

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (May 4th)

Fellow Lions, we have some special guests today, please welcome them. We have our open meeting today so we can enjoy our lunch and look at our upcoming events. Board meeting next week.

We Serve ..... Mark Miller

## TODAY'S MEETING (May 4th)

Club Meeting – No Program

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

May 11th ... Jay Stoddard, Sturgis Falls Celebration

May 18th ... John Schilling, Fire Chief, City of Cedar Falls

May 25th ... Memorial Day – No Meeting

June 1st ... Club Meeting – No Program

June 8th ... TBA

June 15th ... Club Picnic & Golf Outing – Pheasant Ridge Golf Course

## BIRTHDAYS

Sly Van Hove – May 5th

Jim Taylor – May 6th

Lisa Hoodjer – May 8th

## ANNIVERSARIES

Bob & Liz Kressig – May 6th

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

## LAST MEETING (April 27th)

Hannah Ackerman, 7th grade student at St. Patrick's School, winner of the Local National History Day contest (and favorite niece of Lion Tom Hagarty), performed her National History Day entry entitled "Mrs. Alleeta Sullivan: No Other Mother Gave More." She will portray Mrs.



**Tom Hagarty, Hannah & Margaret Ackerman**

Sullivan for the State History Day Competition on May 4, 2009 in Des Moines. Hannah was the only student to advance to the state competition this year. As the club may remember, the Sullivan brothers were five siblings who all died during the same incident in World War II, the sinking of the light cruiser USS Juneau, the vessel on which they all served. The Sullivans enlisted on January 3, 1942 with the stipulation that they serve together. The Navy had a policy of separating siblings, but this was not strictly enforced. George and Frank had served in the Navy before, but their brothers had not. The Juneau participated in a number of naval engagements during the months-long Guadalcanal Campaign beginning in August 1942. Early in the morning of November 13, 1942, during the Naval Battle of Guadalcanal, the Juneau was struck by a Japanese torpedo and was forced to withdraw. Later that day, as it was leaving the Solomon Islands' area for the Allied rear-area base at Espiritu Santo with other surviving US warships from battle, the Juneau was struck again, this time by a torpedo from a Japanese submarine. The torpedo likely hit the thinly-armored cruiser at or near the ammunition magazines and the ship exploded and quickly sank. The brothers' parents were notified of their deaths on January 12, 1943. That morning, the boys' father, Thomas, was preparing to go to work when three men in uniform, a lieutenant commander, a doctor and a chief petty officer, approached his front door. "I have some news for you about your boys," the naval officer said. "Which one?" asked Thomas. "I'm sorry," the officer replied. "All five." The "Fighting Sullivan Brothers" were national heroes. President Franklin Roosevelt sent a letter of condolence to Tom and Alleeta. Pope Pius XII sent a silver religious medal and rosary with his message of regret. The Iowa Senate and House adopted a formal resolution of tribute to the Sullivan brothers.