

The  
**HEAD LION-ER**

**NAPERVILLE NOON LIONS CLUB**

**JULY 2015**



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**Action may not always bring happiness;  
but there is no happiness without action.**

**- Benjamin Disraeli**

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**PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

To Lion Jim Ebers, I would like to extend a thank you on behalf of the club for your outstanding leadership over the past year. Under your direction, the club has "set the bar" very high. We, as a club, have completed many services for the vision and hearing impaired, supported both education and research in those areas, and provided many volunteer hours of community services. Great job.

I had no idea when I joined the Lions Club, twelve years ago, that the NNLC was such a dedicated and hard working group of men and women.

I had no idea of the thousands of volunteer hours that were required to complete our mission.

I had no idea of the thousands of dollars, which were raised by so few individuals and required to financially support our mission.

I had no idea of the importance the NNLC has to the Naperville community and how supportive the Naperville community is to the NNLC.

I had no idea that members of the club are always willing to step up and support each other when there is a task to be done.

Over the years, I began to realize how important the club is to those we serve. As a result, I decided to become more and more involved and devote as much time and effort as I could to support our mission. The NNLC is like a big extended family to me and I am proud to be a part of this family. I will do my best to carry on the traditions of the club and the duties of President.

All of our fundraising events are underway for this year. Raffle tickets are currently being sold. Funnel cakes at Rib Fest are at the ready for the Fourth of July weekend. New candy is being obtained for Candy Day to replace last year's disaster and we will be out on the streets and sidewalks in October. The Turkey Trot Committee starts its meetings this month. It is a busy time of year

## *The Head Lion-er*

for us all. I am looking forward to another successful year and your support of all these events.

Thank you to all of the continuing officers, board members, and committee chairs for agreeing to serve again this fiscal year. Welcome to Yllena Sinclare and Rich Williams as new board members. As Immediate Past President Lion Jim has often said in his President's Corner column, "we have many who are still counting on us."

### **Remember WE SERVE**

#### **Lion Bob Hull, President**

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Example is leadership.

- Albert Schweitzer

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#### **Club News and Guest Speakers**

### **INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT'S AWARD**

The International President's Award is the second highest award in Lionism. Each year, a district governor gets one nomination for this award, which is eventually chosen by the International President. This year, District Governor Chris Halsey nominated one Lion out of the more than 2,200 in our district. That nominee was Lion Donna Kearney. His

nomination was well received and she was selected. On June 2, Lion Chris attended our club meeting to present Lion Donna with this prestigious award. Congratulations Lion Donna!



**Lion Donna receives her International  
President's Award Medal**

### **INSTALLATION DINNER**

The club held its annual installation dinner on June 23 at Clara's in Woodridge. The event was well attended by members and their significant others. Even Lion Katie Hertzberg's baby made an appearance.

Zone Chair Lion Jim Kiser was in attendance to do the installation of this year's officers. The following members were recognized for their service to the club: Lion Katie Hertzberg and Lion Gary Vician - five years; Lion Jane Bowers and Lion Linda Lyon - 15 years; Lion Maria Wilson - 20 years; Lion Rick Tarulis and Lion Phoebe Bickhaus - 25 years; Lion Bill Bleecker and Lion

## *The Head Lion-er*

Jim Burner – 40 years; and Lion Bob Anderson – 60 years.



**Incoming Lion President Bob Hull with Zone Chair Lion Jim Kiser**

Lion Bob Hull was inducted as this year's president. Lion Hull remarked that when he joined the club, he had no idea the type of work ethic and dedication that its members possess. He considers the club to be a big extended part of his family and looks forward to getting the job of helping so many in our community done again this year.

Lion Bob Hull was also honored as Lion of the Year for his work on Turkey Trot, as a director, and his tireless effort to gain exposure for our club through his publicity work. Lions Rich Williams and Jim Woodring were honored as Rookies of the Year for their willingness to jump right in and make a difference in all that we have accomplished.

Lion Steve Hertzberg ended the awards by presenting the Melvin Jones Fellow. This award is nominated and voted on by past Melvin Jones Fellows in our club. This year, the clear winner and newest Melvin Jones Fellow was Lion Linda Strugalla.



**Lion Steve Hertzberg with the newest Melvin Jones Fellow, Lion Linda Strugalla**

During the presentations, it was also announced that the board has decided to free some money from the Harold White fund to donate \$25,000 to Foundation Fighting Blindness. This donation will be matched to make the effective donation \$50,000. Lion John Corneille from Foundation Fighting Blindness was moved to tears when he learned of our donation. This money will be used for research and development towards treating blindness and low vision.

**TRIATHLETE LION JAMES  
GILLIARD**

Lion James Gilliard reported to the club about his time at the Dare to Tri Paratriathlon camp. While at camp, Lion James worked with other athletes and coaches. He was able to meet and work with other disabled athletes. In all, there were 42 participants. On the final day of camp, the participants embarked on their first triathlon. Lion James was happy to report that he finished, despite the swim portion occurring in rather choppy water.

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**Forgive, forget. Bear with the faults of others as you would have them bear with yours.**

**- Phillip Brooks**

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**Luncheon Speakers**

**HEAR US, INC.**

Diane Nilan, president and founder of Hear Us, Inc., was our guest speaker on June 9. Through Hear Us, Diane travels the country to create short films to be used for training and awareness. The subjects of all of her work are homeless children in all facets of society.

Diane began this journey 10 years ago and has since traveled 225,000 miles. Her motorhome is now her full time home. She has been to all 48 of the contiguous states and given speeches to Universities and even to Congress.

She has created a number of films that allow homeless children to tell their stories and raise awareness of the rampant homelessness in this country. Many do not realize that there is homelessness in every community.

Homelessness comes in many forms. This includes those that are bouncing around from house to house sleeping on a couch. Domestic violence creates a lot of homelessness, as the mother will leave with the children. A school district where 10% of its students are homeless is common. 2.5 million school age children are reportedly homeless, but that number may be low because so many school districts do not keep this data.

Most school districts have a homeless liaison. Diane has a goal to get them in contact with her organization to learn and raise awareness on what is happening in their area and around the country. Part of her crusade has led to the passage of Charlie's Law, which allows homeless children to remain enrolled in their school despite the lack of a stable address.

After leaving our meeting, Diane was heading to Wichita. She is going to attend and document a summer camp for more than 110 homeless children. She is excited about this opportunity as it will be filming a positive event rather than the usual doom and gloom.

Hear Us is funded by donations, appearance fees, and video sales.

## *The Head Lion-er*

As it is the ten year anniversary, Diane has kicked off a program where donors donate \$10/month to the organization.

### **IMRF**

On June 16, Louis Kosiba and John Krupa from the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) were our guest speakers. IMRF was created in 1939 by the State of Illinois, however it is an independent fund not managed or funded by the state. IMRF has its own board of trustees who are all elected to help run the fund.

The IMRF provides retirement, disability, and death benefits for local government employees. This includes employees of cities, counties, park districts, and school districts (non-teachers). It does not include local fire or police personnel or Cook County employees. IMRF is part of a three-pronged retirement plan. It, along with Social Security and personal savings, makes up an individual's retirement income. Currently there are 2,976 units of local government participating in the fund.

IMRF is a large financial institution. They use a variety of 90 outside investment firms to create a highly diversified portfolio. They currently hold \$34.9 billion in assets and are the best-funded statewide system at 93%. Investments are so important as that income accounts for 63% of the total money in the fund. Louis explained that every dollar that was invested in 1980 is now worth \$28 today.

The IMRF is focused on continually evolving and working toward excellence. They ensure that the retirement reserve is always 100% funded and do an annual true up. Louis believes that pension systems are sustainable. He thinks implementing longer vesting periods with higher retirement ages and wage caps can help keep the retirement fund continually solvent.

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**The most beautiful thing in the world is,  
of course, the world itself.**

**- Wallace Stevens**

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### **BOARD HIGHLIGHTS**

The Board of Directors met on June 23, 2015 at Beidelman-Kunsch Funeral Home in downtown Naperville. The following is a summary of the Board's actions and discussions. All members are welcome to attend the Board meetings, which start at 7:30 a.m. The next meeting will be held on July 28, 2015.

**Approved** the Club and Foundation regular meeting minutes of May 26, 2015 and the membership meeting minutes of May 26, 2015.

**Approved** the Treasurer's Report as of May 31, 2015 and the Social Services Report as of June 23, 2015. For the fiscal year (which began July 1, 2014) \$102,144 has been expended for 370 closed cases.

*The Head Lion-er*

**Approved** the finance committee’s recommendation to terminate the annuity investment of Harold White Funds at maturity in the amount of approximately \$48,000.

**Approved** a donation of \$25,000 from proceeds of the Harold White Fund to Foundation Fighting Blindness. These funds will be matched dollar for dollar by the Grund Family Challenge.

**Approved** an increased grant of \$5,000 to Hear Us, Inc. This increase is in addition to the previously approved \$2,000 to Hear Us, Inc.

**Discussed** possible dues assistance for a former member. This item was deferred to a future meeting pending additional information.

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**I am always ready to learn although I do not always like being taught.**

**- Winston Churchill**

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**GUESTS**

On June 2, District Governor Lion Chris Halsey was our guest. On June 9, Alexey Rieser, son of Lion Karen Maxwell was our guest. Alexey is a student at Metea Valley High School.

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**Success is finding satisfaction in giving a little more than you take.**

**- Christopher Reeve**

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**COMING EVENTS**

**July 2-5** – Funnel Cake Sales at Ribfest

**July 7** – Christine Jeffries from the Naperville Development Partnership will be our guest speaker. The Naperville Development Partnership is a public/private economic organization that promotes business interests in the City of Naperville.

**July 14** – Nadine Roy from WDSRA will be our guest speaker. Western Dupage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA) provides engaging, community-based recreational programs and inclusion services for children, teens, and adults with special needs.

**July 16** – District 1-J Golf Outing at Pinecrest Golf Club in Huntley.

**July 21** – Tour of North Central College’s Res Rec Center with Troy Bristow. Lunch will be served at North Central followed by a tour of the facility. Look for sign-up sheets at the next club meeting.

**July 28** – Business Meeting.





**JULY BIRTHDAYS  
AND SERVICE  
ANNIVERSARIES**

The following members have a service anniversary in **July** and they are:

- Lion Jim Ebers (8)**
- Lion Christine Igoe (1)**
- Lion George Pradel (45)**
- Lion Gary Vician (6)**
- Lion Meghen Williams (5)**
- Lion Ellen Wolff (14)**

The following members have a birthday in **July** and they are:

- Lion Bill Bleecker – July 10**
- Lion Katie Hertzberg – July 18**
- Lion Rick Tarulis – July 27**
- Lion Karen Maxwell – July 29**

Best wishes and congratulations to these members. If your information is missing or incorrect please contact **Lion Jane Bowers** to make additions or corrections.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

- July 7 - Luncheon meeting at Braconi's
- July 14 - Luncheon meeting at Braconi's
- July 21 - Luncheon meeting at Braconi's
- July 28 - Board of Directors meeting
- July 28 - Luncheon meeting at Braconi's



**OFFICERS**

- President – Lion Bob Hull
- 1<sup>st</sup> VP – Lion Steve Hertzberg
- 2<sup>nd</sup> VP – Lion Linda Strugalla
- Secretary – Lion Jane Bowers
- Treasurer – Lion Bill Bleecker

- Director – Lion Gary Peterson
- Director – Lion Maria Wilson
- Director – Lion Ken Strugalla
- Director – Lion Rick Butz
- Director – Lion Yllena Sinclair
- Director – Lion Rich Williams
- Membership – Vacant
- Immediate Past President – Lion Jim Ebers



**Appointed Positions and  
Committee Chairs:**

- Dues Secretary – Lion Richard Williams
- Tail Twister – Rotating
- Lion Tamer – Rotating
- Chaplain – At Large
- Social Services – Lions Paul Rewerts
- Peace Poster Contest – Lion Jim Alagna
- Program Director – Lion Gary Peterson
- Donations Committee Chair – Lion Linda Strugalla
- Diabetes Awareness – Lion Meghen Williams
- Publicity – Lion Bob Hull
- Hospitality – Vacant
- RibFest – Lion Steve Hertzberg
- Candy Day – Lion Jim Ebers
- Summer Raffle – Lion Ken Strugalla
- Turkey Trot – Lion Donna Kearney
- Sight & Sound – Lion Al Knotek
- Counter Mints – Lion Steve Hertzberg
- Investment Committee – Lions Bill Bleecker, Steve Hertzberg and Al Knotek
- Newsletter – Lion Chris Williams
- Social Media – Lion Chris Williams



If you have newsworthy information, please pass it on to editor/publisher *Lion Chris Williams* at **630-264-7300** or email **chris@pnp-law.com** This newsletter will be published monthly after the Board Meeting (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month). Cut off date for news information will be the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month.



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**Liberty – Integrity  
Our Nation’s Service**

**66 YEARS OF SERVICE  
TO OUR COMMUNITY  
NAPERVILLE**

**NAPERVILLE NOON LIONS CLUB  
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**Meets Tuesday – Noon (12:15)  
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