



LIONNEWS

A monthly newsletter of the Rockville Lions Club

December 2011

DATES AND MEETINGS TO REMEMBER

- Wednesday Dec 7 DINNER MEETING – 7 p.m.**
Wesley Hall, Rockville United Methodist Church
112 Montgomery Ave.
Speakers: Colleen Maguire, Director of Patient & Family Services; Robin Swope, Patient & Family Services Clinical Director; and Joan Deye, Nurse Volunteer from the DC/MD/VA Chapter of the ALS Association
- Wednesday Dec 14 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – 6:30 p.m.**
EU Services
Building C, Conference Room
North Horners Lane
- Sunday Dec 18 Fruit Pickup**
Rothgeb Drive Warehouse
- Wednesday Dec 21 HOLIDAY PARTY – 6 p.m.**
Golden Bull Restaurant
7 Dalmar Ave.
Gaithersburg
6 p.m. Social Hour, Dinner at 7 p.m., entertainment to follow
- Thursday Dec 22 Twinbrook Holiday Book Project Distribution – 1:30 p.m.**
See item below

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Ann Cooper 10th

Bill Lynch 19th

Leonard "Bud" Leonard 29th

Happy Birthday Fellow Lions!

Gracelyn Henry
President
(301) 231-9661

Craig Cano
Editor
(301) 424-8537

Sonia Wiggins
Secretary
(301) 876-4424

CHIPS FROM NOV BOARD MEETING...

Please check back in January for the November and December Board Meeting highlights.

If you must miss a dinner meeting, please contact Lion Coleman Hyatt (301) 424-6957 by the prior Monday to avoid paying \$15 meal charge.

AND NOW THE CLUB NEWS. . .

To remain vibrant, Lions Clubs must “bring in new members that have new ideas and extra hands to help,” **District Governor Rich Barb** told the Club as he made his official visit on November 2, which coincided with the Club’s annual Friendship Night.

In brief remarks, DG Rich also discussed the work of Lions Community Outreach Foundation, his experience raising a dog for the Leader Dog program, and Lions Youth Foundation.

“I hope your Club has a very strong and successful year,” he concluded.

John E. Kyle was the guest speaker at the November 2 Dinner Meeting and shared a “story of childhood abuse and redemption” in discussing his memoir, “Going Against the Grain.” The book and his compelling remarks detailed his rise to success in the military, business and government administration from the struggles of a childhood marked by his father’s gambling, drinking and violent behavior that drove his mother away.

Kyle said he owes his survival to his grandmother’s teachings, friends and the U.S.



King Lion Gracelyn Henry (left) presents certificate of appreciation to November 2 guest speaker John Kyle, joined by Programs Chairman **Lion Bud Leonard** and Secretary **Lion Sonia Wiggins**.

(Photo by Lion Craig Cano)

Marine Corps, which provided “a means of escape.”

That fight for survival produced a “profound feeling” about the importance of standing up for what’s right, he told the Club.

“I hope you enjoy your visit with us and want to return again and again and again as a member,” **Lion Debbie Brown-DeLone** told the six guests who came to the Club’s Friendship Night on November 2. “Becoming a Lion is by invitation only, so you are invited.”

As a Rockville Lion “you become a part of this great organization across the world” serving others, she said. Noting the thousands of eyeglasses collected by the Rockville Lions for ultimate distribution worldwide, Lion Debbie added: “Your hand reaches farther than just within this community.”

Lions Tom and **Steve Bennetts** thanked the many Club members that stepped up to make the second White Cane fundraiser a success, with about \$2,000 collected. **King Lion Gracelyn Henry** in turn thanked the Bennetts, saying the Club was “grateful for the splendid job” in running White Cane in October.

The Club conducted two very successful fundraising activities last month – a Fruit Sale at the Sugarloaf Craft Festival and the Annual Modular Train Show.

According to **Lion Jay Clogg**, the Fruit Sale at the craft festival went like gangbusters. Tip of the engineer’s cap to Lion Jay and all his little helpers.

Although a late Indian Summer weekend kept overall attendance numbers down, the Train Show was again a big hit with the more than 550 guest who enjoyed the displays over the two days. A ripped-up parking lot and ongoing construction work at the Senior Center did not diminish the crowd’s enthusiasm, and the show should end up netting about \$1,500.

This year’s Raffle Train Set is on its way to the North Pole from where Santa Claus will deliver it to a pair of brothers – ages 3 and 5. Their parents, both Montgomery County Police officers, are looking forward to the big day for the boys.

Mr. Bah Humbug himself, **Lion Craig Cano**, was so moved by Mom and Dad’s genuine

gratitude that he threw in engineer caps and whistles for each of the boys.



Lions Paul Melton (left) and **George Mabry** were among the Club members to pitch in to make the November 12-3 Train Show a success.



Lion Sonia Wiggins displays the model train set that was raffled off at the Train Show. The winners, a pair of young brothers, will find it under their tree on Christmas morning, according to Mom and Dad.



Lions Christine King and **Stu Crump** were two more of the hard-working Lions at the Train Show.

(Photos by Joel Wishengrad)

Club members participating in the Salvation Army's Angel Tree program by purchasing gifts should make arrangements to get the goodies sack to **PDG Bill Lynch** and wife **Lion Diane**

Lynch by December 12. In addition, those interested in helping to organize and distribute the gifts, please contact Lion Diane or **Lion Debbie Brown-DeLone** ASAP.

Lion Kathy Fiske reports that the Twinbrook Holiday Book Project "is roaring along. All 559 books will be delivered to Twinbrook Elementary School next week. We're aiming at Thursday, December 15, after school to sort and label them." More details on that to follow.

Distribution of books to student is set for Thursday December 22; Club members are meeting at 1:30 p.m. **Lion Jay Udovich** has volunteered to participate – in costume.

"We need volunteer photographers, a Lion escort and book carriers that day," Lion Kathy said. Lions and friends may volunteer by email (kathhf@verizon.net), phone (240-483-3015) or in person at the December 7 meeting.

Lion Kathy added that the new reading resource teacher "is a gem" and interested in new ideas and more Lion involvement.



Lion Craig Cano accepts from **PDG Sandi Halterman** an Outstanding Achievement Award that was bestowed by Lions Clubs International on one of the middle school students that participated in the 2010-11 Young Leaders in Service program run by the Club.

DISTRICT DOINGS...

From Lions Community Outreach President **PDG Sandi Halterman**:

Last year many Lions and friends were able to volunteer to assist the Lions Community

Outreach Foundation provide more than 1,000 people with eye, hearing and preschool vision screenings at the NBC4 Health and Fitness Expo. We are looking for that commitment again for 2012.

When: January 14-15, 2012

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Time Slots Preferred:

9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

2:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Where: The Walter E. Washington Convention Center, located between 7th and 9th Streets and N Street and Mt. Vernon Place in downtown D.C.

Metro access: Yellow Line marked Mt Vernon Sq/7th St-Convention Center

If you can help us again with this important mission, contact LCOF. We need at least 3 persons per category (eye/hearing/PSVP), per shift and one shift leader to make this a success again this year.

Thanks in advance.

Sandi Halterman, President LCOF

cab22c@aol.com

(301) 751-8627

LCOF at Lionsoutreach.com, (301) 577-7800

INSIDE INTERNATIONAL...

From **Past International President Sid Scruggs III**, Chairman Lions Clubs International Foundation:

I would like to share with you some exciting changes to our donation procedures that will enable us to help even more people. Many of you have shared with your Board of Trustees and me interesting ideas for expanding giving opportunities to our Foundation. As a result, you can now choose from five general categories to designate your donations and receive Melvin Jones Fellowship recognition for each donation:

Area of Greatest Need: Donations in this category will support all program areas and allow LCIF the flexibility to supplement initiatives where additional funding is necessary or where the need is most urgent.

Disaster: Donations designated here enable LCIF to direct the funds to the areas most in

need following disasters in order to provide for immediate, mid and long-term relief.

Sight: Donations here seek to support hundreds of sight-related activities ranging from equipping eye clinics to providing Braille computers for the visually impaired.

Youth: Donations in this category support the Lions Quest program and other initiatives such as educational infrastructure improvements and programs to assist at-risk youth.

Humanitarian Needs: Donations here will fund projects that meet diverse community needs beyond sight, disaster and youth, such as the measles program, water wells and vocational training programs for the disabled.

I know you will agree with me that these positive changes will help LCIF to provide aid to even more people in need around the world. These changes are effective immediately for all future donations. Donating is as easy as before - details on each program can be found online.

I thank you for your continued support.

The Aga Khan Development Network and Lions Clubs International have committed to planting 1.5 million trees in Kenya. The United Nations has declared 2011 the International Year of Forests.

Kenya has one of the highest rates of deforestation in Africa. To combat rapid deforestation and the subsequent effects of soil and water degradation, the Kenyan Government pledged in 2010 to increase forest cover by 10%. The AKDN-LCI partnership will contribute to meeting that pledge.

Forests not only provide environmental benefits, but also offer significant income and livelihood options for more than one billion people around the globe. Trees provide a wide range of products (timber, fruit, medicine, beverages and fodder) and valuable services, including sequestering carbon, providing shade, controlling erosion, beautifying landscapes and increasing the fertility of soil.

LCI President Wing-Kun Tam welcomed the partnership, saying, "Trees help the environment by providing an array of benefits, including more oxygen for humans and homes for animals. I believe this partnership will change the landscape of our communities for the better within just one year."

LCI's tree planting program builds on a commitment to plant one million trees globally – a commitment that has already been surpassed by 500%. AKDN's tree-planting commitments in Kenya are on track to plant nearly 10 million trees in Kenya. These activities build on a tradition that has planted more than 120 million trees in Asia and Africa over the last 25 years.

HEALTHY HELPER...

It's the Holiday Season so go on and Eat, Drink and Be Merry, for in January we Die(t).

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE...

I missed this old favorite prior to Thanksgiving, but for those of you who enjoy Roast Turkey for the Holidays...

A young man named John received a parrot as a gift. The parrot had a bad attitude and an even worse vocabulary.

Every word out of the bird's' mouth was rude, obnoxious and laced with profanity. John tried and tried to change the bird's attitude by consistently saying only polite words, playing soft music and anything else he could think of to "clean up" the bird's vocabulary.

Finally, John was fed up and he yelled at the parrot. The parrot yelled back. John shook the parrot and the parrot got angrier and even more rude.

In desperation, John threw up his hand, grabbed the bird and put him in the freezer.

For a few minutes the parrot squawked and kicked and screamed.

Then suddenly there was total quiet. Not a peep was heard for more than a minute.

Fearing that he'd hurt the parrot, John quickly opened the door to the freezer.

The parrot calmly stepped out onto John's outstretched arms and said, "I believe I may have offended you with my rude language and actions. I'm sincerely remorseful for my inappropriate transgressions and I fully intend to do everything I can to correct my rude and unforgivable behavior."

John was stunned at the change in the bird's attitude. As he was about to ask the parrot what had made such a dramatic change in his behavior, the bird spoke up, very softly, "May I ask what the turkey did?"

I was out looking for a Christmas gift for my wife and stopped into Saks Fifth Ave. "How about some perfume?" I asked the cosmetics clerk, and she showed me a bottle costing \$100.

"That's a bit much," I said, so she returned with a smaller bottle for \$50.

"That's still quite a bit," I pointed out.

Growing disgusted, the clerk brought out a tiny \$25 bottle.

"No, what I mean is I'd like to see something real cheap," I told her.

So she handed me a mirror.
