

The Lion's Pride: Roaring at the Ridge



A publication of Blue Ridge Lions Club

January 14, 2021 meeting will be at Lil Rebel Restaurant 6:30 pm.

The "Mane" Event



Our November meeting was held on November 12, 2020 at Lil Rebel Restaurant. After a great meal and business portion of the meeting, Lion President Paula shared statistics about the growing impact of diabetes, both Type 1 and Type 2, on health. It is a global issue and has many implications for overall health and longevity.

Diabetes awareness is also one of our 5 global causes. Lion President Paula shared symptoms of diabetes and encouraged members to see their doctor if they exhibit any of the symptoms.

President Paula welcomed our special guests, Shirley and Terry Eskew. Shirley came to share her personal experience with diabetes. Some highlights from her speech: Shirley has lived with Type 1 diabetes for 46 years. Her diabetes developed in 1974 after the birth of her first child. Her vision was getting worse, she was thirsty all the time, had frequent urination. She had no family history of diabetes. Shirley told us of learning how to care for herself and the improvements that have been made in care and treatment of diabetes in recent years. She sees multiple doctors to receive preventative care for issues that can develop due to diabetes. One issue that is a continuing problem for her is neuropathy in her feet and hands. She watches any blisters or sores on her feet that they do not become infected. The neuropathy causes her to feel unbalanced at times. She said humor is very important in helping her cope so she shared that her boss at NGU where she was in financial aid office said he had an unbalanced bookkeeper. She also shared that her faith and her husband were strong support systems in her fight against diabetes. Shirley encouraged the club to reach out to others in the community who might have diabetes but not have a strong support system as she does. She encouraged club members to provide support especially for those living alone. The cost of diabetic supplies is high without insurance. The club is encouraged to consider donating to help provide diabetic supplies for a needy individual.

Other Events

Our Poinsettia Sale was a success. We sold 997 Poinsettias in 3 days. 3 of the Poinsettias fell over and got broken so we could not sell them. Thank you to Becky Bagwell, Paula Crane, Jim Barbare, Hope Barbare, Megan Johnsen, Keith Johnsen, Jud Blackwell, Sheila Blackwell, Clara LeBlanc, Jim (Megan's brother), Peggy Johnson, and Dave Woods, and Brian Barbare for faithfully showing up and selling flowers, sometimes dancing on the side of the road and sometimes making deals near the end for buys of multiple flowers. What a great group of people. We will give a full accounting when all monies have been received and recorded. See the facebook and website for more pictures



AAH results: 11 volunteers, 21 bags of trash. Thanks to Blake McClimon for heading this up.



3 Boxes of Thanksgiving meals were delivered to Blue Ridge Middle School guidance department to distribute to needy families.

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Merry Christmas

The Tigerville and Greer Christmas Parades were fantastic fun and fabulous advertisement for our club. Keith Johnsen was on FIRE as our Leo the Lion. He walked the route and the kids loved him. They roared at him. Lenny the Lion, our stuffed mascot with his mask was a hit too. Thank you to the committee who worked so well to put this together for us: Keith Johnsen, Megan Johnsen, Jud Blackwell, Sheila Blackwell, Clara LeBlanc, Ray LeBlanc. Thanks to Jim Barbare for driving and Megan Johnsen for playing Mrs. Claus. Here are some pictures. Some are goofing off during our wait time. Also thanks to Tim LeBlanc for making

pictures.

