



The Grand Island Lion

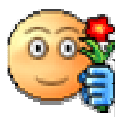
June 2023

www.gilions.com



Kids picnic organizational meeting
June 7th 6PM
Howard Hanna

Intallation Dinner
Wednesday June 14th
Details to follow.

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

Lions,

Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Memorial Day 2023 will have occurred on Monday, May 29.

Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings, and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season.

I hope you and your family were able to enjoy the weather and take time to honor the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom's. As our Lions year winds down for 2022/2023 we continue to accomplish our mission of service. The year started out with Lion Shelia and her team leading us to a successful kids picnic as covid-19 was put in check. This was followed up by our white cane sale led by Lion Anne Fahning and our teams collecting at Tops. Our bi-monthly meetings moving around from the Howard-Hanna conference room, Bridgeview Tavern to Mallwitz's Island lanes. From pizza and wings to fully catered meals we have created a new model for our club to meet and carry on the business of the club.

In April we finally got back to sit down dinners at Ellden's, with the support of Young Life volunteers and other community members we had a very successful event. We traveled over to Canada for the first time since covid for a joint meeting with our sister club, Merritton Lions. Lion Paul Bassette and his committee's work on selecting seniors for our annual scholarship program and the ever-popular Peace Poster contest winners were guests at the May 24th meeting at the Bridgeview tavern. Also, under Lion Paul's leadership the Robert J. Uplinger committee chose Andrew "Drew" Dulak as this year's recipient for his 20 plus years of assisting and promoting this international program at the middle school. Our Melvin Jones winner for this year is Kevin Kulikowski, Kevin is the area director for Young Life. He is not aware of the award, if you see him please keep the secret!! The program reaches out to teens and young adults who are looking for a guiding hand.

This takes us right up to this years Exceptional Kids picnic July 19th at the Buffalo Launch Club.

We are very blessed as an organization; I would like to thank every member for their participation and the executive committee for their commitment to LIONISM.

Our club is in very good hands for the upcoming year under the leadership of Lion President Kelly McGarvey and the executive board.

Lion President Dick





: l-r: PIP Al Brandel, PID Gary Brown, Lion Tom Witkowski, 2nd IVP Fabricio Oliveira and DG Mike Yost.



I was shocked and honored to learn that I was selected by our Lions International President Brian Sheehan to receive his International President's Award. I do know the process is long and arduous with several upper echelon people from our district, our state and at the international level involved. I'm still shocked and humbled having been selected to receive the honor from the office the IP himself.
Lion Tom



Lion Tom Witkowski receiving the award from Second Vice President Fabricio Oliveira of Brazil with (l-r) PIP Al Brandel and PID Gary Brown looking on. It was presented at the recent state convention in Buffalo.



WE SERVE



Dues are due! The Board of Directors have voted to increase our dues due to the increase voted in at the International. The \$5.00 increase will cover the dues increases for the next two years with a final \$2.00 increase in 2025-2026. There are no scheduled increases at the state or district level.

It is important to note that the dues adjustment will allow Lions Clubs International to provide improved support to Lions and to continue to invest in improving programs and digital products such as our website and MyLion. It will also allow us to invest in new programs such as a new online learning platform, development of new curriculum such as digital literacy, training videos, hybrid convention, membership growth initiatives, increased global advertising, marketing automation, digital and video storytelling and others tools and initiatives that will enhance our impact, our brand, and our membership. This is on top of the other benefits LI provides, one of them being the free insurance we can obtain for all our events.

Photo 3: Be Calm and Pay Your Dues.



Thanks to Lions Tom Rusert, Donna Lavalley, Tom Witkowski, and Dick Crawford for contributions to this newsletter. The deadline for the July-August Newsletter is Friday June 23rd. 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

Kelly McGarvey
David Chervinsky
Richard Crawford