

The
HEAD LION-ER

NAPERVILLE NOON LIONS CLUB

MAY 2019



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**Reading is to the mind what exercise is
to the body.**

- Joseph Addison

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Safe Lion: Happy Lion

At least being safe in our activities lets us concentrate on the service task at hand. We have several activities where extra care is needed to keep ourselves and the public safe. Working out in traffic such as on Candy Day calls for a high level of alertness and, of course, use of bright yellow safety vests. Reports of distracted drivers are common so extra vigilance on our part is prudent, although watching traffic while interacting with a donor takes some effort. Similar concerns are present while picking trash along Plainfield-Naperville Road and during Turkey Trot.

Distractions can affect us when driving or walking. Using a hand-held phone while driving is illegal; Naperville Police are especially alert for this. Although we all think we're "smarter than the average bear",

tests have shown that even a hands-free device can distract the brain. One that I recall was a reporter visiting the Ford research center. He was put in a very sophisticated auto simulator (VIRTTEX) and was asked to take a phone call hands free. While interacting with the call he drove into the back of a truck. Video showed his eyes looking ahead yet he did not react at all to the danger. Sobering.

Reports and examples of distracted driving are legion. Even after a period of fine weather, drive by the auto body shop next to Loaves & Fishes to see the continuing flood of mangled sheet metal. Some studies have found that texting while driving increases the chance of accident by 23 times. Insurance companies have been raising premiums, citing the increased cost of distracted driving.

Illinois is home to Scott's Law (625 ILCS 5/11-907(c)) named after Lt Scott Gillen of Chicago FD, killed by a motorist while assisting at a crash. When encountering emergency vehicles with flashing lights, it requires drivers to slow down and change lanes if possible. Penalty can be loss of license and \$10,000.

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Despite this, three Illinois troopers have lost their lives in 2019 as a result of drivers speeding or distracted at a traffic incident. Three trooper deaths are the most in a single year in the last 66 years, according to the department. A total of 17 state troopers have been struck by vehicles this year alone, and in 15 of those cases, drivers were violating Scott's Law, which requires drivers to move over for emergency vehicles.

So, let us be alert and safety-aware in our Lions and personal activities. And if we have Lions plates or decals on our vehicles, it's further incentive to be a good example on the road.

Remember WE SERVE

Lion Jim Woodring, President

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**Forgiveness is a funny thing. It warms
the heart and cools the sting.**

- William Arthur Ward

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Club News and Guest Speakers

GEORGE LAZANSKY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

At the District 1-J Convention on April 6, Lion Ken Strugalla was awarded the George Lazansky

Distinguished Service Award. Lion Ken has been an integral member of our club since joining in 2008. He has served as President, works tirelessly coordinating all of the Turkey Trot volunteers, and has chaired the Summer Raffle for many years. This was a well-deserved award. Congratulations Lion Ken!



Lazansky Award winner, Lion Ken Strugalla

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE SUMMIT

Our club was represented at the International Service Summit on April 6 by Lion Jim Woodring. Lion Jim was able to set up a booth and spread the word about our club and mission. Altogether, there were more than 30 service organizations. This year the event moved to Benedictine University and was a great success. The club plans to return next year and hopes that Lions International will also join in the fun.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

The first road cleanup was completed on April 6. The weather cooperated this year and the group was able to get out and beautify the

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road. Thank you to Lion Paul Rewerts for organizing this event.



Lion Cleanup Crew

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Change your life today. Don't gamble on the future, act now without delay.

- Simone de Beauvoir

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Luncheon Speakers

SPEAKER

On April 2, Courtney Bronec from DuPage Fox Valley Easter Seals was our speaker. Courtney is the volunteer and community engagement coordinator. Last year she helped to coordinate more than 300 individual volunteers.

Her organization has been in the DuPage area for 75 years. Today, they have three locations, Villa Park, Naperville, and Elgin. Each year they help 3,200 infants, children, and young adults with developmental disabilities.

Easter Seals provides physical and occupational therapy, speech and language programs, assistive technology, and family support. They work with a family-centered approach, encouraging families to take part in all aspects of the therapy.

Volunteers are an important aspect of the organization. They help in all different areas, including administrative tasks, organization, cleaning, and setting up therapy. They also get many volunteers from schools and colleges including occupational and physical therapy students.

LAND OF LINCOLN QUILTS OF VALOR

Rita Pennington from Land of Lincoln Quilts of Valor was our guest speaker on April 9. She was joined by her husband, Gary. Quilts of Valor is an organization that makes quilts and presents them to veterans. Rita is the state coordinator and she works to spread the word and recruit quilters.

The goal of Quilts of Valor is award essentially a civilian Medal of Honor. It is a thank you for service to our country. The veterans who receive these quilts cherish them more than their medals.

The quilts are made from high-quality materials. The quilts can take as long as three months to complete. In Northern Illinois, 300-400 quilts are awarded each year.

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This presentation was extra special as Rita presented a quilt to Lion Ken Strugalla at our meeting. This quilt was made by Karen Butz, wife of Lion Rick Butz.



Lion Ken receives his Quilt of Valor

After being quilted, Lion Ken gave the club a brief history of his service. Lion Ken was a survival assistance officer. He was tasked with informing families when a soldier died and helping to arrange the funeral service. Lion Ken emotionally recounted the different reactions he would receive and how difficult each and every experience was.

ANGELMAN SYNDROME FOUNDATION WALK

Jon Timbers, Angelman Syndrome Foundation Walk Coordinator, was our guest speaker on April 16. This is his third year as coordinator. He thanked us for our support of the walk each year, including this year at the walk on May 18.

Jon informed us of new research that is being performed including research into gene therapy that may be used to alter the gene that causes Angelman Syndrome. In addition to funding research, the organization provides support for families affected by Angelman Syndrome.

The walk takes place on May 18 in Lisle. This is the Chicagoland event, but there are more than 40 other walks throughout the country that day. Over two-thirds of the funds raised by the foundation is raised during the walk. Last year, the Chicagoland event raised \$130,000 which is 10% of the total nationwide.

Our club is volunteering again at the walk this year, both the day of and the day before the race. See Lion Donna Kearney to register.

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People change and forget to tell each other.

- Lillian Hellman

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BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The Board of Directors met on April 23, 2019 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 t 7:30 a.m. The next Board meeting will be held on May 28, 2019.

Approved the Club and Foundation regular meeting minutes of March

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26, 2019 and a special Foundation Board meeting minutes of February 22, 2019.

Approved the Club and Foundation Treasurer's Report for March 30, 2019 and the nine months then ended. Discussed dues in arrears collection and filing of Club and Foundation tax returns for 2018.

Approved the Social Service Report for April 2019. Total expenditures through April 2019 totaled \$78,548. Pre-school screening is being conducted at three local schools and will be completed in May 2019. Approved gift cards in the amount of \$100 for each doctor assisting in eye screenings at various Naperville schools.

- Approved the following donations:
- Angelman Syndrome Foundation Walk - \$2,000
 - Turning Point Autism Foundation - \$2,000,
 - Operation Support Our Troops - \$1,000.

A donation to Senior Home Sharing and Wayside Cross Ministries was discussed and deferred until a future meeting.

Approved at-large membership of Scott Bernal pending completion of the membership process.

Discussed Naperville Municipal Band bake sale. More information will be available soon.

Discussed and approved participation with Diveheart for the collection of scuba dive masks.

Discussed eye glass collection box which is to be located at the main post office in downtown Naperville. Progress is being made and it is expected the box will be moved to this location in the very near future.

Discussed updating of the Club's website. A committee has been appointed to review the current status of the site and will make recommendations to the Board at a future meeting.

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People seldom refuse help, if one offers it in the right way
 - A.C. Benson
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GUESTS

On April 2, Kathy Pitts, Lion Meghen Williams' mother, was our guest.

Jim Kiser, Southeast Zone chair was our guest on April 9. In addition, Jim Elliot from Diveheart stopped by to say hello.

On April 16 and 23, Scott Bernal was a guest of Lion Chris Williams. Scott has submitted his application for membership.

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You can't wait for inspiration. You have to go after it with a club.
 - Jack London
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COMING EVENTS

May 7 – Deb Robertson from 360 Youth Services will be our guest speaker.

May 14 – Bob Berlin, DuPage County State’s Attorney will be our guest speaker.

May 18 - Angelman Syndrome Foundation Walk in Lisle. See Lion Donna Kearney to sign up.

May 21 – Julie Sanfilippo from Edward Elmhurst Health’s Jumpstart program will be our guest speaker.

May 28 – Business Meeting.

June 8 – Road cleanup on Plainfield-Naperville Road. See Lion Paul Rewerts to sign up.

June 13 – Bake sale at the Naperville Municipal Band Concert.

- Lion Agnes Tsiagbe – May 8**
- Lion Phil Barnum – May 13**
- Lion Meghan Williams – May 26**
- Lion Jim Alagna – May 27**
- Lion Al Knotek – May 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

- May 7 - Luncheon meeting at Braconi’s
- May 14 - Luncheon meeting at Braconi’s
- May 21 - Luncheon meeting at Braconi’s
- May 28 - Board of Directors meeting
- May 28 - Luncheon meeting at Braconi’s



OFFICERS

- President – Lion Jim Woodring
- 1st VP – Lion Ken Strugalla
- 2nd VP – Donna Kearney
- Secretary – Lion Jane Bowers
- Treasurer – Lion Bill Bleecker
- Director – Lion Jim Ebers
- Director – Lion Maria Wilson
- Director – Lion Steve Hertzberg
- Director – Lion Paul Rewerts
- Director – Lion Bob Hull
- Director – Lion Phil Barnum
- Membership – Lion Jim Ebers
- Immediate Past President – Lion Linda Strugalla



MAY BIRTHDAYS AND SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

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

- Lion Phoebe Bickhaus (29)**
- Lion Bill Bleecker (44)**
- Lion Barb Brauer (5)**
- Lion Donna Kearney (10)**

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

- Lion Jane Bowers – May 3**

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Appointed Positions and Committee Chairs:

Dues Secretary – Lion Jim Ebers
Tail Twister – Rotating
Lion Tamer – Rotating
Chaplain – At Large
Social Services – Lions Donna Kearney &
Denise French
Peace Poster Contest – Lion Karen Maxwell
Program Director – Lion Meghan Williams
Donations Committee Chair – Lion Linda
Strugalla
Diabetes Awareness – Lion Meghan
Williams
Publicity – Lion Bob Hull
Hospitality – Vacant
RibFest – Lion Steve Hertzberg
Candy Day – Lion Jim Ebers

Summer Raffle – Lion Ken Strugalla
Turkey Trot – Lions Glen Behnke 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

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If you have newsworthy information, please
pass it on to editor/publisher *Lion Chris
Williams* at **708-297-1987** or email
chris@pnlawoffice.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**

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

**NAPERVILLE NOON LIONS CLUB
P.O. Box 282
Naperville, IL 60566-0282**

**Meets Tuesday – Noon (12:15)
Braconi’s
796 Royal St George Drive
Naperville**



**Phone: (630) 364-3922
Website: <http://napervillenoonlions.org/>
Email: info@napervillenoonlions.org
Facebook: <http://facebook.com/NapervilleNoonLions>
Twitter: @NapervilleLions**

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