



Lions Club of Mokena, IL

June, 2009

BYLIONS 2009

President's Message ...

Hello Fellow Lions

I would like to take a moment to share a thought with you - building our future on our past successes. As your club president, I will have the responsibility of working with our members and board to make sure that we never forget that without the past, there is no future. We as a club must look toward the future with open minds and hearts as we not only continue to take an active interest in the community, but to also unite the club in friendship and spirit as we do so.

Our firecracker dance is now upon us. This event has brought community and business together for a night of food, entertainment and fun for many years now. This is also a great chance for us to show the public what Lionism is about, rolling up our sleeves and getting to the task at hand. Please give every effort to sell your tickets and should you run out, please let Nick or Rich know that you need more. In tough economic times, people are looking for an inexpensive evening out- we should do well on that point alone.

I wish to take this time to thank our Past President Tino Lettieri for a job well done, Lions Dan Krzak and Jeff Gacek for serving our club, and also to J.D. Koon and Tony Brouzas who have taken on the positions vacated by Jeff and Dan, and to Scott Youdris who has agreed to serve as our 3rd Vice President. I am eagerly looking forward to serving our club with the help of our new board. And I do not want to forget all our members who have agreed to serve by either working on a committee or chairing and co-chairing those committees.

There are many goals to achieve this year, and together as a club we can do it. The position of club President is an honor that I look forward to fulfilling with your help. Always remember that should you have any concerns, new community outreach ideas or just wish to chat my door is always open to you the members of this great club.

As always, please remember our military families in your thoughts and prayers for without their efforts or sacrifices we would not be the land of the free.

Yours in Lionism,

Lion President Tony Marmo

Why We Do What We Do ... and the Thanks We Get!!



Aniridia Foundation International

Dear Lions Club of Mokena,

Thank you so much for your contribution to the Aniridia Foundation International in **\$250 on April 25, 2009**. Your donation helps those with low vision, blindness, glaucoma and corneal disease, which affect all those with Aniridia and many others with visual disabilities, to lead a better life.

We greatly appreciate your participation in our important mission of helping those afflicted with this blinding condition. Together, we can make a difference.

In the weeks to come, we will send you our quarterly newsletter to keep you abreast of all of our accomplishments. Of course, your contribution will be highlighted in the next issue of the newsletter, which will be sent to all of our members and our other corporate sponsors.

Again, we sincerely appreciate your contribution. Thank you!

Best regards,

Jill A. Nerby

Why We Do What We Do (Continued) ...



On behalf of all of us at the Midwest Region of Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic (RFB&D) thank you for your recent contribution to our organization. Your generous donation of \$250.00 will help us to continue our important work.

We work together ensuring that individuals who cannot effectively read standard print because of visual impairment, learning disability or other physical disability, have the tools they need to succeed in their life. With your ongoing interest in our work, we are able to expand these wonderful programs to even more individuals in the coming months.

As we come to the end of the current school year, I thought you might find it interesting to know that in addition to the RFB&D members using our program throughout the state, we have also trained over 1700 educators to use our equipment in their classrooms and schools.

Sincerely,

Janet Milkovich
Regional Executive Director
Midwest Region

*many thanks for
your generous gift*

Why We Do What We Do (Continued) ...



Dear Mokena Lions Club,

I want to personally thank you for your generous contribution to my Eagle Scout project for Troop 725. As you can see by the pictures, the project was a huge success and the VFW is very pleased. Also enclosed is a picture of a small plaque which will be attached to one of the benches, recognizing your contribution. I don't know that this could have come about without your donation, for which I am extremely grateful.

Sincerely

Callan Heurung



Why We Do What We Do (Continued) ...

In previous BYLIONS issues, it was reported that the Mokena Lions Club made a donation to Mokena Boy Scout Troop #725 member and Eagle Scout candidate Callan Heurung (pictured on previous page) who, at the time, had the idea for his Eagle Scout project of cleaning up the front of the Mokena VFW hall and more prominently displaying its commemorative plaque – an effort to more significantly reflect the pride and respect we of the Mokena community have for all of our Veterans of Foreign Wars.

We can proudly report that, since that time, Callan has achieved Eagle Scout status. In addition to the Thank You card displayed on the previous page, Callan also provided the following “before” and “after” pictures of his community project. CONGRATULATIONS & JOB WELL DONE, CALLAN!!



**Before -- Front north side of the VFW Hall
(note the commemorative plaque)**



After -- with a more prominently displayed plaque



**Before -- Front south side of the VFW Hall
(note the bucket)**



After – sad to note that many patrons in the past probably noted the BUCKET more often than the PLAQUE when entering the hall

Club Happenings ...

Mokena Lions 2009 / 2010 Installation Dinner

The 2009 / 2010 Mokena Lions Installation dinner was held on Thursday, June 6th at 191 South for our incoming Board members. **Anthony Marmo** was elected as the club president for 2009-2010. Lion Tony has been an active member of the Mokena Lions Club for the past 8 years. **Lion Diana Grove** was again elected to serve as the Club Secretary this year, while our club's 1st vice-president will be **Lion Lee Kaz**, and **Lions Rick DelGrosso** and **Scott Youdris** will serve as 2nd and 3rd vice presidents respectively. Below are pictures of the event (courtesy of **Lion Rich Gemmell**) ...



District Governor Ken Novak swears in the 2009 Board



Incoming Lion President Tony Marmo takes his Oath of Office



Former Prez Lettieri passes on the Bell and Gavel to incoming Prez Marmo



New Dist. Gov. Ken Novak of the Lemont Lions Club performed the swearing-in.

Club Happenings (Continued) ...

Firecracker Dance 2009 – “Mokena’s Largest Outdoor Party”

Planning and organizing of our annual Firecracker Dance is in full swing. The band (Slip Mickey – always a crowd favorite) is booked. Sponsorship Chairman **Lion Dan Krzak** has sponsor letters printed and mailed. The beer, tents, tables, chairs, ice, electrical work, etc. are all organized and ready to go. All we need now is **YOU!!!**

Event chairman **Lion Nick Garcia** asks that you continue to sell your allotment of Dance tickets. Also, there are reports of openings for Lion members to sell tickets in front of Berkot’s grocery store, an annual “hotspot” for ticket sales to the dance.

Lion Bill McSherry is responsible for organizing the manpower and work assignments for the event. He can be reached at 708-205-6561. **PLEASE** give him a call and volunteer your time for one of the many work assignments that need to be filled. Or contact Lion Nick at 708-479-7452.

Reminder that this year’s Dance will be held on Saturday, July 18th, with setup for the event happening on Friday, July 17th.

Thanks in advance fellow Lions for your time and efforts in making this year another successful event!

Poker Run 2009 – Event Planning Continues

Lion President Tony Marmo reports that planning and ticket sales efforts for the raffle of the 2009 Harley-Davidson motorcycle raffle continue. The Texas Roadhouse restaurant has been booked to provide food sales at the event, to be held on Saturday, September 19th at Chi-Town Harley-Davidson.

By the way, **check out Chi-Town’s ad for our event on their website** – visit <http://www.chitownhd.com> – located in the lower half of their home page. Also, watch for email announcements of upcoming meetings for the event.



Lion Tony sells 5 (count ‘em – FIVE) \$100 tickets to a Chi-Town customer!!



Pictured above is the H-D 2009 Street Glide motorcycle to be auctioned off to one lucky winner.

Treasurer's Report ...

From the desk of our Club Treasurer -- **Lion Rich Gemmell** – the following outlines recent donations and expenses of special note to our General Membership:

• New Flags and Stands	\$260.04
• Mokena Education Foundation	\$500.00
• Lions of Illinois foundation	\$150.00
• Boy scout Troop 725	\$200.00
• Berkots Golf Outing for JD RF	\$200.00
• Recording for the Blind	\$250.00
• Lincoln-Way Scholarships	\$4,775.00
• Mokena in Motion	\$100.00
• 5,000 parade flags	\$967.50
• Wm Martin VFW	\$350.00
• McCutcheon Insurance	\$585.00

Lions Club of Mokena -- Mid-Year Treasurer's Report ...

Lion Treasurer Gemmell filed the following mid-year report for inclusion in this month's BYLIONS. If anyone would like more information on this report contact Lion Rich at a regular meeting and he will open the complete report for your review. He also extends many thanks to **Lion Ray Baranak** for setting up our books in Quicken -- it makes life a lot easier for him!

Funds on Hand 1-01-2009 **\$21,235.09**

Administration Income	\$8,175.71
Administration Expenses	\$(7,249.24)
Club Fundraising Income	\$15,222.00
Club Fundraising Expenses	\$(4,911.90)
Community Activities Expenses	\$(3,767.91)
Physical Impairment Expenses	\$(3,180.00)
Youth Activities Expenses	\$(7,240.75)

Funds on hand June 22, 2009 **\$18,283.00**

Odds & Ends ... But Still Important Stuff!!

2009 / 2010 Club Directories ... have been printed and delivered and will be available for member pick-up at future club functions. If you need a directory sooner, contact Lion Rich Gemmell to arrange pick-up. Thanks to **Lion Bob Lynch** and **The Print Exchange** for coordinating the printing of this year's directories.

Firecracker Dance Tickets ... more tickets are available through Lion Rich Gemmell. If you need more tickets, or wish to turn in ticket monies & stubs, contact Lion Rich to make arrangements.

Club Equipment & Supplies ... All Members -- please return all equipment and club supplies to the club storage unit. Many have items that are left over from one of their projects but have not yet returned everything to the storage unit. If you feel you need to store items yourself please let us know what you have so if anyone needs what you are storing we can get them together with you.



Happy Birthday To You ...



Help these fellow members celebrate their Birthdays during the month of June ...

- Lion Bob Bishop – June 2nd
 - Lion Tino Lettieri – June 21st
 - Lion Bill McSherry – June 24th
 - Lion Bob Ingemansen – June 17th
 - Lion Lee Kaz – June 22nd
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Happy Anniversary From the Mokena Lions ...

"I have learned that only two things are necessary for a happy marriage. First, let your wife think she's having her own way. And second, let her have it." – Lyndon B. Johnson

- Lion Dominic & Michelle Gurgone – 06/10
- Lion Warren & Dawn Lindquist – 06/11
- Lion Bob & Debbie Chizar – 06/20
- Lion Bud & Dorothy Stephan – 06/10
- Lion Mike & Molly Leone – 06/14
- Lion Bob & Alma Ingamensen – 06/28

Upcoming Events ...



- **Firecracker Dance Planning Meeting** – this is the last one before the big event! The meeting will be held on **Tuesday, June 30th**. Watch your email for meeting details
 - **July 4th Parade** – we're passing out flags again. **Note this year that the parade is taking a reverse route -- starting at Main Park and finishing near Wolf & 194th.**
 - **Firecracker Dance Setup** – will be held on **Friday, July 17th**
 - **Firecracker Dance** – kicks off on **Saturday, July 18th**
 - **Firecracker Dance Cleanup** – **Sunday, July 19th**
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