

The WORM

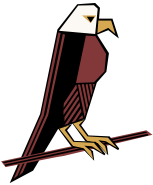
Official Publication of the Early Bird Branch of the Gig Harbor Lions Club



General Meetings 2nd Monday, Never Bored Meetings 4th Monday, both at 7:00 AM, The Madrona Links Golf Course

Volume 4 Issue 9 March 9, 2009

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Ramblings From the Top Branch

“Hold the phone. Don’t put anything in ink.” Just when we thought that the Early Birds would be merging with the parent club, that decision was reversed at the last board meeting. And now, depending on how the board votes next Thursday, *this* decision may in itself be reversed. If it is, we will be one club, meeting the 2nd and 4th Monday at 7:00 AM at the Madrona Links Golf Course restaurant. And John Kirry will once again be club president 1 July.

The Monday at 7:00 AM format has been working so well for the Early Birds, that it seems to make sense to apply that same format in revitalizing the Gig Harbor Lions Club. As Arch Carpenter put it “The Early Birds have in many ways recaptured the George Borgen spirit of the Gig Harbor Lions Club.” For those that didn’t know George, he was a happy-go-lucky, generous to a fault, wonderful Lion that everyone loved and respected. He was unpredictable and brought laughter and fun to our meetings. When we lost George, we started to loose the spark that made us the #1 Lions Club in the district.

The Early Birds may not have completely captured the “George Borgen spirit” yet, but our meetings and projects are fun and productive - the combination that attracts new members. And that will be our focus for the balance of the year. To concentrate on recruiting new members from the businesses in the Uptown and Harbor Plaza shopping areas for a morning club. This will be both fun and challenging and will require a commitment on the part of *all* Gig Harbor Lions. Our goal is to fill the Madrona Links dining room with high spirited, civic-minded men and women that are prepared to serve their community in a variety of new ways. We have created an environment that is warm, friendly and innovative. It is time now to share that environment with as many like-minded men and women as possible. I hope you look forward to the process as much as I do.

Bob

Branch Leadership

Branch Coordinator (BC)	Bob Wagers
Immediate Past BC (IPBC)	John Kirry
Vice Branch Coordinator (VBC)	Bart Morrison
Chaplain	Bill McMonnies
Arm Twisters	Bill Amesbury
	David McKenney
Trustee for Fund Raising	Jeannie Phillips
Adopt-A-Street Chair	Doug Johnson
Branch Liaison	Open

The Workers

John Barelli, PBC	Bonnie Manning
Bruce Bugbee	Van Manning
Gayle Burke	Bill McMonnies, PBC
Steve Dreiling	Pat Phillip, PZC
Maria Barnowl-Kjaerulff	Shelley Ryan
Dustin Lewis	Ana Sosa

NEXT MEETING March 9, 2009



Play Ball!!

Lindsay Enger, Group Event Manager, Tacoma Rainiers
Baseball Team

With all the excitement of Ken Griffey, Jr. returning to play baseball for Seattle, it seemed only proper that we do something to prepare ourselves for the coming season. To do that will be Ms. Lindsay Enger of the Tacoma Rainiers organization, the AAA affiliate of the Seattle Mariners.

If you haven’t attended a Tacoma Rainiers game you have missed one of baseballs great bargains. Not only are you enjoying baseball played by players that are just a heartbeat away from the majors, but your tickets, food, drink and parking are a fraction of what it costs to attend a Seattle Mariners game. And it won’t take you all day to get home. It’s a win-win deal.

Our Branch Motto: “Wow it’s early! What were we thinking?”



EARLY BIRDS IN THE NEWS

Early Birds Bill & Clara Amesbury, Bruce Bugbee & Roberta Wagner, Van & Bonnie Manning, Bill & Lois McMonnies, Pat & Jeannie Phillips, Bob & Shirley Wagers and John Kirry enjoyed the delightful Sweetheart Luncheon organized by President Elaine Morales. John Kirry was the official photographer.

Eight Lions showed up for the *“Harborview Nature Walk”*: *Early Birds Bill Amesbury, Dave McKenney, Bill McMonnies, John Kirry, Bob Wagers, Chair Doug Johnson and parent club members Bob Moore and Sandy Bradley*. As a result, this stellar group made quick work of the cleanup, which left maximum time for the follow-on coffee and BS session. They were joined by *Gig Harbor Lion icon Arch Carpenter* for the latter event which turned out to be anything but a BS session. Decisions and ultimate recommendations made by this group will have a profound and long-range effect on the Gig Harbor Lions Club - if approved by the Board.

We may not see much of *VBC Bart Morrison* for awhile. As a private contractor, he is working a job on Camano Island that will prevent meeting attendance. John Kirry will assume the Hootenflator duties.

AUCTION FOR FISH



We will continue our auction at the March meeting as we raise dollars to match the McMonnies' generous \$500 gift to FISH. To support this effort, be sure to bring those valuable items for auction along with your checkbook. *Also bring a can, a box or a buck for the FISH food bank.*

As noted elsewhere in this WORM, the trio of Kirry, McMonnies and Wagers were high bidders for the five course meal donated by Van and Bonnie Manning in support of this project.

WELCOME..

...new member *Lion Dustin Lewis*. Lion Dustin is a transfer from the Bremerton Central Lions Club. He is a Doctor of Chiropractic, having recently opened a practice in Gig Harbor, *Lewis Family Chiropractic & Wellness*, at 3206 50th St Ct NW #107. You can see his ad in the February 27 issue of *Gig Harbor Life*.



LAST MEETING

Early Bird Bill McMonnies shared his life story in another of our “My Life as I Know It” series. As predicted, Lion Bill has led an interesting life which included a variety of jobs and positions over the years ranging from meat cutter to business owner. On the surface, Bill is a fun loving, happy-go-lucky, never without a story Scot. However, that hasn't always been the case, because he has had his share of disappointments like most of us. These life story presentations are priceless and make us appreciate our members all the more. Thanks for sharing, Bill.

In addition to the presence of club president, Elaine Morales and club secretary Joe Morales, we were privileged to share this meeting with Gig Harbor Lions Sandy Bradley, Arch Carpenter, Harry Dearth, special guest Kevin Brooks and new member (transfer from Bremerton Central) Dustin Lewis. **Welcome Dustin!**

SUMMARY

“NEVER BORED” MEETING



The following were discussed at the 26 January “Never Bored Meeting:”

1. John Kirry, Bill McMonnies and Bruce Bugbee reported on the events that took place at the *February 12 parent club board meeting*. From all accounts it was a “spirited” meeting. Among the several items of business was the decision to abort the melding of the parent club and Early Birds effective July 1.
2. As a result of the above decision, the *future of the Early Birds* was discussed. A consensus of those present was that we should mount an aggressive membership drive focused on the businesses in the Uptown and Harbor Plaza shopping complexes.
3. Bruce Bugbee provided an update on the *Community Calendar Project*. It is now in a “give away” phase and includes an envelope that can be used for a donation. Bruce expects this phase to raise an additional \$2,000.00.
4. *Adopt-A-Street* Chair Doug Johnson confirmed that the next “cleansing” of Harborview Drive would take place 28 February at 9:00 AM.

Bart Morrison is currently working a job on Camano Island so the story telling role fell to Bob Wagers and John Kirry. *Please, please Bart, hurry back.*

ALL-CLUB SWEETHEART LUNCHEON



If you missed this event, you missed a wonderful opportunity to share some special time with your Sweetie. President Elaine out-did herself in insuring that everyone had a good time. Very innovative and entertaining. And John Kirry provided each of the couples in attendance with a commemorative photo. The trio of Kirry, McMonnies and Wagers were high bidders for the five course meal donated by Van and Bonnie Manning in support of FISH.

A great example of what can happen if we all band together as Gig Harbor Lions.

DISTRICT 19C SPRING CONFERENCE

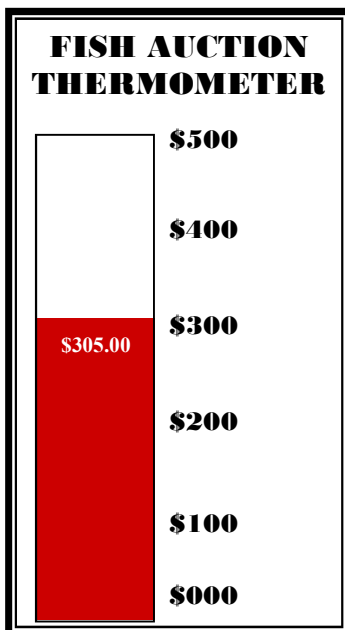
March 6-7, 2009, LaQuinta Inn
1425 E 27th Street Tacoma



Great opportunity to:

- Meet Lions from all over the District.
- Attend great workshops & panels (to include one by John Kirry).
- Hear excellent speakers.
- Broaden your understanding & appreciation of Lionism.

It is too late to guarantee a meal, but you can register at the convention and be reimbursed by the club. For more information contact Secretary Joe Morales.



COL. ARCH CARPENTER ROAST & TOAST

When: September 11, 2009, 6:00 PM

Where: The Inn at Gig Harbor

Menu/Cost: Stuffed Chicken Breast or Roasted Wild Alaskan Salmon @ \$50.00/person

Events: Silent Auction, Live Auction, Roast/Toast of Arch, Arch Rebuttal & more

Ex-military are encouraged to wear their dress mess and/or medals.

This event is classified as a fund raiser, but more importantly, it is an opportunity to honor a very special Lion, community leader and bonafide war hero.

More information to follow as we get closer to the date.



LOOKING AHEAD

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|------------------|--|
| March 2 | Early Bird LERC Work Party, meet RiteAid/Starbucks parking lot, 9:00 AM |
| March 5 | Parent Club Board Meeting, <i>United Methodist Church</i> , 12 Noon -1:00 PM |
| March 6 | <i>Safeway Collection for FISH</i> |
| March 6-7 | District 19C Spring Conference |
| March 8 | Daylight Savings Time Begins |
| March 9 | Early Bird General Meeting, Madrona Links Golf Course, 7:00 AM |
| March 9 | Parent Club LERC Work Party, meet RiteAid/Starbucks parking lot, 9:00 AM |
| March 12 | Parent Club General Meeting, Inn at Gig Harbor, 11:45 AM |
| March 17 | St Patrick's Day |
| March 19 | Parent Club Board Meeting, <i>United Methodist Church</i> , 12 Noon -1:00 PM |
| March 23 | Early Bird "Never Bored" Meeting Madrona Links Golf Course, 7:00 AM |
| March 26 | Parent Club General Meeting, Inn at Gig Harbor, 11:45 AM |



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 7 John Barelli

Happy Birthday John



SAFEWAY COLLECTION FOR FISH

The Gig Harbor Lions will once again be manning the FISH collection point at Safeway, Friday, March 6. The shifts are for one hour starting at 9:00 AM and are a great way to get involved with this premier food bank. And the best part, you are not selling or asking for anything. All you do is stand at the basket clearly marked for FISH and pass out a list of the items needed *when requested only*. To determine which shifts are open give President Elaine Morales a call at 858-8109 or send her an email at artzylady@centurytel.net.



ZC RICK DRURY STEPS DOWN AS CANDIDATE FOR 2ND VDG

Citing job and family conflicts, Zone Chairman Rick Drury has removed himself as a candidate for the position of 2nd Vice District Governor, District 19C. We will now will be voting for only two good friends of the Gig Harbor Lions and the Early Birds at the District 19C Spring Conference, March 7th:

VDG Dave Pratt for District Governor
PZC Dan Comsia for Vice District Governor

I'm sure you will agree that this is still a strong leadership team.

GIG HARBOR LIONS SHIRTS FOR SALE



If you have not yet purchased your beautiful Gig Harbor Lions shirt, contact Super Salesman Bill McMonnies at any meeting, by phone at 851-7111 or by email at lmcmonnies@comcast.net. This great looking shirt is a bargain at **\$20.00**.

CONGRATULATIONS...

...to *Parley Applegate* of the Lakewood First Lions Club, Zone 19C-1 Chairperson-Elect, Lion Year 2009-2010.

Food for Thought



"Fate chooses our relatives, we choose our friends."

"The only place where success comes before work is in the dictionary."

GIG HARBOR LIONS WEBSITE UPDATE



We have a new page on our Gig Harbor Lions website: a photomontage of our club members. This page is accessible from the link on the "Become a Member" page (**A Photomontage of Our Gig Harbor Lions Club Members**) and on the "About Us" page (**A Look at Our Gig Harbor Lions Club Members**).

Images of more members will be added as they are available.

There is also a new page with information about the Lions Club Purposes and Ethics: To access this from the website, open the "About Us" page and click on the appropriate link.

Lion Maria A. Barnowl/Kjaerulff
Web Mistress

2009 TRIBUTE TO GIG HARBOR CALENDAR UPDATE



The dollars continue to trickle in from this project. It looks like we could still net over \$6,000, especially if our own club members do their part. At last count, there were still less that one-third of the Gig Harbor Lions (parent club and branch) that had donated to this important fund raiser. We can and must do better.

CURRENT DUES STRUCTURE

Have you ever wondered what happens to the \$70.00 that you pay in club dues every year? As of July 1, 2009, your dues go to the following organizations:

\$39.00	Lions Clubs International (LCI)
16.60	Multiple District 19 (MD19)
<u>14.40</u>	Gig Harbor Lions
\$70.00	Grand Total

In addition, new members pay an initiation fee to LCI of \$30.00. Therefore, a new member joining in June pays a one time fee of \$100.00 which is prorated for the balance of the year.



REMEMBER! Membership is an every member responsibility. So invite someone today to share the joy and fun of an Early Bird membership.

SCENES FROM THE FEBRUARY 9, 2009 MEETING



A handsome couple.
First Lady Elaine & Secretary Joe.



Another handsome couple.
PZC Pat & PZC Jeannie Phillips.



Half a handsome couple.
Our speaker Bill McMonnies & Jeannie Phillips (the handsome half.)



Pat Phillips entertains Gayle Burke & Bill Amesbury with his version of "Home on the Range."



Bill McMonnies & Bob Wagers try to figure out David McKenney's joke.



David McKenney to Gayle Burke, "When I left that 'All You Can Eat' buffet, my stomach was clear out to here."



Harry Dearth & Bruce Bugbee entertain new member Dustin Lewis



Jeannie Phillips tries to make a point with Bill Amesbury & Gayle Burke.



Still trying!



Bill Amesbury & Arch Carpenter trying to figure out what the other one just said



Mutt & Jeff!
Bill McMonnies with "son" Kevin Brooks.



Joe Morales to Arch Carpenter, "You wouldn't s___ me would you?"

Disclaimer: "The names should have been changed to protect the innocent."