



The Grand Island Lion

July-August 2021

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Upcoming Events:



WE SERVE

July 3rd 2021

**Independence Day Parade
Lion Fred Ruocco will wear the
Lions Costume**

July 24th 2021

**Lions Members Picnic
At the Fahnings
Cocktails at 4PM Dinner 5PM**

Hello Lions,

First order of business is to thank Past President Lion Paul for an amazing year! This past year was a hard one and even with COVID restrictions and zoom meetings you did a wonderful job, thank you so much!



I am looking very forward to this next year as president of this amazing club and having the opportunity to work along side so many great people. This is also very special on a personal level as I get to share this journey with my Grandpa Lion Bob. I grew up always hearing about the Lions Club and now not only am I apart of it, but I'm the president.... WOW. This will be a year full of firsts for me and I know with all of your help and guidance it will be fantastic.

My personal goals for this year are to increase our social media presence in hopes of gaining more community knowledge of the Lions Club and increasing membership. I would also like to do at least one new community project now that the restrictions with COVID are easing up.

I hope everyone has a safe and wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing everyone soon.

Lion President Kim



Don't forget to wear your magnetic Lion emblem. Show the public you are a Lion. Words of wisdom: Perseverance breeds "success"

Lion Bob Goulding



Lion President Kim Pressley displays the Grand Island Lions Charter which is entrusted to her care during her term as President of the Club. Lion PCC, PDG Ken Butkowski inducted Lion President Kim along with the other Lion officers at our June 9th Installation Dinner held at the Buffalo Launch Club. Photo courtesy Lion Ashley Digati

Lion PCC and PDG Ken Butkowski installed our Officers and Directors for the 2021-22 year at our June 9th Installation Dinner.

President: Kimberly Pressley
 First Vice President: Richard Crawford
 Treasurer: Tom Witkowski
 Corresponding Secretary: Kelly McGarvey
 Recording Secretary: Donna Lavalley
 Tail Twister: Ashley and Tom Digati
 Lion Tamer: Ashley and Tom Digati
 Director 2 years: Anne Fahning
 Director 2 years: Henry Lobl
 Director 1 year: Tom Rusert
 Director 1 year: Anne Ryan
 Membership Chair: Richard Crawford
 Immediate past President: Paul Krupa



Lion PCC and PDG Ken Butkowski inducts Lion President Kim Pressley at our June 9th Installation Dinner.

Save the Date:

Western New York Riding Lions fundraiser for Mercy Flight of Western New York. "Bikers Unite for Mercy Flight - Dice Run and Car Cruise"

This activity will be held on

September 18, 2021 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM EST.

**Location: Mercy Flight of WNY - 100 Amherst Villa Rd,
 Buffalo, NY 14225, USA.**

Saturday, September 18, 2021 the Western New York Riding Lions will be hosting its very first fundraiser for Mercy Flight of Western New York. "Bikers Unite for Mercy Flight - Dice Run and Car Cruise" is a State Police escorted dice run beginning at the Mercy Flight-Buffalo headquarters, located at 100 Amherst Villa Road, Buffalo, NY 14225. Registration will begin at 9:00am. Kick stands up at approximately 11:45am. We will be escorted up to the Ft. Niagara State Park for a dice roll, then continue on to the Wheatfield American Legion on Ward Road. Final dice roll, 50/50 drawing, basket raffles, high/low prizes, food trucks and drinks will be onsite. \$20/driver, regardless of wheel count and \$10/passenger.

The Grand Island Lions, with the assist of a Brandel-Murphy Youth Foundation matching grant, have sponsored the Children's and Client Room 3 at the newly dedicated satellite of the Family Justice Center on Grand Island. The five-year sponsorship provided all furnishings and decorations for the rooms and toys for supervised children while their parent undergoes counseling. The Center's mission is to provide services and support to individuals in unhealthy relationships and education regarding community needs to break larger cycles of relationship abuse. Their comprehensive and collaborative service model tears down barriers to service, enabling the Center's clients to heal and cultivate hope. More information can be obtained at www.fjcsafe.org.

Photo 1: Cutting the ribbon are L-R: George Panepinto (Pinto Construction Services - awesome what he and a talented group of construction partners did to the old Trinity parsonage!), Reverend Kevin Slough, Trinity United Pastor; Dr. Matthew Withiam, President of the FJC Board of Directors; Karen Panzarella-Brodie, FJC board member and project co-chair; Laura Lewis Mason; and Mary Travers Murphy, FJC CEO.

Photo 2: Dedication plaque

Photos 3 and 4: Room view of the sponsored client room and the play area for children.

Photo 5: Grand Island Lion Donna Lavallee (left), also a member of Trinity United Methodist Church that donated the building for the Center, informs visitors of the purposes the rooms.

Lion Tom Witkowski

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The Grand Island Lions celebrated the elevation to Melvin Jones Fellowships to Lion Anne Fahning and to Nicole Gerber, PhD. The Lions also awarded Corresponding Secretary Lion Kelly McGarvey a Robert Uplinger Award. Lion Anne has served twice as Lions President and has chaired the Spaghetti Dinner basket raffle and the annual White Cane Day. She has managed the dock activities at the club's Special Kids Picnic, been on three health missions to Nicaragua under the auspices of Seeds of Love and has been a financial supporter of Heart, Love and Soul in Niagara Falls, NY.

Nicole Gerber was recognized for her outstanding work in education, emergency services and environmental and ecological endeavors. Nicole is the Emergency Manager and Biosafety Officer at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center. She is an active member of Grand Island Fire Company serving as an EMT and firefighter. She has served on the Community Emergency Response Team and Citizen Corps Council since 2006 and serves as Chair of the Erie County Disaster Preparedness Advisory Board. Her environmental endeavors include being the Co-founder of the Citizen Coalition for Wildlife and Environment planning and offering educational events from ecological gardening to existence with wildlife. She is New York State Master Naturalist, DEC Wildlife Rehabilitator and Nuisance Wildlife Control Officer and helps plan the GI Garden Walk offering her farm that is very unique ecologically and environmentally especially with a brigade of chickens serving as a welcoming committee to their farm. Nicole envisions Grand Island's future to include preserving and highlighting its historical significance as well as protecting the community's green spaces. She is devoted to ensure that their farm remains such forever. Like her parents, she is a very special person: dedicated, positive and a contributor to life here on Grand island and for that matter, the world.

Lion Kelly has performed admirably as Corresponding Secretary keeping the district, multiple and Lions International informed of club activities and the labor of love the Lions perform. She has co-chaired the basket raffle at the club's annual Spaghetti Dinner and participates in almost all club activities - a true volunteer and secretary extraordinaire!

Lion Tom Witkowski



Nicole Gerber and Lion Anne Fahning



An emotional Lion Kelly McGarvey holding her Uplinger plaque with Lion Shelia Ferrentino standing next to her. In the background is Lion Paul Bassette, Awards Chair.

Save the Date:

**Grand Island
Knights of Columbus**

Mary Star of the Sea Council #4752

Are proud to sponsor an event with proceeds to benefit

The Knights of Columbus



Drive Through Chicken Bar-B-Que
\$12.00 – Pre-Sale Tickets

For Tickets Call:
Gary Golembiewski @ 432-0732
Or
Chris Beyer @ 537-8564

Saturday, August 21st, 2021
From 4:00 to 7:00 pm

Please return your empties to Bottle and Can Retrieval Center 2447 Grand Island Blvd, Grand Island, NY.- **Until further notice please bring the proceeds from your donation directly to our Club for credit.**



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

Thanks again to our generous Lion members I was able to deliver two large boxes of food to the Neighbors Foundation plus \$315.00 in cash, checks and Tops gift cards.

Lion Tom Rusert



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Paul	Bassette
Mark	Frentzel
Paul	Krupa
Anne	Ryan
Shelia	Ferrentino
Donna	Lavallee
Kimberly	Pressley

Thanks to Lions Tom Rusert, Bob Goulding, Tom Witkowski, Dick Crawford, Ashley Digati, Donna Lavallee, and Kim Pressley. for contributions to this newsletter. The deadline for the September Newsletter is Friday August 27th. If you have material for the newsletter, you can e-mail it to Lion Dave Chervinsky, the editor/publisher:

grandislandliondave@gmail.com.

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