



The Grand Island Lion

January 2023

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HAPPY
NEW YEAR



Lions General Meeting

Wednesday January 11th 2023

6:30PM at Howard Hanna

Guest Speaker : Lion Mike Hoplight
will speak about "Everything veteran" See Page 4 for details

Lions Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Monday April 24th 2023

River Oaks Golf Club

Details TBA

Lions,

My father always said, "Leave things better than you found them," and that is how he lived his entire life. On the kitchen door was the quote, "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you." He and my mother modeled this way of life to me and my 3 sisters and 3 brothers. They instilled this servant leadership philosophy in our household by always getting involved and actively participating in various organizations.

When caring people join together, roll up their sleeves and take action to make their community better, that is what being a servant leader is all about.

Servant leadership is about being an example to others, it is about creating value for others, and it is about finding ways to do things better. Servant leadership is a leadership philosophy built on the belief that the most effective leaders strive to serve others, rather than accrue power or take control.

Sound familiar, our motto "**We Serve**"!! Our club the "Grand Island Lions Club is filled top to bottom with SERVANT LEADERS." The programs and services we take on in our community are widely respected and hard to duplicate. From our spaghetti dinner, meals on wheels, Kids picnic, white cane sale and Christmas caroling at TOPS you the members of the Grand Island Lions Club have provided leadership across our community and have help provide opportunities across the world.

As we begin the year 2023, we have the opportunity to hold the spaghetti dinner at River Oaks Golf Club and not only offer take out, but seating for dine in customers. Planning for this and the other programs will begin in the next couple of months.

I look forward to working together on our projects, but most important, I look forward to leaving things better than we found them!"



Lion Dick





The Grand Island Lions held their annual Christmas Party on Wednesday December 14th at the Buffalo Launch Club. During the event The Lions awarded Mike Maio with an Uplinger distinguished service Award. Established in 1993, the award honors outstanding Lions and non-Lions or organizations who perform exemplary service to a Club, District, or community. These honorees possess the highest examples of Lionistic character, ideals, purpose, and service. Maio, who is the Manager at the Grand Island Tops Market has never turned down the Lions requests, providing space for fundraising or donations for our Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser and the Special Picnic for Kids held each summer on Grand Island. Pictured from the left are Lions Club President Dick Crawford, holding a Tops Market Bag, Lions Sponsor Tom Rusert and Mike Maio.

The Lions and their guests posed for a group photo. Seen here from the left are Mike and Marie Maio, Stu and Lion Donna Lavallee, Jim and Lion Kelly McGarvey, Lion Jenny Bagen, Lion Shelia Ferretino, Lion Paul Krupa, Peggy and Lion Tom Rusert, Ed and Lion Susan Standora, and Marla and Lion President Dick Crawford.

Lions,

If anyone has any volunteer activity you want to report for the month (or the last few months), please let me know. Let me know anything and everything that you volunteer for. I can determine where to report it appropriately. I need to know:

- the title or type of project,
- a location if appropriate,
- how many people helped,
- How many volunteers,
- How many volunteer hours,
- how much funds spent or collected if appropriate and,
- a couple of sentences describing the project and impact.

If we do a project on a regular basis (i.e. Meals on Wheels delivery), then I just need all of the information once. And information that changes like volunteers and hours when there is a change. I can copy the standard information from prior events.

Any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,

PDG James Ryan
Secretary



To My Fellow Lions Club Members

It has been a long haul for me through two surgeries but I'm getting better. The TURP surgery (Tran urethral resection of the prostate) went well but healing is a rather long process. I have had a couple of complications since the surgery but nothing really serious with the proper medication.

I will have to get hormone injections every 4 months to slow down the growth of my prostate cancer and enlarged prostate. The inguinal hernia surgery went without a hitch.

I truly miss all of you! I can't thank you enough for all your thoughts, prayers, phone calls, cards, transportation help, well wishes and love you have shown me. I'm deeply grateful to you. Lion Pres. Dick, what a friend you have been. Besides our serving others as Lions, we also help and serve each other. I'm truly blessed to be part of the Grand Island Lions club. You are my friends forever! I love you all and I thank you, thank you, and thank you for being there for me during a most difficult time in my life. Lion Paul B.



On Saturday December 10th Our Grand Island Lions gathered at Tops Markets for four hours of Christmas caroling. The public must have appreciated the singing as we collected \$344 in donations for our welfare fund Pictured (l-r, back row: Lions Tom Rusert, Dick Crawford, Jim Ryan; l-r, middle row: Lions Anne Fahning, Kelly McGarvey; front: Lion Tom Witkowski; missing: Lion Sue Standora)

Lion “Everything Veteran” Mike Hoplight to speak at January 11, 2023 meeting

Lion Mike, our district’s Lions For Veterans chair, will speak to our club focusing on current items and local efforts affecting veterans. He is also looking for our help collecting items for the Military Vet Collection Drive, a drive formed to put together comfort kits for hospitalized military veterans at Buffalo and Batavia VA hospitals, homeless veterans and the Women Veterans’ Health Care Clinic. The items needed are:

VA:

Canteen books to be used for haircuts.

Sponsorship of game day pizza parties. Cost is approximately \$70 with the details handled by Nancy Kaszynski, CTRS. Her phone numbers are 716-862-3237 (work), 716-512-0160 (cell).

Speed bag punching bag to be used in therapy.

K-cups (three dozen a week).

Snack-sized bags of chips and cookies (four dozen a week).

\$20 in \$1 canteen books.

Sweatpants and sweatshirts in all sizes.

Women Veterans’ Health Care Clinic:

New (not used) clothing: sweatshirts, sweatpants, sports bras, underwear, sneakers, shower shoes.

Toiletries: Full-size shampoos, conditioners, lotions, body washes, bar soap, hairbrushes/combs, single packed toothbrushes, toothpaste, small packs of feminine products, tissues, deodorants, lip balms, emery boards, small hand sanitizers.

Baby items: New baby clothing 0-2T, Diapers newborn-4, baby wipes.

Gift cards: Walmart Tops, Wegmans, NFTA bus passes.

Checks can be made out to Town of Niagara Lions and mailed to Lion Angelo Onevelo, 3488 Ashwood Drive, North Tonawanda, NY 14120. Enter “Military Vet Collection Drive” on the memo line.

Lion Mike has a vast experience with the Red Cross, having served multiple tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. He has working relationships with the VA’s Willow Lodge, Buffalo Honor Flight and Wreaths Across America. Your attendance is encouraged and welcomed.

Lion Tom Witkowski



Seen here is Town of Niagara Lion Mike Hoplight at our October 28th 2015 meeting. Lion Mike described the plight of homeless veterans in our area. Our Lions Club responded by donating bags of health care items for the Program. Shown from left to right, and holding donated items, are Lion Mike, Lions Paul Bassette, 2015 President Tom Rusert, Dave Chervinsky, Fred Ruocco, and (now) past district Zone Chair and PDG Lion Jeff Jarvis. Photo by Tom Witkowski



Super Hero Raffle
Be A Super Hero For Children In Need
 Drawing will be held Super Bowl Sunday, February 12, 2023

Grand Prize - \$5,000 

2 nd Prize:	\$ 2,000
3 rd Prize:	\$ 1,000
4 th & 5 th Prizes:	\$ 500
6 th thru 9 th Prizes:	\$ 250

**Special
6 Tickets
For \$100**

\$20 Per Ticket

To Purchase Tickets Scan here  
 Or log on to brandelmurphyfoundation.org

Or...make your check payable and send, with ticket stubs to:
 Brandel-Murphy Youth Foundation
 P.O. Box 913
 Rockville Centre, NY 11571

For Tickets & Information Contact: John Wargo
 Email: jwargo@yahoo.com
 cell: 1-(845) 489-1578

All proceeds benefit children in need through the Brandel-Murphy Youth Foundation

For further information visit us at www.brandelmurphyfoundation.org
 We are a 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions are deductible to the extent allowed by law.



Thanks to Lions Tom Rusert, Tom Witkowski, Jim Ryan, Paul Bassette, and Dick Crawford for contributions to this newsletter. The deadline for the February Newsletter is Friday January 27th. If you have material for the newsletter, you can e-mail it to Lion Dave Chervinsky, the editor/publisher at:
grandislandliondave@gmail.com.

Visit us at: www.gilions.com.

Please return your empties to Bottle and Can Retrieval Center 2447 Grand Island Blvd, Grand Island, **Grand Island Can and Bottle Retrieval Center** is now tracking our donations when items are left for them to credit our account.




Donations for the Neighbors Foundation are on the upswing so please continue to bring any of the listed items to our meetings or drop off Tops gift cards, food items and checks/cash to me and I will deliver to them. They are also in need of diapers, toiletries and personal care items.

Thank you, Lion Tom Rusert



Stuart Sports has many styles and colors of polo shirts along with other apparel available. Stop in and peruse their catalogs and request that the Grand Island Lions logo be applied to your selection. It's just a short drive to Lewiston: Stuart Sports 486 Center St. Lewiston, NY (716-754-4895)
<http://www.stuartsportsinc.com/>

Lion Tom Rusert



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Adrienne Cassata