

The
HEAD LION-ER

NAPERVILLE NOON LIONS CLUB

SEPTEMBER 2017



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**The aim of education is the knowledge,
not of facts, but of values.**

- William S. Burroughs

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Strength and Hope

This past month, while on our baseball tour of nine games in eleven days, our tour took a side trip to the Oklahoma City Memorial Site. The horrible bombing that took place on April 19, 1995 claimed the lives of 168 people. The memorial site has chairs placed on the memorial site grounds that represent the location of each person within the building by floor. This open site is called the field of empty chairs. At one end of the site is a tower with a clock at 9:01 which represents the time at one minute prior to the bombing. At the other end of the site is a tower with a clock at 9:03: the start of the "healing" time for all of us.

On the site, there is an America Elm tree that was severally damaged from the blast. The original plan was for the tree to be removed. However, one year later, the tree was still alive and started to bloom.

This tree is now called the "survival tree," and represents strength and hope.

I like to think of our Lions Club as a source of strength and hope for those who are in need of our services. We need to always be mindful of those who are not as fortunate and in need of vision and hearing assistance. Our fundraising efforts can be tiring and time consuming, but we can always be grateful that our donations are helping others.

Remember WE SERVE

Lion Linda Strugalla, President

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**If fear is cultivated, it will become
stronger. If faith is cultivated, it will
achieve mastery.**

- John Paul Jones

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The Head Lion-er



Club News and Guest Speakers

NEW SHELF

Thank you to Braconi's for purchasing and installing a shelf in the Pradel room to display our club's awards. You will notice the shelf above our club charter in our meeting room.

NEW MEMBER



Lion Dick Lehman with sponsor Lion Bob Hull and Lion President Linda Strugalla

On August 22, the club inducted our newest member, Dick Lehman. Lion Dick was sponsored by Lion Bob Hull. Lion Dick met Lion Bob Hull when Lion Bob was selling raffle tickets at US Bank.

Lion Dick is a retired architect who spent most of his career in Colorado. Upon retirement, he and his wife did a lot of traveling and he is now ready to spend more of his time giving

back to the community. Welcome to the club, Lion Dick.

KANE COUNTY COUGARS

A group from our club spent an evening at the Kane County Cougars game on August 24. In all, four Lions couples attended the game. The weather was cool, but dry. Everyone enjoyed the "Thirsty Thursday" promotion, which included \$1 hot dogs and beer. Lion Steve Hertzberg brought his baseball glove, but never saw a foul ball get near him. Everyone had a great time. Thank you to Lion Ken Strugalla for organizing the event.



Baseball spectators



To see things in the seed, that is genius.

- Lao Tzu



Luncheon Speakers

JUST OF DUPAGE

On August 8, Chip DeBlois was our speaker. Chip was speaking about JUST of DuPage, which brings all social services to the DuPage

The Head Lion-er

County Jail. JUST has been around for 30 years. They have seven staff members and approximately 90 volunteers.

Inmates can spend up to one year at the DuPage County Jail. At any time, there are approximately 600 inmates in the DuPage County Jail, of which 85% are men. In one year, approximately 15,000 people go through the jail. About 50% of those inmates have a mental health diagnosis.

JUST offers 50 classes per week in three basic areas: spiritual, addiction/recovery, and education. All classes are voluntary. They focus a great deal on recovery. Many inmates are addicted to heroin when they arrive.

Much of the goal of JUST is to prevent recidivism. The volunteers usually have personal or family experience with the jail system and are seeking to help.

JULIE AND GAVIN STAAB

On August 15, Lion Al Knotek's daughter, Julie, was our guest speaker. She was joined by her son Gavin, who has Angelman Syndrome. Also on hand were Al's wife, Glenda, his daughter, Stacie, and grandchildren Connor, Audrey, Lauren, and Matthew.

Julie and Gavin were back to give an update on Gavin's progress since last year. Angelman Syndrome affects Gavin in a number of ways even though he has the type of Angelman Syndrome with the

highest functionality. He has difficulty verbalizing speech and this is the most outward apparent affect. He also has difficulties with sleep, seizures, and motor skills.

Julie thanked the Angelman Syndrome Foundation for the wealth of support they provide. She thanked our club for supporting their annual walk. This year, Gavin brought in over \$13,000 for the fundraiser.

Gavin goes to Boston once per year for treatment. While there, he sees a battery of doctors who are very familiar with Angelman Syndrome. He has been going for about five years now, so they all know him at this point.

Julie talked about a camp that she attended with Gavin in Kentucky this summer. They had a special weekend for families with Angelman Syndrome. Everyone in attendance was familiar with her experiences and day to day life. They had a great time.

While he cannot speak, Gavin does understand what everyone is saying around him. He has the ability to use some sounds and hand gestures. He uses a speaking machine which can help him verbalize. Julie has programmed many phrases. He can use it to answer questions.

Julie sung the praises of Connor and Audrey. They are both fantastic with Gavin and help him every day. They play with him and help translate for him when others are around.



Lion Al Knotek's grandchildren on the day of their visit with Gavin standing on the left

Gavin spends a great deal of time in therapy. This encompasses occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech therapy. Julie has noticed the impact therapy is having. She pointed to one specific situation where Gavin could not even stand up on ice skates one year ago. Recently, the family went ice skating and not only could he stand, but he was able to skate around with his brother and sister. He loves to swim and ride his bike and scooter.

Gavin is starting first grade this year. He will have an aide with him all day. He will spend about 50% of the time with the standard class and the other 50% in the special education department.

Gavin is progressing very well and Julie and her family are optimistic that he will continue to progress. Thank you to Julie for sharing her story and family with the group.

WESTLAKE TECHNOLOGIES - ORCAM

On August 29, Aliza Olenick was our speaker from Orcam, along with her helper Annie. Orcam is a company that has created and developed a wearable technology that allows the user to hear written word in his or her environment.

Aliza gave a great presentation of the device, which is called My Eye. The device consists of a camera that clips onto a user's glasses and a small earpiece. These are connected to the unit, which is about the size of an eyeglass case.

By using a variety of customizable gestures, the device's camera recognizes text around the user and will read the text through audio to the user's earpiece. This allows a user who has vision loss to be able to read items in real time. Aliza was able to look at one of our club's raffle ticket's small print and read it back to her with ease.

The My Eye also has functions, which can recognize different people and products it sees and can identify them by name to the user.

Aliza told the club a few stories about new users who had their life changed with the device. Many people who lose the ability to see can become very independent with this device. She said that most users are especially excited about being able to read menus again.

The Head Lion-er

The device is produced entirely by a team of 70 engineers in Jerusalem. They are continuously working on updates to make the recognition better.

The device costs \$2,500 or \$3,500 depending on the feature set. For that price, the user gets a training session and the device, which has a battery that lasts about four hours with heavy use and could last all day with sporadic use. Aliza said that veterans are eligible to receive this device through their VA benefits.

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Happiness is not a goal; it is a by-product.

- Eleanor Roosevelt
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BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The Board of Directors met on August 22, 2017 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 Board meeting will be held on September 26, 2017.

Approved the Club and Foundation minutes for the meeting of July 25, 2017.

Approved the Treasurer's Report as of June 30, 2017 and July 31, 2017. The Social Service Report for the period ended August 22, 2017 was deferred until the September 26, 2017 meeting.

Approved donation of \$1,000 to Judd Kendal VFW in support of their 0.1K run and their children's home.

Accepted the resignation of Rich Williams.

Approved the appointment of Lion Phil Barnum as Membership Chair and Dues Secretary.

Approved a new line item in the Club budget in the amount of \$500 for Club promotion.

Approved placement of a NNLC promotional advertisement in five DuPage Symphony Orchestra programs for the Orchestra's 2017/18 concert season in the amount of \$100.

Committee reports; Lion Bob Hull reported that the Bake Sale met our promotional objectives and raised approximately \$1,000, after expenses. Lion Ken Strugalla reported that the Summer Raffle was ahead of last year and it is projected that we will exceed the previous year in total revenue. Lion Donna Kearney reported that the Turkey Trot Committee has been meeting and is in the process of selecting participant shirts for the event. Lion Steve Hertzberg submitted his 2017 report to the Board for Funnel Cake sales at Ribfest.

Lion Steve Hertzberg reported that the eyeglass collection box located at the Naperville Township office has not been removed as of this date, but the box will be moved soon. The Township will, however, continue to

The Head Lion-er

collect eye glasses. He also indicated that the BMO Harris Bank on North Washington Street has asked us to remove the eye glass collection box, but they will also continue to collect eye glasses.

Lion Maria Wilson reported that she is working on obtaining new Lions Club shirts and will report on the progress at the next meeting.

Lions Phil Barnum and Ken Strugalla reported on the progress of a new fundraiser at Irongate Auto Condos. A representative from Loaves and Fishes who has previously had a fund raiser at Irongate will be invited to speak at a luncheon meeting.

A thank you letter was sent to the Naperville North High School Marching Band in regard to their participation in the Lions Centennial parade.

Kane County Cougar baseball game is scheduled for August 24. Tickets are \$14 each.

The National Federation of the Blind convention is scheduled for October 27-29. Any Lion who wishes to attend the convention banquet should notify Lion President Linda Strugalla.

Discussed a request for participation to support Naperville Historical Society attempt to save the Old Nichols Library. This item was deferred to a later meeting after more information was obtained.

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A lawn is nature under totalitarian rule.

- Michael Pollan

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GUESTS

On August 8, George and Linda Villa were our guests. George and Linda were representing the National Federation of the Blind and invited our club members to the Illinois Convention in October. George and Linda were also thanked for their help and contribution to the Municipal Band concert bake sale.

On August 29, Kathy Lehman was our guest. Kathy is the wife of our newest Lion, Dick Lehman.

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Solitude vilifies; isolation kills.

- Joseph Roux

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COMING EVENTS

September 5 – Summer Raffle Drawing at Luncheon Meeting. Liz Spencer from NCTV17 will be on hand to draw the winning tickets.

September 12 – Kim Spayer from Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (WDRSA) will be our guest speaker.

September 19 – Georgia Koch, Community Outreach Coordinator at Career Vision will be our guest speaker. Career Vision is a personalized service dedicated to helping students and career

The Head Lion-er

managers find direction, make the very best decisions, and achieve success and satisfaction in their careers.

September 26 – Business Meeting.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

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

- Lion Diane Hollingsworth (7)**
- Lion Yllena Sinclair (3)**
- Lion Nick Stanitz (36)**
- Lion Ken Strugalla (9)**
- Lion Linda Strugalla (9)**

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

- Lion Maria Wilson – September 1**
- Lion George Pradel – September 5**
- Lion Carl Smith – September 28**

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

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|-----------|------------------------------------|
| September | 2 - Luncheon meeting at Braconi's |
| September | 12 - Luncheon meeting at Braconi's |
| September | 19 - Luncheon meeting at Braconi's |
| September | 26 - Board of Directors meeting |
| September | 26 - Luncheon meeting at Braconi's |

OFFICERS

- President – Lion Linda Strugalla
- 1st VP – Lion Jim Woodring
- 2nd VP – Vacant

- Secretary – Lion Jane Bowers
- Treasurer – Lion Bill Bleecker
- Director – Lion Jim Ebers
- Director – Lion Maria Wilson
- Director – Lion Ken Strugalla
- Director – Lion Donna Kearney
- Director – Lion Bob Hull
- Director – Lion Phil Barnum
- Membership – Lion Phil Barnum
- Immediate Past President – Lion Steve Hertzberg

Appointed Positions and Committee Chairs:

- Dues Secretary – Lion Phil Barnum
- Tail Twister – Rotating
- Lion Tamer – Rotating
- Chaplain – At Large
- Social Services – Lion Paul Rewerts
- Peace Poster Contest – Lion Yllena Sinclair
- Program Director – Lion Meghen Williams
- Donations Committee Chair – Lion Ken 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 – Lions Jim Alagna and 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 (4th Tuesday of the month). Cut off date for news information will be the 25th of the month.

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

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

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**Meets Tuesday – Noon (12:15)
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