



February 22, 2004

District 4-C4

PRESIDING Lion President Charles Nelson presided and Lion Roy Minor offered the invocation.

HEAR YE! Lion Nina Steiner reported that we had found someone who is in need of the Aladin Reader recently donated to the club. Lion Nina will take the reader around for a trial run and followup to see that it is working properly and in use.



District 4-C4 Long Range Plan



The District is preparing a Long Range Plan and wants our suggestions. The four "key" issues are: (1) membership, extension and leadership training, (2) service activities, (3) communications and public relations, and (4) reorganization of the District. The District needs our response by May the first, so this will be a topic discussed at both our March and April board meetings. In addition to recommendations that we may wish to make as a club, individual Lions are also encouraged to comment. Remember, as a wise Lion was once heard to rumble, "Tis better to Grumble now and Purr later than to Purr now and find that you must Grumble and Growl when things are no longer arranged to your satisfactiion.

East Palo Alto Lions Close to Forming



This last Wednesday, MERLO met with the charter members of the nacent East Palo Alto Lions Club. There are now 16 members; only four more are needed to form the club. The focus was future club activities. Lions Jim Anderson and Chaz Nelson were on had to represent our Club.

The good news is that one of the members who joined on Wednesday is a one-time Rotery member with an understanding of service clubs and a vision for East Palo Alto. He wants to produce a state-of-the-art indoor athletic and meeting facility that would specialize in after school programs that teach teamwork and leadership, raise self esteem and confidence, and provide academic skills support as well. He is confident about the fund raising bit, can contribute personally to the facility design, and is prepared to bring on new members with skills appropriate to this endeavor. More anon.

DOOR PRIZE



The Door Prize, a Lions emergency kit, was donated by Wayne Saylor and won by Al Thomas. Future door prizes: Mar 1 - Roger Stroud; Mar 8 - None (Candy Store Luncheon); Mar 15 - Joan Peterson; Mar 22 - Tom Sutton; Apr 1- Roy Minor; Apr 8 - Nick Marinaro.



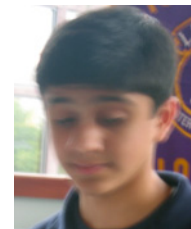
Meetings

- Mar 8 - Candy Store Luncheon.
- Mar 28 - Peninsula Council of Lions at Lucti's Resteraunt in San Mateo

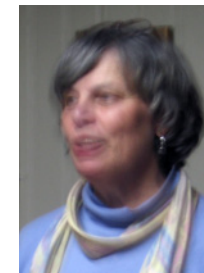


Zone Speakers Contest

The Zone-level Speakers Contest was held last Friday evening a the Menlo Park Chamber of Comerce meeting room. Lions Al and Chaz were on hand, Barbara and Jenny served as judges and Lion Eve Santos was



the moderator. Siddhartha Oza had revised his presentation considerably, making it about 15% longer, with a much stronger beginning, and better paceing. The judges gave him much encouragement and advice, so we can expect to see some more changes in the Region contest. Naturally, his parents were pleased as punch, as you



can see from the photographs at the left. Siddharatha remained unopposed at the Zone level, but will be facing seasoned constents at the Region level.

Overcoming Amputation

Lion Jim Anderson, speaker chair for February, introduced Tom Francois, who was on hand to tell us about the experience that transformed his life, the loss of his right leg below the knee after numerous failed treatments and operations for a massive blood clot. As the saying goes, he got religion through this experience and is now devoted to helping others who face life threatening - and life transforming - challanges. Tom would have made a great pirate. When speaking, he moved so much and with such vigor, that it took me more than 20 attempts to get this image that is only *slightly* blurred. He was too fast even for the flash. Indeed, the change in Tom's life was so positive, and so productive, that one might make a case for "therapeutic amputation" for those who suffer from certain forms of mid life malaise.



Tom also works with the R&D section of a manufacturer of artifical legs testing the latest models. The latest coming down the road will be air cushioned cups that greatly reduce pressure on the end of the stump, making the prosthetic safer and more comefortable.



- Mar 1 - Dr. Steven Rubenstein, Chair of Alergy Dept at El Camino
- Mar 8 - CANDY STORE LUNCHEON in Burlingame
- Mar 15 - Don Brown, a 49er Sports Staff Writer
- Mar 22 - Patricia Jones Kenny, Clinical Nurse Specialist, El Camino



Please bring your Stamps for Easter Seals
Remember to bring fruit for Elizabeth Seton School.