



The Grand Island Lion

July-August 2023

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Independence Day Parade
July 4th
Details to follow



Kids picnic organizational meeting
July 12th 6PM
Howard Hanna

Exceptional Kids Picnic
Wednesday July 19th
Buffalo Launch Club

BOD Meeting
August 23rd 9AM
Welcome Center Conf Rm

White Cane Days
August 25th-26th

Lions General Meeting
September 13th 6:30PM
Details TBA

Summer has arrived! I'm sure everyone will squeeze as much travel, outdoor parties, boating, camping, swimming, golfing, youth sports and community events into your summer plans as possible. Just a reminder to our members, the club does not hold monthly meetings during the summer, with the exception of BOD meetings, but please mark your calendars for our two very important events in July & August.



Wed, July 19th is our annual **Kids Picnic** held at the Buffalo Launch Club. If you are not already signed up for this special event, please reach out to Lion Shelia. I believe we are expecting 500 - 600 kids and chaperones to attend this year. We can definitely use everyone's help!

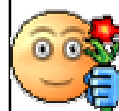
August 25th and 26th (Friday & Saturday) will be our annual **White Cane Fundraiser**. If all members could volunteer for one or two of the time slots, that would be much appreciated! Watch for an email from Lion Anne Fahning with locations and time slots available.

Wednesday, September 13th at 6:30 pm will be our first meeting. Details will be forthcoming regarding its location along with our meeting schedule for the months ahead.

In closing, I have BIG shoes to follow but I am honored to represent our club this year as President. With everyone's patience and volunteer assistance, I know our club will be successful and this next year will be fun for all members.

Be safe and enjoy your summer!

Lion Kelly



Please continue to keep Lion Henry in your thoughts and prayers as he recovers from a recent illness.



The Grand Island Lions Club held their Installation and Awards Dinner at the Bridgeview Tavern on Wednesday June 14th. Outgoing Lions President Dick Crawford hands off the symbolic gavel to incoming President Kelly McGarvey while Lion Jim Ryan looks on. Officers Inducted are: Kelly McGarvey- President, Tom Rusert-1st Vice President, Tom Witkowski-Treasurer, Jim Ryan-Corresponding Secretary, Donna Lavallee-Recording Secretary, Ashley and Tom Digati-Lion Tamer/Tail Twister, Paul Bassette-Director, Susan Standora-Director, Anne Fahning-Director, Shelia Ferrentino-Membership chair, Dave Chervinsky-Publicity Chair, and Dick Crawford- Immediate Past President.

The Antique Boat Club presented a check to the Grand Island Lions Club in support of the Exceptional Kids Picnic. Several members of the Antique Boat Club have participated in the picnic by donating their time with the boat rides and support in other areas. Sharon Dickinson, President of the Club, along with Rocky Nagel, presented a check of \$1000 in support of the Exceptional Kids Picnic. Pictured from the left Rocky Nagel, Lion Tom Rusert, Sharon Dickenson, Lions Anne Fahning, Dick Crawford, and Shelia Ferrentino.



Three Melvin Jones Awards were given at the Grand Island Lions Installation and Awards dinner on Wednesday June 14th. Lion Paul Bassette Committee Chairman, gave background on the Melvin Jones. The Melvin Jones awards can be given to a Lion or a non-Lion. The Melvin Jones Fellowship was established as the Lions Club International Foundation's highest form of recognition to acknowledge an individual's dedication to humanitarian service. This is a person who puts people and human needs first. Outgoing Lion President Dick Crawford presented the first award to Kevin Kulikowski of Young Life for ministering to young adults in our community for many years. Lion Anne Fahning presented the second Melvin Jones award to Shelia Ferrentino, a 20-year member serving in every capacity in our club including chairing the Exceptional Kids Picnic. Lion Paul Bassette presented the 3rd Melvin Jones award to Lion Donna Lavallee who has been our Recording Secretary for thirteen years, is the clubs Hearing Chairman and works tirelessly behind the scenes on many committees and projects for the Lions and Trinity United Methodist Church. Seen from the left are Paul Bassette, Shelia Ferrentino, Donna Lavallee, Kevin Kulikowski, and Dick Crawford.

Lion Anne Fahning, Boat Chairman of the Lions Exceptional Picnic, presented a Certificate of Appreciation to David Bunis for his service of donating his time and boat during the Kids Picnic for the past 40 years! Pictured from the left, First Mate Barbara Graham, David Bunis, Lions Anne Fahning, Dick Crawford, and Shelia Ferrentino.





The Grand Island Lions Club held its annual Peace poster Contest last fall and honored its winners at its May 24 Lions Club meeting held at the Bridgeview Tavern, Grand Island. The Peace Poster Contest is a Lions Club International project that allows young people ages 11-13 to think about and express their thoughts of peace thru artistic interpretation. These expressions of peace should help these young people with greater tolerance for others and for better international understanding. Their creative art work expresses what peace means to them.

The theme of this Peace Poster Contest was "Lead with Compassion." The posters are judged on expression of theme, artistic merit, and originality. The 1st place winner was Hadley Dahlgren who received a \$100 cash award. The 2nd place winner was Gabriel Scibilia who received a \$50 cash award. Esther Dulak who was one of our four honorable mentioned received a \$25 cash award.

All three young people are from the Veronica Connor Middle School, Grand Island. There were 48 students participating in the contest. Each of the three young people gave a show and tell of their Peace Posters at the Lions Club meeting and explained what peace means to them. pictured left to right, Esther Dulak, Hadley Dahlgren, Gabriel Scibilia, Lion Paul Bassette Peace Poster Chair



Presentation of Robert J Uplinger Distinguished Service Award: After the Peace Poster Contest winners did their talks on their Peace Posters, the Grand Island Lions Club presented a Robert J. Uplinger Distinguished Service Award to Andrew "Drew" Dulak. This award was established in 1993 that honors outstanding Lions and non-Lions or organizations who perform exemplary service to a Lions Club, Lions Club district or community. The award is named in honor of Past Lions Club International President Robert J. Uplinger serving in 1971. The award is presented as a recognition of the recipient's service. These honorees possess the highest examples of Lionistic character, ideals, purpose, and service. This award is the highest award available in the Lions Multiple District 20. The Grand Island Lions Club presented this award to Andrew "Drew" Dulak for his outstanding contribution of having young people ages 11-13 to participate

in the Peace Poster Contest. "Drew" Dulak has given 20 years of Peace Poster service of his 23 years of teaching as an art teacher at the Grand Island Connor Middle School. The Grand Island Lions Club deeply appreciate his efforts year after year to make the Peace Poster Contest a successful learning experience for young people ages 11-13. Pictured are left to right; Lion President Dick Crawford, Andrew "Drew" Dulak, Esther Dulak, and Lion Paul Bassette.



Lion Incoming President Kelly McGarvey presents a gift from our club to Outgoing President Lion Dick Crawford during our installation Dinner.



Incoming president Kelly McGarvey receives the Grand Island Lions Charter from Outgoing president Dick Crawford during our Lions Club Installation Dinner. Every president signs the back of the charter and holds it for their term in office.

Thanks to Lions Tom Rusert, Donna Lavallee, Paul Bassette, Shelia Ferretino and Kelly McGarvey for contributions to this newsletter. The deadline for the September Newsletter is Friday August 25th. 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.

See our facebook page at: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/GILIONSCLUB>

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



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