

The
HEAD LION-ER

NAPERVILLE NOON LIONS CLUB

FEBRUARY 2023



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The price of greatness is responsibility.

- Winston Churchill

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Memorial Donation

The board, via email, approved a \$500 memorial donation to Little Friends in memory of Dan Casey, who was a pillar of the community. Casey's always supported the Lions on Candy Day, our summer raffle, and the Turkey Trot Race.

Spring Flower Sale

Lion Karen Maxwell is in the planning stage for our next fundraiser. She has established the pricing and will be soon sending out the order forms.

Meeting Attendance

Folks, we have had some very interesting speakers at our weekly meetings thanks to Lion Paul. If you are not a regular attendee, check out the speaker schedule in the monthly newsletter issued by Lion Chris. In February, we have Alive Teen Center on 2/7, DuPage Forest

Preserve on 2/14, and Marklund (organization that assists those with development issues) on 2/21.

Budget Snapshot

Through January end of month, we have donated approximately \$125,000. Our working budget for this fiscal year is \$181,000. Thanks to everyone's hard work we have been able to make a special donation of \$20,000 to Donka that will enable them to upgrade their computer facilities.

Remember WE SERVE

Lion Linda Strugalla, President

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**It takes courage to grow up and become
who you really are.**

- e. e. cummings

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♥ **HAPPY**
Valentine's
DAY ♥

The Head Lion-er



Club News and Guest Speakers

DISTRICT 1J BOWLING

The Annual District 1J Bowling event was held January 14 at Fox Bowl in Wheaton. Our club had 9 bowlers and one fan (Lion Bill Bleecker).

Lions who bowled were Lions Steve Hertzberg, Tom Garvey, Katie Hertzberg Mathews, and Donna Kearney. Lion Katie's daughter, Ellie, and husband, Brian, bowled. Lion Tom brought a few ringers of his own: Ingrid, Ashley, and Pat.

Ashley was the leading scorer with a 614 series. Lion Tom was the leader of the Lions with 569. Lion Donna edged out 7-year-old Ellie. Everyone had a great time and best of all, Lion Steve did not embarrass himself.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

With spring fast approaching (fingers crossed), Lion Glenn Behnke has tentatively set dates for this year's highway cleanup of Plainfield/Naperville Road. These dates (subject to change) are April 15, June 10, August 12, and October 7.

GLASSES DELIVERY

Lion Paul Rewerts took another trip out to Dekalb to deliver the glasses that our club has collected over the

past few months in the collection boxes. Thank you for the delivery service, Lion Paul.

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The happiest people seem to be those who have no particular cause for being happy except that they are so.

- Willian Inge

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Luncheon Speakers

FOUNDATION FIGHTING BLINDNESS

Lion Steve Sroka was our guest speaker on January 3 to update the club on Foundation Fighting Blindness (FFB). FFB funds research for elimination of retinal degenerative diseases. They are currently funding 81 grants at 70 institutions.

FFB has 40 volunteer-led chapters throughout the country. These chapters fundraise for the organization and help raise awareness throughout their area. This includes a lot of information, education, and resources for families dealing with these diseases.

Lion Steve introduced us to a new "My Retina Tracker" initiative by FFB. This is a national registry where individuals can add themselves to the database and include specific information about their sight and situation. The tracker will help provide information and allow for easier entry into research projects/clinical trials. They also

offer free genetic testing through this registry.

Lastly, Lion Steve invited our club to participate in the annual Chicago Vision Walk on June 4, 2023. This event will be held in Elk Grove Village at Busse Woods and is a great family event.

DONKA

Our club was visited by old friends Leanne Vos and Ann Byrne (and her dog, Kira) from Donka on January 10. Donka provides computer training for people with disabilities. Recently, our club provided a grant for Donka to update their computers for the first time since 2014.

Leanne provided us with an update on Donka's programs, including a job placement program and veterans' program. The job placement program has already placed six students into jobs. The veteran program is working on recruiting veterans to take advantage of their services.

Ann, a teacher at Donka, who is blind herself, told us a few stories about some of her students. She was able to help these blind students navigate the computer and become independent. Ann delighted us in recalling that one of these students insisted that she did not know what he was going through because he had no idea that she was also blind. When he learned that she, his teacher, was also blind, his attitude changed and he became incredibly proficient using his computer and confident in himself.

CHILD'S VOICE

Kate Bousum was a return guest to our club. Kate updated us on the current happenings at Child's Voice, the organization that helps deaf children learn to listen and talk through their various programs. The children use cochlear implants and/or hearing aids to hear.

Child's Voice program starts with their early intervention program, which starts at birth. They move onto the school program, which is for ages 3-8 and a classroom setting. In this program, they service children from over 30 school districts and 70 zip codes.

Recently, our club helped fund the school's social/emotional learning. This has been especially helpful coming out of COVID when the children were stuck behind a screen for the entire day.

After the children graduate from the school program, they are mainstreamed into their local school districts. The support does not end there, though. They continue to provide support and outreach well into college for their alumni. Kate was happy to report that they now have an alum on the board of directors and another teaching in the school.

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**Find a job you like and you add five days
to every week.**

- H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

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BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The Board of Directors met at Beidelman-Kunsch Funeral Home in Naperville on January 24, 2023. The following is a summary of the Board's acts and discussions. All members are welcome to attend the Board meetings. The next Board meeting will be held on February 28, 2023 at Beidelman-Kunsch Funeral Home. A copy of the complete minutes can be obtained from the Lions Club Secretary.

Approved the Board meeting minutes of the Club and Foundation for its regular meeting on December 6, 2022.

Approved the Treasurer's Report for December 31, 2022 and the six months then ended.

Approved the combined Social Service Report for December 2022 and January 2023. Expenditures totaled \$35,212 for the seven months then ended. Expenditures are approximately \$7,000 more than last year at this time and are comparable to 2019-2020. The nurses at Mill Street School inquired if the Lions could purchase a mobile phone to track a first grade diabetic student using a continuous glucose monitor. More information will be provided at a later date.

Approved the following donations:

- Foundation Fighting Blindness - \$5,000
- National Federation of the Blind - \$7,500
- Someone Special - \$500

- Feed My Starving Children - \$7,500

Discussed publicity – Change in Positively Naperville advertisement needs to be made to include date, time, and location of weekly luncheons. Received an inquiry from Main and Luxe regarding article relating to Lions Clubs and NNLC. Discussed placing advertisement in Suburban Family Life magazine regarding 2023 Turkey Trot.

Approve memorial donation of \$250 in honor of Lion Ron Wigdon.

Discussed Turkey Trot results – Revised statement of receipts and disbursement have been prepared, which indicates net income of approximately \$149,000. Registration has been down in the last several years due to many 5K Turkey Trots now being held in the area around Thanksgiving and on Thanksgiving Day. It was suggested we look at radio advertising for the 2023 Turkey Trot, in addition to the traditional print media advertising.

Discussed membership – All members are current in dues. A possible new member from the Naperville Bank and Trust will attend today's lunch. Follow up with prospects continues.

Discussed spring flower fundraising event. Plans are in progress to hold the flower sale this year in early spring.

Approved expenditure of \$100 for advertisement in the Lions Convention program for this spring's convention.

GUESTS

Discussed joining with other service clubs in Naperville to sponsor an event such as a Family Safety Day or a similar event. Two or three Naperville Lions would be required to assist with the event. It was approved that the Naperville Lions would support the idea and explore participation. Lion Tom Garvey volunteered to coordinate our efforts and meet with the service club group. More information will be provided at a later date.

Discussed this year's highway clean-up project. This year's clean-up is tentatively scheduled for April 15, June 12, August 12, and October 7. If a Lion member has previously filled out a release form, no additional paperwork is needed.

Discussed NNLC participation in the Feed My Starving Children's event. This year's event will be held on February 18, 2023 at North Central College Res Rec Center. All signups will have to be made online this year. More information will be distributed to Lion members.

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**I can't change the direction of the wind,
but I can adjust my sails to always reach
my destination.**

- Jimmy Dean

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District Governor Lion Jim Kiser was our guest on January 17. Lion Jim gave us an update on the District and invited us to the District 1J Convention April 14-15.

On January 24, Jennifer Brown (wife of former member Mike Brown) and Donna Ulnal from Naperville Bank and Trust were our guests.

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**If you fell down yesterday, stand up
today.**

- H.G. Wells

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COMING EVENTS

February 7 – Our guest speaker will be Kacie Chitwood from Alive Center for Teens.

February 14 – An environmental interpreter from the DuPage Forest Preserve District will be our guest speaker.

February 18-19 – Feed My Starving Children packing event at North Central College. See Lion Maria Wilson to sign up. The hope is that a large number of our members will be able to work the same shift for a photo opportunity.

February 21 – Carrie Seida will speak to the group about Marklund.

February 28 – Business Meeting.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS AND SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

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

Lion Jane Bowers (23)

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

Lion James Gilliard – February 1

Lion Ali Aijaz – February 2

Lion Barb Brauer – February 15

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

February	7 -	Luncheon meeting at Aurelio's
February	14 -	Luncheon meeting at Aurelio's
February	21 -	Luncheon meeting at Aurelio's
February	28 -	Board of Directors meeting
February	28 -	Luncheon meeting at Aurelio's

OFFICERS

President	–	Lion Linda Strugalla
1 st VP	–	Lion Tom Garvey
2 nd VP	–	Lion Bill Cornish
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 Kathy Lukavsky
Immediate Past President – Lion Bob Hull

Appointed Positions and Committee Chairs:

Dues/Membership – Lion Tom Garvey
Tail Twister – Rotating
Lion Tamer – Rotating
Chaplain – At Large
Social Services – Lions Donna Kearney & Jim Woodring
Peace Poster Contest – Lion Karen Maxwell
Program Director – Lion Paul Rewerts
Donations Committee Chair – Lion Ken Strugalla
Diabetes Awareness – Vacant
Publicity – Lion Jim Ebers
Hospitality – Vacant
Pizza Wars – Lion Steve Hertzberg
Candy Day – Lion Jim Ebers
Summer Raffle – Lion Ken Strugalla
Turkey Trot – Lions Glenn Behnke and Donna Kearney
Sight & Sound – Lion Jim Ebers
Counter Mints – Lion Steve Hertzberg
Investment Committee – Lions Bill Bleecker, Steve Hertzberg and Al Knotek
Newsletter – Lion Chris Williams
Social Media – Lion Chris Williams
Adopt-a-Highway – Lion Glenn Behnke
Comfort Toys – Lion Ellen Wolff

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**

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

**NAPERVILLE NOON LIONS CLUB
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**Meets First 4 Tuesdays – Noon (12:15)
Aurelio's Pizza - Springbrook
1975 Springbrook Square Dr.
Naperville, IL**



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