



The Grand Island Lion

September 2011

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The Split Club
is now \$346+ and
growing!



(19 chances left)



WE SERVE

Upcoming events:

September

Wednesday September 14th
General Meeting
Holiday Inn
Cocktails 6:30 Dinner 7PM
Program: Organizational

Wednesday, September 28th
General Meeting
BLC Cocktails 6:30 Dinner 7PM
Program: Town Assessor Judy
Taffelski. Property Revaluation.
Board Meeting to follow

Thank you!

The "Ride for Roswell Grand Island" was held at Beaver Island Park on August 21st. Our Grand Island Lions Club raised \$500 for our premier Cancer Institute. I want to thank my wife Jane for joining our team and Lion Shelia Ferrentino who also joined and rode the 25 miles around our great island with me. Thanks also to Lions Anne Fahning Annette and Henry Lobl and Brooks Rimes for their contributions. Lion Dave Chervinsky



On August 30th Miracle League Field opened up to much joy and fanfare on Grand Island. All of the special needs children were able to take a turn at bat with the Buffalo Sabres and Sabres Alumni giving a helping hand. The Grand Island Lions along with help from other Lions Clubs in our District 20N were able to secure a \$75,000 matching grant from the Lions Club International Foundation to help with this project. Lt to Rt Lions Dave Chervinsky, G. I. President Anne Fahning, Mike Steinagel and Dick Crawford pose behind the Lions International "on Deck Circle" built into the Field. .

From the President:

Fellow Lions, As much as I hate to see Summer fade away, I am looking forward to getting back to our work of serving. I encourage all of you to attend meetings as often as you can. We will be so much more effective with more input from all of our members. Each of you is so important to our mission. Also, I'd love to hear your suggestions for programs at the meetings to keep them interesting. Have a safe Labor Day weekend and I'll see you in September!

Lion Pres. Anne Fahning

Global Membership Team

Membership is critical to the overall success of any organization. An effective membership team will provide the vision, guidance, and motivation necessary for our international organization of service to continue to fulfill its mission of providing quality and relevant service to the global community.

The formation of the GMT addresses the primary challenges of growth initiatives by providing continuity and flexibility with international goals; new structure based on proven infrastructure, and simplified communication flow between all facets of our Lions organization. Since substantial growth has been achieved internationally, Lions International has decided to rebrand the MERL Team with the integration of all components into the GMT and the Global Leadership Team, or GLT, with that component focused on developing new leaders.

I am honored to be selected to serve as our District's GMT Coordinator with West Seneca Lions Roger Lis who will serve as the GLT Coordinator. We will report to Past Council Chair and Kenmore Lion Ken Butkowski who serves as the GMT/GLT Leader for Multiple District (MD) 20 comprised of New York State and Bermuda.

My jobs are to develop and grow new members and clubs and to develop club growth through community involvement to ensure long-term success. These two parts will evolve from the Club Excellence Process (CEP) and effectively completing a Community Needs Assessment (CNA) for our community. You as members of my home club will be asked to participate in the CEP first which will initially consist of a questionnaire which will highlight, basically, the good and not-so-good aspects of our club, based upon the characteristics of an "excellent" club. This is not to say that we are less than that since we are recognized as a leading club in our district. It is meant as a starting point where we can recognize obstacles, identify resources available to us to grow, set goals based upon self- and community analysis, then create and implement action plans. The results of our CEP will be made known to all clubs in the district to act as springboards for their own CEPs and CNAs.

No matter what your club involvement is currently, you will be asked to complete your CEP questionnaire and return it promptly as it is very important to the overall success of the program. They can be completed via email. For those without Internet, the process can be done via snail mail or over the phone. The questionnaire will be available next week. Please be on the lookout for it. If desired, you can print it and mail it to me anonymously. I look forward to serving each of you in this capacity and to watch our work bear fruit with new, and older, productive members and a growing club!

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call me at 909-1862, or at liontom20n@roadrunner.com.

Sincerely yours in service,
Lion Tom Witkowski

CROP Walk 2011

As you and your family enjoy your meals, treats and snacks every day, consider these statistics:

- 98% of the world's underfed live in developing nations.
 - Every 5 seconds, a child dies from hunger.
 - 22,000 children die each year due to poverty.
 - Rural and urban poor and people suffering from natural catastrophes and war are the most at risk for chronic unrelenting hunger.
- Since 2006, the number of our fellow Western New Yorkers turning to assistance from food pantries has increased 83% and from "soup kitchens", 63%.

The data shows an enormous need for food throughout the world and in our own back yard. Our own district's Lions Journey For Sight has had food beneficiaries involved in food distribution for the past three years. Clearly, there is a need for food everywhere.

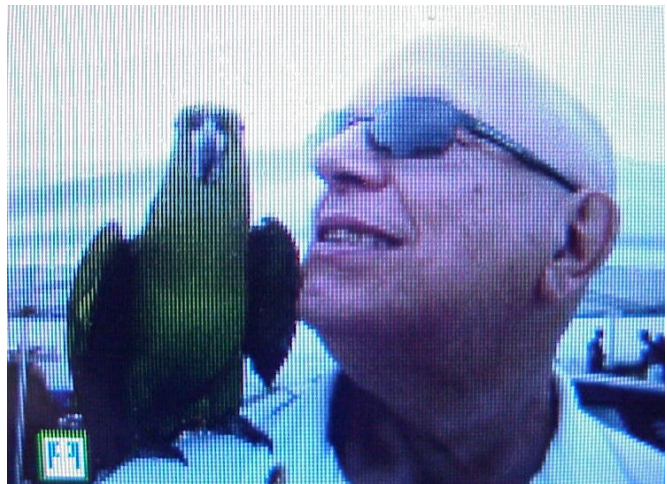
On Sunday, September 25, 2011, join us for the Annual CROP Walk at Beaver Island State Park Marina Pavilion at 1 pm where we will collect money and non-perishable food to alleviate hunger here on Grand Island and throughout the world. The food will be donated to the food pantries located at Trinity United Methodist Church and the Neighbors Foundation on Grand Island. 25% of monetary donations will be split between TUMC and the Foundation. Both of these organizations are non-denominational in their assistance and provide the help based solely on need. The remainder will be donated to Church World Service where 85.4% will be used to provide food and other vital assistance (shelter, water, etc.). All donations are tax deductible.

Entrance to Beaver Island will be free. Refreshments will be available. The Walk will include a Golden Mile and can be as long as nearly 6 miles. For those who can't walk, rockers will be available.

Lions, I urgently request your attendance and join us as we take a walk for Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty!

Sincerely yours in service,
Lion Tom Witkowski

Sources: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, 2010; United Nations Millennium Goal Report, "Reduce Child Mortality, 2010; Unicef: State of the World's Children, 2010; Food Bank of WNY Hunger Study, 2010.



Pics of me and Maisy, a talking and singing parrot that alighted on my shoulder during my stint at selling tickets for the Miracle League car raffle at Thunder on Niagara. The bird also left a deposit with...er...on Lion Tom.



Grand Island Lions Club's 53rd Annual Special Kids Picnic - July 2011.



Member Highlight

Lou Macro will be celebrating 35 years as a Lion, in October. He has held the positions of Secretary, Vice-President, President -1982-83 and achieved 15 years of perfect attendance. Lou serves the club by providing glasses at cost, as well as donating his services to people who have been referred. Congratulations Lou!!

Bon Ton Days are here again

We will be selling coupon books for \$ 5. Books will be available at the September meeting. All revenues go to the club. Shoppers save using the books during November community days



Lion Annette Lobl has a number of membership ID cards that have not been given to some of our members. They can be picked up at any of our meetings or you can have it mailed by sending Lion Annette a self-addressed stamped envelope.



Fellow Lions

Just a few photos of the medical mission to Uganda that your club helped with!!!!

Thanks for helping!!! Remember they will return again!!

Again your club helped make it possible! They screened and gave out about 500 pairs of glasses supplied by lions. No one was not supplied with a walker, cane, wheelchair that needed it. They left one extra walker and left 2 wheelchairs out of 42 chairs taken there for future needs.

God Bless Lion Fred Mellon

Editors note: Lion Fred Mellon is a former Grand Island Lion now a member of the Indian Trails Lions Club District 31E in North Carolina. We helped his mission this summer by supplying wheelchairs and walkers from our loan closet.

Daffy Says:

I have kleptomania,
but when it gets bad,
I take something for it.

FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS!

Except that one where you're naked in church.

Suicidal twin kills sister by mistake!

A bartender is just a pharmacist
with a limited inventory

money isn't everything,
but it sure keeps the kids in touch.

Reality is only an illusion
that occurs due to a lack of alcohol.

Red meat is not bad for you
Fuzzy green meat is bad for you.

Corduroy pillows are making headlines!

I want to die while asleep like my grandfather,
not screaming in terror like the passengers in his car.

I LOVE COOKING WITH WINE
Sometimes I even put it in the food.

Lion Dave

*** Your Joke can be here next month!!!



Thanks to Lions Tom Witkowski, Dick Crawford, Fred Mellon, Annette Boies-Lobl, Shelia Ferrentino, Glenn Connell, Donna Lavalley and Anne Fahning for contributions to this newsletter. The deadline for the October Newsletter is Friday September 30th. If you have material for the newsletter, you can e-mail it to Lion Dave Chervinsky, the editor/publisher, at dschervin@yahoo.com.

Please visit our web site:

www.gilions.com.