

The
HEAD LION-ER

NAPERVILLE NOON LIONS CLUB

JULY 2020



=====

**The best way to cheer yourself up is to
try to cheer somebody else up.**

- Mark Twain

=====

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Recognizing Lion President Ken
Strugalla

As Lions we are called to serve. We serve in our community as dictated by our mission. We serve charitable organizations in the community by helping them further their missions. It's important to remember we serve each other as well. Each time we stand to collect candy, sell a raffle ticket, help at the roadside clean up, at the Turkey Trot, and accept a position of responsibility, we serve each other – the Club and Foundation.

It is my honor to recognize Lion President Ken Strugalla. He, in his 11 years of service with our Club exemplifies our motto 'We Serve.' It's been awhile since we've seen him so let's look at the high points and notable moments from this past year.

Ken has found new ways of sharing our mission and building awareness of what we do, while at the same time finding volunteers. I'm referring to his contacts with the National Charity League, Young Men's Service League, and the UNICEF group at Neuqua Valley. We hope that through these relationships we will nurture a generation of future Lions.

Ken is present at EVERY event and Club activity.

Ken is deeply committed to the financial health of the Club and Foundation.

He was Raffle Chair and Volunteer Coordinator in the same year as he was President.

Ken holds a high standard of honesty, authenticity and respect for himself and others, representing our Club well. The Club is better for you being part of it. Thank you for your service

Message to the Club

Lions, thank you for your service to the community and to each other this past year and for continuing your

The Head Lion-er

commitment to the Club and Foundation as we help make life a little easier for Naperville school children and members of the community.

It's disappointing that we haven't been able to meet face to face for a while and our activities and help have come to a standstill. This year is going to look and feel a little different from other years. And it's going to change and evolve as circumstances dictate. I think of it as a bridge to a more stable time, to next year.

What I'd like to propose is to look forward to the month ahead, and to hold our July Club meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday from 12:45 to 1:30 pm using the Zoom platform. Lion Paul is arranging for a speaker for the July 14 meeting, and the July 28 will be a business meeting. The Board will continue to meet on the fourth Tuesday at 9 am until circumstances change, also via Zoom.

Everyone has their own level of comfort with being out in public right now. Braconi's has agreed to leave the Pradel Room open on the second and fourth Tuesday in July should anyone wish to get together for lunch. Vilma will accept up to 10 people - socially distanced. Menu service only and you will pay separately from your dues. So that Braconi's can staff appropriately, please let me know if you plan to eat lunch there. To join the meeting, you'll need a laptop or smartphone with the Zoom app installed.

Looking beyond July, the Board has talked about ways we can get together in person, for example, meet outdoors where we can maintain a safe distance. There are cost and weather considerations, and of course, the health and safety of all is paramount.

What I know of our Club is that it is made of resourceful people. As we navigate the coming year we will find opportunities to meet, laugh and work together, and help those in need.

Remember WE SERVE

Lion Donna Kearney, President

=====

**It has been by experience that folks who
have no vices have very few virtues.**

- Abraham Lincoln

=====



Club News and Guest Speakers

END OF YEAR AWARDS

In the absence of a traditional installation dinner, the club held a Zoom club meeting on June 30. At that time, Lion Ken Strugalla presented the following awards.

The Head Lion-er

The Robert Jordan Inspirational Award Presented to Lion Tom Garvey

This lion approaches life with a smile and his laptop. He volunteers for all of our fundraisers and community activities. He eagerly took on the role of membership and dues chair. He did not hesitate to join our board and the rest of us grown-ups have finally learned how to share the transmitter to his laptop. If you see this Lion smiling, you just know that your words have probably come across as scrambled on his laptop. I learned this lesson when I was briefing everyone on our set position #8 for the WGN home town parade. On his laptop, my words were translated to "we have sex position #8 in the parade line-up." Tom couldn't stop laughing, maybe even blushing. Tom Garvey, we are truly proud of you. You are an inspiration to all of us. Keep smiling.

The President's Appreciation Award to Lion Denise French

This Lion works tirelessly and quietly behind the scenes, helping Naperville children, teens, and adults obtain the vision care that they cannot otherwise afford. She always does this with grace and kindness. Her creativity has allowed us to serve more people at a reduced cost. Her personal connections with providers beyond our club extends the services we can provide, helping more with specialized care such as cataracts and glaucoma. The Naperville Noon Lions Club is better because of her contributions. Well done, Denise French.

The President's Appreciation Award to Lions Rick Butz and Bob Hull

One reason why our club is so successful in raising funds is the effort put in by these two Lions on our annual summer raffle. Over the last five years, our club has sold \$158,000 worth of raffle tickets. Of this total, Lions Bob Hull and Rick Butz have a combined total of \$52,000 in sales. They have averaged 33% of all of our sales. Each year, they will be #1 or #2 in sales. Combined, they average over \$10,000 each year. This is just an outstanding effort that comes with a lot of time and effort. Lions Bob Hull and Rick Butz – thank you.

Citizen of the Year – Peg Yatchman

Peg works the souvenir stand at Paramount Theatre. She heard about our "Comfort Toy" program when I kept trying, and failing, to convince the theatre's management team to sell their souvenir stuffed animals to me at a discount. She said "I can help you" and has so far made 148 decorated pillow cases, 7 baby blankets, 54 face masks for donation to Little Friends and several nurses, 12 yarn toys and 20 scarves which were donated to the homeless at PADS. In addition, Peg also makes "Quilts of Valor" for our veterans. I have seen Peg hand out homemade pins to the veterans who come to the Paramount Theatre. Several of the veterans have shown me their pins. They were touched by such a kind act. Peg - you are truly amazing and well deserving of the "Citizen of the Year" award.

The Head Lion-er

Citizen of the Year – Karen Butz

In 2014, Karen along with her sister Laura, decided to make homemade decorated pillowcases and comfort toys for the children admitted to Edward Hospital's pediatric unit. Their goal was simple – provide comfort and a positive memory for the child. Our Lions Club then partnered with Karen and Laura to form the "Comfort Toy" Program. Over a two-year period, they donated 650 homemade pillowcases. Karen, I am rather embarrassed that it took six years to recognize the contributions by you and your sister. In addition, Karen is now making "Quilts of Valor" for our veterans. I am very proud to have received one from Karen. Karen – you are truly amazing and well deserving of the "Citizen of the Year" award.

Lion of the Year Presented to Lion Steve Hertzberg

This individual was "Lion of the Year" in 1989. He then went dormant for the next ten years, until he was again "Lion of the Year" in 1999. Now, once again, he appears, but this time it took him 21 years to make his mark. This three-time winner reminds me of the cicada locust that also shows up every 13 - 17 years. They both make a lot of noise and then disappear. Of course, Steve, I am kidding. Your extremely hard work in creating a traffic jam of 1,300 bargain hunters, desperate for a cheap meal at \$10 was unique. Thanks to Lion Steve, the Pizza War fundraiser was a smash hit. Lion Steve – without a doubt, you are the "Lion of the Year."

George Lazansky Distinguished Service Award Presented to Lion Donna Kearney

Earlier this year, Lion Donna Kearney was recognized for her outstanding contributions over the past ten years as Lion of the Year (2011), Melvin Jones Fellow (2014), Lions International President's Award (2015), City of Naperville volunteer commissioner for the special events and cultural amenities (SECA) (2017-20) and for her leadership roles as our club president (2012-12), the turkey trot committee and social services.

EVERSIGHT SHARED VISION AWARD

At our June board meeting, the club learned from Lion Diane Hollingsworth that our club had received the Eversight Shared Vision Award. This award was created in 2009 to recognize individuals, groups, and organizations who have shown extraordinary support of Eversight's mission and share their vision to restore sight through corneal transplantation, research, and education.

Lion Diane informed us that we are the first Lions Club in Illinois to receive this award. The Club will be honored at an award ceremony on September 8, 2020. Thank you to Lion Diane for nominating the club for this wonderful award!

**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF
THE BLIND – BELL
PROGRAM**

Our club received an update from National Federation of the Blind and their ongoing BELL program which we support. The BELL program helps to train blind children to be independent. NFB shared the story of Mae Anderson from Christiansburg, VA, who our donation helped to attend camp.

Mae was able to walk by herself in the park with her cane. She loves learning everything and is happy to be able to use the Braille. NFB thanked us for our impact on the program.



Mae enjoying the BELL Program

=====

We aim above the mark to hit the mark.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

=====

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The Board of Directors met via Zoom on June 30. The following is a summary of the Board’s actions and discussions. All members are welcome to attend the Board meetings. The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom on July 28 at 9:00 AM. If interested in attending via Zoom, you can find the meeting link in your email or with the following information:

Meeting ID: **916 5738 2152**
Password: **916654**

Approved the Board meeting minutes of the Club and Foundation of the June 2 meeting.

Approved the Treasurer’s Report for May 2020. Approved the budget for the 2020-21 fiscal year. The BMO Harris Bank Club account has been closed and moved entirely to Naperville Bank and Trust. The Foundation account is still active at BMO Harris, but all new money is being deposited into the Naperville Bank and Trust Foundation account. Once the BMO Harris Foundation account has been depleted to under \$10,000, the account will be closed and funds transferred to Naperville Bank and Trust.

Approved the Social Services Report for June 2020. Discussed increasing certain copays for the upcoming year.

Discussed membership and some members with late dues.

Discussed future meetings. The plan is to conduct Zoom meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month going forward. Lion Donna spoke with Braconi's and they will allow up to ten members to have lunch on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. Lion Paul has agreed to secure a speaker for the second Tuesday of the month and the fourth Tuesday will remain a business meeting.

Discussed a future outdoor, socially distanced, meeting. Lion Bill Bleecker agreed to host and this meeting is scheduled for August 11.

Discussed partnership with Young Men's Service League. This group has agreed to do glasses pickups at seven of our donation locations.

Discussed Eversight Award which our club received after being nominated by Lion Diane Hollingsworth.

=====

Don't forget to love yourself.

- Soren Kierkegaard

=====

GUESTS

On June 30, a prospective new member, Tracy Gray, was a guest at our Zoom meeting.

=====

Education is the movement from darkness to light.

- Allan Bloom

=====

COMING EVENTS

July 14 – Virtual Club Meeting at 12:30 PM via Zoom. Members are also welcome to attend at Braconi's (beginning at noon), however, social distancing must be practiced and any lunch must be purchased by the club member. All members who plan to attend in person should RSVP with Lion Donna on or before July 12 so that she may alert Braconi's. The first 10-15 minutes of the meeting will be dedicated to Lionism with the meeting officially underway at 12:45.

The meeting will occur on Zoom. If interested in attending via Zoom, you can find the meeting link in your email or with the following information:

Meeting ID: **916 5738 2152**

Password: **916654**

Please contact Lion Donna Kearney or Chris Williams for assistance.

Our guest speaker for this meeting will be Erika Wood, from the YMCA's Safe and Sound Program.

July 28 – Business Meeting at 12:30 to be conducted via Zoom jointly with Braconi's. See above for information on how to connect via Zoom.

August 11 – Outdoor Club Meeting at Lion Bill Bleecker's house (7S145 Vale Ct., Downers Grove, IL) at 12:00 PM. Lunch will be provided by the club. Please bring chairs and beverages for your personal use/consumption. Social distancing will be practiced at this event.



JULY BIRTHDAYS AND SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

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

- Lion Jim Ebers (13)**
- Lion Robert Bremmer (1)**
- Lion Dick Griffith (5)**
- Lion Christine Igoe (6)**
- Lion Gary Vician (11)**
- Lion Meghen Williams (10)**
- Lion Ellen Wolff (19)**

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

- Lion Bill Bleecker – July 10**
- Lion Kathy Lukavsky – July 10**
- Lion Katie Hertzberg – July 18**
- Lion Glen Behnke – July 22**
- Lion Karen Maxwell – July 29**
- Lion Gary Vician – July 30**

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

=====

OFFICERS

- President – Lion Donna Kearney
- 1st VP – Lion Bob Hull
- 2nd VP – Lion Linda Strugalla
- 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 Tom Garvey
- Director – Lion Kathy Lukavsky
- Immediate Past President – Lion Ken Strugalla

=====

Appointed Positions and Committee Chairs:

- Dues/Membership – Lion Tom Garvey
- 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 Paul Rewerts
- Donations Committee Chair – Lion Linda Strugalla
- Diabetes Awareness – Lion Meghen Williams
- Publicity – Lions Bob Hull & Kathy Lukavsky
- Hospitality – Vacant
- Pizza Wars – 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

=====

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.

=====

THE HEAD LION-ER



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

**71 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**

**Official Publication of the
Naperville Noon Lions Club**