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The Downtown Lions club meets every Friday at noon at the Petroleum Club, 3636 Linden Ave., LB. Those occasions when we do not meet or meet elsewhere are noted either on the web site or this weekly bulletin.

CLUB OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS
Mailing address: 4712 East 2nd Street #434
Long Beach, California 90803. Telephone: (562) 370-1205 and fax: (562) 439-7174
www.longbeachlions.org

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Zone A Chair, Bay Region John Nelson

Long Beach Downtown Lions Club
4712 East 2nd Street #434
Long Beach, California 90803








LONG BEACH DOWNTOWN LIONS CLUB

Vol. 92 Friday, September 11, 2015, noon No. 8

PDG JUDY POWELL AND 1ST VDG MANNY SANCHEZ LIONS: THE GREATEST DRAG STRIP EVER

The program's title is from a series of DVD's celebrating the days of the Lions drag strip. Parts of the first one will be featured together with Lions District 4-L2 1st Vice District Governor MANNY Sanchez' memories of going to the track.

Lion MANNY joined Norwalk Lions in 2009. He's been its President, 1st & 3rd VP & Chair of Technology, Lions Alert, Public Relations, Fundraising & Membership. In District 4L2 he's led committees on technology, the environment, the



web/social media, Lions Alert and membership retention, chaired the Global Membership Team for 4 years & served last year as 2nd Vice District Governor.

A native Southern California, Lion MANNY moved to Long Beach in 1970, living at Lincoln & Santo Fe Avenues (very close to the drag strip) and attending Webster Elementary & Hoover & Hughes Middle Schools, graduating from Wilson High with the Merit Medallion. At Lang beach City College he was member Alpha Gamma Sigma Honors Society, graduating with Honors & receiving one of only 10 Viking Awards allotted each year,

1st VDG MANNY currently works for the Los Angeles County Office of Education as Production & Operations Engineer/Manager or video production.

THE PETROLEUM CLUB 3636 Linden Ave. 562-427-7966
Presiding: PDG JUDY POWELL
Invocation: RUDY HEDGREN
Program Arranged by: PDG JUDITH OLMSTED POWELL

Guests welcome!

FROM HOT ROD NETWORK, JUNE 23, 2008

"It was October 9, 1955-opening day at Lions Drag trip in Wilmington, California. Mickey Thompson was the track manager and only paid employee. He and his all-volunteer staff had no idea what to expect. They were prepared to handle up to 2500 people and possibly 50 cars. But over 10,000 people came swarming through the dusty field and down to the track that day.

The crowd had no patience with the incredibly long lines at the ticket booth. They simply dismantled what little fence there was and made their way down to the logs that served as seats. Of the 400 cars that showed up that day, over 25 percent had to be turned away, due to bald tires and generally unsafe condition. The P.A. system broke down. The portable toilets overflowed. The food supply ran out. Pandemonium prevailed. In other words, opening day at Lions was an unqualified success...."

There's a lot more to the story than that of course, including that local judge Fred Miller inspired the idea of the track, having become outraged by the number of street racers appearing before his court. He put Mickey Thompson together with Eddie Baker, a member of our club, and ultimately the track was born as the Lions Associated Drag Strip (LADS).



The article goes on, "It was December 2, 1972 - closing night at Lions Drag Strip.... Track manager Steve Evans and his staff didn't know exactly what to expect. They were prepared to handle a capacity crowd of 10,000 people. But more than 20,000 showed up by 6 p.m., when the track officials were forced to close the gates due to the size of the gathering. Thousands were turned away but thousands more wouldn't be denied by the closing of the gates. They simply tore down some eight-foot cyclone fencing and made their way down to the strip...to pay their respects at this, 'The Last Drag Race,' the final event ever at Lions Drag Strip."



Retrospective August 14, 2015

The Petroleum Club, President J. SMITH (aka PP GARTH PHILLIPS) presiding. Invocation: RUDY HEDGREN. Piano: A. CAPELLA. Song/spirit: PP MARILYN RUSSELL BITTLE. Announcements: Guests: Robert Burton and Bill Treglio, who thanked us for their eyeglasses. GARTH reminded us of the White Cane canister donations for eyeglasses for Long Beach School children, and our ongoing collection of cell phones, hearing aids and eyeglasses. PDG DENNIS DRAG announced the district 4L2 Meeting for Sept. 12. PP MERLIN THIMLAR announced he would be posting new top club rules. Each of us who does community work, let MERLIN know so our board can approve it for Top Club credit. He also announced the Bellflower car show Sept. 12 and PCC ROGER POWELL announced our annual JACK MACDONALD Day at the Races for Sept. 19. (See enclosed flyer.) Visitation Chair PP GEORGE MILLER JR. announced 7 have signed up for our next visitation at the Bellflower Noon Lions Club Aug. 26. (We need a minimum of 5 to get credit). GARTH announced we need volunteers for the refreshment stand at the Toshiba Golf Classic, Wed, Oct. 28 and Fri. Oct. 30. MARILYN agreed to help phone to solicit workers. Tale Twister



Picnic pics courtesy of Bonnie Stoepelman



RICH collected Happy Bucks from himself (his grandson's first birthday), CLAUDIA (in memory of the first TV weatherman, Harry Volkman, she worked with in Chicago), MERLIN (5 happy bucks for a fabulous fishing trip), GEOFF (1st grandson off to college, another on the varsity water polo team), PP JIM HARDEN (5 happy bucks for CLAUDIA's and his 49th anniversary.) The 50/50 was conducted and won by GEOFF GATLEY. COD SANDY GJONOVICH introduced her head table of RUDY HEDGREN, LINCOLN ODELL and SUSY RAY, and had fun with fines based on questions regarding Seaside/Memorial Hospital. Speaker Dr. Ewa Farrelly, family doctor at Memorial Group Urgent Care Center, explained shingles and its symptoms, complications, prevention and care. She introduced Sandra Flores, a Memorial Group marketing and medical insurance advisor, who invited those wanting to learn about Medicare options to attend their regularly scheduled classes.

Thanks to PP LINCOLN ODELL for this Retrospective.



Sep. 19—JACK MACDONALD Day at the Races

Program Chair—PDG JUDY POWELL
Greeter—PCC ROGER POWELL
Sep. 25—Oktoberfest!

JACK MACDONALD AFTERNOON AT THE RACES

Please see the enclosed flyer for all the details.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|----|-------------------|
| 8 | PP KIRK DAVIS |
| 8 | PAT SABOL |
| 10 | BOB SOBEL |
| 12 | PP RYAN HIROTA |
| 13 | RICH STANLEY |
| 18 | HAYWOOD EPPERSON |
| 19 | LEON DONJUAN |
| 23 | PP AL WEINGARTNER |
| 24 | DEBBIE ACEVEDO |
| 26 | HILDA GAYTAN |
| 27 | DIAWN STANLEY |



CALENDAR

September

8—Board meeting
15—Zone A meeting
16—Norwalk visitation
17-19—USA-Canada Forum
18—Dark!
19—Day at the Races
25—Oktoberfest

October

1—CSAC
6—Membership Committee
6—Charities Committee
13—Board meeting
20—Zone A meeting
30—Dark! Toshiba Classic
31—District meeting

November

3—Membership Committee
3—Charities Committee
5—CSAC
10—Board meeting
17—Zone A meeting
26—Thanksgiving
27—Dark!

December

1—Membership Committee
1—Charities Committee
3—CSAC
5—Belmont Shore parade
8—Board meeting
13—Holiday Party
25—Dark! Christmas

January

1—Dark! New Years Day
5—Membership Committee
5—Charities Committee
7—CSAC
12—Board meeting
19—Zone A meeting
23—District meeting

February

2—Membership Committee
2—Charities Committee
4—CSAC
5-7—MD4 Convention, Modesto
9—Board meeting