



WE SERVE!

CALENDAR

*VOA Partners in Literacy
Spelling Bee June 15*

*Installation Banquet
June 20 at Southern
Creations*

SPEAKERS

St. Mary's Residential
Training School
representatives will share
about their services and
how our Club has
supported them.

BIRTHDAYS

Jeff Bergman 5/7
Hank Smart 5/17
Henry Masson 5/21

Door Prize

*Lion President Don Fowler
missed \$15. See? You
shouldn't have gone on
vacation!*

THE LIONS TALE

Alexandria Lions Club

82 Foxfire Lane

Alexandria, Louisiana 71302

318.442.8781

www.alexions.com

May 17, 2017

Two Card Draw—Lion Susan and Lion JP couldn't find the jokers. We can all be convinced there is no cheating. Two weeks in a row, and Lion Susan can't find the joker!

Guests: your editor was late and missed this part. But I didn't spot anyone.

Tail Twister: Lion Darryl was looking to find who said some famous quotes. Lion Joe Crouch didn't know who said "Do, or do not...there is no try," but Lion John Kolwe helped out a friend with the correct answer of Yoda. Lion Lamar missed knowing who said, "what the mind can conceive, it can achieve." The correct answer was Napoleon Hill.

Announcements:



It's time for the Spelling Bee! Once again, our Club plans to have a team in this VOA Partners in Literacy Fundraiser. Please let Lion Viola know if you are willing to be on the team. It does take a bit of study, but we answer as a team, so you won't be alone. We need 3 Lions or friends, and it helps to have an alternate. The date is Thursday, June 15. We usually start about 6 p.m. Mark your calendars to come cheer, even if you are too chicken to spell.



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Speaker:

Lion LeeAnn and husband Ken Nelson from the Salvation Army

The Nelsons are retiring after 38 years with the Salvation Army. In their time in Alexandria, the SA is now debt free (except for usual monthly expenses). Our own Lion Joe Crouch is treasurer and keeps a close eye on the finances.

One program they instituted was a partnership with the VA where there are 16 beds for homeless veterans. The SA and VA cross-refer to make sure that vets are receiving needed services.

A long-term need in our community is the lack of a women's emergency shelter or a family emergency shelter. The SA is embarking on a building program to replace the old, somewhat decrepit building downtown. The building site is at 13th and Murray, next to the railroad tracks. It will be a \$4million project. There will be 5 women & family rooms and 5 men & family rooms in addition to the single rooms for men, women and veterans. The cafeteria will be expanded for a more pleasant experience, not having to rush people through. The current programs of utility assistance, rent assistance, and food boxes will continue.

The rules for the current shelter are 21 free days every 3 years. If there is severe weather or cold, the "days used" count is suspended. Once the 7 nights/year is used, clients are charged \$10 per night. The fee includes dinner and breakfast. Clients must be sober (they are breathalyzed) and are searched for weapons. No "rowdies" are allowed.

During questions, we learned that Majors Glen and Theresa Riggs are returning to Alexandria as the officers for our Salvation Army. The SA served 30-40,000 meals last year. Many families from the neighborhood come to eat since they have difficulty affording food. More children are seen in the summer when school is out.

The Club expressed best wishes to the Nelsons as they retire and move to Florida.

