



Lions Pride

Eyes On The Future-Accent On Youth

District 20-O Monthly Newsletter Bill Fitzgerald, District Governor 2003-2004



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DG Bill's Message

I hope that you will find this year's Convention Newsletter I issue informative and enjoyable to read. The convention committee under the direction of VDG Ed Budd has been meeting diligently and regularly to ensure that this year's District Convention will be everything you have asked for in your turned in surveys.

As I mentioned in my last newsletter, I was in the process of moving --- that has now become a reality. My new home address is: 229 Bedell Drive, Port Jervis, NY 12771. My new home phone number is (845) 858-8557 and my new home fax number is (845) 856-6953. My e-mail addresses remain the same: mbl2@frontiernet.net and bfitzgerald@ouboces.org. Please make a note of these so that you can reach me.

I now turn over the remainder of this newsletter to VDG Ed and we look forward to seeing you on November 2nd!



From VDG Ed Budd

While we belong to the world's largest service organization it is our local clubs that are best suited to serve our local communities. We can

establish local needs and provide local solutions in a timely manner.

This emphasis on "local" translates also to local membership. As we are able to recognize and address local concerns, so too can we search out potential quality new members in, and for, our communities. Lions Clubs Object # 6 begins "to encourage service-minded persons to serve their community without personal financial reward---". Each week we conduct business with, meet with socially, or greet in passing many local people who could be considered as prospective Lions. If we do not speak with them how can we gauge their interest in Lionism? It is our challenge to identify and approach these potential Lions. A simple "What do you know about the Lions?" may provoke a discussion about our many community service projects. Most people recognize Lions for sight and hearing conservation, some are aware of environmental projects, programs for youth (Leo clubs), scholarships, and assistance for senior citizens or families in need.

How many are familiar with the benefits that they may realize as a Lion: *satisfaction* - from helping others or working with other Lions to accomplish a successful project; *opportunity* - to share in the growth of their community, to develop and enhance leadership and communication skills and then to demonstrate those skills; *involvement* - in club and community activities; *fellowship* - the immediate gain of new friends.

We play too important a role in our communities to neglect asking

our friends, neighbors, relatives, or associates to join with us. Ask that one best prospect about becoming a Lion. Show your pride and enthusiasm, your belief in the value of Lionism, why you are a Lion. People will respond, our memberships will increase, our communities will benefit. Everyone will profit, just by asking! As always, thanks for your cooperation. On Saturday, October 18th, the Goshen BOCES will be the location of a 20-0 MERL seminar (Membership, Extension, Retention, and Leadership) under our District MERL chairs, PCC John Wargo and PDG's Glynn Meggison, Wilfred Roehe, and Ted Blair, respectively. All clubs will be contacted with necessary information on the seminar, however, please save the date and consider having a club representative in attendance.

2003 District Convention

In this issue are the registration and delegate forms for our annual District Convention, set for Sunday, November 2nd, at the Fishkill Holiday Inn, at the intersection of Routes 84 and 9. Please take advantage of this opportunity to meet some of the finest people anywhere, your fellow Lions, Lionesses, and LEOs from District 20-0, and to participate in your choice of the twelve seminars being offered. We are especially pleased that several LEOs will be leading us in the opening ceremony at our 9:15AM plenary session. Registrations for the day, which include the AM continental breakfast and an excellent buffet luncheon, are at \$28.00/person for mailings (to Cabinet Secretary Dina Zager) October 20th or before, and \$30.00 thereafter or at the door. Please return your delegate forms to Lion Dina as soon as possible. Our luncheon speaker will be first year International Director Scott Neely, a retired systems administrator for the state of West Virginia. ID Neely has held many offices and has received many awards in his forty years as a Lion. He is also active in many community organizations and business associations.

As in previous years, several vendors will be exhibiting in the main hotel lobby. Please support them by stopping by and reviewing their offerings. Our afternoon session, 3:15-4:00, will be a form of Lions cabaret/ karaoke/ talent show, perhaps with some audience participation and LEO involvement. We will also be offering some prizes, and surprises, for various categories of Lions and LEOs, and the 'Mystery Lion' will make a return visit. Tips on identifying this Lion will be distributed at the registration. Our convention journal consists of five classes of participation, from \$10.00 to \$150.00. Each club will be contacted with this information and all ads and ad money must be returned to PDG Ed Blodgett-only-for bookkeeping purposes (229-5561).

This year's voting process will be solely to determine the location of the 2004 District Convention with three sites listed on the ballot. Saturday evening, 11/1, we will have a prime opportunity to meet and dine with ID Neely in a private banquet room, also at the Holiday Inn. Seating is limited to 40 people and reservations, at \$35.00 each with a choice of prime rib or marinated grouper, can be returned to Lion Diane Budd (343-5837) again with a deadline of 10/20.

158 Lions attended our 2002 convention. With your participation we can top that figure in '03' however, more important than pure numbers are the benefits and enjoyment we receive from the day's experience. Join us for a day of Lionism, and, don't forget to bring your banner to be proudly displayed at our opening and closing sessions.

The Leo's Paw -



By Co-Columnists

Leo Lauren Fitzgerald (Town of Walkkill) and Leo Becky Briller (Warwick)

As this year's Co-Editor of the Leo's Paw Column of the District 20-0 Newsletter, I am very excited to be working on this column and the opportunity to work with Lion Dina Zager and collaborate with my co-editor Leo Lauren Fitzgerald. I am a founding member of the Warwick Leo Club, and last year I was the club's first secretary. This year, I am now serving as 2nd Vice President (something for which my hand is very thankful for.) I have participated in a plethora of projects, my favorites being a part of the Public Relations Committee, working the concessions at the Warwick Lions Ultamania Basketball Game, and participating in the town's Warwick in Bloom gardening project. I have also written for the Leo's Paw for a year now, and I am looking forward to hearing about your club's activities and committees. Whether they be social outings or service fundraisers, it is important for us to be aware of your projects so we can help each other out with advice and additional hands. Therefore, I encourage **all** Leo Clubs to submit material monthly for the column this year. Whether you email me (at jessi@optonline.net) or my co-editor Lauren Fitzgerald (at mbl2@frontiernet.net), we will make your club's voice heard throughout the district, and we can work to make our Leo District the most communicative and most involved out of all the districts. I can't wait to see the exciting news around the area. I await your updates and articles!

Greenwood Lake Leos

This past May, during the height of the war in Iraq, the Greenwood Lake Leo Club held a fundraiser to support our troops overseas. The club, which has members who age from 12 to 16, made and sold American Flag safety pins in front of a local Walmart. In two days, \$577 was raised and they have asked Walmart for a matching grant which is still pending. About 35 Greenwood Lake Leos participated in some degree in the making and/or sale of the pins. The money we made will be donated to the troops in Iraq or used for after-war efforts in America. These Leos hold their meetings on the first Thursday of each month at the Public Library; however, Lion Agnes Kilduff is going to speak to the Tuxedo Principal about finding a meeting place in the high school.

Warwick Leos

Although they were content with enjoying summer's freedom and the rare sunshine, members of the Warwick Leo Club were also around to participate in several club events this summer. On June 29th, Leos held their first Blood Drive and although successful, look forward to attracting more donors next year. Leos also restocked shelves July 1st and August 14th at the Ecumenical Food Pantry, as well as stuffing race bags for the Warwick Lions Labor Day 5K. We were invited yet again to collaborate with the Warwick Athletic Dept. to run the concession stand for the school football scrimmage, selling everything from pretzels to burgers to candy. The most important event the Leos were involved with was the Senior Citizens Barbeque held August 26th at Warwick Town Park. This BBQ is sponsored by several local service organizations, and a range of political figures, including Town Supervisor Michael Sweeton and Mayor Michael Newhard. Helping to serve the hot dog lunch and chicken dinner was no other than Congresswoman Rep. Sue Kelly (R-NY), who personally addressed the Leo Club. The Leos involved-President Tim Getz, IPP Emily Thompson, Becky Briller,

Melissa Fischetti, and Erin Cassidy- all feel equally lucky to have been able to meet this influential political player. The Leo's aren't all about work, though; the club took a trip down to Yankee Stadium July 21st, where they watched the Yankees take a drastic fall to the Toronto Blue Jays in a resounding 8-0 loss, much to many of the Leos' dismay. The Warwick Leos are excited to begin their new year on September 12th with their new administration. With the hope of repeating past successes and the challenge of finding more projects, the Leo Club is sure to have an exciting year!



The Warwick Leos at the BBQ (don't we all look so lively!) Front l-r: Melissa Fischetti, Rep. Kelly, Emily Thompson Back l-r: Becky Briller, Tim Getz, Erin Cassidy



Calendar of Events

- Sept 27 Leadership Training-Camp Badger
- Oct 11 Lumberland Lions Annual Charter Night-Eldred Preserve
- Oct 18 2003-2004 MERL Team Training, Ulster BOCES, Goshen 9-10 am Registration; 10-3 Seminar -Lunch and Snacks
- Oct 24- 2nd Council Mtg. Binghamton, NY
- Oct 25 Highland Lions 50th Anniversary Dinner Eldred Preserve

- Nov 2 District 20-O Convention Holiday Inn, Fishkill, NY
- Nov 2nd Cabinet Mtg. Date/Location TBD
- Jan 26 DG Visit Hyde Park Lions
- Feb 20- 3rd Council Mtg. Syracuse, NY
- 21

We Welcome New Lions To Our Clubs...

Amenia: *Anne Dealy, Lou Piaazo, Rosalie Vincent, Warren Gordon*
City of Newburgh: *Constance J. Stahl*

Lumberland: *Jerry Krupka*

Middletown: *Joan Stoltz, Roberta Sitomer*

Millerton: *Holly Herbold, Derek Trivelli, Daniel Tarrab, Thia Tarrab*

Otisville: *Anthony Girolamo*

And, We Say Goodbye To Those No Longer With Us

Middletown: *Ross Newkirk*

Stanford: *Life Member Wes Sleight*
Tri-Valley: *Floyd Hill*



Lions, Lioness and Leo Awards

Congratulations To Well Deserving Volunteers

This column will feature awards that have been bestowed upon members throughout the year. Please include this information in your Monthly Activity Report

City of Newburgh Lions: *Lion Jenny Carhart-French* who is expecting a new addition to her family with husband Chris. Lion Jenny was the columnist of District 20-O's Sight & Hearing Column in 2002-2003.

Greenwood Lake Lions: *Lion Lou Abel* for winning the 5th place medal in a 3 event program in Houston, TX for men 65-69; as well as winning 5th place medals for the breast stroke in the Rutgers, NJ Master Swimming Nationals.



Sight & Hearing What We Do Best
A Note From Sight Chair
Lion Frank Bartolotti

Believe it or not, another year has come and gone. We at 20-O have a very busy year and before you know it, it's over. As VDG Ed Budd has said, the 20-O Annual Convention is set for November 2nd, 2003 at the Holiday Inn in Fishkill (same place as last year). Please make a special effort to attend and get your ad in our Journal as soon as you can. As chair for the 20-O Convention Seminars, I have some real informative speakers lined up for you to hear. We are making a slight change with the seminars. We may have the same speaker in the morning and again in the afternoon to give you more of a chance to hear all that you wish within the allowable time we have. I have started making my visits to 20-O Clubs and find that those of you that met over the summer are ever so busy on fundraisers, collecting eye glasses, hearing aids, eye exams, etc. This is truly wonderful. On Sept. 18-20, I will be attending the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Portland, Oregon. Please continue to focus on the following:

- a) Membership and Involvement
- b) Mmbership and Share Information
- c) Membership and Membership

Some Interesting Facts From Hearing Chair Lion Joyce Maier

I would like to take advantage of this newsletter going out to all 20-O members to introduce myself.

I am a seven-year member of the Rhinebeck Lions Club, currently serving a second year as the Club President. I am chairman of the Dutchess County Sight Conservation Committee and serve on the Board of Directors of the Lions Eye Institute, Albany, NY.

DG Bill appointed me to serve the District as Speech and Hearing Chairman. I have begun attending the county Sight

and Hearing Committee meetings and look forward to meeting many of you through that venue. You may contact me at (845) 876-6390 after 6 pm or at j.maier@worldnet.att.net

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- ❖ Hearing loss is the most common congenital anomaly found in newborns...and yet all newborns are routinely tested for it.
- ❖ Approximately 3 in 1,000 babies are born with a significant hearing loss, and many more children are born with milder forms of hearing loss.
- ❖ 14.9% of U.S. children aged six to nineteen have a measurable hearing loss in one or both ears.
- ❖ Any degree of hearing loss can be educationally handicapping for children. Even children with mild to moderate hearing losses can miss up to 50% of classroom discussions. Unmanaged hearing loss in children can affect their speech and language development, academic capabilities and educational development, and self-image and social/emotional development.
- ❖ Studies eliminate that as much as 90% of what young children learn is attributable to the reception of incidental conversation around them.
- ❖ 37% of children with only minimal hearing loss fail at least one grade.
- ❖ All children can be evaluated for hearing loss. Even children who are only minutes old can have their hearing assessed using tests

that are safe, painless, and easy to administer.

- ❖ Recent National Institute of Health studies have shown that children with hearing loss who are identified and receive early intervention prior to six months of age develop significantly better language ability than children identified after six months.
- ❖ The average age of identification of early-onset hearing loss in the US is two years of age.

The above statistics are provided by AG Bell.

WORLD SIGHT DAY - CELEBRATION 2003

During the week of October 7 – 9, 2003 the Lion's Foundation at Albany, N.Y., Inc., along with area Lion's Clubs, will be sponsoring the visit of Keller Johnson Thompson to area schools. Our region is targeted for a visit on Tuesday, Oct. 7th. Keller is the great grand-niece of Helen Keller and Vice President of Education at the Helen Keller Foundation in Birmingham, Alabama. Keller has developed and runs an Educational Program on the life and legacy of Helen Keller that travels to schools throughout the United States. Keller visits about 200 schools per year, and she has touched the lives of over 180,000 students in her travels. Keller's presentation consists of a slide presentation on the life of Helen Keller (about 30 minutes in length), with time at the end for questions and answers. The entire program is about an hour in length and is designed for 4th graders, although others are certainly welcome to participate. Teachers can prepare their students for Keller's visit by

being sure that the students know who Helen Keller is beforehand.

A showing of the 'Miracle Worker' prior to Keller's visit would be ideal. The Lions are proud to be sponsoring this educational opportunity for the fifth consecutive year and there is no charge to the schools or students who participate in the program. This program is being sponsored in recognition of World Sight Day, which this year is being recognized globally on October 9, 2003. World Sight Day was established in 1998 by Lion's International with one primary goal in mind - "to educate the world about the overwhelming need to conquer blindness, and our collective ability to do so". During her stay in New York Keller hopes to meet and speak to as many students as possible. With this in mind, the Lion's are recommending that School Districts work to combine their students to one central location for Keller's visit. This would allow her to see a greater number of students at each location. If you should have any questions regarding Keller or the scheduling of a visit please contact John Wargo at 845-894-3670 during the day or at 845-473-2807 in the evening. John can also be reached by e-mail at:

jwargo@attglobal.net



*The Lioness
Column
By The Lioness
Clubs Of District
20-0*

*This Month's Column By: Lioness
Joan Young, Pres., Catskill Lioness
Lioness Rosalie Frasca, Pres.
Mamakating Lioness*

The **Lioness Club of Catskill** supported one eye exam for the month of August. The **Mamakating Lioness Club** held an extremely energetic September meeting after a two month hiatus. It was full of thank you's from our PDG Glynn Meggison; the Mamakating Lions Club for our sponsorship during their May Golf

Scholarship Tournament; the American Cancer Society for daffodils purchased by us and donated to all seniors for Meals on Wheels; and the American Red Cross for our June Blood Drive - we collected 23 pints of blood to be used to help 90 patients. The club was responsible for collecting 15 pairs of glasses and providing eye exams and glasses for two more students in cooperation with our Lions Club. Additional plans are being made for our 18th Annual Collectable and Craft Fair to be held on the Columbus Day Weekend. Enjoy! Fall is on the Way!

Comings & Goings

Around The District

*By The Secretaries of District
20-0 As Provided in the Monthly
Activity Reports*

Amenia Lions donated a pair of eye glasses and an eye exam to a community resident who recently lost her home in a fire. The club gave a \$1,000 gift to support the Joe Bush Memorial Fund. New Sight drop-off boxes have been provided to 4 area businesses. The club's Annual Golf Tournament was a huge success with 97 golfers; the club is sponsoring a Walk to Cure Diabetes on September 20th.

City of Newburgh Lions conducted a hearing screening for family health. Lions from around the District and other service clubs joined Newburgh on Sept. 15 when Congressman Maurice Hinchey was the guest speaker. The 3rd Annual Newburgh Lions Fair/Carnival Apple Festival will be at Algonquin Park in the Town of Newburgh on September 24-28. For community involvement, the club donated to Big Sisters/Big Brothers and sold tickets to help VDG Ed.

Goshen Lions did not meet in August but collected 65 pairs of glasses and 7 hearing aides. Lion Manny Pardo

has agreed to represent the club on the advisory board of the Glynwood Center Countryside Exchange - a land use think tank whose specialty is the preservation of open space, a big concern locally. The members of the exchange, a European organization, are also experts on environmental preservation and economic development.

Greenville-Waywayanda Lions served hot dogs, hamburgers and beverages at the Town of Greenville's Sesquicentennial Celebration for almost 10 hours at an event which was extremely successful for both the club and the town.

Greenwood Lake Lions held their Annual Flea Market the end of August with many vendors, carnival rides and a dunking booth-\$1910.69 was the results for the Welfare Fund. The club donated to Guiding Eyes for the Blind, Warwick Senior Citizens, Hope with Heart and the band that plays for the Greenwood Lake Village Party "Beach on the Block". The club held their 300 club dinner which was fabulous-the weather was perfect and the Lions worked like a dance team with new members jumping right in! Lion Agnes Kilduff will chair a committee to search for more women interested in becoming Lions.

Hudson Lions held their annual Junior Olympics for the Hudson area playgrounds with approximately 300 children participating. Awards were given and the top prize was a bike for both the girl and boy winners. Lunch was served and one of the playgrounds received \$100 for the most creative banner.

Hurley Lions will hold their annual Golf Tournament on Oct. 6th at the Wiltwyck Golf Club. The club is selling Daily 3-Digit Number Tickets during the month of September. The club agreed to a donation to the

Hurley Library for the construction of two rolling book carts for the new shed which the library purchased to store books for its annual Stone House Day book sales – Lions are still needed to help the library and Stone House Day.

Kingston Lions own **Cheryl Bowers** will be honored at the YMCA Tribute to Women Dinner. Plans are underway for a Halloween Party on Oct. 23rd. The club made arrangements for a vibrating alarm and a crying baby alert for a woman with profound hearing loss who has a newborn. The club is one of the sponsors for the Annual AIDS Banquet on Oct. 3rd at Hillside Manor.

Lumberland Lions are in the process of selling chances for their 21 Club. \$1,735 was raised from the Lawn Swing Raffle. 25 Donors and 21 pints of blood were collected at the blood drive. The club will hold their annual charter night dinner at the Eldred Preserve on Oct. 11th, 6 pm with a choice of prime rib, chicken marsala, or shrimp/scallops over linguini at a cost of \$30 pp. Those interested should contact Lion Brenda Blair @ 856-1638 or 856-5723.

Marlboro-Milton Lions annual Senior Citizen Picnic was a success as always.

Middletown Lions were busy the end of August by hosting the music group, The Pony Tails, at Festival Square. September was just as busy with Lions Family Day Picnic at Shannon Park in Slate Hill; Bottle Drive Day; Walk to Cure Diabetes in Goshen and Poughkeepsie. The club's Raffle to support VDG Ed was a big success raising \$632. The club will hold a Pancake Breakfast on October 12th at the Masonic Lodge from 7 am to 12 noon. The 1st Tuesday in October will be awards night. The club continues to help with bingo at the Middletown Psychiatric Center the 2nd Monday of each month. The club collected 209 pairs of glasses and 5 hearing aides during August.

Millerton Lions honored retired police chief for his 33 years of service to the community. The club held a very successful fund-raising softball game –

the main attraction was Ed Feigner and his 4-man softball team.

Between 500 and 600 people attended to watch this game; for the past 58 years, Ed Feigner has been known world-wide as the King and His Court. The club co-sponsored a chicken BBQ with the Millerton Fire Dept.; and manned the sight booth at the Dutchess County Fair.

Monroe Lions sold cheesecakes as a fundraiser at Monroe's Annual Cheese Festival as well as trying to attract new members to join the club.

Otisville Lions awarded three scholarships to graduating seniors in the Minisink Valley District; one of which was a developmentally disabled youth and a most improved youth.

The club sponsored children in the Youth Basketball Program who otherwise would not have been able to attend. The club participated in the 14th Annual Country Fair in August. As the result of a donated pin-decorated vest by a deceased member of the club, it was sent to Albany for auction and raised \$250 for the benefit of Camp Badger.

The club is involved with sponsoring, along with other groups, a local girl who is running a marathon in Orlando, FL for the benefit of the American Stroke Assoc. in January.

Pine Bush Lions continuing to prepare for the Harvest Festival on Sept 27th at which they will raffle a Wheelbarrow of Cheer.

Pine Plains Lions collected 3 pairs of glasses in August. Members staffed the Sight & Hearing Booth at the Dutchess County Fair. The club celebrated their 50th Anniversary Celebration on Sept. 14th at the Lions Community Pavilion. The club's Annual Beef Barbeque was held with 500 in attendance and approximately \$3,000 in profit; the brochure for the club's 50th

celebration has brought in \$4,000 in advertisers.

Port Jervis Lions senior picnic had 36 seniors in attendance with entertainment from the Joy Mack Dancers. The club collected 19 pairs of glasses in August.

Stanford Lions collected 15 pairs of glasses and 1 hearing aide. Volunteers worked at the Sight & Hearing Booths at the Dutchess County Fair; Meals on Wheels were delivered by members.

Town of Montgomery Lions co-sponsored a blood drive with Walden Federal Savings & Loan during the Annual Walden Fest on Sept. 20th.

Town of Ulster Lions donated \$50 to the **Hurley Lions** for their annual fundraiser.

Tri-Valley Lions ran the soda booth at the Grahamsville Fair Aug. 15-17 and grossed approximately \$11,500. The club donated \$500 to a local family with a child who suffers from neurofibromatosis and \$500 to a local single mother of 5 with cancer.

Warwick Lions had over 450 runners and walkers in the Labor Day 5K Race. They will hold a sponsor appreciation night for the race sponsors on Oct. 2nd. The club will participate in the community Apple Fest on October 5th raising money by selling hot dogs, drinks, snacks and caramel covered apple slices.

District Reports

From District Diabetes Chair Lion Carole Lybolt

November has been declared Diabetes Awareness Month. Start your plans early. Approximately 10.3 million people live with diabetes every day – but it's estimated that 5.4 million don't even know that they have the disease. Left untreated, diabetes can lead to heart and kidney disease, amputation, blindness, and other serious problems. The Lions Diabetes Awareness Program was introduced

in 1984. The mission statement of the program is: to conduct and support local and large-scale efforts leading to the control and treatment of diabetes and its complications through education, prevention and research. Let's do our part!
From District Environmental Chair Lion Art Goldenberg

On July 26th the environmental committee of the Middletown Lions Club stocked Summit Pond at Fancher-Davidage Park with 100 large mouth bass, 100 brown bullheads and 100 bluegill sunfish. This is the site of the club's annual Fishing Derby held in June.

From District Leo Chair Lion Craig Thompson

For many of us, I know this is a busy time of the year with the end of summer vacation and getting back to school. In an effort to help insure a smooth transition back into our Leo programs for the fall, I would just like to remind you to be sure to submit all the required paperwork for your Leo Clubs to Lions International. This would include your Certificate of Liability Insurance Form Accord 25-S (7/97) indemnifying your meeting location and your Leo Club Officer and Membership Report LEO-72 2003. In addition, please be sure that you have all your Leos complete an Application for Membership LEO-50 4/98 and have signed by a parent or guardian. Many of these forms can be easily downloaded from the Lions International Website, www.lionsclubs.org. Also, please, if you haven't already visited our District Website, www.20olions.com. If you have any questions about these forms, please don't hesitate to contact me.

I'm still looking forward to hearing back from you with regards to getting together for a very informal meeting sometime either the last week in September or the first week in October. I'm hoping we can meet at the NYMA in Cornwall, Orange County, home of our district's newest Leo Club. Please respond ASAP.

As you are reading this edition of the Newsletter, thanks goes out to the many Leos and Lions that helped with collating, stapling, labeling and putting on the postage for this special edition of the Convention Edition of District 20-O's Newsletter. Thank you....we could not have done it without you!



From Our Guest Columnists

PCC John Wargo has asked me to provide an article for the special-district-wide convention

newsletter. As the Chairperson of the International Finance and Headquarters Operations Committee I would like to briefly discuss, what I consider the most important vote in the history of our Association. The International Dues Increase.

At the International Convention in Denver, the resolution to increase the per capita tax was approved by an affirmative of 79.3%. The increase of \$15.00US will be spread over 3 years starting with the July 1, 2003 billing period. The following is a schedule of the new dues structure:

July 1, 2003 and January 1, 2004, clubs will be billed \$14.23US per billing period for a total of \$28.25US in the first year.

July 1, 2004 and January 1, 2005, clubs will be billed \$16.60US per billing period for a total of \$33.20US in the second year.

July 1, 2005 and January 1, 2006, clubs will be billed \$19.50US per billing period for a total of \$39.00US in the third and final year.

The total increases by year are \$4.25US, 2003-2004; \$4.95US, 2004-2005; \$5.80US, 2005-2006

for a total increase over three years of \$15.00US.

As Finance Committee Chairperson, on behalf of the officers and directors of your Association, I want to express our appreciation to all the delegates from District 20-O for their support of this most important resolution. THANK YOU!

Sincerely Yours in Lionism,
Lion John E. Rabideau, ID
Finance Committee Chair 2003-2004



Dr. Edward Cordes, PID was the leader of the team that consisted of another optometrist, Dr. Larry Miller, 2 second year optometry students, one New York licensed optician, as well as one optical store manager who is trained in optics. The balance of the 13 member team was made up of a retired teacher, an active teacher, a retired chemical engineer, an accountant, an accounting manager, a dental technician, and a retired business-man. Five members of the team were fluent in Spanish. They represented 4 districts: 20-N, E2, R1, and R2

The mission was conducted January 11 - 18, 2003. The destination was the eastern - central and northeastern region of the nation. The local Lions identified this area as being underserved by local eye care practitioners as well as other vision care missions. Since there was a high demand for the services of this mission in both El Seibo City and Miches, the decision was made to conduct our mission in two locations. The Team examined and treated 492 patients in El Seibo City and 481 patients in Miches. 900 pair of eyeglasses were dispensed to patients needing optical correction.

In addition, 300 pair of Sunglasses were provided to protect patients from the harmful effects of the tropical sun. In addition, many patients were diagnosed and treated for significant ocular pathology. These diseases included Conjunctivitis, Macular Degeneration, Cataracts, Glaucoma, and many obscure diseases not often encountered in the US.

There were a few patients in each clinic location the team identified as needing either special prescription glasses or ocular surgery. The Lion Leaders of each Club agreed to do their best to ensure these needs were addressed. The Lion Leaders collected the identification information of these patients so contact could be made.

Finally, I want to make special recognition of the unselfish dedication to patient care exhibited by the entire team. Our hours were long and rigorous. The last day of clinic was scheduled to end at about 6:00 – 6:30 PM. By 5:30 PM we were asked how many of the 135 or so additional patients, who were waiting in the street literally for 4-5 hours, we would be able to see. The local Lions suggested we see the 35 who had already been registered and send the rest home. When this was translated to the crowd there was instant turmoil. The patients begged to be examined. I called the entire team forward to the clinic entrance asking if they were comfortable seeing only 35 additional patients. Each of the team said conclusively “we were in the Dominican Republic to treat patients and that’s what we would do”. The entire team was completely exhausted. Some of us were not physically up to par. The charge on our equipment batteries was only able to sustain usefulness to examine one eye before having to be placed on the chargers again to complete the second eye. However, each team member gave 100% of his/her skill and dedication until every patient waiting to be seen was examined and treated. We were finished about 9:00 PM! This is the best example of Lions Humanitarian service I have seen.

I am very proud of each member of the team. It has been an honor and privilege to serve with you. I will look back at this mission as one of the most rewarding experiences of my life.

Dr. Edward Cordes, Past International Director



In 1949 New York State Lions with 5 districts was changed geographically to encompass 8 districts and thus, the birth of 20-O with 34 clubs. The first Governor of the new district 20-O was Paul Patchin of Kinderhook, N.Y. The oldest living District Governor in terms of service is William Stall of Kingston, N.Y. who served as governor in 1956 along with the late Past International President, Robert Uplinger.

From the beginning the Lions of 20-O have contributed outstanding leadership to the State and to the international world: Two International Directors, four presidents of the Past District Governors Organization, two Council Chairmen, and many major activity chairs.

Perhaps 20-O’s greatest contribution has been the unique leadership progression system that was developed in 1967. By adding the positions of hearing and sight chair (one year, each) before the office of Vice District Governor, a Lion will be well prepared when he or she reaches the office of District Governor. This system has virtually eliminated the political contest that heretofore had become expensive and sometimes ugly. All 12 districts currently forming MD-20 have made significant contributions to humanity. However, only district 20-O, the OUTSTANDING district has the O as part of its name.

Lion Albert H. LaVine, Past International Director



International Director - Scott Neely

Scott Neely, of South Charleston, West Virginia, USA, was elected to serve a two-year

term as a director of The International Association of Lions Clubs at the association’s 85th International Convention, held in Osaka, Japan, July 8-12, 2002.

Director Neely is a retired system administrator for the State of West Virginia. A Lion since 1963 and a member of the Charleston Southridge Pacesetter Lions Club since 1993, Director Neely has held many offices within the association, including member of the club board of directors, club president, zone chairperson, region chairperson, district LCIF chairperson, member of the Long-Range Planning Committee, district governor and council chairperson. In addition, he served as chairperson of the West Virginia Lions Leadership, District Leos, District Quest, Multiple District Quest and Multiple District Youth Outreach. He was also a presenter and panelist at two USA/Canada forums and was a member of the International Nominating Committee. In recognition of his service to the association, Director Neely has received numerous awards, including six Leo Extension Awards, five Sponsoring Leo Club Awards, the 35-Member Master Key Award, four Extension Awards, six District Governor Awards, the district Lion of the Year Award, two Council Chairperson Awards, two International President’s Appreciation Awards, two Guiding

Lion Awards, the District Governor Excellence Award and the Dudley L. Simms Membership Award. Additionally, he is the recipient of the International President's

Award, the International President's Leadership Award, three International (International Board of Trustees Award. He is a Progressive

Melvin Jones Fellow. Director Neely and his wife, Betty, also a Lion and Melvin Jones Fellow, have a daughter, grandson & granddaughter.

DISTRICT 20-O CONVENTION PROGRAM

8:00 am - 2:00 pm	REGISTRATION (Break for lunch) (Continental breakfast available 8:00 - 9:00am)	Main Lobby
9:15 - 10:15 am	OPENING PLENARY SESSION	Salon A/B
10:30 - 11:15 am	<u>SEMINAR SERIES # 1</u> AG Bell, ' Noise' Day - AG Bell Member Melody James The mother of Catlin Parton who has appeared twice on 60 Minutes M.E.R.L. Retention - PDG Ted Zager Let's hang onto what we got! Informative topics on how to keep your club busy and to maintain or increase your membership Fund Raisers - RC Dave Bechtel/Club Chairs Open to all who are interested in increasing their ability to do better or to exchange ideas on fundraisers Photo Screening - DG 20-E2 Frank Muccini An excellent club project for all - you won't believe what this camera can do!	Salon E Salon F Kristopher Room Georgean Room
11:30 - 12:00	INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR SCOTT NEELY	Salon C/D
12:00 - 1:00 pm	BUFFET LUNCHEON	Salon C/D
1:00 - 2:10 pm	VOTING	Main Lobby
1:15 - 2:00 pm	<u>SEMINAR SERIES # 2</u> Diabetes Awareness/Nutrition - Diabetes Chair Carole Lybolt An excellent session to attend to see the linkage between a good diet and a healthy life M.E.R.L. Membership - PCC John Wargo This topic really needs no explanation - Membership is Membership and no better speaker on this than PCC John Wargo Club Projects - RC Dave Bechtel/Club Chairs Come and here how some clubs have innovative projects in their communities Leo Clubs - Leo Chair Craig Thompson and Leos For all Leo Club Members and Lion Leo Advisors - meeting protocol, arranging for club projects and more - come see for yourself our Leos!	Salon E Salon F Kristopher Room Georgean Room
2:15 - 3:00 pm	<u>SEMINAR SERIES # 3</u> Sight Conservation - To Be Announced For current and next year club sight chairs - detailing low vision problems and treatment AG Bell: Purpose of AGB Association - AG Bell Member Jim Reisler A very informative talk about the purpose of the NY Chapter of the Bell Association "Lend An Ear"/Hearing - Joy Dittenhoefer For the benefit of all Lions, Lioness' and Leos. An audiologist description of serving the needs of the hearing impaired and look at some Lend An Ear equipment M.E.R.L. Leadership - PDG Ted Blair How and where to uncover the leaders in your club - inspiring those Lions to become our Leaders for the future	Salon E Salon F Kristopher Room Georgean Room
3:15 - 4:00 pm	LIONS CABARET/TALENT SHOW	Salon A/B
4:00 - 4:25 pm 4:30 pm	"MYSTERY LION"; VOTING RESULTS; CLOSING SESSION ADJOURN	Salon A/B

Vendors will be available all day in the central lobby. All members will be asked to fill out a Convention Survey.

District 20-O's Convention Journal

The Convention Committee has been planning for our annual Fall Convention and the Journal provides an advertising opportunity for your club, your members and your community businesses. At the same time, the contributions help to meet the expenses of the convention. Please consider taking an ad in this year's Journal. The size of a full page is 5" x 7 1/2". Please respond as soon as possible sending your camera ready copy and payment to PDG Ed Blodgett, PO Box 57, Hyde Park, NY 12538. The last day to receive copy is Oct. 13th. If you have any questions, call PDG Ed at (845) 229-5561.

Full Page/Covers

Prices: Covers: \$150.00
 Full Page: \$80.00
 Half Page: \$45.00
 Quarter Page: \$25.00
 Patron Listing: \$10.00

Half Page

Quarter Page

**Lions District 20-O
 Fall Convention Delegate From
 November 2, 2003
 Holiday Inn, 542 Route 9, Fishkill, NY**

Please list your voting delegates by name on this form. Return to Lion Dina Zager, Cabinet Secretary, PO Box 430, Port Ewen, NY before OCTOBER 25, 2003.

Members will be asked to vote on the site for the Fall 2004 Convention.

Name of Club:	_____	Number of Club	
Name of President:	_____	Members:	_____
Names of Voting Delegates: (please print)		Alternates: (please print)	
1.	_____	1.	_____
2.	_____	2.	_____
3.	_____	3.	_____
4.	_____	4.	_____
5.	_____	5.	_____
6.	_____		
7.	_____		
8.	_____		
9.	_____		
10.	_____		



Lions District 20-O
Fall Convention Reservation Form

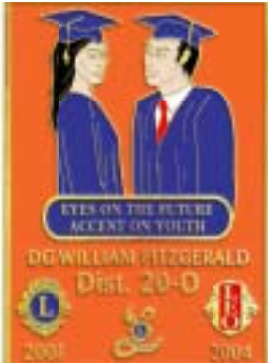
Who: All Lions, Lioness' and Leos
 What: Seminars - Luncheon - Fellowship - Fun - Sharing Ideas
 Where: Holiday Inn Conference Center
 542 Route 9, Fishkill, NY 12524
 Phone: (845) 896-5410
 When: Sunday, November 2, 2003
 Registration Opens: 8:00 am
 Plenary Session: 9:15 am
 Seminars: All Day
 Ending By: 4:30 pm
 Cost: Registration, Continental Breakfast and Luncheon \$30.00 each
 Save: Early Bird Discount (before October 21) \$28.00 each

Please list the following members who will be attending this year's Fall Convention:

Club Name: _____
 President: _____
 Secretary: _____

		Voting Delegate
Registrant's Name:	_____ Phone #: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Registrant's Name:	_____ Phone #: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Registrant's Name:	_____ Phone #: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Registrant's Name:	_____ Phone #: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Registrant's Name:	_____ Phone #: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Registrant's Name:	_____ Phone #: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Registrant's Name:	_____ Phone #: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Registrant's Name:	_____ Phone #: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Registrant's Name:	_____ Phone #: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Registrant's Name:	_____ Phone #: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Registrant's Name: _____ Phone #: _____ Yes No
 Make check payable to: District 20-O
 Mail to: Dina Zager, Cabinet Secretary
 PO Box 430, Port Ewen, NY 12466
 Return before: October 21, 2003 (to take advantage of Early Bird Discount)



Who's Who In District 20-O

DG Bill Fitzgerald (*Lion Maryann*)

(845) 858-8557

bfitzgerald@ouboces.org or

mbl2@frontiernet.net

PDG Glynn Meggison (*Lion Helene Roeder*)

(845) 856-3455

glynn1@citlink.net

VDG Ed Budd (*Lion Diane*)

(845) 343-5837

ebudd@hvc.rr.com

Sight Chair Frank Bartolotti (*Lion Ann*)

(845) 677-6064

Bartolottifrank@hotmail.com

Speech & Hearing Chair Joyce Maier

(*Lion David*)

(845) 876-6390

j.maier@worldnet.att.net

Deadlines to Remember For the Fall District 20-O Convention

District Journal Ads: Oct. 13th

District Registration: Oct. 21st

District Delegates: Oct. 25th

Cabinet Secretary Dina Zager

(*PDG Ted*)

(845) 339-1738

zagerd@aol.com

Cabinet Treasurer Bruce B. Rohner

(*Cathy*)

(845) 477-2725

rohnerb@oru.com or

b.rohner@juno.com

District Chaplain Rev. John E.

Capen (*Beatrice*) (845) 564-0654

johnecapen@aol.com



Tid-Bits
From Your

Newsletter Editor

By Cabinet Secretary

Dina Zager

Some Housekeeping Notes:

The following updated addresses and phone numbers should be added to your District Directory.

Highland Lions President, Lion Red Tumbleson - address should be PO Box 112, Milton, NY 12547

Region 3, Zone 1 Chair is now **Lion Melanie Wargo** - 10 Old Smith Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 (845-473-2807-home and fax)

Region 4 Zone 1 Chair, Lion Hildy Meissner - phone number is (845) 657-8467

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.200lions.com

Lion Dina Zager

Newsletter Editor/Cabinet Secretary

PO Box 430

Port Ewen, NY 12466

