

# THE SEALY LIONS CLUB

"Serving the Sealy Community for 50 Years!"





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# Lions Club International

*Membership in a Lions Club is a privilege.* The Sealy Lions Club is part of the world's largest and most active service club organization; a group of over 1.4 million men and women in over 48,000 clubs in over 200 countries and geographical areas around the globe, who are dedicated to making a difference. Lions reach out to people in need in our community, and throughout the world.

Lions Clubs International began as the dream of Chicago insurance man Melvin Jones. He believed that local business clubs should expand their horizons from purely professional concerns to the betterment of their communities and the world at large. Jones' own group, the Business Circle of Chicago, agreed. After contacting similar groups around the country, an organizational meeting was held on June 7, 1917, at the LaSalle Hotel in Chicago, Illinois, USA. The new group took the name of one of the groups invited, the "Association of Lions Clubs," and a national convention was held in Dallas, Texas in October of that year. Thirty-six delegates representing 22 clubs from nine states were in attendance. The convention began to define what the association was to become. A constitution, by-laws, objects and code of ethics were approved. Since that humble beginning, Lions club members have volunteered their time and talents to meet needs wherever they exist. Lions are especially dedicated to serving the blind and visually impaired, a commitment made after Helen Keller challenged our members to become her "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness" during the 1925 convention in Cedar Point, Ohio, USA. Our motto, "We Serve" perfectly exemplifies the dedication to helping those in need felt by Lions worldwide.

The Global Service Framework focuses the efforts of Lions on five service areas with the goal of tripling our humanitarian impact by serving 200 million people per year by 2021. The Global Service Framework compliments all of the great ways clubs serve locally, and gives Lions new opportunities to help meet the growing challenges facing humanity. Service areas include diabetes, environment, hunger relief, pediatric cancer and vision.

Much of the focus of Lions Clubs International work as a service club organization is to raise money for worthy causes. All funds raised by Lions Clubs from the general public are used for charitable purposes, and administrative costs are kept strictly separate and paid for by members. Some of the money raised for a club's charity account goes toward projects that benefit the local community of an individual club.

## 2018 Members (50 year anniversary)

Chase Ashorn  
Bill Blume  
Rob Emshoff  
Robert Fait  
Robert Klepac  
Kenny Kutra

Ed Landry  
Bob Moeller  
Fred Paben  
Mitja Peterman  
Jim Pursley Jr.  
Robert Richter  
Scott Stuessel

Stephen Stuessel  
Alfred Tomasek  
Jeffrey Tomasek  
Ronnie Via  
Dwayne Virnau  
Jeff Virnau



## 1968 Charter Members

Jack Bollinger  
 Erwin Boyle  
 Charles Brandes  
 Dee Brune  
 Wayne Carroll  
 James Crabb  
 Jones Finke  
 Nemencia Garcia Jr.  
 Leeroy Gaskamp  
 Wilbert Goebel  
 Jack Harding  
 James Henderson  
 Joe Hinze  
 Curtis Lueck  
 Jerry Mazac  
 Jody Mazac  
 Herman Meloneck

Kinch Meyer  
 Hubert Odom  
 A.W. Perryman  
 Rev. James Quilter  
 A.H. Remmert  
 L.A. Stastny  
 Aubrey Stuessel  
 Aaron Swearingen  
 Sam Tolbirt Jr.  
 Everett Tomlinson  
 Ernie Towson  
 Harry Virnau  
 Walter Virnau Jr.  
 Jimmie Walters  
 Ray Ward

## Sealy Lions Club Charter

The Sealy Lions Club was chartered in December 1968. An organizational meeting was held at Goebel's Restaurant on Tuesday, December 10, 1968. The Sealy Lions Club was formed with Joe Hinze named as temporary chairman. Fifteen to twenty members of the Bellville and Eagle Lake clubs joined eight local men interested in the organization. The Bellville Lions Club graciously agreed to sponsor the Sealy club.

The first official meeting of the Sealy Lions Club was held at Goebel's Restaurant on Thursday, January 2, 1969. The club was chartered on December 20, 1968. The Sealy Lions Club Charter banquet was held on March 8, 1969 in the school cafeteria. Herb C. Petry Jr. of Carrizo Springs, past president of Lions International (1950-1951) gave the charter address. The charter was presented to the club at this banquet.

On June 17, 1969, James Crabb was installed as president of the Sealy Lions by Dexter Anderson (District Governor) of Eagle Lake. Ray Ward was named as First Vice President and Walter Virnau assumed the role of Second Vice President. Joe Hinze was the Secretary/Treasurer.

### "We Serve" is the motto of Lions Club International.

The Sealy Lions Club has been working to help improve the quality of lives of local citizens for the past 50 years. This tabloid is an effort to preserve the memories and history of the Sealy Lions Club. Many archives and club records have been misplaced or lost through the years and/or destroyed in recent flooding. Articles, testimonies and pictures included in this publication represent information about the Sealy Lions Club that has been attained and published to the best of our ability. We have worked to ensure accuracy and welcome corrections, additional comments, pictures and historical information that can be included with club records.

Lions know that it takes a T.E.A.M. (Together Everyone Achieves More) that works in harmony to positively impact individuals and families in the local community. Sealy is a community comprised of caring individuals, churches, civic organizations, and government entities that are ready and available to serve others.

"If God has been generous with you, he will expect you to serve him well. But if he has been more than generous, he will expect you to serve him even better." Luke 12:48

It has been stated that "volunteering to serve others is the rent we pay for the space we occupy in this world."

Thank you for supporting the Sealy Lions Club through the past 50 years. We look forward to serving others in need for many years to come!

*The Sealy Lions Club*

## 1993 Members (25 year anniversary)

Eugene Adams	Ed Landry
Terry Ashorn	Tom Martin
James Bartlett	Jody Mazac
Keith Barrett	Mark Michalke
Bill Blume	Mark Nastoupil
Johnny Bonaccorso	David Novosad
Bubba Brunkenhoeffer	Mitja Peterman
James Donnelly	Stephen Reichardt
David Ellerbe	Robert Richter
Robert Fait	Alan Schulke
Jones Finke	Aubrey Stuessel
Wilbert Goebel	Ken Stuessel
Monroe Gonzales	Ronnie Via
Jay Hancock	Jeff Virnau
Allen Harwell	Walter Virnau Jr.
Allen Kaminski	Monsignor B.J. Zientek

## Family and Fellowship

Family and fellowship are important to members of the Sealy Lions Club. Through the past years, Lions and their families have gathered for special fun activities including Christmas family nights, Halloween family nights and other special family-friendly events.

## Fundraising Activities

Fundraising Activities that have been sponsored by the Sealy Lions Club include:

- Barbeque Vendor Sales
- Broom and Mop Sales
- Christmas Tree Sales
- CrossRoad Classics Bicycle Ride (1993: Fifth Annual Crossroads Classic)
- Gun Raffle
- Las Vegas Night
- Pancake Supper
- Raffle Ticket Sales (Varied Items)
- SealyBration
- White Cane Day

## Sealy Community Service Projects and Charities

For 50 years the club has been tirelessly serving those in need in the Sealy community. With projects ranging from building ramps for handicapped to funding area charities and providing eyeglasses for children in need, the Sealy Lions Club has been committed to bringing the unparalleled services of Lions Club International to our local community.

Local Sealy Community Service Projects and Charities that have been sponsored/supported by and/or in which the Sealy Lions Club have participated during the past 50 years include:

- American Legion Auxiliary – Bluebonnet Girls State
- American Legion Honor Guard
- Austin County Ambulance System
- Austin County American Cancer Society
- Austin County CERT
- Austin County Fair Association
  - Sealy Lions Barbeque Team
  - Austin County Taco Wagon Volunteers
- Austin County Peace Officers Association
- Breakfast with Santa
- Community Service Organizations Recognition Banquet
- Construction Projects for Needy (Varied)
- Decoders for Hearing-Impaired Students
- Eye Exams and Eyeglasses for Students in Need
- Eyeglass Recycling
- Fire Prevention Poster Contest
- 42 Domino Tournament
- Girl Scouts
- Gordon Memorial Library
- HOA-Meals on Wheels
- Litter Bags and Litter Barrels for the Community
- Maintain City Lions Park
- Miss Sealy Pageant
- Novicke Golf Tournament
- Paul Gundy Benefit
- Peace Poster Contest for Sealy Jr. High School Students
- Raising Academic Performance (RAP)
- Red Ribbon Week Sponsor-Sealy Schools
- Relay for Life of Austin County
- Sandlin Benefit
- Scholarships for High School Graduates
- Sealy Area Historical Society
- SealyBration
- Sealy Christian Pantry
- Sealy Christmas Parade
- Sealy Community Foundation
- Sealy High School Leo Club
- Sealy Hospital Fund
- Sealy Little League
- Sealy Ministerial Alliance
- Sealy Pregnancy Resource Center
- Sealy School Art Student Reception and Auction
- Sealy Youth Soccer Program
- Valentine's Day Greetings for Shut-ins
- Carl Wright Fund



# Lions Club State, National and International Charities

The Sealy Lions have diligently supported designated state and international Lions Club Charities including Leader Dogs for the Blind, Lone Star Eye Bank, Sight Awareness, Sight First, and the Texas Lions Camp.

Lions Charities supported by the Sealy Lions Club include:



Lions Clubs International Foundation – Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) is the official charitable organization of Lions Clubs International and supports Lions' compassionate works by providing grant funding for their local and global humanitarian efforts.



Texas Lions Camp – The TEXAS LIONS CAMP is dedicated to providing without charge, a summer camp for children with physical disabilities (including hearing/vision impaired) Type-1 diabetes and cancer. Serving since 1949 the Texas Lions Camp (a 400 bed residential camping facility located on over 500 acres in the beautiful Texas Hill Country) is designed to introduce

the “Can Do” philosophy to children dealing with special medical conditions.



Texas Lions Foundation – The Texas Lions Foundation was formed in 1984 by the Lions Clubs in the State of Texas in order to provide grants for Humanitarian & Disaster Relief purposes. Funds for these grants come from the Lions and the Lions Clubs in Texas who make voluntary contributions to the Texas Lions Foundation or have conducted fund-raising events specifically to benefit the Texas Lions Foundation.



Lions Sight & Tissue Foundation – The LIONS SIGHT & TISSUE FOUNDATION, INC. (LS&TF) works with Lions to provide assistance in their communities for people who cannot afford the proper visual care or medical assistance for vision related surgeries.



World Services for the Blind – World Services for the Blind (WSB), Little Rock, Arkansas is the most comprehensive adult rehabilitation center in the world. WSB prepare and

help to build a “new life” to people by giving them required independent living skills, (vocational training, vision rehabilitation clinic & training, assist in technology learning, job placement, college preparatory program etc.) career training and community access tailored to the special requirements of their individual visual impairment.



Leader Dogs for the Blind – Founded by three Detroit-area Lions Clubs members in 1939, Leader Dogs for the Blind provides guide dogs to people who are blind and visually impaired to enhance their mobility, independence and quality of life. Each year, over 270 clients attend 26-day residential training program to be paired with a guide dog. This is a life-changing event that opens the door to independence, safety and self-worth for many.



Focus Club-Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center Foundation is located in Midland Texas. They process about 1 million pair of glasses each year to send to other countries for use in providing vision to needy people. For \$3 per member you can become a Focus Club and support their activities.



## Sealy Lions Club Presidents

The following Lions have served as leaders of the Sealy Lions Club through the years.  
Thanks to their leadership, the club has continued to serve the Sealy Community for 50 years!

Spring, 1969	James Crabb, President	1994-1995	Information Not Available
1969-1970	James Crabb, President	1995-1996	Information Not Available
1970-1971	Ray Ward, President	1996-1997	Alan Schulke, District Governor
1971-1972	W.C. Sneed, President	1997-1998	Information Not Available
1972-1973	Everett Tomlinson, President	1998-1999	Information Not Available
1973-1974	C.W. Brandes, President	1999-2000	Information Not Available
1974-1975	Harry Pless, President	2000-2001	Information Not Available
1975-1976	Otto Remmert, President	2001-2002	Information Not Available
1976-1977	Bill Blume, President	2002-2003	Bill Blume, President
1977-1978	Terry Ashorn, President	2003-2004	Bill Blume, President
1978-1979	Wilbert Kutra, President	2004-2005	Bill Blume, President
1979-1980	Louis Kuciemba, President	2005-2006	Bill Blume, President
1980-1981	Frank McRae, President	2006-2007	Bill Blume, President
1981-1982	Alan Harwell, President	2007-2008	Bill Blume, President
1982-1983	Leonard Stolarski, President	2008-2009	Robert Richter, President
1983-1984	Kevin Dorotik, President	2009-2010	Robert Richter, President
1984-1985	Wayne Ashorn, President	2010-2011	Steve Schoen, President
1985-1986	Mark Nastoupil, President	2011-2012	David Vandercook and Dwayne Virnau, President
1986-1987	Ronnie Via, President		Dwayne Virnau, President/ Robert Fait, District Secretary
1987-1988	Bill Blume, President	2012-2013	Dwayne Virnau, President
1988-1989	Alan Schulke, President	2013-2014	Bill Blume, President
1989-1990	Alan Schulke, President/ Wayne Ashorn, Lions Camp Director	2014-2015	Bill Blume, President
1990-1991	Mark Michalke, President/ Wayne Ashorn, Lions Camp Director	2015-2016	Bill Blume, President
1991-1992	Monroe Gonzales, President	2016-2017	Bill Blume, President
1992-1993	Alan Schulke, President	2017-2018	Bill Blume, President
1993-1994	Bill Blume, President	2018-2019	Bill Blume, President



Bill Blume, President; Robert Fait, Melvin Jones Fellow;  
James Haverland, District Governor 2-55 (November, 2018)

"I am humbled to be named as a Melvin Jones Fellow. Being a Lion has afforded me the opportunity to partner with 1.4 million men and women across the world to bring help to those in need. WE SERVE is the Lions Club motto and kindness defines who we are as Lions. I thank God for Lions and their willingness to share time and talents to make this world a better place for all." Robert Fait



## Melvin Jones Fellows

Lions Club International has recognized Sealy Lions Club members for extraordinary service. Jody Mazac (2007) and Robert Fait (2018) have been named as Melvin Jones Fellows. The Melvin Jones Fellowship (MJF) is presented in recognition of an individual's commitment to improving life for people local and in communities around the world. Named for the founder of Lions Clubs International, Melvin Jones, the fellowship is one of Lions Club Foundation's highest recognitions, honoring the commitment to humanitarian service.

Jody Mazac: Lion of the Year in 1994)/Melvin Jones Fellow in 2007



### LION OF THE YEAR

Bill Blume, retiring president of the Sealy Lions Club, presented to Jody Mazac, at right, an award designating him as Lion of the Year, at Friday night's officer installation and award banquet at the Stephen F. Austin Country Club.

-News Photo by Wilma Petrussek

## Special Notes and Contact Information

**Note:** The Sealy Lions Club wishes to thank Karen Lopez, Publisher and the staff at The Sealy News for providing assistance with this 50-year Sealy Lions Club history project. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy of information included in this publication. Members of the community who have comments and or other information and pictures may forward items to:

Sealy Lions Club  
P.O. Box 403  
Sealy, Texas 77474

## "Ten in 2010" Campaign

At a time when membership in the Sealy Lions Club was waning, Ernie Koy of the Bellville Lions Club attended a morning meeting and presented a program in the fall of 2009. He challenged those in attendance to awaken and rejuvenate the true spirit of Lionism in Sealy! The local club responded and launched the "Ten in 2010 Campaign" with the goal of recruiting 10 new Lions, donating \$10,000 to local charities, and participating in 10 local service projects.

This was a great time in the history of the Sealy Lions. Responding with enthusiasm, the club initiated several events

and activities and gained in membership during the "Ten in 2010" campaign.

The following is an excerpt of a news release celebrating the success of the "Ten in 2010" campaign:

The Sealy Lions Club embarked on a goal of contributing \$10,000 to the Sealy Community as part of a "Ten in 2010" campaign. The local club comprised of 26 men who live by the Lions Motto, WE SERVE, recently celebrated the success of this campaign.

During the Zone Meeting of Austin County Lions on Tuesday, February 8th, members of the Sealy Lions Club presented

checks to representatives of the following organizations: Austin County American Cancer Society (\$500), Austin County CERT (\$500), Austin County RAP (\$500), Good Samaritan Shop (\$500), Gordon Memorial Library (\$500), HOA-Meals on Wheels (\$500), Sealy Christian Pantry (\$500), Sealy Girl Scout Troop (\$500), Sealy High School Leo Club (\$1,000), and Sealy Ministerial Alliance (\$500).

In addition to the contributions given on February 8, 2011, the Sealy Lions contributed \$3,725 in scholarships to Sealy students and \$805 for eye healthcare and eyeglasses for those in need. Previous contributions were made

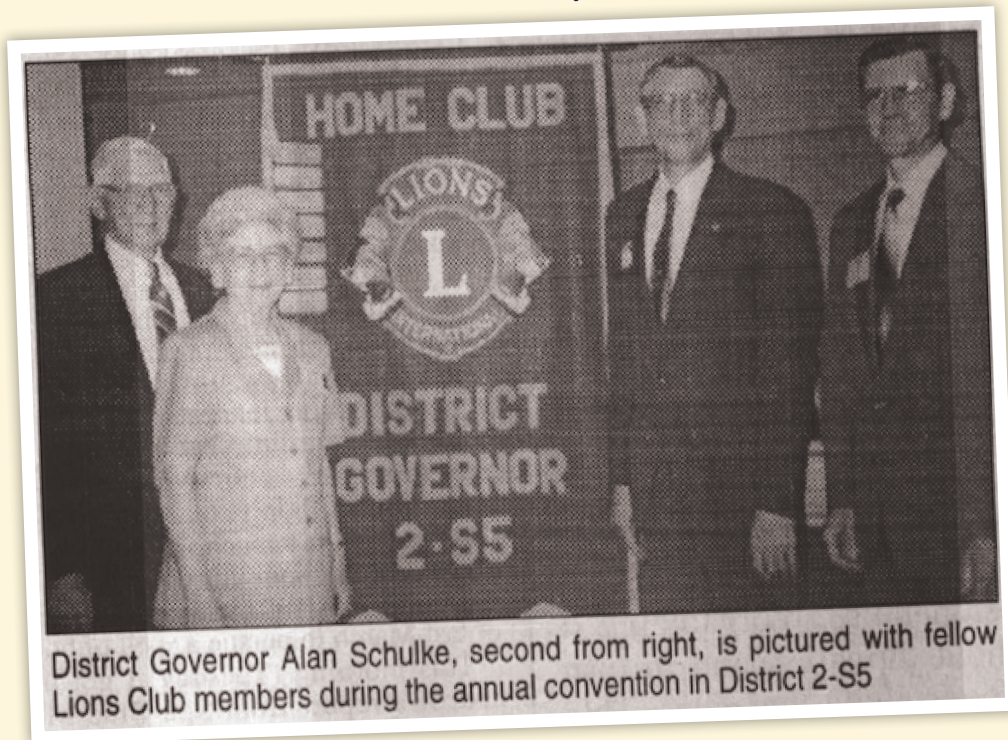
to the HOA-Meals on Wheels (\$500), Sealy Christian Pantry (\$500), and Sealy Ministerial Alliance (\$500). The Sealy Lions Club contributed \$11,530 to students, individuals and organizations in the community to help improve the lives of others during this past year.

The Sealy Lions Club also made contributions during this past year to Lions Club International (\$1,518), Texas Lions Camp (\$692), Lone Star Lions Eye Bank (\$230), and the Haiti Relief Fund (\$250).

Contributions in 2010 to the Sealy Community and to Lions Charities totaled \$14,220!



## District officers



District Governor Alan Schulke, second from right, is pictured with fellow Lions Club members during the annual convention in District 2-S5

Lions Clubs in Texas are divided into districts. Through the years, members of the Sealy Lions Club served as district officers. Alan Schulke was District Governor in 1996-1997. Wayne Ashorn served as Lions Camp Director from 1989-1991. Robert Fait was the District Secretary in 2012-2013. Dwayne Virnau has served as a Zone Chair from 2017-Present.

## Meeting Schedule and Location



The Sealy Lions Club has a history of meeting on a regular basis, most often on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month at 7 a.m. Through the years, meeting and event locations have included American Legion Hall Kitchen, Gary's Restaurant, Goebel's Restaurant, Gordon Memorial Library, Hill Center, Mason's Korner, McColister's Restaurant, T & L Restaurant and Tony's Restaurant.

## Invitation to Join Lions

The Sealy Lions Club is open to men and women who have a desire to serve others. WE SERVE is the motto of Lionism and those in the Sealy community with a heart to help others are invited to learn more about this great organization. Meetings are currently held at the Gordon Memorial Library on the first and third Saturdays of each month beginning at 8:00 a.m. Meetings include a time for business and fellowship. Programs are also presented by outside agencies and individuals with special skills and interests. For those interested in learning more about becoming a Lion in Sealy, please contact a current member OR Bill Blume (979-885-3285), President or Dwayne Virnau (979-885-7280), Membership Chair.

Membership dues are currently \$35 each quarter. These dues are used to support state and national dues and also help to defray the costs of meetings and special events. The financial status of the Sealy Lions Club is very stable. A Board of Directors is elected each year and this group helps to govern the local club.

Additional information on the Sealy Lions Club is available at [www.sealylionsclub.com](http://www.sealylionsclub.com)

# Sealy Lions Club Signature Activities and Events

*"Where there's a need, there's a Lion"*

**Crossroads Classic:** During the 1990s and early 2000s, The Sealy Lions Club in partnership with other organizations and local agencies sponsored an annual fall bicycle ride that was very popular among bicycle enthusiasts. The ride was considered a "warm-up" for the MS 150 and included a 29-mile ride through the beautiful countryside of Austin County and the surrounding area.

**Broom and Mop Sales:** Brooms and mops that were made by the blind and visually impaired have been a staple for Lions Club fundraisers across the nation for decades. Each year during the formative years of the Sealy Lions Club, members would canvass the Sealy community on a designated Saturday, going door-to-door and sell brooms and mops to businesses and local citizens. This was an annual event for many years.

**Eyeglasses for Children:** Eye care and vision-related works have always been a priority for Lions Clubs across the world. The Sealy Lions Club has remained available to help children/students in Sealy who had a need for eyeglasses. In partnership with the Sealy I.S.D. and other agencies, individuals in need of eyeglasses are often referred to the local club. The Sealy Lions Club continues to provide vision screenings, eye doctor's visits, and glasses as needed to children/students in need at no charge to the family.

**Lions Park:** The Sealy Lions Club maintained the community park located on Main Street for years. In addition to maintaining the beautiful gazebo that was built in celebration of the Centennial and sits at the center of the park, the Sealy Lions Club paid for the construction of a pavilion and playground equipment. As Sealy began to celebrate community Christmas

festivals at the park, members of the Lions Club and other citizens wrapped the trees in the park with thousands of miniature lights. In 2003, the City of Sealy assumed custody of the park. The park is now named the Abe and Irene Levine Family Park. A Lions Club emblem plaque is displayed as an appreciation and tribute to the Sealy Lions Club.

**Rivers-Stuessel Golf Tournament:** Bobby Rivers and Aubrey (Mutt) Stuessel were distinguished educators in Sealy I.S.D. who impacted many students, parents, teachers and community members. In partnership with representatives of the Sealy Scholarship Endowment Fund, the Sealy Lions Club hosted many golf tournaments at the Stephen F. Austin Golf Course where proceeds were used by both organizations to fund scholarships for high school graduates.

**Sealy-Bratton:** The Sealy Lions Club sponsored the Sealy-Bratton during the first years of this community event. A volleyball tournament was a featured activity along with other family-friendly activities. The Sealy Lions continued hosting this community-wide event through 1999.

**Youth Scholarships:** The Sealy Lions Club has provided numerous scholarships for high school graduates in the Sealy community throughout the past 50 years. The number of scholarships and the amount of scholarships for students has steadily increased over the years as fundraising activities have become more successful. Proceeds from the Rivers-Stuessel Golf Tournament have been used exclusively for student scholarships. Scholarship winners and their parents are treated to a breakfast meeting each year where they are recognized and presented with the scholarship awards.



# DECEMBER 1968 – NOVEMBER 1978

Service: Lions Motto and our Focus - "We SERVE"



1974: The Lions



1979: Donation to Carl Wright



1975: Donation to Sealy Hospital Fund



1979: Domino Tournament



# DECEMBER 1968 – NOVEMBER 1978

## Fellowship: Family, Friends and Fun



1972: Family Night at Tomlinsons



1975: Lions at Installation Banquet



1976: Lions Christmas Party

### Al Picone (Lions Club International)

Joe Al Picone of Brenham, while serving as District Governor, presented the following words during a Sealy Lions Club breakfast meeting in 1975.

"Lionism is a business having to be run in an effective business-like manner. It is a knife and fork club, as evidenced by the breakfast meeting; it is a social club as well, and it is a practical application of religion. The most important factor is service, as worded in the creed and motto emphasizing service to one's fellowman. It means giving service on the part of every Lion. Each Lion receives great satisfaction at having done a job well, without any glory. Lionism also means opportunity, the chance of meeting new people and opening new doors; it means fellowship with one another while performing service. Togetherness, harmony, unity, all of these are benefits of Lionism."

— Joe Al Picone  
Past International Director (2011-2013)



# DECEMBER 1968 – NOVEMBER 1978

## Leadership: Leading the Way in Service to others



1969: Crabb Installed as President



1973: Brandes Installed as President



1973: Lions Club officers

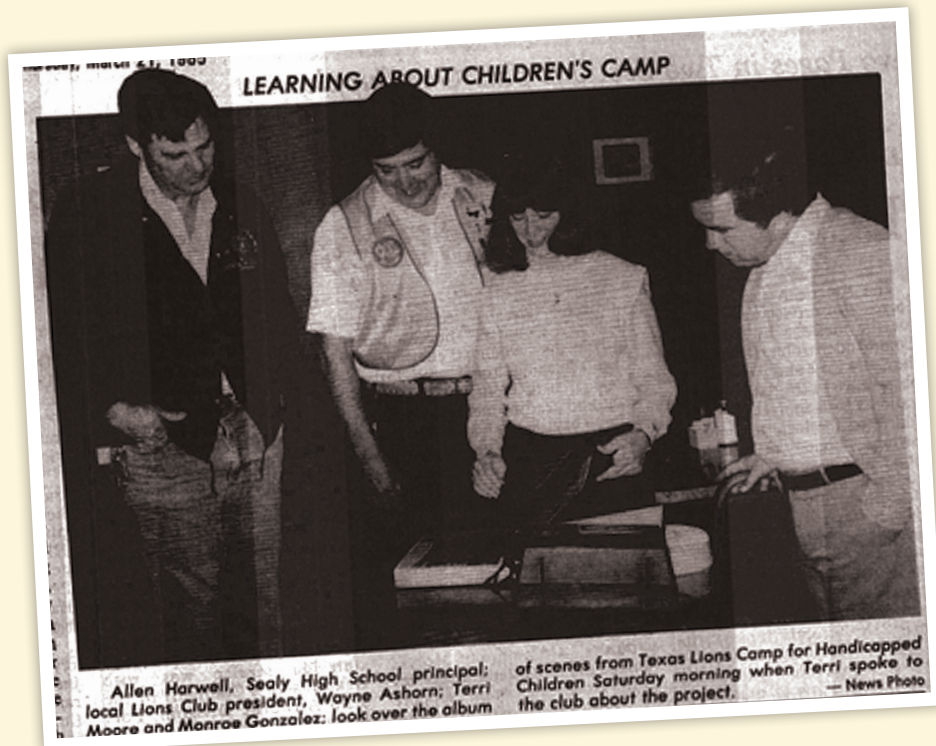
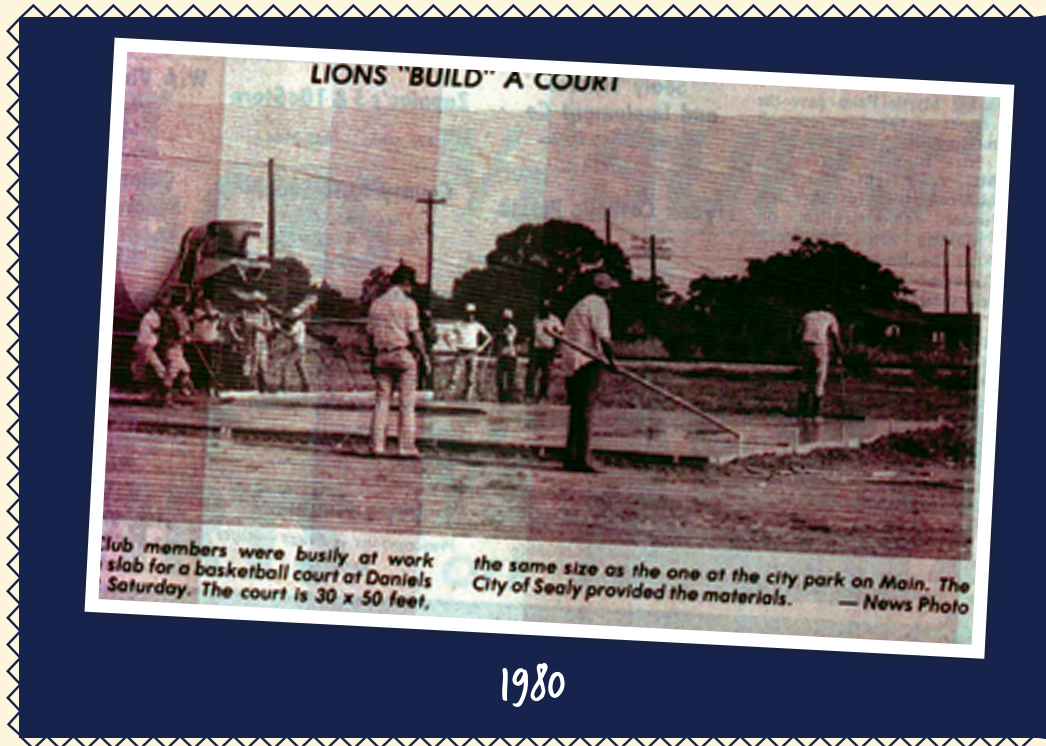


1978: Kutra Installed as President



# DECEMBER, 1978 – NOVEMBER, 1988

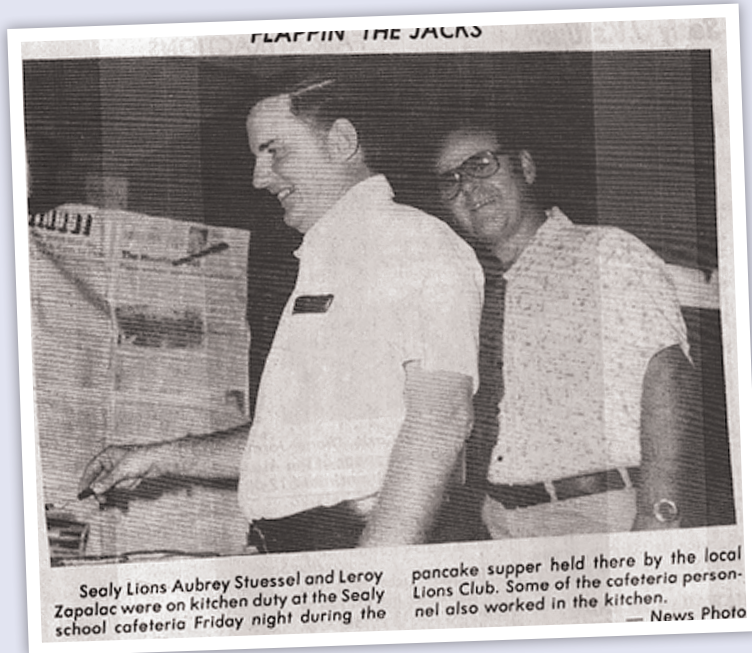
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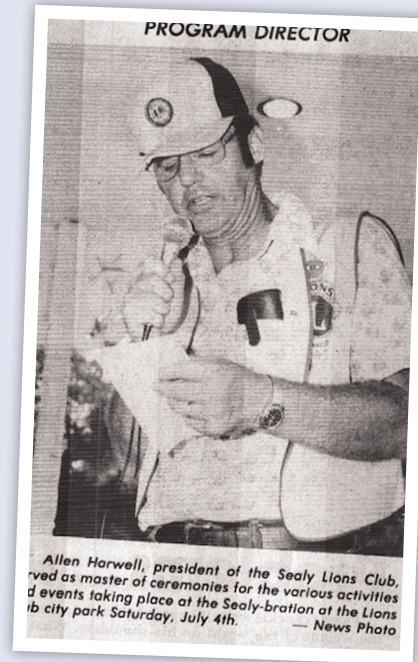


# DECEMBER 1978 – NOVEMBER 1988

## Fundraising: Working to Serve others



1980: Pancake Supper



1981: Sealybration

### James Haverland

"The Sealy Lions have served the community of Sealy and the world for 50 years since their beginning in December of 1968. Currently they have many members who are second and third generation serving you. It is an honor to be a Lion, and I am proud to be associated with this group of fine people.

Our focus as Lions has been vision and serving our communities since our beginnings. We are now taking on new initiatives such as Pediatric Cancer, Feeding People, and Diabetes. We can change the world by finding answers to these problems. We want to work with you.

The Lions of Sealy have many great leaders, join us as we stand for good and kindness in the growing city of Sealy."

— District Governor James Haverland, District 2-S5



1982: Broom and Mop Sale



1984: Wayne and Terry Ashorn



# DECEMBER 1978 – NOVEMBER 1988

## Fundraising: Working to Serve others



Sealy Lions Mutt Stuessel, Alan Harwell and Monroe Gonzalez loaded out their merchandise of mops and brooms for delivery during the sale Saturday, working out of their established business locale at the corner of Main and Fowlkes. — News Photo

1980: Broom and Mop Sale



Leonard Stolarski will head the Sealy Lions Club for the ensuing year and was installed president at the W. E. Hill Community Center Thursday night. Seated with him are Kenneth Stuessel, first vice president, and Alan Schulke, secretary. Standing are Jodie Mazac, tail twister, Terry Ashorn, and Mike Emmitte, directors, and Stanley Standlee, treasurer. Other officers not present for the installation were Ken Fields, Lion tamer; Leroy Zapalac, tail twister; Frankie Sadolak and Melvyn Levine, directors; and Kevin Dorotik, first vice president. — News Photo

1982: Lions Club officers



Lions Club promoted sales of brooms, whisk brooms, wash cloths, rugs, garden and brushes at their annual Lighthouse sale Saturday. Performing their early morning sale beneath the tent at the corner of Main and Fowlkes were Lions Monroe Gonzalez, Marvin Svec and Lonnie Paschel. At left is Steve Hegner from Caravan Sales of the Lighthouse for the Blind. All items offered for sale were made by sight-affected people at the Lighthouse. — News Photo

1984: Broom and Mop Sale



Ronnie Via and a fellow Lions Club member were manning the broom and mop sale station when Minnie Pyka came to check their merchandise and to shop. The Lions Club held their annual sale under a tent at the corner of Main and Fowlkes Streets Saturday morning. — News Photo

1985: Broom and Mop Sale



# DECEMBER 1988 – NOVEMBER 1998

Service: Lions Motto and our Focus: "We SERVE"



LIONS CLUB ASSEMBLY

Area Lions Clubs were present for the presentation of decoders to hearing-impaired students at Sealy Junior High School. Left to right are Jimmy Bartlett and Bill Blume of Sealy; Nelson Kieke of Wallis, George Lister of San Felipe of Wallis, Dodie Dungen and Carl Heinsohn of Columbus, Eldon Korenek of Wallis, Bill and Sharon Koehne of Wallis, and Carl Heinsohn of Columbus. —News Photo by Joanie Griffin

1993: Lions Purchase Decoders for Hearing-Impaired Students



Larry Michalk of Family Toys, Inc. of Moody, installed playground equipment at Lions City Park last week. Slides, tunnels, rings, tires, balance beams, a bridge, and ladders were added to the park for enjoyment of the youth. Watching the installation is Kenneth Shuessel, Sealy Lions Club member, at right. Michalk is a brother-in-law of the Rev. George Winkler of Wharton, who was interim pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church in the past and continues to visit here. —News Photo by Wilma Petrusak

1994: Workday at Lions Park



BENEFIT PARTICIPANTS

Larry Michalk, past president of the Sealy Lions Club, at left, and Monroe Gonzalez, current president, were among club members sponsoring the Saturday benefit for the Gundy family — Darin and Kimbra and little girl, Deanna (Zaruba) Krennek, second from left, was lastly presented to the family. —News Photo by Wilma Petrusak

1991: Lions Sponsor Gundy Benefit



MURPHREY

Sealy Lions Club Sponsors Murphrey At Children's Camp

1991: Lions Sponsor Student at Texas Lions Camp

## Wayne Ashorn

"My memories of Sealy Lions are far reaching - from building floats, to barbeque cook-offs, selling Christmas trees, broom and mop sales, family nights, taco wagon, and fellowship and service to others.

Lion Blume had a plaque in his home that read "Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile." None of this was more pointed to me than Lions Camp for Children in Kerrville.

When District 2-S3 divided and added District 2-S5 there was a need for another camp director. Someone must have caught me in a weak moment when they asked if I would like to, and should, run for the office. My comment was "Sure, I'll never win anyway!" With the pushing of Sealy Lions and the fact the Lion I opposed probably voted for me, Sealy Lions Club and District 255 had a new camp director.

So started my journey and the Sealy Lions quest to make District

2-55 a 100% camp district. Visiting clubs over the district was so rewarding and meeting dedicated Lions was worth every mile I traveled and every slide show I presented.

Camp was everything I was told it would be and more. When Gaylen Ackley hosted a summer dance for the camp, it was amazing to say the least. The wheelchair children, with the help of counselors, wheeled their chairs to the music of Cotton Eyed Joe. The blind children, escorted by their counselors, danced all night. We watched the hearing impaired children sit on the floor and feel the song's vibrations. All were grinning and laughing, while I had to walk outside with tears in my eyes.

Thank you Sealy Lions for giving me the opportunity "to serve!"

— Wayne Ashorn  
Texas Lions Camp Director (1989-1991)

# DECEMBER 1988 – NOVEMBER 1998

## Leadership: Leading the Way in Service to others

### Alan Schulke

Lions Clubs in Texas are divided into districts. Through the years, members of the Sealy Lions Club served as district officers. Alan Schulke was District Governor in 1996-1997. Wayne Ashorn served as Lions Camp Director from 1989-1991. Robert Fait was the District Secretary in 2012-2013. Dwayne Virnau is currently serving as Zone Chair (2018-2019)

"I and several others my age were recruited into Lionism by Mr. Otto Remmert, who I later learned pretty much held the early club together. In looking back, it's strange how several of us were elected into club offices within our first year.

One early memory was Mr. Otto's insistence we "new" officers need to attend a district convention. So three of us and our wives pile into a car and drive to Bryan-College Station. At the banquet hall, we find seating at the end of one of 3 or 4 long tables. At the other end was an elevated table (head table) going crossways. Someone comes out and starts introducing guys dressed in white dinner jackets and their wives (all at the head table). The rest of us, at the long tables stand and applaud, of course not knowing anyone or what was going on. After we ate, the six of us decide to slip out a side door to check out the nightlife in the area. Being late June and a mid-week night, we found none. Result was an early trip home and a very brief convention report at the next club meeting.

Like any civic organization, it's hard to keep long-term dedicated members. Our membership through the first 25 years, varied between a high of 25-30 to a low of 8-10, with the average of 15 or so. Regular attendance at meeting of 8-10. Our meeting time of early Saturday mornings worked out fine for those in business and others wanting to kick start their Saturdays. However, for others choosing to sleep in late, that time was not so good.

Lion Clubs raise money to fund local, state and national causes. In the early years, our club tried almost every fundraising we could think of. Not all worked out. In fact, if we had any money left after expenses, we did good. Many times we worked all day to net \$25-\$50. The Sealy Bration was a step-up in fundraising but it was not until we co-sponsored a bike ride event with the Houston Bike Club that we netted several thousand dollars from a single fund-raising event.

Another early memory: Lion Clubs get together with other clubs in an area and district to share ideas about fund-raising, etc. In the early years, these trips were measured by the number of beers consumed on the way. Obviously, it fell to those of us who chose not to drink to be designated drivers. Much has changed in 50 years.

In my 25 years in Lionism, I have many great memories of fun times, camaraderie, and hard work. (Think of putting Christmas lights in the trees around the Lions Park across from City Hall.)"

— Alan Schulke, Past District Governor 1996-1997



1991: Lions Club officers



1989: Schulke Installed as President



1997: Lions Club officers



# DECEMBER 1988 – NOVEMBER 1998

## Fundraising: Working to Serve others



1988: Broom and Mop Sale



1989: Crossroads Classic



1990: Crossroads Classic



1993: Crossroads Classic



# DECEMBER 1998 – NOVEMBER 2008

Service: Lions Motto and our Focus – "We SERVE"

**Hard at work**



The Sealy Lions Park is maintained by the members of the local Sealy Lions Club. Recently on Jan. 13 the three members, left to right, Robert Richter, Terry Ashom and Tom Martin, were doing some repair work to the playground area. The local club meets on Saturday mornings (the first and third Saturday of each month) at the Hill Center at 7 a.m. Visitors are always welcome.

2001: Lions Workday



2007 Sandlin Benefit: Breakfast with Santa



2008-Girl Scout Contribution: Breakfast with Santa



**Show me the money**

SHS seniors received more than \$617,000 at Monday night's scholarship and awards banquet. Above, Brady Brandon accepts the Lion's Club scholarship from Robert Richter. A complete list of scholarship winners will be in Tuesday's paper.

2005: Lions Award Scholarship



# DECEMBER 1998 – NOVEMBER 2008

## Fundraising: Working to Serve others

### Crossroads '98 –



1998: Crossroads Classic

### - "Let the ride begin"



1998: Crossroads Classic

### Local Lions receive awards



Sealy Lions Club secretary Kenneth Stuessel, left, and president Terry Ashorn, right, are shown as Region III chair Evelyn Kieke, of Wallis, presented the District Governor's 100 Percent Secretary award and the District Governor's 100 Percent Club award to these Lions at a recent meeting of the Sealy Lions Club. The awards were given by Ron Heilmeyer, of Seguin, who served as Governor of District 2-S5 and earned by the club and the secretary for 1999-2000.

2000: Lions Club Awards

### Jeff Virnau

"I joined the Lions Club and became a second generation member upon returning to Sealy after college. I started working for the company full time in 1988. Dad asked me to go to the Lions meeting and I did. I joined then and glad I did. Lions meant a lot to him and he passed that interest and love for serving on to both Dwayne and me. I remember early on the bike rides we hosted.

They were huge events that involved many from the club. We rigged up portable showers for the riders out of a cattle trailer. After the ride, they would cool down and rinse off, clothes and all. By the way, the cattle trailer was new and clean!"

— Jeff Virnau, Member  
Sealy Lions Club



# DECEMBER 2008 – NOVEMBER 2018

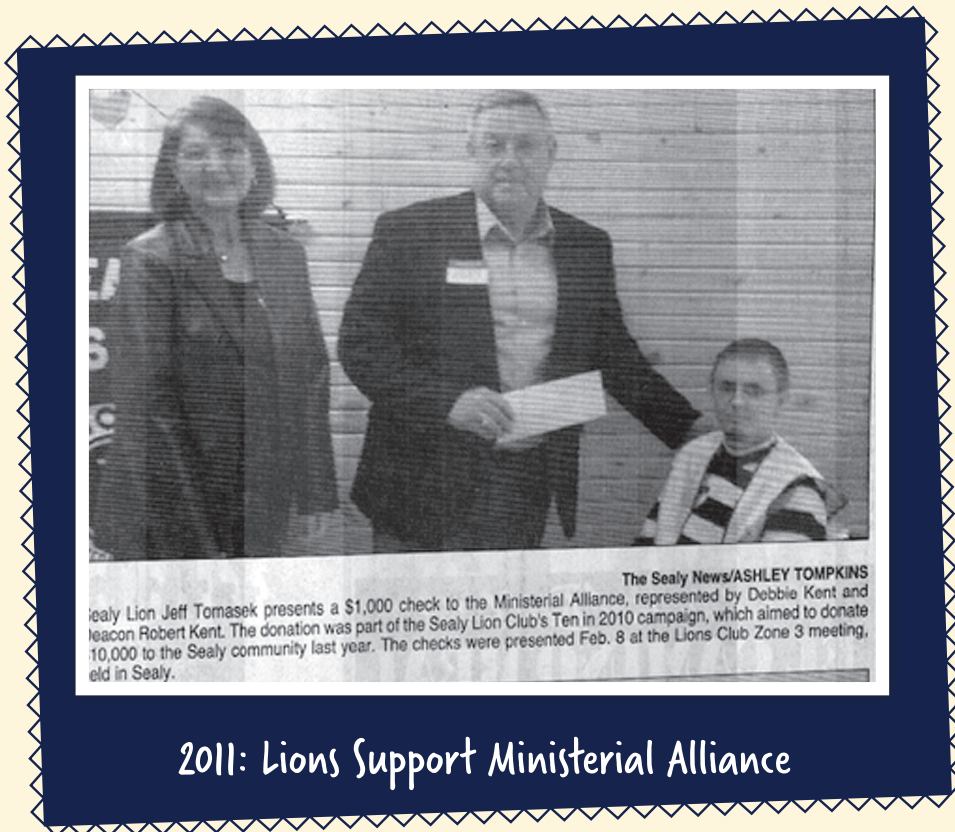
Service: Lions Motto and our Focus - "We SERVE"



2010: Lions Support Food Pantry



2011: Lions Support Girl Scouts and CERT



2011: Lions Support Ministerial Alliance



2014: Lions Support Girls State



# DECEMBER 2008 – NOVEMBER 2018

## Fellowship: Family, Friends and Fun

### Scott and Stephen Stuessel

Family and fellowship are important to members of the Sealy Lions Club. Through the past years, Lions and their families have gathered for special fun activities including Christmas family nights, Halloween family nights, New Years Eve parties and other special family-friendly events.

"Stephen and I remember being around members of the Sealy Lions Club when we were kids. We loved being around our dad and his friends, working with them in the various events, having fun and yet not realizing that we were serving others! Now that we are members of the club, we realize how special Lions really are. Membership in the Lions Club helps us to cherish the memories of those early days and encourages us to serve others where there is a need."

— Scott and Stephen Stuessel  
2nd Generation Lions Club Members

### Golfers take part in Rivers-Stuessel tournament



The Sealy News/BEN CUNNINGHAM  
Rivers-Stuessel tournament raises funds  
Members of the Stuessel family, Scott, Ken and Stephen attended the Rivers-Stuessel Golf Tournament at Stephen F Austin Golf Course on Friday, June 10. The tournament was held in honor of Bobby Rivers and Mutt Stuessel, both of whom were educators in Sealy ISD. The tournament raises funds for scholarships for Sealy students. Thirty teams, comprised of 180 golfers, turned out to help raise funds and to play a little golf.



2011: Rivers-Stuessel Tournament



The Sealy News/BEN CUNNINGHAM

### Welcome, members

The Sealy Lions Club hosted a membership drive and crawfish boil on May 13, with members welcoming visitors who might be interested in joining. Above, Robert Richter, Fred Paben, Robert Klepac, Alfred Tomasek, Lewis Rossler, Nick Tirey, Sam Schoen, Bill Blume, Joe Mazac, Steve Wilson, Mark Stolarski, Jeff Tomasek, Steve Schoen, Dwayne Virnau, Robert Fait and Wilbert Kutra pose for a photo. At right, Klepac and Richter man the crawfish boil.



2011: Membership Drive



2016: Sealybration Barbeque Team



# DECEMBER 2008 – NOVEMBER 2018

## Fellowship: Family, Friends and Fun





# DECEMBER 2008 – NOVEMBER 2018

## Fellowship: Family, Friends and Fun

