

President:

Lion Kim Geske

1st Vice President:

Lion Bob Traub

2nd Vice President:

Lion Paul Groth

3rd Vice President:

Lion Ed McCarthy

Secretary:

Lion Kim Wascher

Treasurer:

Lion Angie DeLeon

Tail Twisters:

Lion Maureen Muise

Lion

Lion Tamer:

Lion Debra Mainard

Past President:

Lion Allan Shelton

1 Year Directors:

Lion James Donaldson

Lion Doug Schaeffer

2 Year Directors:

Lion Dick Hoke

Lion Mary Holton

Bar Steward:

Lion Ed Pertl

Pull Tabs:

Lion Dave Bulkley

Bingo:



South Elgin Lions "Roaring Rumors"

Special Edition

500 Fulton St.
PO Box. 221
South Elgin, IL. 60177
(847) 888-9575

Board Meeting November 21, 2007 –6:30pm.

Prez Sez



To my Fellow Club Members:

I would like to start off by reminding you that the Turkey Raffle is this Friday, the 16th!! Remember that the doors open at 6pm and the first spin is at 7pm. Make sure your Cash Bonanza tickets are in before the raffle starts. Also the Potluck dinner is on Sunday December 2nd, after the "Children's Christmas Party". I hope to taste some really good home cooking!! The Christmas party for the kids is coming up as well. So make sure your names are turned in on time (see November Newsletter). The money that is earned from the Cash Bonanza and the Turkey Raffle will go toward our normal Christmas donations and to fill our food baskets this year. Speaking of food baskets, they are still available. They are \$25.00 a piece and can be donated to a needy family. Also, "Almost Winter's Day" is coming up the day after our Turkey Spin.

Finally, there is something new coming out that is a great idea. There are NEW "Raffle Calendars" to be sold. Once a month a drawing will be held to determine the winners for that month, each day has a winner. The winning names are put back in the drawing and are eligible next month for another chance to win!! Prizes consist of daily prizes of \$5.00, every Saturday someone will win \$10.00, 7 holidays with a chance to win \$25.00 and 6 major holidays with cash prizes of \$50.00!! This is a fundraiser strictly for the club to help us raise money for our own bills. These can be used for yourself or as a great gift for family and friends!!

Thanks to everyone for all their help and the great ideas at the last meeting we had.

Sincerely
Your President
Lion Kim Geske

Turkey and Meat Spin

The Turkey and Meat Spin is coming up this Friday Night. Many of us in the club work this event, and some on the board may know what we do with this money, others may not.

Here is why the Turkey and Meat Spin is important.

The money raised from the Turkey and Meat Spin plus the Cash Bonanza raffle tickets is all used locally. This year we will be funding our Holiday Food Baskets with money from the Turkey/Meat Spin. We do have a cap on how much can be spent on the Holiday baskets, so if we have money left over, we donate that money 100% to local organizations. Last year we made donations to the South Elgin Food Pantry, Crisis Pregnancy Center, Salvation Army, Operation Jingle Bells, Shop with a Cop, and the Fraternal Order of Police.

The more tickets we sell, the more we can donate to the other organizations. Remember, we must make donations to remain a non-profit organization, even when times are tight like they are right now.

The more help we have that the event, the more successful it will be.

Kids Christmas Party—December 2nd.

Smiles, presents, all on the little kids faces as they get to meet their hero—Santa Clause. On this event Santa and Mrs. Clause visit the South Elgin Lions Club to bring joy to the kids. Our Leo Club participates by entertaining the kids with Christmas songs and making sure everyone is having a good time.

You can help reduce costs to the club. Are you getting this newsletter even though you have high speed access to the internet?

If so, please give me your email address and request to have your newsletters delivered electronically. Email your request to:

newsletter@southelginlions.com

Potluck Dinner–December 2nd

Hi All Lions:

Well ,after being shown where the power really lies, the Annual Potluck Christmas Dinner is On.

To keep the club costs to a minimal, we are not asking the club to provide the entree. I will cook and donate a turkey, those of you who wish to bring some kind of entree feel free to do so. **Please bring a dish of your choosing to pass.** But we need to assign you to bring other needs as follows.

MEMBERS WITH LAST NAME STARTING WITH

A----H - PLEASE BRING DINNER ROLLS

I----R -PLEASE BRING SALADS

Q----Z- PLEASE BRING DESSERTS

BEVERAGES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE BAR.

REMEMBER THE DATE IS DECEMBER 2ND FOLLOWING THE CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PARTY.

THE LESS THE LIONS CLUB SPENDS ON US THE MORE WE WILL HAVE TO KEEP DONATING TO THOSE WHO REALLY NEED!

Any questions, please call Lion Bob Traub at 847-888-2256 or firstratehome@comcast.net

Thanks and see you there

Lion Bob

Bingo

I know, it's our favorite subject. You have heard myself, and other Bingo Chairman beg and plead with you for help at Bingo on Saturday Night. We have asked over and over so much that it is falling on deaf ears. We have heard all kinds of reasons for not coming down to help the club with Bingo, in fact—I think we have heard them all.

If you are getting this newsletter—then YOU are a member of the South Elgin Lions Club. Your club must be successful in Bingo if it is going to keep our building. Numbers at Bingo are down, across the State—partly due to the new law but mostly due to the economy. Our average Bingo attendance lately has been anywhere from 80-85 players. That means that Bingo / Raffles is not making much each week. Our building expenses each month average about \$5700 per month. We used to pay this with Bingo and had Pull tabs make the donations. Now we are to the point where Pull tabs is carrying the club and Bingo / Raffles chips in where it can. This year, if you add up all the expenses from the building account and compare it to the Pull tabs, Bingo and Raffle account, we have +450 dollars to spend. The general fund also needs some money (approximately 13,000 per year—yes, that is \$13,000). That means that we are already operating on a negative cash flow for the year.

How can you help?

Work 1 night a month at Bingo, we would prefer that you pick a night and let us know, but any night you want to come down would be appreciated. If you need to leave early, that is OK, just be sure to let the Bingo Team Captain know that you need to leave.

Lately we have had just barely enough to staff the sessions, and as such we do not have the ability to get on the floor and sell some of the extra tickets.

From the General Meeting

If you missed the last General Meeting, you missed probably one of the best meetings this club has ever had! Lion Kim used the same format as District Governor Ron Fangusaro has implemented at the region meetings—round table discussions.

While we have not yet discussed these as a board, I'm sure they will be a topic of discussion at the next board meeting!

What I got out of this was that most of the members would like to see the club interact on more of a social level, maybe opening the bar some night during the week for club members to gather, watch a sporting event and hang out.

The meetings need to be more interactive, such as the one in November.

New Members must be properly orientated, a great example was how Lion Don Bone brought Lion Joe Groth into the club. First, Lion Don asked Lion Joe how come he was not a South Elgin Lion, Lion Joe answered "because I was never asked". Have you asked someone if they are interested? Then, Lion Don picked Lion Joe up to go to the 2 required meetings, he introduced himself to all the members at the meeting and he also picked him up for his first night of working Bingo. Lion Don also told Lion Joe about the responsibilities of being a South Elgin Lion so there were no surprises.

Here's one as well, that was not discussed at the General Meeting. I also belong to the Owls Club. They do many things, but they do it in a way that is not a huge burden on their members. Once a month they schedule a "Big Breakfast". This breakfast cost \$4.00 and for it you get Biscuits and Gravy, 2 eggs, potatoes, toast or pancakes and orange juice or coffee. In conjunction with this they have a Bloody Mary Bar. If we did this one time a month, would we be able to get enough workers to staff it, obviously we would need a couple cooks, a cashier and a bartender. The bartenders could rotate if the bar steward wants it to, we have several registered bartenders at the club. Cooking at the club could pose a problem, we probably could not do the potatoes—but we could do the other items.

Please don't lose the momentum from the last meeting—give it some thought. You can always email me or call me with your suggestions.

Lion Paul Groth — pgroth@southelginlions.com
(847)538-4151 work (847)561-8448 cell

Dues, Dues, Dues

Do you still owe dues... if so please pay them ASAP!! The club is required to pay for you, whether you have paid your dues or not. This means we have to get the money from somewhere, and as you might have guessed, that is hard to come by with the low attendance average at bingo.

If you still owe from last year, plus this year... it's time to pay up. If you are still behind on your dues and you owe from last year plus the current dues, you will be dropped as a member of the club. Everyone who is affected by this has been sent letters stating this via certified mail. If you got one of these letters and have not paid up by the November 21st Board Meeting, then you will be dropped as a member of the club with a Bad Standing status. This will prevent you from joining any other Lions Club until your debt with our club is paid off.

It's not fair to the rest of the club to have to chase members for their dues payments, it costs the club money. Do the responsible thing, pay your dues on time.

Ways we can Save Money

It's not all bad... I know this newsletter is not the most positive one I have read or written, but the facts are the facts. We need to save money any way we can, while still maintaining our non-profit status.

1—If you use the building, be sure to turn down the thermostats when you leave. Please ask the building manager to show you and let you know what temperature he wants it at.

2—If anyone knows of a place where we can get some free—faceless insulation. Or Vermiculate (which is in the attic now) - please do so. Many times new home construction might have some left over etc. Of course, the new homes are not being built as fast, but if you know of someone in construction, ask them if you can get some leftovers. If we can get this, we can insulate our attic better, which will save on our heating and air conditioning bills.

Budget Committee

A committee of several Board members have been meeting to attempt to create a workable and realistic budget for our club. As a committee, we have looked at every income and expense item that we could think of, and made initial suggestions as to what could be changed with them. We ask that you understand that the suggestions when finalized will be submitted first to the Board and their recommendations will then be given to the membership for your approval.

As your club's Building Treasurer, I have determined that we actually are working on a deficit budget that will continue to worsen unless we make some major changes. In the past, we have worked under the assumption that about \$5000.00 per month was needed to fund the operation of our building. For the last 12 month period, this in fact has averaged over \$5500.00 per month and will continue to rise in the future due to ordinary inflation etc. Simple math adds up to an annual expense of \$66,000.00 dollars.

As mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, the income that is being generated from bingo etc. is continuing to decline, and therefore changes are needed in order to keep and maintain our building.

Another notable item is that during this same time frame, almost \$13,000.00 was also needed to help fund our club's general membership expenses.

When we have a final report to submit to you, we ask that you review it and make your decisions known. If you have any suggestions concerning this information, please let me know at lionjoe@southelginlions.com or 847-742-3467.

Lion Joe Groth

November 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Veterans Day	13	14	15 Central Region Mtg.	16 Turkey /Meat Spin 6pm	17 Bingo Team 3
18	19	20	21 Board Mtg. 6:30	22 Thanksgiving	23	24 Bingo Team 4
25	26	27	28	29	30	December 2 Kids Christmas Potluck dinner

We Serve!



South Elgin Lions Club
500 Fulton St.
South Elgin, IL 60177