



The Grand Island Lion

November 2010

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The Split Club
is now \$\$\$+ and
growing!



Bon Ton fund Raising

This year the date for fundraising is November 13. books can be obtained at the meetings. See Anne Fahning ...



WE SERVE

Upcoming events:

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday November 10th

Buffalo Launch Club

Speaker:

**Barbara Gannon
Grand Island Golden Age Center**

Cocktails 6:00 Dinner 7:00

Short Board Meeting to follow

No meeting November 24th due to the Thanksgiving Holiday



President's Message

Hello Lions,

Well, as President, things in our club seem to be moving very quickly. Already November is here. It is gratifying to know that we, as a club, are continually moving forward in our mission to be more relevant in the community and help those less fortunate or in need of our services.

In September we heard from and made contributions to Lions Joe DiMarco of "Wings" and George Kelly of "Project New Hope". We also sponsored Shelbi Milkas to be our ambassador of good will to the "Festival Primavera Internacional" in Trujillo Peru. September found us meeting with our Merrittons Fellow Lions and recognized Lion Mike Kelly and all he did for our club and the "Special Kids Picnic." We are also now assisting with delivery of "Meals on Wheels."

Now we have three big events in the coming Month. The Bon-Ton fundraiser is November 13th. If you haven't gotten your coupon books yet or if you want to volunteer, contact Lion Anne.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Thanks to Lions Shelia and Henry, we will again do diabetes screening on November 14th at the Knights of Columbus Hall. We need everyone to promote this in the community. In addition to diabetes screening, we will do eye screening on preschoolers and have a pharmacist there for prescription drug counseling. Staff from St Mary's Hospital will be on hand to give advice about diabetes. If nothing else, consider coming out and getting checked between 9AM and 1PM.

Our last project that we will start in November is the sale of Christmas Trees as a fund raiser. This had been discussed for quite some time and thanks to Lion Sean Kelly we are in a win-win situation. We, as a club, will incur no financial risk for the project and depending on our ability to volunteer our time; we would receive some or all of the profits.

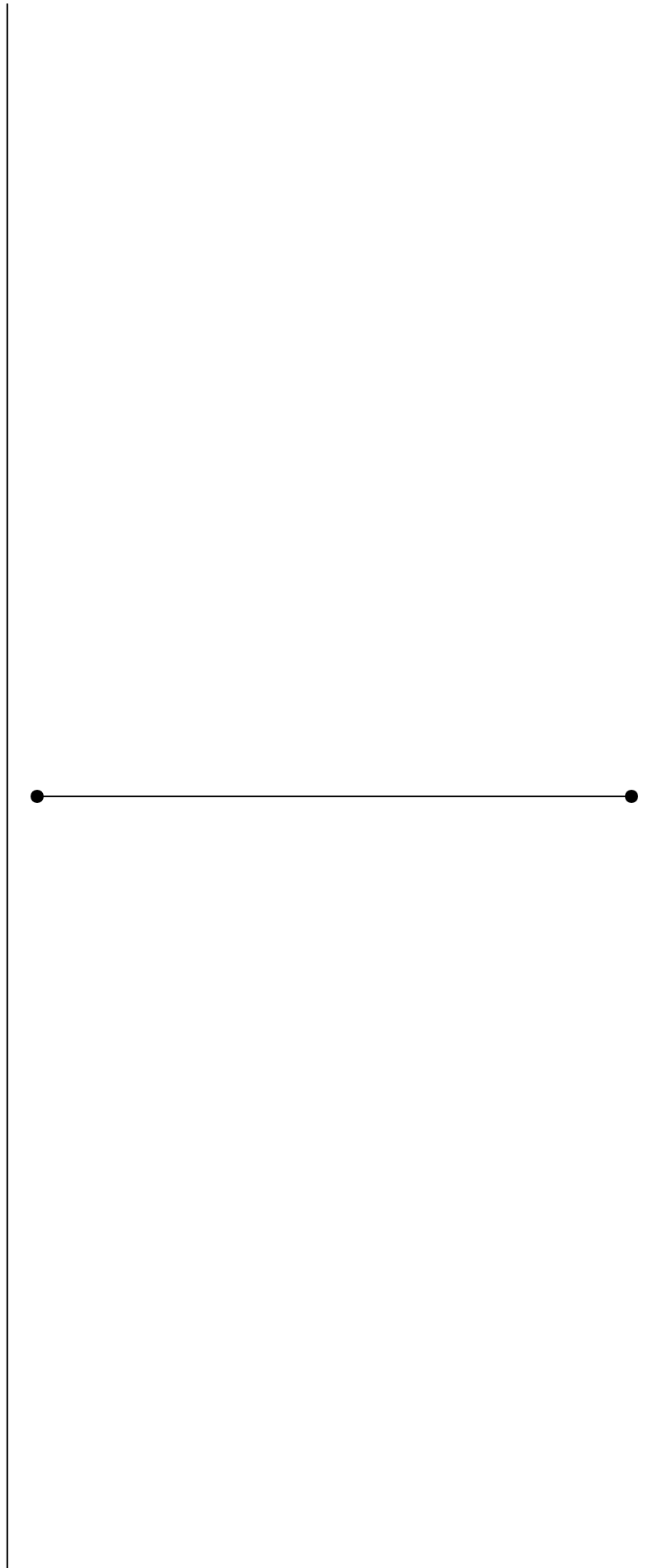
We will set up at Kelly's Country Store, There will be a trailer to keep warm and the Kelly's will supply everything we need to be successful. All we need to do is volunteer our time. The core of our club has already stepped up to do this. It would be great if we had some more volunteers to fill the remaining slots. We need to fill a total of twenty 3 to 6 hour slots to make this a complete success. Anyone interested in doing this, please contact myself or Lion Donna Lavallee.

Finally, there is only one meeting in November on the 10th. Barbara Gannon from the Grand Island Golden Age Center will be the guest speaker (a short Board Meeting will follow). I hope to see you there and I want to wish everyone a great Thanksgiving Holiday. It is a great time for all Lions to reflect on all we have been given to be thankful for.

Yours in service,
Lion Dave



Sunday, November 14th, 9am—1pm
Knights of Columbus Hall
Diabetes screening, preschool eye screening,
prescription drug counseling





Pictures from the Meeting with Merritton



Cruise Night



November 4, 2010
5:30 pm

McMahon's Restaurant
1848 Grand Island Boulevard
Grand Island, New York

Pony Rides



Kids Games



Chowder Sale



Pie Baking Contest

Proceeds to Benefit The Miracle League of Grand Island & Western New York

Thoughts to remember-

1. A person with a clenched fist can't shake hands.
2. A hug is like a handshake, only closer to the heart.
3. When a task is once begun, never leave it until it's done.
4. It's no use raising tadpoles, if you can't keep the frogs.
5. If you can't have the best of everything, make the best of everything you have.
6. Those who think they know everything, really annoy those of us who do.
7. When you think of the problems you have, instead - think of the problems you don't have.
8. Whatever your goal, keep your eye on the doughnut and not on the hole.
9. If you are always right, there is something wrong.
10. There is no right way to do the wrong thing.
11. A smile is the same language all over the world.
12. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.
13. Old friends are the best antiques you will ever have.
14. If life gives you lemons, make lemonade.

Vision Beyond Sight Foundation Report

GROWTH OF SERVICES:

The value of our Foundation is being realized daily with thousands of individuals being helped to see clearly and preventing the needless loss of sight. Right here in our area, we are championing what Helen Keller asked us to do so many years ago. Were it not for the vision of PCC Jeff Stribing and Lion Jim Reynolds, MD and the support we have supplied (and must continue to do so), the economic and emotional loss of vision to the clients and their families would be unfathomable. The work that we are doing is bearing fruit with a significant increase in research scientists wanting to come here to do the valuable work they so passionately believe in.

VOLUNTEERING:

Lions have performed nearly 2,000 hours of service to the Lions Diagnostic Eye Center (LEDC) housed within the Ire G. Ross Eye Institute, or "the Ross" as it has become known as. On behalf of the Board of the Foundation, I respectfully request each and every one of you, to find some time to volunteer at the Ross, whether it be escorting patients in and out, filing documentation, or even simply handing the clients some refreshment and pleasant banter while they await their appointment. With more publicity placing us in the spotlight, we now have twice the number of patients as we did a few short years ago. If you can afford as little as an hour to help, believe me the rewards of being part of preventing someone's blindness will be greater than you could imagine.

FUNDING:

The need for funding continues. We set a goal of \$400,000 to fund equipment for the LEDC back in 1997. We are now just \$46,000 away from achieving this significant milestone. Each of you has an idea of what we can do as a club to bring us closer, yes, even surpass it. Discuss your idea at our next several meetings. Be part of a committee that will help even more people avoid loss of sight – if it was happening to you or a loved one, wouldn't you want others to help?

NEW LEADERSHIP:

I had the pleasure of knowing Peter Buch who directed the LEDC since it began. Due to his untimely passing, the need to find an equally passionate individual was readily met when Rachel Paul was selected. After hearing her eloquent and emotional talk about her desire to make the LEDC even better, there was no doubt that she is the one to lead the LEDC into the future.

CONCLUSION:

We have the facilities, we have the staff, we have the clients, and we have the fire to make it successful. All we need is the money the volunteers, and an equal amount of passion. Please let me know what you can do to help.

Sincerely yours in service,

Lion Tom Witkowski
Sight Chair, VBSF Board Member

Thanks to Lions Dave Chervinsky, Donna Lavalley, Annette Lobl, Tom Witkowski and Al Ackerman for contributions to this newsletter. The deadline for the December Newsletter is Sunday, November 28th. If you have material for the newsletter, you can e-mail it to Lion Brooks Rimes, the editor/publisher, at brimes@rimesrv.net.

Please visit our web site: www.gilions.com.

Grand Island Lions Club
P.O. Box 71
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

"We Serve"