



August 2003
Volume 2, Issue 2

Lions Pride



Eyes On The Future-Accent On Youth

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



DG Bill's Message

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As we approach the year 2004, we must continue to focus on membership, retention and leadership. We must, in a positive way, work together to form a bond between new members, clubs and the community. In addition we must look for future Lions within our Leo Clubs.

This year, International President Dr. Tae-Sup Lee's theme is "Innovation: Gateway to Our Future". He is asking that all Lions, Lioness and Leos forge a new path, leaving a trail for future generations of Lions to follow. Innovation means not only seeking new ways of doing old things, but also searching for relevant new things to do. It means abandoning the status quo and embracing change. When obstacles to success appear, remember that only those who dare to fail miserably can realize great achievements. Indeed, opportunities are never lost, someone always pursues them - let's let it be Lions! A person who wants to do something will find a way, and a person who doesn't will find an excuse. Which are you going to be?

I have attended my first Council Meeting of four up in Ithaca and I would like to say congratulations to PID's Al Brandel and Ed Cordes. After our meeting we attended the yearly BBQ dinner at Camp Badger with the campers and then after that we all went to their annual dance. I must admit that those kids really enjoy dancing with all of the Lions and doing their special dance the "Arostershaw". While attending the Lions & Family Day at Camp Badger, PDG Glynn

Meggison received an award for 100% for District 20-0 for exceeding over their pledge amount. Great Job District 20-0!

After July, my family and I visited the Vacation Camp for the Blind in August down in Spring Valley for their Family Day. I must admit that the rain held up the entire day until the end of the event. Someone above was with us all. If you can go and visit the Camp, please stop by the newly renovated pool and see what your donations when towards.

My first cabinet meeting was August 8th, and I want to keep all members fully aware in what is happening on the District and Multiple levels. As I have stated above that Pres. T.S. Lee states, "INNOVATION" is the Gateway to out future so lets make a change. I would like to thank all those Lion Members that attended this meeting, and as always the Cabinet Meetings are opened to the entire District 20-0. I have challenged all of the Zone & Region Chairs with MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS. I have asked that they bring in a least 2 new members by the next Cabinet Meeting, which will be held in November.

As I have stated previously, Leos are our future Lions. We must educate, improve leadership skills, and encourage involvement and participation in the community. To do this, we must be willing to sponsor and advise a Leo Club, our future

"Eyes and Ears". So on that note, I would like to thank Leo Chair Craig Thompson for arranging the Leo Advisors and the Lion Presidents to have their first Leo Meeting. I would like all the Leo Advisors to give their full attention to this, for this plays a very important part of our membership and Leos are our future. I would like to bring to everyone's attention that haste makes waste...In other words; my current address is still 32 Lafayette Avenue Middletown, New York 10940. I have not yet had my closings, so once that all takes place, you will all them have my new address, so until then please send all reports to the Middletown address. Thanks, who would have known that my Directories would have been completed before my move? On a sad note, please keep in your prayers our very own Leo, Brian Timmins for he was in a very serious car accident and is still in the ICU Unit at St. Francis Hospital in Poughkeepsie. Keep the Prayers coming! As I have always stated and believe in: **TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE** Eyes on the Future...Accent on Youth

From The VDG Ed Budd



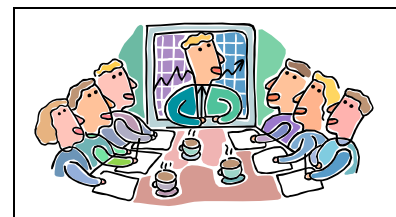
The District 20-0 Annual Convention has been confirmed for Sunday, November 2nd at the Fishkill Holiday Inn, the location of last year's very successful event. The format for this year will also follow that of last year with a continental breakfast available at 8:00AM, an opening session, three sets of seminars (one morning set and two afternoon sets), an excellent buffet luncheon, ID Scott Neely as speaker, and an afternoon program following the last seminars. This year the entertainment program will be a "Lions Cabaret", with some special prizes, and surprises, distributed.

The very reasonable cost for all of the above will be the early-bird price of \$28.00 if postmarked to Cabinet Secretary Dina by October 20th and \$30.00 thereafter or at the door. Several vendors will be available on site. As in past years, we are requesting that all clubs bring your club banners for display - banner poles will be provided for mounting. Also as in past years a convention journal will be generated, with PDG Ed Blodgett as the journal director. When requesting a journal ad please see that all ad copy and ad monies

are remitted to PDG Ed only at PO Box 57, Hyde Park NY 12538, and send all convention registrations and monies to Secretary Dina. A special request: is there a Lion who has knowledge of the MS Publisher program and who could assist in journal ad layout? Please contact PDG Ed or myself if you are available. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

On a different subject: the MERL program is underway in 20-0 and throughout MD-20. A MERL program is being offered at Camp Badger on Saturday, 9/27, however, on SATURDAY, OCTOBER, 18th, District 20-0 will be holding our very own MERL program at the GOSHEN BOCES, with thanks to DG Bill and PDG Ted Blair for making the arrangements. This is an excellent opportunity for all Lions to participate in some special sessions on membership, extension, retention, and leadership information under some very fine District 20-0 leaders. Please make an effort to have your club represented at the session. More information will follow.

As a closing comment---how many Lions are familiar with the sixth item as listed in the Lions Club Objects, especially as it applies to inviting new members. Please take the time to review this item and give it some thought. More on this subject later.



"I have challenged all of the Zone & Region Chairs with MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS"
DG Bill

The Leo's Paw -



By Co-Columnists

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

This month's column is by Leo Emily Thompson of the Warwick Leo Club

The 86th Annual International Lion's Convention as seen through the eyes of a Leo

June 30 through July 4, my Mom, Dad, and I took a trip out to Denver, Colorado for the 86th Annual International Lions Convention. Back in February, my Dad was invited to speak at this year's Lion's Convention. He graciously accepted and began working on his speech for the seminar he would give. Because of his great involvement with the Warwick Leo Club and all its success in its first year, my Dad was asked to speak about how to organize a LEO Club. A few months later, he was asked what he would need for his presentation. He said that he was just going to stand up there and speak...but then it hit him. Emily knows how to use power point; maybe she can make a presentation to go along with my speech. So, he asked me if I would be interested in assisting him and making a power point presentation. It took a long time to get ready, but it turned out great and my Dad's seminar went wonderfully. At the end of the seminar, people kept coming up to us asking for copies of the speech or the power point. We were so excited!

Besides helping my Dad with his presentation, I was invited to

participate on a panel of five Leos discussing what makes a successful LEO Club. On that panel were two LEO presidents from Kansas LEO Clubs, the Academy Award LEO, Kristy Mills, from Texas, and LEO of the Year from Vancouver, Canada, Laura Huang who gave a very compelling speech on the communication between Leos and their advisor and sponsoring club, and letting the Leos themselves run the meetings. I had a lot of fun and really enjoyed meeting other kids that do the same thing that I do. We all exchanged emails, and hopefully we will be able to share ideas about different activities and fundraisers, and maybe we will even meet again at next year's convention.

During the convention we had the opportunity to hear the International Lion President, Kay K. Fukushima speak. He talked about the Lions service to our youth programs and initiatives. The president was a very nice man from Sacramento, California. I met him just by chance while my Dad was voting on the election of new officers and amendments to the constitution. We had a very brief little chat about the LEO program and what will be happening with it in the upcoming year. He gave me his pin, the world shaped like a heart with a big red "K" in the center, signifying his theme of "One world, One heart". I was very honored to receive his pin and will cherish it forever.

We also had the great opportunity to go to the international parade that went through the center of Denver. The parade was one of the best parts of the entire convention. Lions from all over the world were in this parade wearing their traditional clothing or uniforms. Some had floats, and others just walked in huge masses of people. The Korean Delegation was very cool. All the women wore their traditional gowns and they looked like little dolls. They were very beautiful. Oklahoma came in dressed as Native Americans and Kansas had a select group of Lions dressed as the characters from the "Wizard of Oz". Many of the states had their own marching bands. The Michigan State Lions Marching band and the Louisiana New Orleans band were two of the best bands that I saw. It was a lot of fun to meet people from other countries. I met Lions from Australia, Ghana, India, Pakistan, and Peru. It was neat being able to talk to the people that I met from Peru. I've been taking Spanish for a few years now and was able to understand what they said to me and actually have a conversation! Many of the people I met gave me their business cards in exchange for mine. I gave them my Dad's, and now we can email each other. We already received a letter from a man we met from Ghana!

Pin Trading is a very big thing in the Lion's Club. Each state/country has their own pin.

Pins are also broken down into district pins, clubs pins, and even personal pins. I kept watching other people trade their pins and I wanted to do the same. My Dad called one of the Lions from our New York district, District 20-O, and was able to get me 20 pins! I had so much fun going around asking people if they would like to trade. When all my pins were gone, I was left with pins from Australia, India, Texas, Delaware, Japan, Maryland, Montana, and a few personal pins. Pin trading was a great way to meet new people and share our experiences.

We look forward to next year's convention in Detroit. District Governor, Bill Fitzgerald has appointed my Dad, Craig Thompson, District LEO Chair. He now is able to talk to all the LEO Clubs in the district, and hopefully, be able to get more Leos to attend next year's convention. We would really like to see Leos from all over the state of New York join us, and maybe we can even get together our own band! Our trip to Denver was very gratifying and I can't wait for more!

A Message from District Leo Chair Craig Thompson

Dear Presidents of Lions Clubs sponsoring Leo Clubs and Leo Club Advisors:

As your new District Leo Chairman, I welcome the opportunity to meet the other youth leaders of our District and introduce ourselves to one another. If you would be interested in getting together for an informal orientation meeting, please let me know what dates would be best for

you. I would like to firm up a date for either the last week of September or the first week in October. **Lion Carl Bryde**, Leo Club Advisor for the Cornwall Leos has offered to host the meeting at the New York Military Academy. This should be a relatively convenient location for everyone and a nice way to welcome of our District's newest Leo Clubs.

This will not be a seminar or workshop; just a time to get together and exchange ideas (brainstorm) as well as create opportunities for greater inter-district involvement. It can also be a time to talk about some goals for our Leo Clubs this year and learn more about the resources available to us. "Building Better Leaders Through Communication" is the theme for my work at Leo Chair this year and would like to touch on ideas for initiatives centered around this topic. If you have a particular topic that you would like to include in our discussion please let me know.

All Advisors are encouraged to attend and participate. If you are a Lion interested in becoming an advisor or if your club is considering sponsoring a Leo Club program, please feel free to attend as well. Leo club members are also invited, though I would ask that maybe only one or two representatives from each club attend.

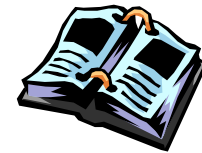
Thank you for your anticipated cooperation. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

District Leo Chair Craig Thompson

87 West St., Warwick, NY 10990

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845-986-2501



Calendar of Events

Sept 3	9 Partners Lions Club DG Visit
Sept 11	Bethel Lion Club DG Visit
Sept 15	DG Visit - AC Meeting
Sept 16	Germantown Lions Club DG Visit
Sept 18-20	USA/Canada Forum Portland, Oregon
Oct 18	2003-2004 MERL Team Training Ulster BOCES, Goshen 9-10 am Registration; 10-3 Seminar -Lunch and Refreshments to be provided
Oct 24-25	2 nd Council Mtg. Fishkill, NY
November 2	District 20-O Convention Holiday Inn Fishkill, NY
November 28	2 nd Cabinet Mtg. Location TBD
Feb 20-21	3 rd Council Mtg. Syracuse, NY

We Welcome New Lions To Our Clubs...

Goshen: *Rick Buono, Svein Salte and Eileen Dorian*

Tri-Valley: *Karen Scuderi*

And, We Say Goodbye To Those No Longer With Us....

Newburgh: *PDG Dan Leo*

On July 30th, one of the giants of the Lions passed on. PDG Dan Leo of the Newburgh Lions left a life of service matched only by a few Lions of the world. In the words of past president **Kathleen Carhart**, "what a deep hole this will leave in the heart of every Newburgh Lion" and I will add, what a deep hole this will leave in the heart of every Lion who ever knew Dan." PDG Dan served our Multiple from 1978 to 1979. *IPDG Glynn Meggison*



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

Greenville Waywayanda Lions: Lion of the Year: **IPP Angelo DeMaria**; Life Membership: **Lion John Sciacca Jr.**

Middletown Lions: Lion of the Year: **Debbie Yohas**; Knight of the Blind: **Diane Budd and Norton Madigan**; **John Haelen**, a 50 year member was awarded a **Melvin Jones Fellowship**. **Pleasant Valley Lions:** Knight of the Blind: **Don Teal, Gary Pfeiffer, Al McGee and Keith Cartica**

Sight & Hearing What We Do Best

In July, I attended the Ulster County Sight & Hearing Meeting- there were about 15 clubs represented. PDG Ed Blodgett introduced Lion Joyce Maier and myself as the new Speech and Hearing Chair and Sight Chair. Since this was my first meeting out of the chute, the best thing I could talk about was membership. I mentioned to all clubs that they should try to bring a guest or a potential new member. In late July, I attended the Dutchess County Sight Meeting. Lion Joyce introduced me to all present. PDG Ed Blodgett gave a brief update on the Lions Eye Institute.

Lion Frank Bartolotti
District Sight Chair

Experimental Glove Turns Sign Language to Speech

A researcher at George Washington University is developing and has demonstrated an electronic glove that can turn American Sign Language gestures into spoken words and simple sentences. This is being designed to help the deaf communicate more easily with the hearing world. The military is exploring similar technology to silently help soldiers in combat.

The glove is a wearable computer with super-small electronic circuitry. Sensors in the glove work with a micro-controller attached to the wearer's arm, mapping the placement and movement of the arm and fingers. That information is turned into data a computer can

read and convert to words heard from a loudspeaker or read on a computer screen. The right hand glove could be on the market next year and a two-handed version with greater possibilities could be ready in 2005.

Sight & Hearing Meetings Columbia-Greene Sight & Hearing

4th Tues of March, May & Oct
7:30 pm

Contact: Jack Townsend, Ch
518-392-9125

Dutchess Hearing

3rd Tues, Copperfields, Millbrook
7:30 pm

Contact: Paul Zitzelsberger, Ch
845-889-8297

Dutchess Sight

4th Thurs, Copperfields,
Millbrook 7:00 pm

Contact: Joyce Maier, Ch
845-876-6390

Orange Sight & Hearing

1st Mon, The Olive Garden
Middletown 7:00 pm

Contact: Janice Monahan, Ch
845-856-8814

Sullivan Sight & Hearing

1st Mon, Jan, Mar, May, July,
Sept, Nov 7:00 pm

at different locations in county
Contact: John Marciano, Ch
845-557-6947

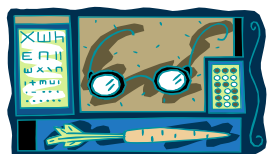
Ulster Sight & Hearing

3rd Thurs, Plaza Diner, New Paltz
7:00 pm Contact: Bill Brooks, Ch
845-658-9649

Lion Joyce Maier

District Hearing Chair

Lion Bill Brooks, Chairman for
the Ulster Sight & Hearing



Group reports that he has had some great success to report as a result of the article which appeared in The Lion in the April/May 2003 issue (see page 7 of this newsletter for a reprint). As a result, **Lion Bill** was contacted by the **Lion Bob McCarthy** from a Lions Club in Cape Cod, MA. Lion Bob is planning a talk with his club in March of April 2004 on the subject of Aid to the Hearing Impaired. He is also looking to hold a seminar for the various Cape Cod Lions Clubs to attend. It is the contacts like this that helps to spread our word and ideas. *Congratulations Lion Bill on a job well done!!!*

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

BY LION PAUL
ZACCONE, DISTRICT PR
CHAIR



I would like to thank **DG Bill Fitzgerald** for inviting me back to serve again as PR Chair for 20-O. Last year was a learning experience. We were able to establish contacts and circulate press releases with publications on both sides of the Hudson River. I would, once again, like to make an appeal to all Lion and Lioness and Leo Clubs in the District, especially those with no Club PR Chair, to contact me if there is anything that you want to appear in any newspaper, local or otherwise. If we can get the word out on the local level and throughout the District that the Lions and Lioness and Leos are out there serving the community, it is to our benefit and to the benefit of those who need us. Please contact me and I will do whatever I can to help.

*Paul Zaccone, 376 Scotchtown Road
Goshen, NY 10924
H: 845-294-2046*

F: 845-294-4056

Email: paulzaccone@yahoo.com

The Lioness Column By The Lioness Clubs Of District 20-O

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

The **Lioness Club of Catskill** does not hold meetings during the summer months but we are still on the job. When member **Shirley Foster** called to say that she knew a senior woman who's glasses were well past replacing but her budget would not allow, we sent her to her optometrist. She was most appreciative.

To raise funds, members contributed lovely gifts of lotions and personal items to feel good from head to toe and packed into a hand crafted basket made by member **Veronika Marquoit** and we are selling raffle tickets this summer at street fests and farmers markets as well as to our friends and family. We will have the drawing at our December meeting.

We are only 11 members but we do make a difference and so do you!

The **Ellenville Lioness Sleeping Bag Project** for the Homeless had its first delivery in July. The people are excited to have us aboard. The club held its Annual

Picnic on August 3rd at Lippman Park and they will have a booth at the Ellenville Days. The guest speaker for the month is **Lion Kathryn Puglisi (Kingston Lions)** from Ulster Co. Office of the Aging Lend An Ear Program. The club is also collecting soup labels, tabs and cards to distribute to various organizations. The club members will also collect holiday cards and stamps to include in our sleeping bags for the midnight run. Our hopes are to reach out to the families of the homeless and get them home.



Greetings and Best Wishes to our new **DG Bill Fitzgerald** from the **Mamakating Lioness Club**. The so called summer we are experiencing so far has been wet and quiet. Our next big endeavor is our 18th Annual Collectable and Craft Show to be held on Sat., October 11th, with a raindate on Sun, October 12th. This show is held on Columbus Day Weekend with the famous Canal Towne Emporium Quilt Extravaganza. Patrons come from everywhere because of the great publicity and exposure this show has received over the years. The store is located in Wurtsboro on Sullivan & Hudson Streets. The Lioness provide drinks, food and lots of great baking skills. This is our biggest fund raiser. Come one, come all!!!



A Great Opportunity for Collaboration: New York Lions Help Deaf Students, by Jim Reisler

The general public just doesn't know about hearing loss, so we want to help," said Bill Miller, a resident of Poughkeepsie, New York. "That's why this was such a powerful key to bring so many together in a positive way. Together, we'll accomplish some great things."

Miller, a Town of Poughkeepsie Lion and cochlear implant user, was speaking of a four-hour seminar entitled "Kids with Hearing Loss: How Can the Lions Help?" The September event was co-sponsored by the New York chapter of the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing (AG Bell) and the New York City-based League for the Hard of Hearing (LHH). The seminar was designed to help Lions in District 20-O (New York) understand the educational and medical issues faced by deaf and hard of hearing high school students and young adults. It also served as a call to action to reinforce Helen Keller's 1925 challenge to the Lions to help the deaf as well as the blind. About 50 Lions from 22 clubs attended the seminar, representing a six-county area of New York state. Armed with knowledge gained from a series of professional speakers and a panel of young adults, Lions headed back to their communities to create new ways to assist hearing-impaired students. Several plans are already in the works. District 20-O Lions hope to expand existing programs, such as the "Lend an Ear" program. Modeled after a similar program in the neighboring District 20-Y2, Lend an Ear allows the hearing impaired to evaluate assistive learning devices at home prior to purchase. Among the devices available for loan are specially-equipped telephones, vibrating alarm clocks and amplified doorbells. Another program targeted for expansion is currently being run in Dutchess County. Lions there distribute pamphlets on hearing loss to local pediatricians, and others on noise prevention in the workplace.

Professionals to Panelists

"As parents of deaf children, many of us had a crash course in deafness. Now it's your turn," AG Bell board member Inez Janger challenged the Lions in attendance. "Understanding more about deafness will help us to help our kids. "Working with Lions is a great opportunity for collaboration," she continued.

Janger was joined by several other speakers, including Melody James Parton, the LHH's director of public education and AG Bell board member, and John Flanders, a Connecticut-based attorney specializing in disability issues. Janger, Parton and Flanders are all parents of hearing-impaired children. The Lions also heard from a panel of deaf and hard-of-hearing students and young adults.

"We've made remarkable strides in technology and training techniques," said Parton, whose daughter Caitlin is a college-bound high school senior. "As a family, we knew that education was the key to opening doors. We know that deaf children, with the proper technology and education, can soar."

The panelists were more than ample evidence of that. Like Caitlin Parton, who participated in the panel, David Raim, Jason Weisburd and Ari Sagiv are all headed to college to study everything from bioinformatics to journalism, and have diverse interests such as playing the saxophone, editing the school newspaper and playing chess. All four young panelists participate in mainstream classes and are oral, meaning they rely primarily on spoken language for communication. All are also beneficiaries of extraordinary advances in speech therapy and technology, such as powerful hearing aids and cochlear implants that ease the transition into the hearing world and help them thrive. Many deaf students also utilize real-time captioning, in which captioners relay the lectures onto a student's laptop computer. Some students with cochlear implants are helped by a sound field, in which a teacher speaks into a headset and the sound is directed toward the listener through wall speakers. George Oberlander was another inspiring panelist. The 40-year-old engineer was a recipient of a Lions scholarship at Hofstra University. He also works as a mentor with the LHH's Career Development Department and is a motivational speaker. Oberlander used the seminar as an opportunity to discuss information technology, such as personal pagers and e-mail, as tools for the hearing impaired. "These advances have really leveled the playing field for deaf people," he emphasized. But technology only accounts for some of the help. Each panelist has benefited from something far more important: significant parental involvement and dedication.

District 20-O Governor Glynn Meggison, district hearing chair Ed Budd and Town of Poughkeepsie Lion Bill Miller represented the Lions during the organization of the seminar. "This has been a true learning experience," said Meggison. "We look forward to sharing our new information with other Lions and developing an action plan to assist the hearing impaired, all as part of our effort to do the right things to help others."

Editor's note: The author is the president of the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing/New York chapter.

Lions Action Planning: Ways to Help

Based on the seminar, here are some ways Lions propose to help deaf and hard-of-hearing teens in central New York.

- Aid the enforcement of newborn screening and early intervention.
- Distribute material to new parents during their hospital stay--a package of information about hearing loss, checklists of things to look for in their newborn and information on hearing screening.
- Develop a scholarship for training captioning (transliterating or stenotyping) to make it more readily available in schools and at public meetings. Work to educate pediatricians about the resources and issues regarding hearing loss.
- Develop informational packets for parents about the dangers of inner ear infections and ear-fluid buildup, which can lead to hearing loss.
- Provide information about the importance of classroom acoustics in creating a good learning/listening environment

A Parent's Story

In addition to his work to promote awareness of hearing impairment, author Jim Reisler is also the parent of a deaf child, Julia. In this personal account, he shares some his experiences.

In June 1994, my wife, Tobie, and I heard the words we'll never forget: "Your daughter is deaf." At the time, Julia was 13 months old. We had suspected for several months that something was amiss. Several months before, Tobie dropped some pots in the kitchen and Julia didn't respond. Another time, the alarm sounded at the fire station next door and Julia didn't seem to notice.

Several times we took Julia to the pediatrician, only to be told that she could hear. Most of the traditional causes of deafness--meningitis, rubella, reactions to drugs--had long since been wiped away by science, the doctor explained, meaning minimal chance that anything was wrong. The story of a pediatrician's misdiagnosis is a common one for families of deaf children. So is the initial denial. Maybe it's not really deafness, we were told. It could be a blockage or an infection, others said. Maybe Julia needs tubes. But once the diagnosis was made, our concerns became more basic: Will Julia be able to live a mainstreamed life? Will she have friends and be content? Be able to fit in and thrive? Yes, yes, yes, and yes again. One day and 30 phone calls after learning of Julia's deafness, Tobie found the League for the Hard of Hearing in New York City.



The LHH has worked wonders in helping deaf youngsters get along and thrive in a mainstream, oral environment. Tobie and I eagerly plunged into the oral deaf world. We joined parents' groups, attended conferences and read everything we could find on the subject. Along the way, we established a solid, supportive network of friends, from deaf adults to other parents of deaf children to audiologists and speech therapists. When Julia received a cochlear implant in 1997, her vocabulary was perhaps 30 words. Jump ahead five years: Julia's vocabulary is in the thousands and, as a mainstreamed fourth-grader, she is a good student. Her busy social calendar reserves time for pursuing her many interests: drawing, her pets, spy movies and the New York Yankees, to name a few. In other words, Julia is a connected, interesting nine-year-old girl. I often try to step back and pinch myself when taking stock of how far she's come in such a short time.

Children like Julia, who are thriving in the mainstream, are the reasons why we at AG Bell are so thrilled to be working with Lions in District 20-O on various grassroots programs to benefit deaf kids throughout New York. With remarkable technology like the cochlear implant, progressive legislation, the right dose of parental involvement and the help of dedicated teachers, mentors and organizations like the Lions, our kids are achieving as never before.

Today, the options for deaf children are, well, like those of any other child. To paraphrase Lou Gehrig, who once played on Julia's favorite baseball team, it has made me feel like the luckiest man on the face of the earth.

Comings & Goings Around The District

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

City of Newburgh Lions are beginning a year long celebration of their 80 years in existence. The club held a successful installation of officers and installed their 81st President –no repeats – all different. One scholarship was awarded.

Cornwall Lions raised \$3300 from their July 4th Lobster Sale and \$7000 from their 6th Annual Ed Clank Memorial Golf Tournament. Flags were raised on July 4th. The Club contributed \$2500 to the Cornwall Arts Alliance and donated \$500 to the victims of a house fire.

Fishkill East Fishkill Lions are planning a membership drive in September. They have one new member to install in September. Over the past four months, the club collected 1648 pairs of glasses, gave two eye exams and one scholarship was awarded.

Goshen Lions had a booth at the Great American Weekend in July. They raffled off 4 gift baskets and raised a total of \$352; ½ of which was given to the Goshen



Ecumenical Food Pantry. In mid-July, the club took part in the Big Band Concert at the Goshen Public Library, raffled off

two gift baskets and raised \$118; ½ of which was given to the Library.

Greenville-Waywayanda Lions finished the roof on the pavilion in the Town of Greenville Park; they only have the ceiling left to put up. The club held their re-dedication charter night in June. The club gave out scholarships totaling \$4400 to 3 graduating Minisink Valley High School Seniors. 8 members worked on Project Graduation (the all night party the school puts on after graduation) cooking the usual hot dogs and hamburgers.

Hurley Lions will hold their annual Golf Tournament on Oct. 6th at the Wiltwyck Golf Club; work is under way to get tee sponsors, prizes and players. Club members were at the Hurley Library setting up for the annual Book Sale during Hurley Stone House Day. The club will celebrate 50 years in existence next year. The Lions Family Picnic will be held on Sept. 10th at 5:30 at the Hurley Recreation Association.

Hyde Park Lions participated in the Annual 4th of July parade and float as well as a Senior Citizen Picnic.

Kingston Lions President **John Macaluso** wants the record set straight that the Annual Lions Expo brought in \$46019.17 this past year. He reported ten pairs of glasses were collected in July. The Roar 'n Pride represented the club at numerous gigs including Montgomery Place, the Historic Hudson Valley picnic and the Benedictine Hospital Foundation's First Annual Senior Prom; as a result \$900 was turned into the club's treasury.

Livingston Manor Lions had a Grocery Shopping Spree Raffle on July 29th. It was an excellent fundraiser. (from Left to Right) Erma Carlson, Dick Lanza, Kurt Adolph, Kathy Bryant, Liz Dimilte, Herb Adolph and Marilyn Lamoreau



Middletown Lions worked long hours at the Shuffle the Buffalo Booth at the Orange County Fair's 12 day stay in Middletown. In July, 300 fish were donated to stock Fancher-Danridge Park Pond, the site of the

annual Fishing Derby. **Jodie Gewing** the winner of the \$1000 scholarship to a Middletown High School graduate will be honored at the club's picnic meeting in August. The Middletown Lions recently sent 250 box tops for education to Camp Badger. The club has plans for a Summer Concert in downtown Middletown on August 22nd and monthly bingo at the community campus has continued through the summer months.

Millbrook Lions held a Family Picnic which was a great success. The turnout was very large and food sumptuous. Soup Sunday is tetatively scheduled for November 2nd and



Community Day is set for September 6th; Lions will be

selling hot dogs and soda

an they are looking into the possibility of selling ice cream as well.

Millerton Lions awarded two scholarships to local high school students. They made donations to the Millerton First Presbyterian Church and the Millerton Minor League.

Monroe Lions are actively soliciting and selling tickets for its annual scholarship award as well as canvassing for door prizes for their upcoming October awards dinner. Some members are selling cheesecakes as a fundraiser at Monroe's annual cheese festival in September. Club members will assist with registrations and set up at Monroe's Annual Crop Walk for world hunger in September.

New Windsor Lions had a float in the Memorial Day Parade.

Nine Partners Lions held a joint meeting in June with the **Rhinebeck Lions** at the Lion Den in Clinton Corners. Both clubs had their new officers installed and the next day the annual Nine Partner Golf

Tournament was held at the Red Hook Golf Club with 87 golfers in attendance. For info on next year's event, contact **Lion Les Richardson** at 845-266-4046 or bethsante@aol.com. During the month of August, members will be assisting the DC Sight & Hearing Committees by manning the Lions Booth and handing out eyeglass cleaners and earplugs at the DC Fair in Rhinebeck. On August 30th, the club will be attending the Clinton Community Day where they will run an Auction, make and sell sausage and peppers and sponsor a float. At this event they will use their presence to try to recruit new members to their club.

Pawling Lions held a picnic in honor of their 2003 scholarship fund recipient.

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



Pleasant Valley Lions had their new officers installed by PDG **Wilfred Roehe**. The club made a donation of \$500 to the Albertson/D'Aquanni Foundation, \$500 to the Pleasant Valley Library and \$500 to LCIF.

Port Jervis Lions collected 29 pairs of glasses and 7 pairs of sunglasses and awarded 4 scholarships.

Rondout Lions conducted two white cane drives and collected \$2530; the Hackers Open Golf Tournament produce \$5038. Donations were made in eye exams at \$2760; Guiding Eyes for the Blind \$200; \$2080 for Babe Ruth League sponsorship and 3 local children to YMCA Camp; a \$600 donation to Special Olympics and Community Activities; \$1322 which includes a food pantry donation of \$200; a gift to the president of Student Council, support of Little Kids and dinners for shut-ins.

Stanford Lions made a donation of \$200 to sponsor a Stanford Soccer Team. Plans are being made for the food booth on Stanford Community Day on Sept. 13th. Chances are being made up for the Annual Wood/Fuel Raffle from August 16th thru

September 27th. Club members continue to deliver meals on wheels. **Town of Poughkeepsie Lions** are having a car show this year with the proceeds to go towards closed captioning at the Bardavon Theatre in Poughkeepsie. The show will take place on September 21st at the Hyde Park Mall. There will be many trophies and dash plaques going to the first 75 cars arriving. The cost to show is \$12 per car or truck and no charge to the viewers or for parking. The members will be manning a large food concession and hope to have vendors as well. The next event will be their 18th Annual Golf Tournament to be held Oct. 9th at the Red Hook Country Club for a fee of \$125 which includes breakfast and a Barbeque dinner after golf and the chance for a hole in one on a par 3 hole for a leased Cadillac 2004. The proceeds will be donated to the Lighthouse in Poughkeepsie and the Childrens Home in Poughkeepsie, **Town of Ulster Lions** donated \$15 to the **Middletown Lions Club** for VDG Budd's Convention fundraiser.



Plans are being formulated for a White Cane Drive and the road cleanup has been completed. The club collected 118 pairs of glasses.

Town of Woodbury Lions are planning the Woodbury 5K race and walk.

Tri-Valley Lions sponsored a child at Camp Badger for the 2003 Summer program, donated \$100 to a muscular dystrophy fundraiser and \$50 to Sullivan County Literacy volunteers.

Warwick Lions will be re-instituting their Christmas shopping tour for underprivileged children. The Annual 5K run which raises money for the Quest Program is on Labor Day. The community Apple Fest is on October

5th and the club will raise money by selling hot dogs, drinks, snacks and caramel covered apple slices.



PDG **Ted Blair** will be attending the club's Sept. 18th meeting to speak on Lionism.

District Reports



From District

Diabetes Chair Lion Carole Lybolt
The Juvenile Diabetes Foundation is holding its 2003 Walk to Cure Diabetes Walk-a-Thon on Sunday, September 14th at the Goshen Historic Track in Goshen, NY and on September 21st in Kingston and Poughkeepsie. This year's Walk will be the best every with over 1,500 walkers expected to participate. If you would like to enter a team or make a donation, contact Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation - Walk to Cure Headquarters, PO Box 356, 167 Myers Corners Road, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590. Phone: 845-297-8600; Fax: 845-297-7887; Email: Hudsonvalley@jdrf.org Please support this worthwhile effort.

From Lenscrafters Liaison Lion Jim Callaizakis

Over the last four months, the following have been provided for through Lenscrafters

- 3 Senior Citizens eye exams and glasses
- 2 Children eye exams and glasses (one boy and one girl in one family)
- 3 Children from two families eye exams and glasses
- 8 Women from the Walter Hoving Home Battered Woman in Cold Spring, NY received eye exams and glasses

From Region 7 Chair Dave Bechtel

As Region Chair for Region 7, I am promoting a "Two Pronged Challenge" to the clubs in my Region and to my fellow Region Chairs of District 20-O.

I will be asking each Lions Club in Region 7 (there are 10) and each Leo Club (there are 6) to make every effort to attend our District 20-O Convention at the Fishkill Holiday Inn on Sunday, 11-2-03. My goal is to have every club represented with the slogan "Send a Foursome to Fishkill on November 2nd!" If this goal is achieved, Region 7 will have at least 64 representatives at the convention.

The second prong of my challenge is directed at the 6 other Region Chairs in the District. The challenge is simply this: Do you think you can match Region 7's Goal of **dramatically increasing** attendance at our District Convention? If all regions could achieve the goal of sending "A Foursome to Fishkill," our attendance would double the 150 attendance figure which has been reported by VDG Ed for last year's convention.

Save The Date...



What: District 20-O Convention

When: Sunday, November 2nd

Where: Holiday Inn, Fishkill NY

Who: Lions, Lioness and Leos

Time: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

Cost: \$28.00 each (early bird)
\$30.00 (after October 20th)

Includes: Continental Breakfast, Luncheon, Seminars, Convention

Guest Speaker: ID Scott Neely of West Virginia

Submitting Monthly Membership Reports On-Line

By ZC Lion Melanie Wargo

(www.lionsclubs.org)

1. Click on "**Membership and Officer Updates**".
2. Enter **username** and **password** as provided by Lions Clubs International.

You should have received your logon id and password from LCI Headquarters either by email - if they have your address - or by postal service shortly after becoming an active officer in the club.

The first time you login you will be asked to provide some additional information. This will be used if you forget your password and need to have it resent to you at a later date.

Once you have successfully logged in you may change your password.
3. Click on "**Membership**".
4. Enter report month using the drop down box.
 - a. You may only select the current month and/or up to four (4) months prior.
5. If no changes this month, check the "**No Change this Month**" box and click on "**Submit**". You will then be brought back to the Membership Home Page, and you may log out.
6. If there are changes to the membership report, click "**submit**", and then immediately click "**OK**".

Follow directions and use underlined menu links in red bar to enter appropriate information for adding, updating, transferring, dropping or reinstating members.
7. When you are done with the changes, return to the home page and log out.
8. You may update the report at any time during the month.
9. You will be sent a confirmation copy of each month's membership

report by email by the end of the month following the reporting month (ex. August will be confirmed by end of September).

Sending Monthly Membership and Activity Reports to Zone/Region Chair, Cabinet Secretary, Vice District Governor (MERL Chair) and District Governor:

1. Go to www.lionsclubs.org
 - a. Click on "**Membership and Officer Updates**".
 - b. Click on "**Club**".
 - c. Click on "**Club Info**".
2. At the bottom of the Club Info page, the District Governor is marked yes. This indicates that each month when International sends you a confirmation, the DG will also receive a copy.

You will see five blank boxes for email addresses. Fill in the email of your Zone Chair, Region Chair, the Cabinet Secretary, Vice District Governor (MERL Chair) and any other person that should also receive a copy of your monthly membership report. They will be included in the monthly email confirmations from International.

If your Zone Chair or Region Chair does not have an email address, print an additional copy of your membership report and fax or mail it to him or her.
3. Send the Governor an e-mail describing your club's activities each month, or use the monthly activity report available on the District website (www.20olions.com), or send copies of meeting minutes that will show the activities in which your club has been involved. Carbon copy the Vice District Governor, Cabinet Secretary and your Zone and Region chairs. Keep a copy of your report for your club records.



Who's Who In District 20-O

DG Bill Fitzgerald (*Lion Maryann*)

(845) 344-2344

bfitzgerald@ouboces.org or

mb12@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 (*David*)

(845) 876-6390

j.maier@worldnet.att.net

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*

Thank you to all the secretaries and presidents that took the time to send in their Membership Reports and Monthly Activity Reports for the month of July. Please note, since I am the Cabinet Secretary and the Newsletter Editor, you only have to send your info to me once - either by mail, fax or email. Please note on the Activity Report where I ask for information on Board/ Membership - this means you should include any information on awards to members or indicate new members that have been taken in by your club - don't give me the number of club or board members.

For those that want to file

their reports online, see Lion Melanie Wargo's report under District Reports on how to file online.

Articles for the State Magazine will need to be sent to me as follows:

By August 10th for the

September magazine

By October 10th for the

November magazine

By December 10th for the

February magazine

By March 10th for the April
magazine

By May 10th for the June
magazine

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.200lions.com

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