

# The HEAD LION-ER

March 2006



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*The outstanding leaders of every age are  
those who set up their own quotas and  
constantly exceed them.*  
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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Members, members, members; where are they? New members are out there waiting to be asked to join the club. When was the last time we asked someone to come for lunch and possibly join the club? When will we ask a friend to join the club? That leads to the question: Where are the "old" members? We only average 22 members at lunch during the year. That's only 60% of our full members. How about calling one of our 14 members that are missing on any given week and asking them to join us the following week?

**"WE SERVE".** (Lion Bill McManus)



## Club News and Guest Speakers

### SPOUSE ENTRANCE FEE REBATE



Did you know that Lions International is offering a special entrance fee rebate to new members who are the spouse of an existing

member? Well, they are!! If your spouse joins the Club between now and the end of June they will get a \$25 rebate on the registration fee. Now's your chance to bring new members into the Club and get a break on the registration fee.



**Mr. Jeff Todd** and **Ms Lesley Spencer**, from Prevent Blindness America (PBA), presented

information and answered questions about the organization at the February 7 Club meeting. PBA was formerly known as the Society for the Prevention of Blindness and is the second oldest health related volunteer organization in the country. The following is information from the PBA's website.

### **Mission: to Prevent Blindness and Preserve Sight**

Founded in 1908, Prevent Blindness America is the nation's leading volunteer eye health and safety organization dedicated to fighting blindness and saving sight. Focused on promoting a continuum of vision care, Prevent Blindness America touches the lives of millions of people each year.

They check the eyes of millions of children and adults each year. Their vision screenings help preschoolers at risk of vision loss from lazy eye (amblyopia), school children who depend on good vision for learning, and adults threatened by glaucoma and other serious vision problems.

PBA gets the word out on better eye health through brochures, fact sheets, public service announcements, newsletters, media campaigns, special events and the web. Every year more than 120 million people read, hear or see their messages about

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early detection of eye disease and prevention of accidents that can cause permanent loss of sight.

They work with government officials at the state, local and national levels - building grassroots advocacy movements that will improve our nation's public health policies.

PBA supports the work of scientists who will find tomorrow's cures for the eye diseases that threaten Americans with vision loss and blindness.

They train and certify adult and children's vision screeners and screening instructors through the only national program of its kind, providing 20,000 vision screening personnel with the skills they need to help people in their communities.

PBA improves the quality of life for hundreds of thousands through their community programs. Their websites, <http://www.preventblindness.org>, <http://www.diabetes-sight.org> and their PBA Vision Health resource Center (1-800-331-2020) put them within reach of anyone with Internet access or a telephone.

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*Leave everything a little better than you found it.*  
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The Club extends a big thanks to **Ms Gail Legner Wetta**, the staff and students at Donka, in Wheaton, for the grand tour and demonstrations on February 14. Club members were able

to see how the training of blind, visually impaired, and handicapped students is accomplished on a variety of sophisticated computer hardware and special software applications. The following background information is from the Donka website.

Donka was founded in 1987 by Don Van Haveren, a retired Wheaton businessman, who became friends with residents of the DuPage Convalescent Center where he volunteered. He believed that computer training was the way to increase opportunities for people limited by disabilities. Don's vision has grown into the

only program in the Chicago area that provides free computer training as a means of education leading to employment, and human service leading to more independent living. Many Donka clients are reaching goals they never thought possible.

*"I named it DONKA (thank you in Dutch and German) in honor of the thanks I give for the opportunity to work with these extraordinary people who teach me so much each day."*  
Founder Don Van Haveren

### Mission Statement

Donka, Inc. is a non-profit organization providing no-cost computer training and job placement services to persons with physical and visual disabilities. Through computers and assistive technology, our clients become more self-sufficient and independent members of the community.

### Primary Goals

- Provide a credible computer training program to people with disabilities
- Provide adequate training and experience to enable students to pursue further education or seek employment
- Provide a way for disabled people to utilize their intellectual abilities, increase their self-esteem, and become more self-sufficient, independent members of the community.

### What They Do

Donka strives to remain state of the art in computer technology and teaching techniques. 20 computer stations with hardware less than 3 years old, combined with an impressive inventory of cutting edge assistive technology, overseen by certified staff ensures success.

Each year approximately 50 individuals receive individualized, hands-on training at the Donka Computer Lab. Hundreds of others receive outreach services as Donka serves the community at large as a role model for computer training and an

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information source on assistive technology. Family members, educators, employers, rehab professionals, and social service agencies need access to current data in this field. Donka readily shares its expertise and provides information, assessments, access and training in adaptive technology and computers, again, at no-cost.

### How They Do It

With an annual budget just over \$300,000 and a staff of 9, Donka works hard to secure program and operational funding from foundations, corporations, service clubs and individuals. We are not a part of United Way and have very little government funding. Instead, Donka maintains a broad base of support throughout the Chicago area by networking and creating strong collaborations with appropriate partners in business and education, as well as community leaders. Donka's program is recognized in Chicagoland, and it is backed by a professional reputation for quality and thoroughness.

If you would like more information about Donka please visit their website at: <http://www.donkainc.org/>

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*The power of a kind word or deed is indescribable.*  
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**Mr. Tom Cordaro,** from Naperville CARES, visited the Club on February

21 to fill us in about what they are doing in Naperville.

### The Mission

The mission of Naperville CARES is to provide resources to people within the Naperville community who need assistance to avoid homelessness and to attain self-sufficiency.

Naperville CARES began as a grassroots organization of congregations and individuals in the Naperville area that helped low-income families and individuals in our midst.

The professional care manager works with families and individuals to address underlying issues that precipitated their financial crisis.

There is no charge for their services.

### THEIR SERVICES

**Emergency Fund Program** - Get help for your immediate needs.

**Project Hope** - When getting back on your feet may take a while.

**Car Donations** - When you need a car.

**Referral to Other Resources** - When others can help too.

**Case-Management Services** - A caring professional you can talk to.

For more information visit their website at <http://www.napervillecares.org/>



## Maria Wilson!!

For recruiting two new members who remained in the Club for a year!! Keep up the good work.

Maria was presented with a special pin for her dedication.

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*Extend a helping hand.*  
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### Other things to remember.....

District I-J convention will be held March 24-26, 2005.

If anyone would like to attend Northern Illinois food bank dinner please see Bill McManus. Cost is \$175.

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International Lions Club Convention will be held in Boston from June 30-July 4, 2006.

Our Lions Club is looking for potential Board members. If you are interested please contact Bill McManus.

Our Lions Club will be featured in a painting on vinyl. The painting will be on 35 S. Washington.



## MARCH BIRTHDAYS AND SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES



The following members have a birthday in March and they are: 3/2 – **Lion Rick Butz**, 3/8 – **Lion Paul Rewerts**, 3/17 – **Lion Jim Burner**, and 3/28 – **Lion Virginia Cox**. The

following members have a service anniversary in March and they are: 3/1 – **Lions Bob Koller** (42), 3/4 – **Lions Don** (3) and **Julie Brown** (3), and 3/10 – **Lion Hal Wilde** (14). Best wishes and congratulations to these members. If your information is missing or incorrect please contact **Lion Jane Bowers** to make additions or corrections.



*Take time to laugh-it is the music of the soul.*



## REQUESTS

The following requests for donations were granted at the December and January board meetings:

- ✚ Social Services Cases 1644-1678 were approved.



## TREASURER'S REPORT

The Club's income, expenses, and account balances as of January 31 were:

January Administrative Income	\$ 3,620
January Administrative Expense	\$ 2,154

January Charitable Income	\$ 410
January Charitable Expense	\$ 749
January Charitable Donations	\$ 6,585

General Account	\$ 3,728.30
Special Account	\$ 6,778.86
Special Account Money Market	\$ 68,088.75
Raffle Escrow Money Market	\$ 13,388.21
MidAmerica Account	\$ 90.00
Harold White Special Bond Fund	\$ 74,677.60



## DATES AND PROGRAMS TO REMEMBER

- ✚ 3/7 -- Speaker: **Lion Ellen Wolff**
- ✚ 3/10 -- **St. Baldrick's Benefit at the Naperville Holiday Inn**
- ✚ 3/14 -- Speakers: Thank You presentation from a family the Club helped and Ms Kathy Super from Starlight
- ✚ 3/21 -- Speaker: Mr. Mike Kett presenting Mind Mysteries
- ✚ 3/24-26 – **District 1-J Convention at The Hyatt Regency - Woodfield**
- ✚ 3/28 -- 7:30am Board Meeting at Beidelman-Kunsch



*The*  
**HEAD LION-ER**



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

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

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

**Meets Tuesday – Noon (12:15)  
Angeli's  
1478 East Chicago Avenue  
Naperville**



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