

THE SQUEAL

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Board of Directors

President-Mike Swederska
 Past Pres-Randy Johnson
 1st Vice-Ryan Whittington
 2nd Vice-Larry Schumaier
 3rd Vice-Scott Young
 Secretary- Teddi Speeler
 Treasurer-Vicki Swederska
 Tail Twister-Dennis Ureche
 Lion Tamer-Dick Nahm

Directors:

Tim Rabbitt, Marshall Yost,
 Pat Rabbitt, Rob Halama

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

12-7-09

As a Lion I was overwhelmed with inner emotion at the Christmas party last Friday night. If there is ever a reason why I am a Lion it is for what took place then. I know that the party was not actually a meeting, but as at all Lions events. We sang and pledge elegance to the flag finishing up with Lion Dennis Ureche's wonderful pray. Since we did have some very, very important pressing business, I moved from party mode into president mode. We had three items to cover along with announcing that 1st vice president Lion Ryan Whittington will be the citizen of the year for 2009.

If you had not heard about the armed robbery of Boy Scout Troop 551's Christmas tree lot, here is

what happened in the nutshell. At closing time last Wednesday night a young man knocked on the trailer door inquiring about a Christmas tree. Because it was raining so hard the scout leader invited him into the trailer to discuss him buying a tree. After about forty-five seconds of conversation. The young man stated that he could not afford a tree for his family and started for the door. At that time the scout leader said for him to come back later and they could work something out. Meaning that if would come back later they would give him a tree for his families Christmas. That is when the young man turned and presented a gun demanding all the scout's money. Our fellow Lions voted at the board to donate the three hundred dollars' that was stolen from the scout troop.

By tracking down the scout leader thru Fox 2 news, police chief of

Moline Acres and the PR person for the BSA. We were able to talk with the scout leader telling them of our plans to replenish the stolen money. The troop leader Dona Yarbough and her assistant and husband Mike Yarbough [the person actually held up] and their son the Eagle Scout came to our Christmas party and dinner. At that time we gave them the check for the troop and thanked them for what they do teaching the youth of today the right things. Mike Yarbough gave a wonderful and touching speech that had every body in the room feeling very proud to be a Lion. Fox 2 News ran a short blurb that evening at 5:00 news about the WG Lions donating the stolen money to the scout troop. Also in their report the young man was still at large.

The next thing to be voted on and announce at the party would be the designation of funds raised a next BBQ in March. It was reveled by a few fellow Lions that Lion Leo needs an operation on his foot. Because of his wife

Sharon's health issues keeping her from working. Lion Leo will not take the nine weeks off with out pay for his recovery. Several fellow Lions put donations in a slush fund designated to be donated to Lion Leo to cover his expenses the will be incurred during his time off from work. At the board meeting the motion was brought to the table to designate the March BBQ as a fundraiser for Lion Leo. Motion passed and was brought to the membership at the Christmas party. The motion passed by every single sole in attendance. Lion Leo was totally caught off guard and cried. We all cried.

Then the third thing that needed to be done, second reading for Quin Swederska. What a great night. The food was incredible, the jokes were a lot of fun and the gift swap run by Lion Becky was great fun. By the end of the night every single Lion and spouse was overwhelmed with emotion and elation from all the good stuff that we had just done. I personally could

not have asked for a better Christmas present. I really do believe the spirit of the holiday really showed in every Lion that night.

Don't for get that there will not be a meeting on Dec 17th.

Lion Mike Swederska Sr

Lion of the Month

November

Fred Yoder

Lion Fred is working hard on our website to keep it up to date and changing with the times. He also works hard at the monthly BBQ's. We are lucking to have such a great Lion.

Congratulation Fred

Got News or Tips for

The Squeal

Send to Teddi Speeler

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I received a special Thank you and shirt from the Bohner Family who we helped after they requested our help getting shirts. Their son has Autism and they have walked in the Walk for Autism before but this year they had matching shirts from the Webster Lions.

The Webster Lions community project in late January will be to invite the people of Webster Groves to help the Webster Lions spend \$8,500 (or more) on a physical need within the community. The Webster Lions have selected the amount of \$8,500 because the Webster Groves Lions Club will celebrate our Club's 85th Anniversary on March 12, 2010. Hopefully, our Club will select a worthwhile project during the month of February and publicly announce the project on our Club's 85th Anniversary date.

The Webster Groves Lions Club will be open and receptive to all public suggestions for a physical need (e.g., a clock tower, athletic field improvements, flagpoles, park benches, etc.). If the Club's budgeted funds are not sufficient to fulfill a worthwhile project, the Webster Lions will be willing to be a partner with others (e.g., the City, the School District, a business district, etc.) to complete a worthwhile community project.

The Webster Groves Lions Club is seeking a worthwhile physical project in the community in order to continue our Club's 80-year tradition of providing a tangible community gift (i.e., "paw-print") once per decade. In the 1920's, for example, the Webster Lions purchased playground equipment for a city park and contributed funds to the construction of a not-for-profit "old folks" home. In the 1930's, the Webster Lions financed and constructed municipal tennis courts. In the 1940's, the Webster Lions financed and constructed municipal baseball and softball fields. In the 1950's, the Webster Lions financed the addition of a wading pool at the municipal swimming pool. In the 1970's, the Webster Lions were major contributors for- the relocation an 1850's historic home to a municipal park. Also, in the 1970's, the Webster Lions were major contributors to improvements to the High School football and track

stadium. In the 1980's, the Webster Lions were major contributors to the construction of the Webster Groves History Center (which our Club utilizes for our meetings!). In the 1990's, the Webster Lions installed commercial-grade electrical wiring in a municipal park. And, at the start of the New Millennium, the Webster Lions funded a new back-stop, fencing and dug-outs for a municipal ball field. With 2010 upon us and an 85th Anniversary, too, it is time for the Webster Lions to identify and put in place a needed physical item within the community.

Heart of the Community Banquet

Lion Ryan Whittington will be honored as Business person of the Year. Also our two Lions of the years for 2008 will be honored as well. The banquet is February 5th 2010. The board has voted to pay for any member who wants to attend this banquet along with spouses'. If you are interested in going please let Lion Teddi Speeler know. It would be nice to have a table of Lions there to support them.

From the Tail Twister

Thank you to all who helped by bringing hats and gloves last month. We donated them to the Webster Groves Methodist Church. This month will have been collecting blankets for the St. Patrick's center a shelter for the homeless. Thank you for your help with this as well.

MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR

Peace Poster Contest
Well the contest is over and we have a great group of posters and winners. I think the kids and their parents were very impressed by our club and food. The teachers are already looking forward to next year.

The Webster Groves Lions that were at the meeting on December 10th got to meet the students and see the posters that were chosen. Don't forget we will have the posters on display at Crestwood Plaza over the Holiday from December 22nd – January 3rd. Thank you all for your support with this project.
Peace Poster committee

Upcoming Meetings

January 7th Board Meeting @ The Swederska garage apt. 6:30pm

January 14th General Meeting @ The Barn 6:30pm everyone welcome.

January 28th Our Community Out-Reach Meeting 6:30pm

Green Day
Okay Lions St. Ann's Lions are looking for help to work at the USO on Thursday night the 18th of December at 9:30 pm to greet Homeward bound soldiers to talk with them, give them a snack, THANK them for all they do for us and our Freedom. We would

work shifts between 9:30pm until all the soldiers have come through and are on their way home. If you are interested please call Lion Dennis Donze, Lion Teddi Speeler or Lion Calvin of the St. Ann Lions at 314-395-4252.

Hey Lions, I am placing an order for yellow Lions vests if you are interested in ordering one they are around \$45.00 each. I know our board would like to see us wear them at meetings and it's really nice to see everyone in their vests at the convention and that's why we collect pins to put on our vests. Call or email Teddi Speeler by January 3rd, 2010.

The Christmas Child Project
Went very well this year we were able to put together 10 boxes 5 boys and 5 girls. What a rewarding project. Thank you for helping to make Christmas bright for a couple more kids. Teddi and Becky Sanctuary Fellowship

Bowling Report

Well it looks like Meramec North has won the first half of bowling. Way to go!!! Here is how we finished the first half.
Meramec North
Webster III
Webster II

Webster I
Hampton
Southside Red
Southside Blue
We have had a great first half and look forward to the second. Look out Meramec we are coming for you.

For those of you that did not go to the Brentwood Extravaganza Talent Show fund raiser you missed a good time with some great talent. Our own Lion Pat Rabbitt along with District Governor Marvin took 2nd place with their skit "The Godfather".
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Lions are going green to protect our planet.
Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
Don't forget to recycle Lions you can recycle old cell phones, hearing aids, inkjet cartridges and of course eye glasses. Bring them to a meeting. Did you know that Lions recycle millions of pairs of glasses each year?

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Don't forget if you have photos for the website of a Lions event send them to Fred Yoder he will put them on the web so everybody can enjoy them. Also I would like to have a first time Webster Groves Photo Contest this Winter/spring. If you see a great shot take it and keep until the contest.

Christmas Riddle

What do Lions sing at Christmas?
Jungle Bells

What does Santa call reindeer that don't work?
Dinner.
Where do Snow-women like to dance?
At Snowballs.

Jokes of the Month

Christmas Prayer

Just before Christmas, two brothers were spending the night at their grandma's house. At bed time, they knelt down to say their prayers.

As they closed their eyes, one boy said in a loud voice, "Dear Lord, please ask Santa Claus to bring me a Wii, a telescope and a new bike."
His older brother said, "Why are you shouting? God isn't deaf."
"I know," said his brother, "but grandma is."

Christmas Shopping

The judge asked the defendant what he was charged with.
"Doing my Christmas shopping early," was the reply.
"That's not illegal! How early were you shopping?"
"Before the store was open."





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