New Horizons residents who are elated with their gifts.



2007-08 Memories

2008 Lincoln County Meals On Wheels Donation



(L-R) Lions Stacie Kimberley, Jim Burrow, and President Chuck Maly present a check for \$500 to Meals On Wheels Manager, Tommy Hood.

2008 Lincoln County Humane Society Donation



Ruidoso Noon President Chuck Maly presents a check for \$500 to (L-R) Kai Brown, Bob Sterchi, and Cindy Lynch for the Lincoln County Humane Society.



2007-08 Memories

2008 Guns, & Collectibles Show


Ruidoso Noon Lions Club
Crafts Guns & Collectibles Show

RAFFLE FOR
Savage Arms Model 14 Rifle 300 WSM

22" Barrel "Classic Limited"
Monte Carlo walnut stock with ebony fore-end tip
Accu Trigger
Serial # 000310
MSRP \$899

\$5 per Ticket / 3 Tickets for \$10
For Tickets, Contact Lion Curt Dimberg (630-1947) or Purchase At Show
Drawing: 3PM 25 May 2008 @ Ruidoso Convention Center
Need Not Be Present To Win

A Community Fundraising Project Sponsored by the Ruidoso Noon Lions.
All Proceeds Go to Support Club Community Service Projects... We Serve!



Ruidoso Noon Lions Club
Presents
Crafts, Guns, & Collectibles Show
Ruidoso Convention Center

Saturday May 24th 9AM - 6PM
Sunday May 25th 9AM - 3PM

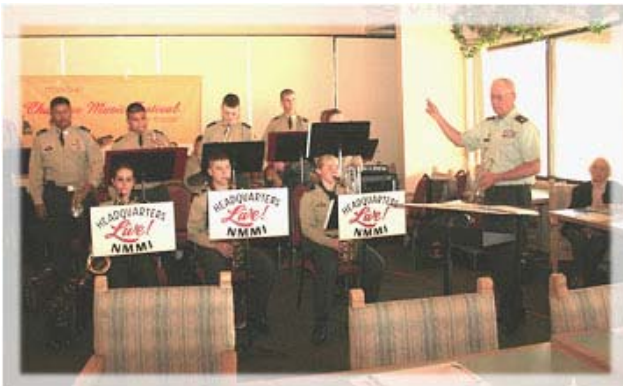
10' Dealer Tables \$50 each End cap & wall tables available
Set-up on 23 May 2008 Noon - 7PM

CONTACT: Bryson McCool (505) 257-0363

A Community Fund Raising Project Sponsored by the Ruidoso Noon Lions
All Proceeds Go to Support Club Community Service Projects... We Serve!

Noon Meeting Programs

On 19 February 2008, the Ruidoso Noon Lions Club was treated to a concert by the New Mexico Military Institute Stage Band as the program for the Noon Meeting. The Band played numerous selections that had the Lions' feet tapping and loud applause for a fine performance.



2007-08 Memories

2008 Operation KidSight



(L-R): Lions Bill Allen and Bryson McCool taking pictures of a child's eyes at Corona.



(L-R): Lions Bryson McCool, Don Blair and Bill Allen getting a child in position to screen their eyes at Mescalero.



(L-R): Lions Jack Scott, President Chuck Maly, and Leo Mitchell register Mescalero children for screening.

March and April are busy months for the Ruidoso Valley Noon Lions Club as young children (ages 2-6 years) across Lincoln County and Mescalero are screened for vision disorders. On 3 April 2008, the Ruidoso Noon Lions screened 92 youngsters at a Mescalero Apache Health Fair. The screening results showed that 16 (or 17%) of the children have a vision problem. The average referral rate in Lincoln County is normally about 5-7%. It is thought that the high rate of children with vision problems is linked to the high rate of diabetes on the Reservation. The referred children will be set up with an optometrist or ophthalmologist to receive a full eye exam.

2007-08 Memories

2008 Operation KidSight (Cont'd.)



The 1st ever NM Lions Operation KidSight screening in Albuquerque occurred 21 February 2008 at the Alameda Head Start. Several Albuquerque Lions Clubs attended and Lions were trained by Ruidoso Noon Lions Curt Dimberg and Bryson McCool using the iScreen digital camera system. An effort is underway to apply for grants to help provide funds for purchasing cameras such that children's eye screening can start in earnest in the fall.



(L-R) Ruidoso Noon Lion Bill Allen teaches Capitan Lion Ed Sanchez how to operate the camera.



Ruidoso Noon Lion Bryson McCool (center) adjusts a child's head while Capitan Lions Ed Sanchez and Marcia Guynes screen the child.

The NM Lions Operation KidSight (NMLOKS) Program has come a long way since August 2007. At that time, there were only two Lions Clubs in NM (i.e., Alamogordo Breakfast and Ruidoso Noon) which had a children's screening program active in their communities. Lions Chuck Galusha and Bryson McCool, chairs of their respective Clubs' Screening Committees, decided to see if other NM Lions Clubs would be interested in adopting the program. Lion Miriam Stucker set up a KidSight presentation to the YDI Head Start in Albuquerque in August 2007. At that time, three screenings were scheduled for Espanola, Las Vegas, and Taos. The Clubs in those communities were notified and members from each participated in the screenings.

During 2007-08, the Ruidoso Noon Lions Club, which began its KidSight Program in 1996, has screened almost 1000 children in Lincoln County and Mescalero and those during Head Start screenings in Las Cruces, Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Las Vegas, Taos, and Espanola. The Club has provided demonstrations of the camera and KidSight process to the Farmington, Gallup, Carlsbad Downtown, Carlsbad Heights, Las Cruces, and Artesia Lions Clubs.

CLUB ROSTER

Lion/Status/Year Joined	
Bill Allen (Active)	1976
Sunny Aris (Active)	2008
Betty Blair (Honorary)	2004
Don Blair (Active)	1958
Patsy Blasdell (Active)	2008
Ed Blythe (At Large)	2007
Carole Boddin (At Large)	2002
Jim Burrow (Active)	1986
Bob Callender (Associate)	1972
Kitty Callender (Associate)	2000
Valari Chavez (Active)	2001
Tanya Crowder (Active)	2004
Carlton Davies (Active)	1998
Curt Dimberg (Active)	1995
Tony Duarte (Active)	2005
Vic Dunham (At Large)	2004
Vern Edmondson (At Large)	1998
Douglas Fuqua (Active)	2007
Mary Lou Gilbreath (At Large)	2003
Jerry Grace (Active)	2007
Bob Harcrow, Jr. (At Large)	1996
Dennis Haskell (Active)	2008
Gary Henry (Active)	2003
Beth Jones (At Large)	2003
Mark Jones (Active)	2002
Stacie Kimberley (Active)	2007
Bob Layher (At Large)	2007
Daryl Lindsay (At Large)	2003
Ron Lueck (At Large)	2001
Chuck Mack (Active)	2005

Lion/Status/Year Joined	
Jim Matsler (At Large)	2001
James Matsler (At Large)	2001
Bryson McCool (Active)	1975
Chris McCool (Active)	2004
Lisa McMinn (At Large)	2005
Jack Menendez (At Large)	2001
Marilyn Miller (At Large)	2007
Leo Mitchell (Active)	1987
Mike Mohrhauser (Active)	2004
Bob Olsen (At Large)	2007
Tom Payne (At Large)	2000
Kathleen Perreault (Active)	2008
Paul Perreault (Active)	2008
Jack Pruitt (At Large)	1997
Tom Pugh (Active)	1987
Jim Radcliffe (At Large)	1991
Don Riddett (At Large)	1997
Richard Rumpf (At Large)	1995
Mike Schattner (Active)	2005
Sandy Schiffman (At Large)	2000
Jack Scott (Active)	1971
Evelyn Schweitzer (At Large)	2007
Bennie Simpson (Active)	2008
Rod Smith (Active)	1974
Rick Spargo (Active)	2007
J. B. Terrell (Active)	2005
John Von Rosenberg (Honorary)	1969
Waynette Walker (Active)	2004

Appendix I - Early Lionism in NM (Cont'd.)

The Birth of District 40. District 21 covered a large and diverse area, difficult to administer, both because of its size and localized interests of the three states it embraced. The affairs that commanded the interest of the Clubs of one member state were generally of small moment to the Clubs of the other two, as can readily be understood by those who know the extent of the area involved. Because of this fact, coupled with the realization of the growing numerical strength, both in Clubs and membership, of the other two states that formed the triumvirate, a feeling that New Mexico should seek independent status, free and clear of District 21, began to shape up in the minds of a number of our state's members. That led to action and in early 1928 a petition, of unknown origin, was presented to the International headquarters of our Association requesting autonomous and independent status for New Mexico as a member District within the framework of the International structure. What happened to such petition, and what action, if any, was taken thereon, is an unsolved mystery. We have no definite knowledge regarding the process by which we became separated from District 21, nor do we know the source of the designation District 40. But whatever the process, formalization by the Clubs involved had to be undertaken if we were to assume the status we sought.

As a result, a call, also of unknown origin, went out some time in the latter part of 1928, for a meeting to be held in the city of Roswell. It suggested the representatives at such meeting be confined to Club Presidents and Secretaries, which meant that, at best, the total representation would not exceed thirty-four, a workable number. Here begins a blank in the history of our State Organization that would extend well into June of 1929, in which month and year the first legally initiated and convened general meeting of Lions of New Mexico would occur, a meeting that would be remembered as the first annual Convention of Lions of District 40.

District 40's First Convention. It is unfortunate that no record was made of that 1928 call, who or what Club called it, nor do we know any definite dates connected with the affair. Nor could diligent search at the first convention uncover any minutes of that important organizational meeting, from which it can only be surmised that no minutes were made, or, if they were made, they had not been transcribed. As a result, the information, if such is the proper term, that follows is from sources considered reliable, which means that it must be accepted as hearsay. Instead of representation from the seventeen Clubs officially indicated as existing in the State, response was had from only five, from which we may deduce that the action taken at the session, or sessions, was the work of a maximum ten delegates, hardly to be considered a quorum.

They debated this latter point and decided that since they were there, it would be wise to proceed with the business at hand, hoping for general acceptance at a later date. Since only five Clubs were represented at the meeting (the names of which are unknown today), it can be assumed that only five Clubs learned, through reports of their respective representative, what transpired at that meeting and were in position to make a reasonable assessment of its various transactions and act thereon. But no general action by the Clubs of the District was called for by the District's officers and, it would appear that the entire procedure was pretty much a lesson in futility.

Appendix I - Early Lionism in NM (Cont'd.)

Three measures were undertaken by the assembled delegates: 1) a District Governor and District Secretary were chosen to serve until such time as a general District Convention could be convened; 2) such Convention was determined to be in the City of Carlsbad, in the month of June 1929; and 3) the new District Governor was instructed to have prepared and ready, a constitution and accompanying set of by-laws to be presented to, and acted upon, by the delegates assembled in such Convention. There may have been other matters considered, but these were the three items of recognized importance which eventually would have had a marked effect on the affairs of the District had they been carried out in full.

From this time then, the vacuum was to continue until Wednesday, June 5, 1929. At nine o'clock that morning, the first general Convention of Lions of the State of New Mexico (recently given the numerical designation of District 40, Lions International) was called to order by E. K. Neumann, a lawyer and member of the Carlsbad Lions Club. Following the opening ceremonies, it was announced that the District Governor was not present, for which absence no reason could be established at the time. The District Secretary's absence was also noted, he having left the State.

We were also lacking in representation from the International organization, an absence which was to make itself felt, due to the inexperience of the delegates present. A roll call revealed the following Clubs represented: Alamogordo, Albuquerque, Artesia, Carlsbad, Las Cruces, Roswell and Tucumcari, resulting in a total delegate representation of twenty, considered to be a quorum. E. K. Neumann was selected as permanent Convention Chairman and A. J. Exter of Albuquerque was selected as Secretary. There was no order of business which brought to light the fact that neither the District Governor nor District Secretary had been involved in, nor assisted with, the planning and setting up of the meeting. Discussion brought out that the anticipated constitution with accompanying by-laws were not present, nor was any member present aware of any action having been taken thereon. So there we were, right back where we started in Roswell the year previous. Without these basic operational items, there was no ground upon which to act as a District. We could elect District officers in a manner following procedure of the year before but we were not empowered to set up a financial program for operation of the District. We suddenly found ourselves confronted with the task that, presumably, had been accomplished the year before, which was, organize a new District. Despite the lack of experience in such matters, the assembled delegates went at the task seriously and, before the meeting recessed that evening, a solid plan which was to endure had been set up and we were on our way.

A point which came to light was that insofar as the several delegates could recall, none of the Clubs represented had been visited or contacted by the previously selected District officials. This failure, which later events were to prove, applied generally to the majority of Clubs in the District.

Appendix I - Early Lionism in NM (Cont'd.)

No great earth-shaking events came out of that meeting but as adjournment was had, a sense of accomplishment and determination that augured well for the future seemed to prevail. Approximately one hundred (according to the official minutes) Lions and their ladies, together with guests, attended a banquet that evening.

On Thursday, July 9, a short session was held in the King's Room of Carlsbad Caverns for the purpose of selecting District officers to serve for fiscal year 1929-1930. Selected were: C. B. Beyer, Albuquerque Club, President; Fred Cole, Artesia Club, Vice-President; James Bujac, Carlsbad Club, Secretary. Tucumcari was selected as the site for the 1930 meeting and, with that action, the first District Convention of District 40, Lions International, came to an end.

A word about the foregoing statement regarding lack of constitution and bylaws. The standard forms of these items, as we know them today, had not come into being by 1929. Each District or Club devised its own within the framework of the International structure. As a result, the numbers of these important documents were myriad and varied, eventually bringing into being the necessity for standardization.

Melvin Jones Aids NM Lionism. The minutes of the Carlsbad meeting were transcribed and copies sent to the several parties of interest, including the home office of Lions International, in Chicago. Shortly after such action, a letter was received from our Founder-International Secretary, Melvin Jones, stating that his office had been without contact from the immediate past District Governor. The letter also requested me to forward the information to the latter individual that, due service in office, he was entitled to an all expense paid trip to the 1929 International Convention to be held in Louisville, Kentucky, in the forthcoming month of July. The offer was forwarded as requested resulting in rejection thereof. The letter of rejection was forwarded intact to Secretary Jones, bringing a second letter tendering me a like offer, the result being my participation in the District Governors' session, held as a part of the general convention in Louisville. A meeting with founder Melvin Jones at this session brought on a close friendship that was to endure until his death some thirty-two years later.

Up to this period I have tried to make this brief narrative impersonal, but events that were to follow necessitates use of the personal pronoun, principally, to paraphrase a popular TV program of a few years back, "I was there." At the invitation of Secretary Jones, I detoured from the Louisville meeting to our Chicago headquarters to look over the records of District 40 and to learn something about how our International organization operated. A check of the various Club files revealed a general lack of information. This resulted in a proposal from Secretary Jones that he would send Assistant Secretary Henry Hill to New Mexico to visit the various Clubs in the District, if I would agree to accompany him and take care of transportation on a mileage basis with Headquarters taking care of all other expenses. This plan was carried out, Assistant Secretary Hill arriving in Albuquerque about the third week in July. A visit was made to each of the cities wherein the official directory listed a Lions Club.

Appendix I - Early Lionism in NM (Cont'd.)

We found that, of the seventeen Clubs in existence in 1928, as listed in the directory of that date, five (i.e., Portales, Los Lunas, Texico-Farwell, Gallup and Farmington) had given up the ghost and had not held meetings, in most cases, for months. The present trip was based on a tight schedule, the sole purpose of which was to learn, at first hand, the condition of each Club for determination of a general District-wide program for future operation, and time did not permit rehabilitation efforts at the moment, such action to come later.

It is interesting to note that the Farmington Club was reorganized within a matter of weeks, the remaining four Clubs not being back into the fold until a period of ten or more years had passed. were to prove, applied generally to the majority of Clubs in the District.

Rebuilding District 40. Following the trip with Assistant Secretary Hill, the International office began to push for a campaign to organize additional Clubs to replace those lost. My thought, however, was that we were not justified in asking any group of men to associate as a Club and affiliate with a District that was being held together with string and baling wire. Instead we undertook a District-wide campaign to add new members to our remaining Clubs which could give us the stability we needed to endure, an effort in which we were to succeed beyond our most optimistic expectations.

During that first period of our actual operation as a District, our nation was skidding with all speed-into the terrible depression of the early nineteen thirties, a period in which millions were out of work and actual suffering and deprivation were common stories in the newspapers. Despite this period, which was to adversely affect so many businesses, our effort toward new membership was successful to the point that District 40 was awarded first place in the International membership contest for fiscal 1929-1930. This momentum was to be carried forward for the next two years I was permitted to serve as District Governor, placing us within the top ten Clubs, Internationally, in the membership contest held in each of those two years. Additionally, we added several new Clubs to the District in those latter years.

The matter of District Constitution and by-laws was taken care of in a quick and simple manner. Realizing that any committee appointed to prepare these items would involve members from different Clubs, no doubt involving debate and delay, I wrote them, personally, with the plan in mind that the first draft would be sent to the various Clubs for study and return comment to me by mail. The idea went according to plan and the new Constitution and by-laws were presented to the second annual convention in Tucumcari, in June of 1930, there to be a approved and accepted. We were on our way!

In Conclusion. This brief history would not be complete without a word about travel in that period of late 1920s and early 1930s. Owing to time element and schedules railway travel from Albuquerque, my home, to almost all of the cities wherein Lions Clubs were located, was out of the question. Travel by automobile was the most feasible, and least time consuming way of getting from here to there any place in the state. A single five mile stretch of concrete paving leading south from Albuquerque was the sum total of hard surfaced rural thoroughfare in the state.

Appendix I - Early Lionism in NM (Cont'd.)

The balance of roads and highways, if they could be so termed, were from the natural soil, with a limited number of miles of gravel surfacing scattered shotgun over the state. Maintenance was at a minimum due to lack of equipment and funds, and, of course, there was dust. The car of the day was the 'touring car', as it was called, an open job with cloth top held in place by bows, with side curtains to be attached in inclement weather. The sedan, as we know it today, was expensive and just coming into general use. The average tire was of three to three and one-half inches diameter carrying pressures of sixty to sixty-five pounds (the wide tire, or "balloon" as it was originally called, was some time away). The only difference between riding on a steel shod wheel at that time and one mounted with a rubber tire, was that the latter made no noise. The motel, or tourist court, as they were originally termed, had not become common in New Mexico, adding to the discomforts of travel, not forgetting the often encountered bedbug. Because the combination of car and road, the average speed was in the area of twenty miles per hour.

This brief history is intended, as its title indicates, to cover the formative years of Lionism in New Mexico, which period came to an end with the convening of the second District Convention in the city of Tucumcari in June 1930. The period thereafter may rightfully be termed the growth years, for such as it was, thanks to that determined group of men who found something in the new organization termed Lions International to which they could lend their support and efforts. To be an officer of the Association in those formative days involved such work and patience, as well as time away from the business that brought in the bread and butter. My own reaction today? Somebody forgot to tell us it couldn't be done!

Note. Lion C. B. Hap Beyer was born 14 September 1890. He was a member of the Albuquerque Host Lions Club from 5 June 1926 until his death. He served as District Governor of New Mexico Lions from 1929 through 1932.

Lions Paychecks



*I thank you all for buying
eye glasses for me.*

*It is a wonderful thing
you all do for people in
need.*

Keep up the good work!

*Many thanks,
Blendean L.*

*May
you all
be
blessed.*