

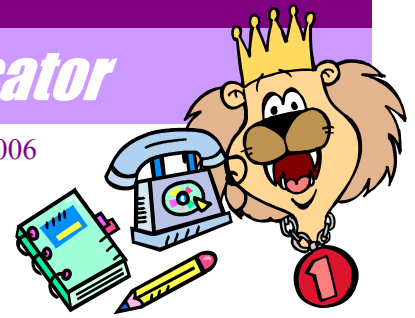


We Serve



The Lions Pride *The Communicator*

District 20-O Monthly Newsletter Volume 4, Issue 7 January 2006



Monthly Message from DG Frank

Greetings for the first time this year to all Lions, Lionesses and Leos!

Lion Anne and I hope you all had a Happy Holiday and are ready to make 2006 the greatest year ever for Lionism. As I've said numerous times before, **Lion Anne and I** are always on the road visiting as many clubs as possible and enjoy the sharing of information with all of you. Here's a quick overview of upcoming events: USA/Canada Forum, Lion's Day at the U.N., State Convention in Buffalo & the International Convention in June/July.

If anyone out there needs an application form for any of these events, contact your club President or myself and I would be happy to send you one.

With regards to membership, I have been asking all the clubs I visit to please use the M and the R (of the M.E.R.L. Team) to help keep their club in good standing. As you all know the M stands for "Membership", and so many of you have wonderful ideas on how to increase membership. The operative word here is: **Ask**. Just take a moment to *ask* someone to come to one of our meetings just to see what we do & what

we're all about. The letter "R" stands for Retention: this is just as important if not more important than getting a new member. "Why?" You may ask. Because you need to hold on to what you already have; and the way to do this is to keep your members busy. There are a multitude of people out there that we can help. Give all your members something to do: a busy Lion is a happy Lion.

Please make note that my **3rd Cabinet Meeting** will be held on **March 4th** at the **Walkkill Community Center** at **9 am**. Reminder notices will be sent out to all district officers as well as Club Presidents. Please note that all Lions, Lioness' and Leos are welcome to these District meetings and it would not hurt for prospective officers to attend as well.

Continue to communicate with each other, and always remember:

- Membership & Involvement**
- Membership & Share**
- Information**
- Membership & Membership**

DG Frank

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VDG Joyce's Corner

Lions, Lionesses and Leos:

As 2005 ends, we should reflect and rejoice in our accomplishments of the year. Through our Lionism service and contributions, we recognize the good that we have done both locally and globally.

With the start of 2006, we should further our commitment in service to our communities and mankind worldwide. Plan projects and identify new areas of need, support the sight and hearing agencies in your community, collect glasses and hearing aids, and support the NYS & Bermuda Foundation and LCIF.

Let's make this a year of renewed service and dedication to the ideals of Lions. Get those dues paid now and attend meetings. Make reservations now for the NYS & Bermuda Convention in Buffalo in May and the LCI Convention in Boston the end of June ending July 4. Become leaders in the club and at the district level. Volunteer. Serve.

A Happy, Healthy New Year to All!!!!

VDG Joyce Sight & Hearing What We Do Best

A New Year for Sight

As Lions we are concerned about sight and vision (in addition to hearing, diabetes, drug abuse, and other community projects). Our local concerns such as The Albany Eye Institute and Guiding Eyes for the Blind are just the "tip of the iceberg" of Lions efforts of care and concern here and around the world. The work we do collecting eyeglasses for third world countries keep the work and mission of Lions in the public's eye. Our County Sight and Hearing groups do an excellent job of informing our participants and organizing for meaningful projects.

2006 is a new year and an opportunity for new resolve. Even though we are doing a great deal already we need to keep in mind that technology is advancing. We have the opportunity to use more modern laboratory equipment for more advanced analysis to discover means of prevention and repair.

District 20-O has a good team of workers. A new year's resolution of involving and educating more Lions and members of the public would be one worth considering. Let's keep on learning what we should know and what we

should do to be effective and efficient.

Yours in Lions and Sight,
SC Reverend, John Capen

Reminder...

Last month we asked for a mid-year report of sight and hearing activities. Thank you to Catskill Lions Club, the first club to turn in a report. Among other activities, the club donated \$250 towards a body hearing aid for a local senior, and \$1600 to Leader Dog for a GPS system (after hearing DG Frank's inspiring presentation on this program.)

Please send in your mid-year reports to **Lion Melanie Wargo**, 10 Old Smith Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 as soon as possible so that the information can be compiled and your club can be recognized in the next newsletter.

Thought for the month:
Every day is a gift. Live life to the fullest, share laughter and love, and continue all the great things that Lions do for our less fortunate neighbors.

HC Melanie Wargo
*Glasses and Hearing Aides
Tally*

WHAT HAVE WE DONE THIS PAST MONTH

Glasses Collected

City of Newburgh	28
Millbrook	169
Port Jervis	129
Sunglasses	34
Rip Van Winkle	100
Stanford	22
Town of Woodbury	100





Hearing Aides Collected

No report

Eye Exams Provided

City of Newburgh 8

Upcoming Related Events

*Sullivan Co. Sight & Hearing Meeting January 16th @ Buster's BBQ, Rt 17B, Kauneonga Lake
*Ulster Co. Sight & Hearing Meeting, January 19th @ the Plaza Diner, New Paltz



Welcome New Lions To Our Clubs...

Middletown: Julie Nolen, Jean Myers, Rochelle Vikos, Betty Shauger, Sheila Barberio, Joe Barberio

Millbrook: Cecilia Collopy, Timothy Collopy

Town of Woodbury: Nicholas Gleason, Richard Leone

And, We Say Goodbye To Those No Longer With Us



Hyde Park: Bill Siegrist



The Lioness Column

By the Lioness

Clubs of District 20-0

This Month's Column By: Past President Joan Young, Catskill Lioness Club

The Lioness Club of Catskill hopes one and all have a healthy, happy and satisfying New Year!

We suspend our winter meetings as half our membership heads south and traveling can be treacherous. We do continue to assist our local long-term care facility with its monthly Bingo games and are available for the needs of the community.

The Leo's Paw



By Columnist Leo Lauren Fitzgerald and the Leo Clubs of District 20-0
By John D'Ambra, submitted by Lion Craig Thompson, Warwick Lions Club

On Thursday, December 1, the **Warwick Lions Club**, as part of the organization's long-term commitment to helping the blind, learned about the work done by "Pals with Paws". Todd Plaisted, an active member of "Pals with Paws" explained how the program provides potential guide dog puppies with homes.

Puppies spend approximately 18 months being socialized in family settings and are then sent to the seeing-eye facilities around the country for training as guide dogs for the blind. The all important early years of a puppy's life are spent in a family setting to help the dog become accustomed to the ordinary events and items it will encounter as a seeing-eye dog living with a blind person. According to Mr. Plaisted, while one might think giving up the dog after living with it for 18 months might seem like an

impossible thing to do, it isn't. When one sees the dog finally working with a blind person and sees the freedom that dog provides, all the efforts become worthwhile.

The local "Pals With Paws" program was originally sponsored by the **Warwick Lions Club** more than ten years ago and is just one of the many ways in which The Lions, on an international, national, and local level help the blind. In addition to providing Braillewriters and large print texts, The Lions donations help to provide guide dogs, white canes, and corneal transplants. In the past fifteen years, Lions have prevented severe vision loss or restored sight to 24 million people.

As part of the December 1 meeting, the Lions also heard from **Taylor Curtin** a Junior at Warwick High School and member of the very active **Warwick Leo Club**, a community based youth service organization for students 12-17 sponsored by the Warwick Lions Club and designed to provide Leadership, Experience, Opportunity thus the acronym LEO.

This past summer, the Leo Club helped serve lunches at the senior citizen barbecue, provided assistance with clearing trails for the Winslow Therapeutic Riding Center Ride-a-Thon. During the fall, the club provided Thanksgiving baskets for 2 needy





families to help them enjoy the holiday, on Halloween- "Sight Night", the Leos collected 25 pair of eyeglasses to give to those in need. Miss Curtin also reported on the **Warwick Leo Club's** recent donations of one thousand dollars to the Puppies Behind Bars program and three hundred dollars to the Warwick Valley Community Center.

As is evident, the **Warwick Lions Club** is continuing its commitment to helping the blind and visually impaired as well as serving other needs within the community. Anyone interested in joining the Lions, or more information about Lions, may visit their website <http://www.warwicklionsclub.org/>



Left to right: **Warwick Lions Club President Craig Thompson, Leo Club Member Taylor Curtin, Pals with Paws members Todd Plaisted & Riley Plaisted, and Warwick Lions Program Director Roger Smith** (not included in photo, Nibby the puppy).

Congratulations to the Following Members Who Have Been Recognized Recently

Lumberland: Congratulations to **ZC Brenda Blair**, recipient of the International President's Award at the District 20-O Convention.

Town of Esopus: Congratulations to **Dina Zager**, recipient of the International President's Award at the District 20-O Convention.

Hurley: Congratulations to the **Hurley Lions Club** for their article on their 50th Anniversary and Gazebo Dedication which appeared in the latest issue of "The Lion".

Comings & Goings Around The District By The Secretaries of District 20-O As Provided in the Monthly Activity Reports

Bethel Lions are sponsoring the next sight and hearing meeting on 01/16/06 at Buster's at a BBQ in Kauneonga Lake. There is a choice of dinners and the cost is \$16.00 a head. Dr. Brian Mungeer will be our guest speaker. If anyone is interested, please contact **Lion Maria @ 845-583-6540**.

City of Newburgh Lions are considering changing to two meetings per month. **Lion member, PDG Glynn Meggison** has what he describes as his permanent new address, 17 S Spring Place, Croton on Hudson, NY 10520. His phone number remains the same @ 845-709-7448.

Cornwall Lions are pleased to report that Isa, the club sponsored brood for Guiding Eyes for the Blind is pregnant with 7 puppies on the way.

The club is pleased to report that they have been assisted with monetary donations from Wal-Mart for the club's annual gift drive for the needy in the community. Forms are passed out to the local schools and the teachers and counselors let the members know who are the "children in need". The gifts are then purchased at Wal-Mart, Old

Navy and the Newburgh Mall. There is a wrapping night where the club gathers to wrap the gifts and then other members are sent in teams of two the weekend before Christmas to deliver the gifts to the residences.



Cornwall Lion President Steve Della Vedova receiving a check for \$1000 from **Grace Krenrick, Personnel Manager for the WAL-MART store in Newburgh**, on behalf of her store and the WAL-MART Foundation, to continue the efforts of Lions insight, hearing diabetes and community needs.

Greenwood Lake Lions dinner dance was such a great success that the club is able to donate \$1000 to the Greenwood Lake Food Pantry, \$1000 to the Greenwood Lake Volunteer Ambulance Corp toward the Special Chair Seat; and \$1500 towards the Greenwood Lake Lions Scholarship Fund. The club's Christmas Party at the Orange County Residentail Health Care Facility went well where 188 Greenwood Lake school children were bused to the facility where they sang carols, played musical instruments for the residents and were given lunch by the Club. The club donated two 52" wide screen plasma TV's to the facility and thanks are extended to the **Monroe and Florida Lions Clubs** for their donation towards the TV's.

Hudson Lions thank **Lion Frank Starkes** who chaired and heavily volunteered the Salvation Army





Bell Ringing in early December.

Hyde Park Lions were busy during December with a Christmas Wreath Sale which profited \$1500; the cord of wood raffle that netted \$525. 70 children were in attendance at the Holiday Theatre Party; \$715 was donated for the Adopt A Family chosen; and the Memory Tree was decorated with Memory ornaments



Tree Lighting with the In Memory Decorations

on the Lions Tree at the Town Hall. The club recently purchased a battery operated portable nebulizer for a young mother who can now treat her respiratory condition without fear of hospitalization for each and every attack.

The **Jeffersonville Lions Club** met recently at Michelangelo's



Restaurant with guest speaker **DG Frank Bartolotti**. **DG Frank** discussed Lionism, the Leo Club and community sight and hearing programs. **DG Frank** gave special recognition to **Dr. Jules Flax**, center, a charter member active for 58 years, and to Lions President **Dr. Joseph Nebzydowski**, right, for the **Jeffersonville Lions'** community contributions and support. *(photo*

courtesy of Times Herald Record, Nov. 11, 2006)

Kingston Lions Foundation received a grant of \$500 from the Wal-Mart Good Works Foundation. 103 children had a happier Christmas due to the Holiday Shopping Spree for needy families.

Lumberland Lions will hold their meetings over the next three months at the Delaware Valley Black Bear Inn in Glen Spey on the last Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm. A blood drive is planned for February 11th at the Lumberland Town Senior Center. The Club's Annual Charter Night is scheduled for September 23rd at the Eldred Preserve. The club's annual Journal Funds are completely in and \$2600 was raised.

Middletown Lions held their 30th Annual Santa Calls as well as bell ringing for the Salvation Army in December. The club's Nite of Fun is re-scheduled for Saturday March 11th at the American Legion Lodge.

Millbrook Lions held their annual Christmas Party for Members and Spouses. The Club's Memory Tree collected \$2320.

New Paltz Lions will begin planning for their springtime projects.

Northern Columbia Lions are hoping for even more returns this year on their Christmas seals which they reportedly stuffed with sea lions instead this year.

Otisville Lions finalized their Minisink Cares Project of shopping for presents for some children in the the Minisink School District; members of the club volunteer to take a list of "wants" from disadvantaged children in the area and shop with club money so they won't get left out during the

holidays. The club continues with their Otisville Voice Newspaper with monthly issues. \$3900 was disbursed in donations to various worthy charities and causes in November.

Rip Van Winkle Lions participated with Toys for Tots with 87 children involved.

Stanford Lions put together Christmas baskets for the needy which were distributed on Dec. 17th; checks were given out for 18 children in connection with the Toys for Tots Program.

Town of Woodbury Lions will donate a PA System to Central Valley Elementary School with matching funds donated by the **Monroe Lions**. The club donated for a hearing aide repair for a child in New Windsor.

Upcoming Fund Raising Events Around The District

City of Newburgh Lions are pleased by their Lotto fundraiser which has proven to be consistent and profitable.

Hyde Park Lions have begun their 200/25 Week Club Raffle with drawings beginning in January and continuing thru May. The Grand Prize Drawings will be held on May 20th at a buffet at Regina Coeli School. Club members will be selling Chocolate bunnies again.

Kingston Lions are selling their raffle tickets at the Hudson Valley Mall in preparation for their Annual Expo in March which will be a two day vs three day event this year.

Lumberland Lions are planning a \$500 shopping spree event at Shop Rite in the Spring.

Port Jervis Lions will be selling chocolate bunnies.

Rhinebeck Lions 20 week dinner/dance is scheduled for March 11th.





Rip Van Winkle Lions will raise monies during Super Bowl.

Town of Highland Lions will hold their Annual Ice Tee Open on February 13th at the Eldred Preserve. The event is played on the ice at Steges Pond in Eldred.



Town of Woodbury Lions will hold their chocolate bunny sales in March on Saturdays at the local post offices and thru member contacts.

District 20-O Reports
Membership
By District
LCIF/Membership Chair
PDG Ed Budd

In the next three issues (Jan - March) we will list a dozen solid, proven, focused "essential" ideas to improve the quality and quantity of members in your club. Implementing, refining, and monitoring the application of these ideas will guarantee (100%, iron-clad, can't miss) an increase in your membership numbers and a corresponding elevation in the participation and enthusiasm of your current members.

The four ideas for January:
1 - *Meetings must be fun and fellowship sincere; prospective members and guests will be more encouraged to want to join your club.*

2 - *Club members should be committed to inviting friends and family to meetings, social gatherings, fund-raisers, and service projects.*

3 - *Develop, publish, disseminate, and implement a*

club membership growth and retention plan - update each year.

4 - *Develop a means to keep all members informed of club activities, meetings, events, and club successes at each meeting (club bulletin, newsletter, email, info committee, etc.)*

We have the best product (Lionism), the best people (Lions, Lionesses, Leos), and an audience willing to listen (neighbors, friends, family, associates, etc.). At some point we have to be the leaders; we have to ask that person, invite that person, court that person until he/she recognizes that they will make a difference in their community by becoming a Lion. The trade-off received by that new Lion is manyfold - several benefits gained will be listed beginning with the April edition.

Until next month, try the ideas listed - you will achieve positive results---guaranteed!

District 20
An Appeal
By Lion Frank Milkovich,
Cold Spring Lions Club
District 20 R-1

The eye of Hurricane Katrina, Category 5 passed over Slidell, LA on August 29th. In its wake, it left behind many, many homes and businesses completely destroyed, residents suffered total losses of homes, furniture, clothing, food and memorabilia. The thousands of structures that were not destroyed suffered extended damages.

How does a community and its residents rebound from such a disaster? The answer is that they have to work at it and receive help from their neighbors. You and I (fellow Lions) are their neighbors and we must step forward and provide the needed assistance.

I am a member of the Cold Spring Lions Club and visited Slidell 5 weeks after Katrina and observed the destruction and clean up that was taking place. Realizing that rebuilding was going to take years and requiring financial assistance, I contacted the Slidell Noon Lions to inquire how we could help. I was told that monetary contributions would be the best method of assisting in the rebuilding of Slidell.

This is an opportunity for New York State Lions Clubs to connect directly with a fellow Lions Club that is in the midst of this vast destruction. All funds will go directly to the affected residents with no overhead expenses.

Try to imagine yourself experiencing these losses: no home, little insurance, no furniture, clothing, food and children without a school to attend. Think about it and hopefully, you will decide to provide financial assistance.

Checks should be made payable to: Slidell Noon Lions Club and sent to: Slidell Noon Lions Club, Attn: Arthur Bell, President, 141 Rue Charlemagne, Slidell, LA 70461.

If you have any questions, contact Lion Frank Milkovich, 55 Healy Road, Cold Spring, NY 10516, 845-265-2006.





The International Association of Lions Clubs

(Lions Clubs International ®)

300 W 22nd Street, Oak Brook, Illinois 60523-8842, USA (630) 571-5466



We Serve

DR. ASHOK MEHTA
International President

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear District Governor:

Last April, many districts celebrated Lions Worldwide Induction Day and hundreds of new members around the world were simultaneously inducted into Lions clubs. Press releases announced the strength of our organization and together we recognized the importance of being part of the leading service organization in the world. *It's an event worth celebrating!*

This year we will continue the tradition by celebrating Lions Worldwide Induction Day on April 29, 2006.

Bringing new Lions into the club must be done with thought and care. To make planning easy and the event memorable, Lions Clubs International will provide:

Lions Worldwide Induction Day Planning Guide – This comprehensive guide includes program suggestions and recruiting ideas to share with your clubs. To receive a copy, submit the attached form. The guide (MK-61) is also available for downloading on our website at www.lionsclubs.org.

Certificates and Press Releases - Participants will receive free commemorative certificates and press releases to honor new members and publicize the event.

If Lions Worldwide Induction Day occurs during your district or multiple district convention, add the event to your program schedule. Involving new members in district activities increases their knowledge and commitment to your district programs. If your convention is scheduled for another time, contact the club presidents within your district to organize a special event.

Always encourage your clubs to continue their current induction ceremonies to support year-round growth. Lions Worldwide Induction Day is a celebration to recognize members who were recruited throughout the year.

Join us as we celebrate our growth today and share our success with others!

Yours truly,

Dr. Ashok Mehta
International President

cc: Council Chairperson

WWIDAM.EN





Who's Who In District 20-O

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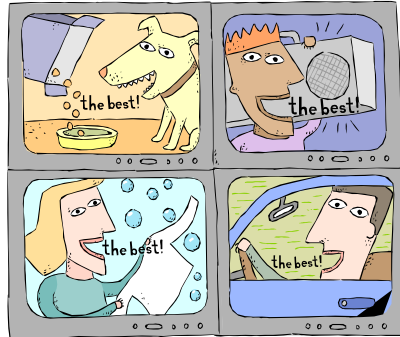
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Tid-Bits From Your Newsletter Editor



Your Ad Could Be Here



A new feature of the Monthly Newsletter - include your business card for a cost of \$25.00 and you will help District 20-O with offsetting newsletter expenses - or advertise an upcoming event! The possibilities are endless!

Lion Dina Zager, Editor
District 20-O Newsletter
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