



Lions Tales

March - 2009 Elkhart Lions Club

IMPORTANT DATES

March 4

Program: Cam Snyder- 'So You Think You Know Elkhart'

March 17

Meeting: Memorial Flag Pole Committee- Noon at Four Arts Bldg.

March 18

Program: Nick Hoffman- Elkhart County Historical Museum

March 25

Program: The 'Swinging Sixties Saxes', Be sure to bring a guest or spouse.

March 7

District 25-G Convention, Christos, Plymouth.

April 15

What's happening with the ELCO Theater?

April 17-19

State Convention; Merrillville

April 29

VIP Luncheon - YES, there will be a



Listen to audio from weekly club programs

If you missed a meeting and really hoped you could have heard the program speaker, we have the solution for you. For the past several weeks, we've been recording the programs and putting them on our website as audio files. Simply click on the 'Links' button on our home page, then select the Audio links near the bottom of the page. You'll be directed to a page listing the programs available to hear.

We also have a page on our Google Groups page listing the programs, along with a link to the website.

Next on the horizon: Virtual fines by a virtual TailTwister?

The 'Difference' is in the 'Details' !

Are you a Lion or pussy cat? Recently I was reminded of a story I had heard years ago. It goes like this: A businessman hailing a cab from JFK International into New York City was greeted by taxi cab driver. The first thing the man noticed was the taxi was brightly polished and the driver was smartly dressed in a white shirt, black tie and freshly pressed slacks. The cab driver jumped quickly from his door to open the rear door for the passenger. The driver handed the man his business card and said, "I'm Wally, your driver. While loading your bags I would like you to read the back of my card for my mission statement." Taken aback the businessman read the card. It said: Wally's Mission Statement: To get my customers to their destination in the quickest, safest and cheapest way possible in a friendly environment. This blew the businessman away, especially when he seen that the inside of the car matched the outside it was spotlessly clean! As Wally slid behind the wheel, he said, would you like a cup of coffee? I have both a thermos of regular and decaf. The businessman jokingly said, No I'd prefer a soft drink. Wally smiled and said, "I have a cooler here with coke, diet coke, water and orange juice." Almost stuttering the businessman said, "I'll take a diet coke, please". Handing him the drink Wally said, "If you would like something to read, I have the Wall Street Journal, Time, Sports Illustrated or the USA Today." As they pulled away Wally handed him another card laminated card, these are the stations I get and the music they play if you would like to listen to music'. If that were not enough, Wally told the businessman that he had the air conditioning on asked if the temperature was comfortable for him. He then advised the man the best route for that time of day and said he would point out sights or, if the man preferred, to leave him with his own thoughts.

The man spoke up; "Tell me, Wally, have you always served customers like this?" Wally looked into the rear view mirror and replied, "No, in fact I have doing this for only about two years. Up until that time I had been driving for 5-years and complaining and whining like the rest of the cabbies do. Then I heard Wayne Dyer speaking on the radio one day and he was touting his book, "You'll See It When You Believe it". Dyer's main message was that if you get up in the morning expecting to have a bad day, you'll rarely disappoint yourself. He said, "Stop complaining and whining. Differentiate yourself from your competition. Quit whining and complaining like a pussy cat on a fence not knowing your true direction. Be a LION in control of your jungle."

"That hit me right between the eyes", said Wally. Dyer was really talking about me. I decided right then and there to change my attitude. I looked around at the other cabbies and their vehicles. The cabbies were grumpy and unfriendly and the cabs a mess and their clients were unhappy as well. I put in a few changes at a time. When my customers responded well, I added more. It has paid off very well too. I have more than doubled my revenue and when clients come to the city they call me. It is a rare occasion that you got me today as I very seldom sit any longer at a cab stand. Amazingly a small change in attitude and instead of whining and complaining like a pussy cat on the fence he chose to be a Lion and became king of his jungle!

Simple question this month ...which are you?

Until next month, keep striving to live up to our motto "We Serve".

Lion President Duane



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May 2

Cabinet Mtg; Syracuse

July 6-10

International Convention (Minneapolis)

The 'Other Side'

Most publications spend a great deal of time (and money) developing a 'look' for their front pages, including a meticulous banner (inappropriately and erroneously called a 'mast head'), placement of articles deemed to be the most important of the day, and so forth. Even this 'Lions Tales' as succumbed to that tradition, whenever we've had to extend news to the second side.

Not this time, though! Having to pursue this page for additional news to bring to you, this issue had made the 'second side', or back page, if you will, as much as a focal point at the first side. The news on this side is just as important as on the other, and worthy of your taking time to read. In fact, is this the 'second' page, or the 'first'?

Prospective Member Program Set for April 25; All Current Members Urged to Submit Names for Contact

Reserve the date now to bring a prospective member and introduce him to the GREATEST service club in the World!

A second special prospective membership program has been planned in an effort to 'boost' the club's membership. The effort will be held on Saturday, April 25th at the Four Arts Building on High Street. ALL members are encouraged to forward names of individuals who can be identified as prospects. It is not necessary for you to have discussed potential membership in the Elkhart Lions with these individuals, but only to have identified them as persons who might make good members of our club. The committee will follow up with contacts and send materials, including a letter of introduction and invitation to the April 25th program. That program will be held from 9-10 a.m. and a continental breakfast will be served.

Names of prospects should be forwarded to members of the planning committee: Marty Juel, Nelson Nix, Duane Klein, Bruce Shreiner, Brian Thomas, and Ann Kalman.

Here's a program you won't want to miss!

On April 15, Jack Cittadine, who is a co-chair of the steering committee, and Dan Cripe, local architect who's been involved in much of the planning and design, have a PowerPoint presentation and will discuss plans for the transformation of the Elco into the Lerner Performing Arts Center. When completed, the theatre will take back its original name, the Lerner Theater. Be sure to bring a guest or other interested persons to this meeting as it will be quite informative.

Do you have an idea for a future program you would like to see? Please forward all ideas to President Duane and he will forward to the program committee. Dates are planned several weeks in advance so be sure to do this quickly in order for it to be included for consideration this year.

Melvin Jones Fellowship Awarded to Cocanower



Stan Rupnow is shown presenting the latest Melvin Jones Fellowship to former member (and Stan's daughter!) Renee Cocanower. Currently an administrator at Concord Sr. High School, Renee has been acutely involved in community and family activities.