

Stanton Lions Club names new officers

First woman president serves third term

By Loreen Berlin
THE ORANGE COUNTY NEWS

The Stanton Lions Club held its annual installation dinner Tuesday, June 16, at their club building in the city of Stanton.

The club once again named Barbara Dotson as its president. Dotson is the first woman to ever hold the office of president with the club during its 62 years, and the only president to ever serve a third consecutive term.

New officers include:

President Barbara Dotson
First Vice President Jim Box
Second Vice President Isabelle Parikh
Secretary David Parikh
Treasurer Pam Schoonover
Lion Tamer Jeff Gomez
Tail Twister Al Ethans
Board of Directors:
Milt Blumenthal
Fran Daigle
Brenda Green
Gene Wilkins

Installing the officers was current District 4L4 Chaplain and past district governor Chuck Overby, with the assistance of his wife, June, who handed out all of the clever "awards" for the incoming officers.

"You have a terrific club," Overby told those in attendance. "You just need young members, so ask your friends what they are doing for community service and invite them to a lunch."

Overby admonished the club's members to look at the "Membership Wheel," that includes seeking new members from the local church groups, and colleges, to "jog your memory where you might look and encourage people to join."

Speaking to the directors first, Overby said, "As the directors, you are the stability of the club and are to assist the president. You have the experience and you can look for what is good for the club," and with that, he handed each of the directors a box of Lifesavers.

To the tail twister, he admonished that they were to interject humor at



Photo by Loreen Berlin

Stanton Lions Club names new officers during its Annual Installation Dinner. Pictured (from left to right) are Tail Twister Al Ethans, Mayor of Stanton; Second Vice President Isabelle Parikh, Board of Directors Milt Blumenthal, Lion Tamer Jeff Gomez, President Barbara Dotson, Board of Directors Gene Wilkins, O.D., Board of Directors Fran Daigle, secretary David Parikh, and treasurer Pam Schoonover.

the club meetings, "to get a few dollars for the club and to make people happy." The tail twister received two New Year's Eve-type horns to get the member's attention while gleaning dollars from them.

The Lion Tamer received a "Pay Day" candy bar, "because you don't get many pay days," Overby said, noting that the Lion Tamer is responsible to put up and take down the American and California flags at each meeting, put out the Lions bell that is rung to signal the meeting is ready to start, and to keep the club house clean.

To the treasurer, Overby handed a "100 Grand" candy bar, and made it clear that they were to take care of the club's money. "Don't pay any checks that are not board-approved."

"The secretary's job is a formidable job for the club, the district and at the international level, in maintaining member records, and writing correspondence," Overby said. "I can show you secretaries

that have been the club's secretary for 20 years, and they don't want to be released." With that, the incoming secretary was handed a box of genuine Bayer Aspirin.

The Vice President's job is really important, Overby said, noting that if the president of the club is absent, the vice president has to step in and serve in the president's area of responsibility and try to make the president look good. The vice president's were given a can of "Energy Drink."

"You are going to be the president for the third time, and I have learned that you have done a really good job - your attitude is good about Lions and you have provided attention to detail," Overby said to the incoming president.

"Anyone who would be president for three years in a row must have lost some of their marbles, so I have a small bag of marbles for you," Overby said, which brought lots of smiles and laughter.

Newly installed President Barbara Dotson said that she was learning to appreciate past presidents who are helping her with the job. "We are going to keep going as a Lions Club, because the city needs us and we need the city," she said. "I appreciate you as Lions and consider you part of my family."

The Stanton Lions Club is one of the few clubs that owns its own building. Lion Milt Blumenthal, 93, proudly related a bit of history about the building during a personal interview for The Orange County News that evening. The club's building was built in 1951 by four men that included Harry Tabatt, Lewis Bartson, Lewis Mc Bratney, and Charles Rube, with the chair person being Roy Allen. Twenty years later, an addition was added to the building, and that is where the club members currently hold their meetings. The original section of the building is rented out to the community, by Blumenthal, who noted that he was also involved in the building of the facility, as a volunteer. The club was chartered in 1947.

"The original building was built by the four men, who borrowed \$3,000 from Knott's Berry Farm's Founder Walter Knott," Blumenthal said. "They later paid the money back."

Blumenthal said that he believes

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