

IT IS CONVENTION TIME, A TIME OF RENEWAL AND FUN

Spring is a time of growth and development. Spring brings new life and energy in an abundant display of color and vitality all around us. As the spring season nears, it is the time for Lions of District 4-C2 to start planning for the annual District 4-C2 convention, which will be held at the Red Lions Hotel in Redding April 29th through May 2nd.

The annual convention is that time of the year for Lions and their clubs to come together in a spirit of friendship and goodwill to witness the rebirth of life and energy that will be the foundation of our work as Lions during the upcoming year. It is a time to meet with old friends, make new friends, honor the outgoing District Governor, learn about what other clubs in the district are doing, educate new district officers, learn about Lions International from an International Director, elect a District Governor and Vice District Governors, and, above all, to have fun. With these thoughts in mind, the convention committee has put together a fun filled convention. Here are a few highlights.

COWBOYS AND COWGIRLS THE WEST CALLS

Cowboys and cowgirls put on your best western clothing, as this year's convention will be a western theme. The best costumes will be recognized at the annual Friday evening dinner.

THURSDAY NIGHT KICKOFF

The convention will kick off on Thursday evening at 6 p.m. with the PDG Tri-Tip BBQ in the courtyard. This is a wonderful, relaxed way to start the convention weekend; a time to have relaxed conversations and meet informally with the visiting International Director. Follow up the dinner with a visit to the karaoke bar for singing, dancing, and plain old fun. Many Lions have fond memories of fun filled Thursday nights at the karaoke bar. You will not want to miss this.

FRIDAY MORNING FUN BEGINS WITH A NINE HOLE BEST BALL GOLF SCRAMBLE

All Lions, skilled and non-skilled, are encouraged to participate. Anybody and everybody can play. The tournament is designed to allow persons of any skill to play. It will be held at the Churn Creek Golf Course, about ten minutes from the hotel. The entry fee is \$30 and includes green fee, golf cart, and lunch. Some of the prizes to be awarded are longest drive, closest to pin, and in the sand trap. Look for the registration form in the Blue Print and on the District Web Site.

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

If you want to take some time and sight see, you can start with the Sundial Bridge at Turtle Bay, approximately ten minutes from the hotel. The Sundial Bridge is a unique pedestrian bridge that crosses the Sacramento River and connects to a nationally designated

trail system. You can also wander through the beautiful gardens at the end of the bridge. The bridge has a 217 foot pylon which acts as a sundial. It was designed by world-famous architect Santiago Calatrava, who designed the main track field at the summer Olympics in Greece.

Next to the Sundial Bridge is the Turtle Bay Exploration Park which has a 34,000 square foot art and history museum. The park is the home of historical railroad exhibits, Paul Bunyan's forest camp, a seasonal butterfly house, and many other attractions.

For those with an interest in baseball, there is the Big League Dreams Sports Complex, approximately ten to fifteen minutes from the hotel. It has three softball fields designed to replicate Boston's Fenway Park, Chicago's Wrigley Field, and New York's Yankee Stadium. There are nine batting cages, soccer fields, hard ball baseball fields, and an indoor multi-sports field. A family-style sports restaurant, The Stadium Club, with views of on-going games at the replica stadiums sits in the middle of the complex.

Interested in shopping? The Mt. Shasta Mall, anchored by Macy's and Penny's, along with 86 specialty shops, is a short drive from the hotel.

Poker, blackjack, bingo, and slot machine players will find they are a short distance from the Win River Casino; a short distance from the hotel just off I-5.

If you wish to venture farther afield there is Shasta Lake, 12 miles north of Redding on I-5, and Lassen Volcanic National Park, 48 miles east of Redding.

FRIDAY EVENING DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT

You will not want to miss the Friday evening dinner. Come dressed in your best western attire as there will be a costume contest. The evening entertainment will be highlighted by Enterprise Starship, a show choir from the local high school, headed by director Dan Neece. The group has received top awards at the Reno International Jazz Festival, Fullerton Jazz Festival, Questa Jazz Festival, RAVES Jazz and Show Choir, and Heritage Festivals in Anaheim, San Diego, San Francisco, and Las Vegas. The choir has performed at Disneyland, Universal Studios, Sea World, Knott's Berry Farm, and Six Flags. The choir has also traveled and performed in Austria, Canada, France, Germany, Holland, Mexico, Hawaii, Nevada, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington D.C., and Washington. This is a must see show. It is a great way to enter the weekend; an uplifting experience.

SATURDAY MORNING

Start Saturday morning with a breakfast with your fellow Lions to be followed by a District 4-C2 forum in which District Governor Marty will discuss his year and recognize Lions who have made invaluable contributions during the year. It will also be chance to hear from the visiting International Director. The morning will end with the nominations for District Governor and Vice District Governor offices.

CHILI COOK-OFF AND BBQ

Saturday lunch will be a BBQ, hamburgers and hot dogs, hosted by the Convention Committee. As an added attraction, all clubs are invited to participate in the chili cook-off; a way for clubs to engage in some friendly competition. A \$100 prize will be given to the club judged to have the best chili. The runner up will receive a \$50 prize. Lions get out your best chili recipes and get your club to the convention to participate. Bring your best chili and decorate your booth.

SATURDAY EVENING GOVERNOR'S DINNER

This is a very special dinner for our outgoing District Governor. It is a time to give thanks and recognition to our outgoing District Governor for all the time and effort devoted to making 2009-2010 a wonderful, successful year for District 4-C2. Come and honor our District Governor, Marty, for all he has done.

SUNDAY MORNING CONCLUSION

Sunday morning will bring the annual convention to a close. This is the time to vote for the 2010-2011 District Governor, Vice District Governors, and constitutional amendments, should any be proposed. The annual necrology service will occur first thing in the morning to give our respects and recognition to those Lions who have left us the past year. The District Governor will then preside over breakfast and recognize many more Lions for their contributions as well as announce the winners of our top club contests and the Lion of the Year award. The morning will conclude with the election results and some comments from our newly elected District Governor.

This is a fun filled weekend. Come meet with other Lions in District 4-C2. There will be hospitality rooms held throughout the weekend to meet and talk with Lions throughout the District. It is an experience you will not regret. Registration forms can be found in the Blue Print and at the District Web Site.

See you at the convention.

Convention Committee:
John Posey, PDG/Chairperson
Judy Kopf
Steve Johnson
Billy Gaither
Paul Lary, PDG

