

Broadcaster

Temple Founder Lions Club

Boss Lion Jamey Secrest 2014 - 2015www.templelionsclub.org



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Editor, 2nd VP Randy Sepulvado

March 4, 2015

> <u>CLUB CALENDAR</u>

3/9: BOD Meeting, Noon – Cotton Patch 3/11: Club Meeting, Noon – Gober House



Seems everywhere there's Green Beer and BBQ Ribs!!!

3/17: Happy St.Patrick's Day!

3/18: Club Meeting, Noon – Gober House 3/25: Club Meeting, Noon – Gober House 4/01: Club Meeting, Noon - Gober House



> GREETERS

3/11: Cave Wann, John Bonnet 3/18: Bob Farrell, Timm White 3/25: Lathe Owens, Wade Matthews 4/01: Don Gregory, Mike Hamby

THIS WEEK'S GUESTS

3/04: What, no Guests?

BIRTHDAY'S THIS WEEK

3/9: James Nichols 3/11: Bob Farrell 3/13: Jeff Bragg

> PROGRAMS

3/11: Mayor Danny Dunn – City Update

3/18: Lee Ann Deal – National Child Abuse Month

3/25: Leslie Gilmore – Peaceable Kingdom 4/01: Lion Glenn Brandt – Texas Lions Camp

4/08: Lions George and Gary – Lions Follies Preview

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Auction Items needed for Noon Club Meetings.

- If any Past Presidents or past BOD members have club award patches from previous years, please give to Lion Randy. We will update our club banner before the district meeting.

- 4/10 & 4/11 – District Convention, Hilton Garden Inn, hosted by Temple Founder Lions, Friday night is a 50's Dance with a Band, DJ and Dinner for only \$15 which also includes **PRIZES** for best costume!!!

- 4/17 & 4/18 – Temple Lions Follies – tickets available March 18th. Please sell Program Ads, see Dave Fette for rates and more information. Remember to bring in auction items – sell, sell, sell.

3/11: Fat Boys - BBQ brisket & sausage, potato salad,

3/18: Susan - Meat loaf, mash potatoes, peas, salad 3/25: Fat Boys - Grilled chicken breast, green beans, au gratin potatoes

TODAY'S LIONS PROGRAM

Kevin Beavers, Director of Temple Parks and Recreation was inducted into our club Wednesday - Congratulations!!!

Governor Ray Harper won last week's Tail Twister pot of \$99.00 and donated it all back to the Club for Convention expenses. Way to go Ray!

A big thanks to Lion Don Gregory for volunteering to present, at the last minute might I add, this week's program. Due to bad weather and I-35 accidents, the planned speaker had to reschedule for a later date.

Don shared his story of serving our country in the military from 1946 to 1949 at the tender age of 16. Don asked "Do you understand what the word **Repatriation** means? No was the majority of our responses, but Don replied, "It is the process of returning a person to their place of origin or citizenship... their own country." He went on to explain that in World War II, he was 17 years old and in France, Zone 1 as the war ended...a tank driver, then a medic...and major redistributing of our men had begun...many came home, others reassigned to Belgium, others to various dispensaries, etc... with only 200 remaining troops in France. One evening a soldier with a neck injury came in to the dispensary where Don was assigned. He was given an order to "give this man continued soaking of the neck throughout the night". That was it...did it mean continue & replace every 5 minutes? Every 15 minutes? Every hour? That's a million dollar question! Don was fresh from the states, not a medic, and at 17 had no idea!! He guessed at what he should do, but of course when the Dr. returned in the morning, he meant "constant" soaking, without a break throughout the night. Don definitely hoped to help many of our soldiers. He hoped to find any Americans that had died, were buried, and still on French soil. He was granted the opportunity to join the HERC in Zone 2 locating Americans buried in that area. They received info from locals and our military that US soldiers were buried in specific areas or cemeteries. Their duty was to find our men and exhume their remains for identification purposes. Don's team found our soldiers buried in graves, just as they had passed away, with their name tags and other belongings identifying each soldier. In many cases, families were notified of the finding of their loved ones... They had an option to return them home or remain in their current graves? Local neighbors performed an excellent job of maintaining our troop's graves with the utmost respect and appreciation of service. Do we exhume or let them remain in honor? Many remain in French cemeteries, still cared for to this day by locals, with letters sent to US loved ones regarding their care. In some cases there were unknown soldiers. Their remains were taken to forensic labs for proper identification. Don said approximately 80% were identified at each location because burials were performed with the utmost respect and dignity providing tags, personal letters, and all items present upon death which provided complete clarity. We highly respect Don and his fellow soldiers for all they performed to insure that our fallen soldiers were properly cared & accounted for.

Such a difficult task, yet so necessary to bring closure for

loved ones families that gave their life for our county.