



The Lions Pride



Meeting Location

Staff Dining Room – Merced Community College
6:45 AM Thursday Mornings

P.O Box 1065, Merced, CA, 95341
District 4-A1, Yosemite Region,
Zone 2 Chartered in 1959

www.mercedbreakfastlions.org

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www.facebook.com/Merced-Breakfast-Lions-Club

May 6th, 2013

Merced Breakfast Lions Club – We Serve

Birthdays:

None

Spouses Birthdays:

None

Anniversaries:

None

<u>Invested In the Community</u>			
FY 2012-13			
<u>Activities</u>	<u>Man Hours</u>	<u>\$\$\$\$\$\$</u>	
April	<u>7</u>	<u>378</u>	<u>\$915</u>
YTD	89	4,458	\$7,825

The Club News



Off To A Good Start!

3rd VP Robert Garcia introduced his two Guests Chris Rameriz, UC Merced Writing Professor and Ernesto Mora-Lua, UC Merced Alumni and Engineering Consultat at the new Exchequer Dam for the Merced Irrigation District.

And now for the News.....Mike Seivert was fined not wearing his badge, which was quickly given to him by Lion Ray...Lion Victoria was also fined for not wearing her badge..Lion Tamela paid her fine – something about the “Sisterhood”

thing...Lion Steve signed up to walk in Relay for Life, but decided to move into his new home that weekend and paid accordingly....2nd VP John Mower said he walked for 3 hours or 6 ½ miles during the Relay for Life Event....Lion Kent Christensen was elected 1st District Vice

Governor at the recent District 4A convention....Since he ran unopposed, he was also fined for winning.....

Relay for Life

No Report at Press Time – from my brief notes – Lions Chris & Victoria Medina and Lion Allen helped with the booth...Lion Gary Eno was the top fund raiser.....35 lions participated...\$1,100 was donated, \$415 from online activities and \$285 from Lumanaria sales.

Garage Sale – May 4thBased on a brief conversation with PP Lion Barry, it looks like the garage sales did in excess of \$800. Should have complete report during Thursday's meeting.

Lion Eve Gale –

Reprinted for the benefit of our hard copy Bulletin Reader via Email from Lion Ed Adkins

“Hey everyone, I went and saw Ev this morning after our meeting and took the get well card to him. I must say I was pleasantly surprised as Ev is doing very well. He was awake and alert after just finishing breakfast. He said he would have rather had breakfast with us this morning and misses coming to the meetings. Ev loved the card we all signed and was genuinely happy to have a visitor. His roommate does not speak English and it's a little lonely for him. He asked that I tell everyone hello and said that visitors make his day. Seriously, if you have a few minutes in your day please stop and see Ev. He truly looks forward to visitors. He is at 510 W. 26th St. The SW corner of 26th and Canal Streets. I will be going back to see him soon and encourage all of you to do the same.”

Our Program



Lion Mark Carpenter introduced Vinton Thangvall, Vice President of Finance, Label Tech, Merced CA. Label Tech is a classic example of an individual with a dream, an 18 year old son, a garage and a knowledge of the label business. In 1966, First years revenues approached \$265,000 and in 2012 revenues have grown to \$37,000,000 and 108 employees with a hiring need of 11 more.

The current make up of the business is 1/3 labels (think Foster Farms) flexible packing pouches (stand up food containers) and specialty food packs for the fast food industries (think catsup packs for fast food).

Max Weber Update From Lion Don Weber

(Ken, you are asking for periodic updates on Max. This was printed May 2nd in the Las Vegas Journal. He was the only "rookie" selected to help transport the tortoises back to the desert.)

Tortoises ready to have wild time begin new life in desert

By HENRY BREAN

LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL



A handpicked group of 32 desert tortoises gave up life in captivity Wednesday to try their luck in the desert between Las Vegas and Pahrump. But they won't have to go it alone. The federally protected reptiles were sent out into the world with radio transmitters glued to their shells so researchers can check in on them regularly. And that wasn't the only precious cargo the tortoises took with them.

Wednesday's group of recent parolees included a number of carefully screened females that are either carrying eggs or about to produce some. The release was part of continuing efforts to study the species and bolster its numbers in the wild. This was one of the first batches of tortoises to be set free at the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's newest so-called "translocation site": a vast swath of creosote bushes and Joshua trees along the western slope of the Spring Mountains about 40 miles west of Las Vegas. The animals came from the Desert Tortoise Conservation Center at the southern edge of the Las Vegas Valley.

"Most of them are probably former pets," said Roy Averill-Murray, desert tortoise recovery coordinator for the Fish and Wildlife Service in Nevada and California. The tortoise center recently stopped taking in unwanted pets and strays after being overrun by them in recent years. Though biologists have found uses for the healthiest of the once-captive tortoises, they don't need any more of them, said Jen Germano, a postdoctoral researcher from the San Diego Zoo who coordinated Wednesday's release.

As it happened, the tortoises were set free on the same day a new state regulation took effect that seeks to curb backyard breeding by barring pet owners from keeping more than one of the reptiles at a time. Germano said the captive-raised tortoises she has placed in the desert have fared pretty well for the most part — though they all underwent at least a year of tests and health screenings first. "After a couple of weeks, they start to behave like wild

tortoises,” she said. “They’ll tuck when you approach them, and they’ll tuck when you try to handle them, which makes health assessments more difficult.”

Researchers will return to check on this batch daily for the next 10 days and then weekly after that, in part to make sure none of them wander beyond the range of the tracking devices used to find them again. “When we first release them, that’s when they’re most likely to bolt,” Germano said. The animals will receive visual health assessments once a month and hands-on examinations quarterly. The females will be checked for eggs in the field using a portable X-ray machine, Germano said. They won’t be followed quite so closely during the winter, when the animals typically bed down for the tortoise version of hibernation. But they will be checked once a month or so to make sure they don’t “do something screwy,” Averill-Murray said. “When you quit looking, that’s when they’ll take off and mess with you.”

When working with tortoises, it helps to be a morning person. The animals usually hunker down during the hottest part of the day, so releases start early. Germano and company gathered at the center at 5 a.m. Wednesday to travel to the translocation site. The first tortoise was set loose just before 7 a.m., and the whole operation was finished by about 9 a.m. Before being released, each animal received a shot of saline solution — roughly two tablespoons injected into the shoulder to give it a head start on hydration in its new desert home.

The research team has placed tracking devices on 20 wild tortoises living in the same area for a parallel analysis of what Germano called “the residents.” At the same time, researchers are following a pack of juvenile tortoises they set free last year at the southern end of the Nevada National Security Site, 60 miles northwest of Las Vegas. Germano said all but 10 of the original 60 managed to survive their first winter at the secure federal installation. Those that didn’t mostly fell victim to coyotes, which left behind chewed-up shells with the tracking devices still attached.

One of the surviving test site tortoises has roamed almost four miles from its release point, earning it the nickname Scurry. “He’s probably going to end up climbing a mountain this summer. We’ll see,” Germano said. Scurry has wandered so far from the nearest road that it now takes trackers a couple of hours just to reach him and see how he’s doing. “He’s going to leave the test site, I’m pretty sure,” she said.

Germano expects at least some of the adult tortoises set free Wednesday to move even farther and faster. “Bigger legs,” she said.

[Atwater-Winton Lions Club Charity Roundup](#)





As you can tell, the Desert Raffle had a good selection of items to select from as evidenced by the cake and pie on 1st DG Kent Christensen's table.

In case you are wondering who won the \$100 cash, look no further than the three photos for a similar individual....The \$150 gas card was won by Sandy Rethwetch, wife of Daryl Rethwetch. The LCD Flat Screen TV was won by Glen Arnold, brother of Atwater Winton Lions Club President Glen Arnold.

The Atwater Winton Lions Club did a nice job on the event – plenty of good food (pulled pork & deep pit beef) and a good evening!!

The District 4-A1 Home Page has lots of good stuff!!

www.lions4-a1.org

Coming Events - The Club Calendar Has Details

www.mercedbreakfastlions.org

May 4th – Atwater-Winton 13th Annual “Charity Roundup” Atwater Community Center - See included Flyer

May 13-14th 4-A1 District Meeting – Stanislaus Region

May 18th – Lions Murder Mystery Dinner – Howard Trainer Center

June 15th – The Run for the Fallen – Applegate Park Flag Pole 7:00 Am Registration 8:00 AM – Walk or Run

June 23rd – Camp Pacifica 2nd Annual Sporting Clays Shoot

Speaker Assignments are on the Calendar and on the Home Page

www.mercedbreakfastlions.org

May 2nd - Mike Carpenter Presents: Vinton Thengvall – CFO Label Tech

May 9th - Kent Floro Presents:

May 16th - Robert Garcia Presents: Matt Escobar w/ Valley Crisis Center

May 23rd – Business Meeting

May 31st - Bill Halpin Presents: Rob Strickland – Cowboy Singing and Poetry

June 6th – Ron Harkreader Presents:

June 13th – Ken Harrison Presents

June 20th – Bill Hawkins Presents:

June 27th – Business Meeting

Lions Clubs in the Immediate Area: – All are Evening Clubs

Atwater Winton Lions Club
www.atwater-wintonlionsclub.org
2nd and 4th Tuesdays. 6:30 P.M.
Rancho Del Rey Golf Course, 5020 N. Golf Road
Atwater, CA 95388

Livingston Lions Club
www.livingstonlionsclub.org
1st and 3rd Wednesdays. 7:00 P.M.
VFW Hall – 1605 7th Street
Livingston, CA 95388

Merced Golden Lions Club
2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7:00 PM
Carrow's Restaurant
720 Motel Drive, Merced, CA

Delhi Lions Club
3rd Thursday, 7:00PM

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