



Lions Club of Lago Vista



June 2023

Newsletter

District 2-S3



Lions Club of Lago Vista- Meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at
K-Oaks Clubhouse-7000 Bar-K Ranch Road, Lago Vista, TX 78645
Send newsletter contributions to LionAnnaTX@gmail.com



A Thought to Ponder



*Volunteers do
not necessarily
have the time;
they just have
the **heart***



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June 1, Helen Keller Day

Born in Tuscumbia, Alabama, USA, in 1880, Helen Keller developed a fever at 18 months of age that left her blind and deaf.

With the help of an exceptional teacher, Anne Mansfield Sullivan of the Perkins School for the Blind, Helen Keller learned sign language and braille. A few years later, she learned to speak. As an adult she became a tireless advocate for people with disabilities. And in 1925, she attended the **Lions Clubs International Convention and challenged Lions to become "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness."**

The Lions accepted her challenge and our work ever since has included sight programs aimed at preventable blindness.

In 1971, the Board of Directors of Lions Clubs International declared that **June 1** would be remembered as Helen Keller Day.

Helen Keller Day

Adapted from Wikipedia

Helen Adams Keller (June 27, 1880 - June 1, 1968) was an American author, disability rights advocate, political activist and lecturer. She lost her sight and her hearing after a bout of illness when she was 19 months old. She then communicated primarily using home signs until the age of seven, when she met her first teacher and life-long companion Anne Sullivan who taught Keller language, including reading and writing. After an education at both specialist and mainstream schools, Keller attended Radcliffe College of Harvard University and became the first deafblind person in the United States to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Keller was also a prolific author, writing 14 books and hundreds of speeches and essays on topics ranging from animals to Mahatma Ghandi. Keller campaigned for those with disabilities, for women's suffrage, labor rights and world peace.

Keller's autobiography, *The Story of My Life* (1903), publicized her education and life with Sullivan. It was adapted as a play by William Gibson, and this was also adapted as a film under the same title, *The Miracle Worker*. Her birthplace has been designated and preserved as a National Historic Landmark. Since 1954 it has been operated as a house museum and sponsors an annual "Helen Keller Day.

She was named one of *Time* magazine's 100 Most Important People of the 20th Century.



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May 16 Meeting



Paul Fontaine, Director of Austin Puppy Raisers with a bevy of his volunteers.

The K-Oaks Clubhouse was overrun with cuteness at our May 16 meeting with a visit from ten amazing puppies and their handlers. All of us were spell bound by the explanations from director Paul Fontaine centering on the extensive training the puppies receive as they prepare for a life as a Guide Dog for the Blind.

The attributes and characteristics of the dog being trained are specific to their intended career helping the visually impaired. Even though the puppies at our meeting were young, they have already learned not to move toward food that is dropped. Why is this important? Those of us with puppies of our own know how quickly a pooch can snatch up anything that falls, convinced that it is miraculously found food. But if a visually impaired person were to drop medication it could become a matter of survival for both the dog and the owner for it not to be ingested by the dog.

All the Puppy Raisers are volunteers who undergo their own training on how to train the puppies. They receive their wards when they are 8 weeks old and will provide the pups with the basic training they will need to be able to perform as a life changing companion to someone with vision impairment. Things like “go” on demand, crate training, harness use are all part of puppy kindergarten. After completion of the basic training, they graduate to studying how to be “street legal” or comfortable with innumerable real-life situations. For this goal they are trained at the botanical gardens, movie theaters, street scenarios, shopping malls, etc. in once-a-month outings. After a year to a year and a half training they are evaluated for further training based on where they may be stationed. They will then graduate to “college” for additional specific training. Some dogs, though well trained, are determined not to be ideal for the visually impaired and they go through a “career change” and a future as a canine buddy.

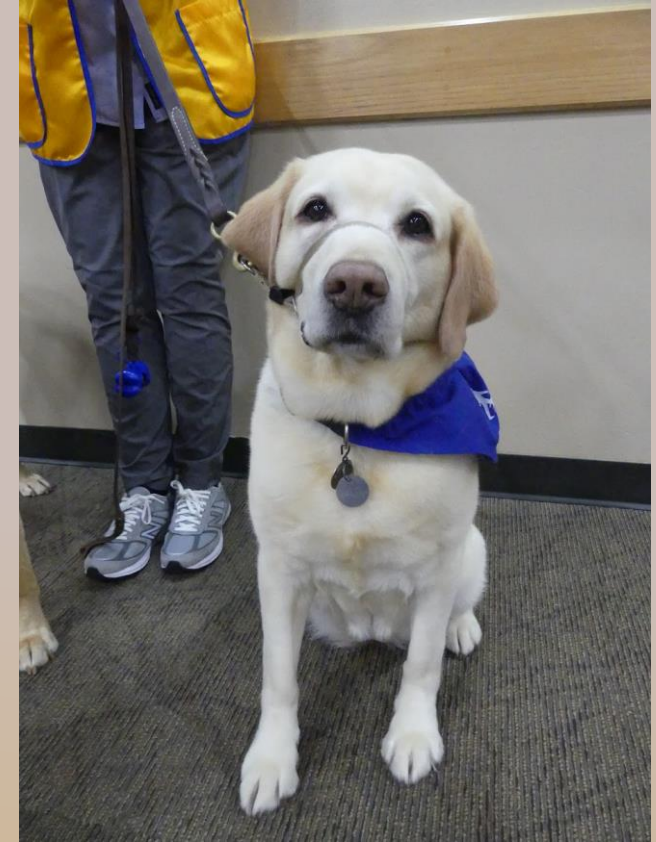
The Austin chapter of Puppy Raisers began in February of 2023 with only 9 dogs and now are actively training 17 dogs. See pictures next page.



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May 16 Meeting



Our visitors gratefully accepted a \$1,000 donation from the club, only to have 3 Lions step up and promise matching funds up to \$500. Please send your checks to Mike Zaydel at 20106 Victoria Chase, Lago Vista or bring your donation to the next meeting. Mike will arrange for the funds to be transferred to Guide Dogs. This is a superb way to create synergy and maximize the impact of our donations.



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June 6 Business Meeting



Not your ordinary Business Meeting, by any means! On hand will be our distinguished District Governor, Brandon Mund who will officiate the swearing in of our incoming officers for 2023-2024.

Dinner service will be provided by Pat Evans and Julie McCreary who will be treating us to Dominos Pizza and a sweet cookie!

It's Pizza Night! And, it's only \$6!



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YOUR DONATION DOESN'T TRAVEL FAR
BUT IT GOES A LONG WAY

BLOOD DRIVE

Saturday, June 17th
8:30am to 12:30pm

Lago Vista Lions Club

Bloodmobile will be located in CVS parking lot



Scan QR code to make an appointment.
Drive Contact: Don Loeschner, retpilot757@gmail.com
and Niki Zezulka, nikizezulka@gmail.com
Eligibility questions? whocandonate@weareblood.org



EAT A FULL MEAL BEFORE
DONATING AND PLEASE
REMEMBER
TO BRING YOUR PHOTO ID.

WE ARE BLOOD

DRAWN TOGETHER
SINCE 1951

You can also scan the QR code to go to the We Are Blood website. Once there, tap 3 bars in top right corner of the page that comes up, next page tap "blood donations" and then on following page tap "make an appointment." Next, schedule an appointment then scroll down and you'll see our date for the 18th. Feel free to contact me with any questions you might have.

June 17 Blood Drive

Roll up those sleeves and roll on over to the CVS parking lot on June 17 from 8:30 to 12:30 to contribute the most meaningful donation you can make!

By donating blood you're helping to save lives!

Follow [THIS LINK](#) to go directly to the Lago Vista appointment schedule.

Pick a time that works for you. If any desired openings are full, we can usually get you into the blood mobile as a walk-in. Feel free to contact me with any questions you might have. Thanks!

My follow up email (the pleading one 😊) will be sent a week prior to the 17th. I'll explain the 'quick link' page, foods you might want to eat to boost your iron level and the reminder to bring a photo ID with you.



Click [HERE](#) to view a video promo for the blood drive.

Questions? Call 760-504-6308 or email retpilot757@gmail.com



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Happy Birthday June Lions!

<i>Gary Ladner</i>	<i>June 5</i>
<i>Elise Hoaglund</i>	<i>June 17</i>
<i>Shirley Park</i>	<i>June 17</i>
<i>Pat O'Dea Rosen</i>	<i>June 23</i>
<i>Krista Bruno</i>	<i>June 23</i>
<i>Dale Mitchell</i>	<i>June 25</i>



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Cinco de Mayo Golf Tournament

So many pictures, so much to relive and rejoice! The Annual Golf Tournament, our major fundraiser of the year, was a great success both in terms of raising the funds and elevating the FUN!

Click [HERE](#) to peruse a selection of the great pictures taken by our fabulous in-house photographer, Pete Pfile.

thank
you!

Dear Fellow Lions:

It was a beautiful, though HOT, day for our Annual Golf Tournament. The participants really seemed to enjoy themselves and I received many compliments on the event.

I want to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to all of you. This event has so many components that require continuous efforts and organization on everyone's part. Thank you so much for your involvement, your hard work and dedication, and your sweat (literally)!!! This event's success is truly a TEAM effort and I want you to know how much you are appreciated. The Annual Golf Tournament is our major fundraiser and I believe that because of you we were successful!

One last thing - as a reminder - all hours must be recorded at our next meeting in order to get the data to Dale Mitchell in a timely manner (as they must be submitted by June 1st). So, please bring the information to the next meeting or send to me as soon as possible. Thanks.

With Warmest Regards,
David Williams
davwil@me.com
(832) 696-4444



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Children's Summer Program at the Library

Historically, we have helped with the Children's Summer Program at the library. It's OUR THING! Starting Wednesday June 7th through Wednesday Aug 2nd we could use your help again for one or all of the events shown below.

Overview of how YOU can help each week:

- help set up/configure the tables & chairs for the event
- assist monitoring the kiddies in the meeting area. There are about 50+ kids, Moms, & Grandmas at each event
- participating in some of the events as needed
- enjoy the program: you'll probably learn something as well

Time commitment:

Each event starts at 11:00 am in the Lago Vista Library meeting room. We start to set up about 30-45 minutes before the start times. Expect to be there until about 12:30.

June 7 - 11:00 Intro to All Together Now

June 14 - 11:00 Children's author Susan Kralovansky

June 21 - 11:00 Daniel Benes Science Shows

June 28 - 11:00 Austin Reptile Shows

July 5 - 11:00 A Real Mad Hatter "Professor Suds"

July 12 - 11:00 The Astonishing World of Mr. Pitts

July 19 - 11:00 Travis County ESD # 1

July 26 - 11:00 Hot Toast Music

Aug 2 - End of Summer Awards Bash

12:00 Lions Club KidSight eye checks

Let Mike Zaydel know the date or dates of your availability and he'll make a schedule:
Call Mike Zaydel, 512-560-8814, or email mzaydel99@gmail.com



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Flight of Honor

by Kenneth Johnston



The author onboard Honor Flight Austin #81



The author at the Vietnam Memorial



The author at Arlington National Cemetery



Changing of the Guard, Arlington National Cemetery

On April 21st, I, along with 40 other chosen Veterans of Korea and Vietnam, assembled at the Southwest Terminal at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport to participate in Honor Flight Austin #81 to be led by an ROTC Honor Guard and the Austin PD Pipe and Drum Corps in a parade through the terminal to our gate. Along the way we were met with cheers, thank yous, applause and handshakes. Something most of us had not been used to. As a soldier during a very unpopular war, upon discharge from active duty in 1968, we were met with jeers, protests, rock throwing, cussing, and other disrespectful actions towards us Veterans, at least in California. Never, not once, was I ever thanked for my service to my country. That is until we moved to Texas, and during this 36-hour trip to Washington D.C. and Arlington, VA. When we departed our aircraft, we were met with a double column of young Marines welcoming us to Washington and a crowd in the terminal cheering and applauding us. After a wonderful dinner at our Hilton Hotel, some of us retired to the bar where I was not allowed to buy my own drink. Saturday morning, after a big breakfast, we boarded our 2 buses for a short trip to the Memorials and Arlington Cemetery. Everywhere we went we were met with Thank You's and welcomes. After our tours, and front row at the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown, we boarded our buses for the trip to Reagan National Airport, and then the skies opened up. We departed Washington through Fire Department Water Cannons, as we had in Austin as well. Back at Austin-Bergstrom again we were welcomed with cheers, applause, Thank You's, handshakes, and "Welcome Home". It was an unbelievable trip, "The Trip of a Lifetime", and it was sponsored by Nyle Maxwell Family, their 8th such sponsorship of Honor Flight Austin. Any Veteran of the United States Military that served up to 1975 is eligible for selection. Just go to www.honorflightaustin.org to apply. There is so much more to this story, but time and space limits it. God Bless the United States of America!



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Prayers

Our club has been rocked by a spate of health issues for many of our members or their spouses. We may each have our own way of showing solidarity and of calling on the forces of the Universe to provide support and healing and we humbly suggest that this is a perfect time to activate your process. We also ask that we collectively keep in our thoughts and prayers those who are so diligently providing moral support to their friends and colleagues during their personal tribulations.

John and Linda Spoerlein

Don and Connie Zschoche

Anita and Joe Burke



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Celebration of Life

Dorothy McCarty

The Celebration of Life for Dorothy will be held at the Cook-Waldron Chapel of the Hills Funeral home located at 9700 Anderson Mill Road on 9 June at 11 AM.

Her family welcomes you.

View Obituary [HERE](#)



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Fans of Serving



The Lago Vista Lions have delivered box fans to Travis County Health & Human Services in Jonestown for several years. Travis County is able to identify local recipients that don't have air conditioning in their homes and hopefully the fans can bring them some relief from the hot Texas summer.

The photo depicts Lions Bob McCarty and Mike Zaydel delivering the fans to Travis County employee Madison Riquelmy in Jonestown.

What do Lions do? We Serve!



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Blue & Gold Ceremony



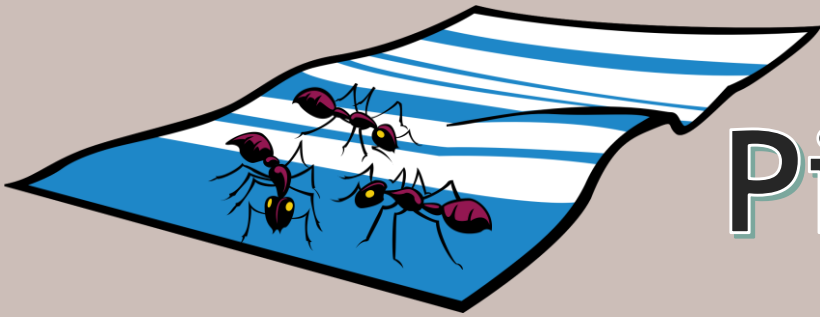
Front row, from left to right: Sofia Xuereb, Morgan Burke, Gillian Childs, Fischer Coffey, Abigail Jackson, Lily Woodburn, Cali Wright
Back row: Julia Ball, Bella Dreibrodt, Jocelyn Hargrove, Sarah Normand, Stella Robinson, and Olivia Vincent
Not pictured: Makaila Monauni

The Lago Vista Highschool PAC was the location on May 17 for the Blue & Gold Ceremony where the Lions Club joined other civic organizations in our community to award scholarships. Chairperson, Pat O’Dea Rosen announced the winners’ names and and President Gage Hunt congratulated each one.



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Picnic Time-June 20

We won't be battling ants and we won't have to sit spread eagle on the ground 'cause our Picnic is a non-picnic picnic! Great food prepared by so many helping hands, air conditioning, comfortable tables and bar service. I mean, this is a picnic with style and *panache*!

While we enjoy each other's company and fill our tummies with delectable dishes we will also be honoring many of our club members' service through our awards ceremony. Plus, our Historian Ron Smith, has put together a delightful presentation showing some of the more memorable and unique activities and achievements of our club through the years. You won't want to miss that!



Oh, and you can leave the sunscreen at home!



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Time to Pass the Baton



Smoke Master Don Zschoche, 17-year veteran of the renowned Lago Lions Barbeque team took the mic at our May 16 meeting to announce his interest in welcoming a new Smoke Master to carry on the important work he has contributed to the club and of course, to fulfill the goals and objectives of the Club.

Between the announcement and the publication of this newsletter, Don has had some health issues so, if you are interested in learning from the best, please make your interest known to President Gage Hunt.



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**EXTRA!
EXTRA!**

A suggestion from your editor:

“If you announce it at the meeting, send it to her.”

More of our members can't come to the meetings than those that do, so using the newsletter to disseminate your announcements is good for YOU! (And keep the “who” “what” “when” “where” and “how” in mind!)











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CALENDAR

Please refer to the calendar on our website [HERE](#) for updates

When		What		Where
June 1	All Day	Helen Keller Day		USA
June 5	3 pm-5pm	BOD Meeting		Zoom
June 6	6 pm	Business Meeting/District Gov./Installation		K-Oaks Clubhouse
June 10	8 am-10 am	Road Warriors		Dawn Drive & Lohman Ford
June 14	12-2 pm	KidSight Screening Library		Austin
June 17	8:30-12:30	Blood Mobile		CVS Parking Lot
June 17	8:30-11:30	KidSight State Certification		Lions Hall, Buda
June 20	6:00 pm	Program Awards and Picnic		K-Oaks Clubhouse



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