



The 41th Annual Shrimporee
Festival and Auction
Report

October 25, 2014
Landolt Pavilion, Clear Lake Park
Seabrook, Texas 77586

THE 41TH ANNUAL SHRIMPOREE FESTIVAL AND AUCTION

Background

President of the Club, Scott Rainey, selected Harris County Youth Village and Early Act First Knight as the primary beneficiaries for the Shrimporee. Both were recognized and given their donations symbolically at the event.

The Club had made it a practice many years for the Club's President-elect to be the chairperson of the Shrimporee and this year it was John Branch. The raffle prize was a \$5,000 shopping spree at Lewis Diamonds and Timepieces. The winner did not have to be present to win. A ticket sold for \$10 each.

Appreciation

There were many Clear Creek Independent School District students, Harris County Youth Village residents, and adult volunteers who contributed greatly to the success of the Shrimporee doing anything asked of them from cooking shrimp to cleaning tables and carry away trash. Paul McLarty was the interface with the Clear Creek Independent School District with the able assistance of Superintendent Dr. Greg Smith.

Jorge Hernandez coordinated the volunteers along with Nancy Anderson who was in charge of general clean-up and Jeffrey Klima who was in charge of logistics. There about 150 student volunteers, 22 adult volunteers, and 70% of the Club members participated before or on the day of the event.

Summary

The 41th Annual Festival and Auction Shrimporee was held on October 25th at the Landolt Pavilion at Clear Lake Park, 5002 NASA Parkway, Seabrook, Texas. It began at 11 am and ended at 4 pm on a beautiful sunny day reaching a temperature of 80 degrees. The grounds were dry allowing the children's activities to be held behind the pavilion and the automotive sponsors to display their vehicles. Live music by the San Jac Drum Corp, the excitement of the auctions, delicious food, loads of children's activities and, most importantly, fellowship made for an enjoyable occasion. Additional entertainment was by the Bay Area Youth Singers. Security was by on duty and off-duty deputies provide by Harris County Precinct 8 Constable Phil Sandlin, who was also a Club member.

The meal, as in previous years, consisted of outstanding boiled shrimp, savory smoked brisket, sweet corn on the cob, BBQ beans, and condiments. Soft drinks, water, beer and wine were extra cost. There were 1,200 pounds of brisket, 1,200 pounds of shrimp, 375 pounds of sausage, 72 gallons of beans and 1,800 ears of corn purchased. There were 1867 brisket/shrimp meals served and 172 hot dog meals for children under 6.

The Women of Rotary provided many kinds of sweet goodies; cookies, brownies, and cakes. Popcorn, sno cones, and cotton candy were also available. The proceeds from the sweet table were used by the Women of Rotary for charitable activities.

The price of the meal ticket was keep at \$15 with children six years of age and under received a free meal consisting of a hotdog, drink, and a bag of chips. The free meal tickets were handed out at the serving lines when the child was accompanied by a person with a meal ticket. Meal ticket sales at the event and those sold by the members totaled \$31,691. Interesting to note that the day of tickets sales were 133 more than the previous year.

The children had many exciting activities to participate in, such as inflatables, a moon walk, a slide and an obstacle course; face painting; tattooing; and hair dyeing. The Constable Deputies from Harris County Precinct 8 assisted with fingerprinting the children for future identification.

There were both live and silent auctions featuring items to fit every budget. Port Commissioner Steve Phelps and Harris County Precinct 8 Constable Phil Sandlin, were the auctioneers and Dr. Jack Bacon the Emcee provided an exciting and entertaining afternoon for all. Eighty one items were sold in the live auction and fifty two items in the silent auction for over \$18,000. The proceeds from the Shrimporee were over \$83,000. The raffle was an outstanding success with about \$8,300 income. Photos on the Shrimporee can be viewed under the Rotary History Year 2014-15.

New this year was a Rotary information table. The Club's Banner, a Rotary Four-Way Test Banner, and Rotary International Theme "Light Up Rotary" Banner were the backdrop for the table. In addition two large display posters contained the purpose of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation. On the table was a large poster tri fold with displayed the major activities of the Club such as fundraisers, service projects, and special programs such as Early Act First Knight. Also displayed was an eco-stove made of concrete and pumice used in third world countries. This type of stove helps reduce burns and smoke inhalation as well help in reducing deforestation which helps preserve the water sources. Also available were handout pamphlets about Rotary and membership application forms.

The Shrimporee planning committee met in 10 sessions at 5:00 pm Monday at the Johnson Space Center Federal Credit Union courtesy of Club member Mike Brown and his executive assistant, Jennifer Higgs. A lessons learned meeting was held on November 17 at John Branch's home. The regular planning meetings lasted no more than one hour and all meetings were well attended.

The Pavilion at Clear Lake Park was reserved for October 24, 2015 for Shrimporee 42.