



Serving members of MD-36 Oregon and Northern CA

November 2023 Volume 4/23-24

MD-36 is #1 - Again! - for Nationwide School Screenings!



OLSHF's latest potluck with SVS Staff. Pictured (L-R) Steven Brewster, Sammie Saucedo, Matt Phillips, Chuck Atwater, Doug Thompson, Paula Hilgers, Brad King, Kerith Vance, Bob Chaney, Robert Springer, Jon Awbrey, Bert Diamond, Brenda Anderson, Tiffany Warren, Phoenix Chambers, Katie Warren, Donna Penny, Deb Nelson, Kaitlin Anderson

MONTHLY CALENDARS

MEETINGS

November

- 4 Dist. O Cab. mtg details TBA, Forest Grove
Dist. R Cab. mtg., 9am-noon new time/ location: 750 S 5th, in Independence
- 18 Dist. G Cab. mtg.@ Roosters in Pendleton
(Zoom option will be offered)
- 27 Dist. E Cab. mtg., 10am, location TBA
(Zoom option will be offered)
- 27 SOLSHC Board meeting @ 10:30am


EVENTS

November

- 10 The *Oregon Lion* article deadline (for December issue)

December

- 4 Eyeglass Sorting Party, Keizer Lions Hall, 4100 Cherry Ave. NE @ 6pm
- 10 The *Oregon Lion* article deadline (for January issue)



The Oregon Lion Website:
www.md36lionsclubs.org

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ANNIVERSARIES

November 2023 marks the anniversary of another year in Lionism. It's great to be a part of a network of Lions who are recognized as the greatest service organization worldwide! Indeed, your club continues in the excellent tradition of service and pride under the banner of Lionism.

November

Bend/Sunrise	November 5, 1926
The Dalles	November 15, 1926
Sutherlin	November 22, 1946
Vernonia	November 23, 1946
Huntington	November 9, 1948
Portland Columbia	November 2, 1949
Canby	November 30, 1951
Hermiston	November 27, 1972
Sandy	November 11, 2009

December

Mill City	December 11, 1947
Eagle Point	December 16, 1951
Garibaldi	December 7, 1953
Halfway	December 8, 1965
Estacada	December 15, 1966
Hood Rvr Eye Openers	December 29, 1975
Bonanza	December 21, 1977
Mt. Angel	December 19, 1980

Are You Moving? Have You Moved?

We need a couple of days to change your address. Please give us your old address, as well as your new one, by attaching a label from a recent issue of *The Oregon Lion* in the space shown.



Mail entire form to:
The Oregon Lion
PO Box 51345
Eugene, OR 97405

Attach Your Old Address Label Here

Name (print) _____

New Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Old Address _____

Club _____

Council Chair News



Phyllis Carlin

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I'm so excited!

I'm excited! I'm so excited. What, you might ask, are you excited about? The changes I see happening. The enthusiasm I see building. Our membership which is growing!

In keeping with the charge of Mission 1.5, which is to build worldwide membership to 1.5 million by 2027, I am pleased to announce that for the first time in many years our Multiple District membership is in the plus column! On October 23rd we were at +1 for the year and I know that our membership is only going to grow. So congratulations to all who have had a hand in this; District Governors, 1VDG's, GMT's, club leaders and enthusiastic members. Let's keep it going!

We Serve

"We Serve." These two simple words guide the actions of Lions clubs all around the world. And while each club must tailor its service to the needs of its respective community, we want to be aware of the eight global causes of Lions International. Many clubs have service projects that fall under one or more of these categories.

- Childhood Cancer – provide support for the needs of children and families affected by childhood cancer.
- Diabetes – reduce the prevalence of diabetes and improve quality of life for those living with diabetes.
- Disaster Relief – meet immediate needs and provide long-term support for communities devastated by natural disasters.
- Environment – protect the environment to create healthier communities and a more sustainable world.

- Humanitarian – identify the world's most crucial needs and provide humanitarian aid where it's needed the most.
- Hunger – improve food security and access to nutritious food to help alleviate hunger.
- Vision – help prevent avoidable blindness and improve quality of life for people who are blind or visually impaired.
- Youth – provide young people with the support they need to make positive choices, lead healthy and productive lives and become the next generation of service leaders.

100th MD 36 Convention

Conventions are always special and fun. But this year's State convention is especially meaningful and it will be our 100th convention! The convention will be held May 17th and 18th in Bandon. Mark your calendar. I hope to see you there!



Childhood Cancer Awareness



Diabetes Relief



Hunger



Vision



Environment



Youth

Directory Updates

p. 84 Blanchard, Chuck, PDG has new email of cebber1942@gmail.com

District O - Northwest - North Coast



District O Governor Column
Edward Glad

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Spouse: Shelley Sobel

Being District Governor generates something inside of me that is so enlivening. I get a sense of pride and inspiration from the creativity and dedication of members and clubs, and to say "I am a Lion" is empowering. It is a privilege to be welcomed into this variety of clubs who are finding new members, trying new service projects, working to let everyone participate with ideas and discussions.

Recently I went to the Gresham Supper Club's annual '9 pin 10 high' bowling event in Gresham. I was amazed at how many happy people were bowling their hearts away having a chance to hang out with their friends, families and Lions and perhaps a chance to cash in on a 50/50 drawing. I had to go to one of my own club members, a bowler, to explain this 9 pin game to me. Through his big grin I learned how fun this game is telling me that he has rolled 9 different 300 scores (the highest bowling score) playing 9 pin. Sponsors bought lanes and brought their families or office staff to just to hang together. It was an inspiration of giving service to the community to just have an opportunity for fun together.

Community service, I believe, is a by-product of compassion in the hearts of those who cannot keep compassion inside or private. Like the Lion in St. Helens who could not sit still when the park next door had no lifeguard to keep an eye on the kids swimming in the river. So she took it on herself to collect up as many used life jackets to be available to borrow when using the beach. Or the countless benches of recycled plastics that dot the landscapes of parks and city halls just so someone can take a load off, take a break, and just watch the world go round. Or the Milwaukee club buying a spot screener to bring to Peru for a Lions Club there to screen their kids for vision issues just like we do for our kids here.

I once heard the Dali Llama said at a panel discussion of religious leaders that compassion is the first organ of the human spirit. It sets us apart and is the power of recognizing that whatever differences we have, we are all in this life together. Whenever I get to join a meeting of Lions I feel like I am entering into a lion's den of compassion expressing itself through the like-minded collection of Lions. The Lions provide an opportunity, an outlet, for anyone to express the compassion in their hearts in tangible ways that comes through community service. I am personally grateful to be a part.

District R - Willamette Valley - Central Coast



District R Governor Column
Lynn Coon

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Spouse: Kathy Coon

Fellow Lions, in District 36-R, remarkable growth and heartfelt service abound this year. Clubs embrace International President Lion Dr. Patty Hills' theme: CHANGING THE WORLD. Amidst global challenges, PID Lion Shea Nickell's words resonate: "BE THE CHANGE YOU WANT TO SEE IN THE WORLD." Change takes time; let's contribute one project at a time.

During my club visits, I witness Lions eager to make a difference in their communities and the world. Serving alongside them, I see a collective heartbeat for a better world, improving lives for future generations. This is the essence of being a Lion — Loving Individuals Offering Needed Service. This is why we all became Lions in the first place. To serve others and make a difference where we live and in the world. This is what I see from each of you Lions of District 36-R!

Reflect on your Lions pin, a symbol of our legacy and optimism. The gold 'L' on a purple field, flanked by Lion profiles, represents our pride in the past and confidence in the future. As you serve from the heart, remember the impact you are making each day and with each service project you work on.

I'm proud to serve alongside each of you, grateful for your contributions to our communities and the world. SERVICE FROM THE HEART transcends local impact. Together, we're not just changing communities, but CHANGING THE WORLD."

DG Lion Lynn 36-R

District E - Southern - South Coast



District E Governor Column
Stephen Brewster

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Frequently, I hear concerns about clubs losing members or becoming inactive in their pursuits. Why would anyone want to be part of a club that isn't actively contributing? As Lions, we champion five global causes, each with a range of projects that clubs, regardless of size, can engage in. We have the flexibility to select projects and organize fundraisers that align with our capacities and resources. Lions Clubs International equips us with innovative suggestions and resources to think beyond conventional approaches.

Do we, as Lions, aspire to leave a lasting impact on our communities? To attract the younger generation, we must demonstrate our commitment to providing meaningful services. It's imperative that we promote and publicize what we do, showcasing the remarkable contributions of Lions. Surprisingly, many clubs are not sharing (and reporting) their accomplishments with fellow Lions or with Lions Clubs International. The broader community remains unaware of our efforts.

It's time we stand up and declare, "We are Lions, We Serve, and We will Change the world." The transformation may not happen in one monumental stride, but through a series of small, significant steps. Consider when we conduct vision screenings; by identifying one child with vision issues, we alter their world, unlocking new possibilities. In doing so, we've already changed the world.

Let's collectively commit to expanding our clubs and welcoming new members. This will ensure that we carry forward our legacy of service to our communities. Together, we can change the world.

Warm regards,

DG Lion Steve Brewster, MD36-E

District G - Central - Eastern Oregon



District G Governor Column
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So Far Apart ... Yet So Similar in Service!

Hello again Lions of 36G and the Multiple District. As I step into my fifth month as District Governor, I find myself traversing the expanse of our District, having visited nearly half of our vibrant clubs, spanning from Hood River to Jordan Valley. And it has been a joy! There is truly some 'PRIDE' out there, whether it's in the form of dedicated clubhouses and parks, those looking to build a clubhouse, and those that opt to meet at local establishments, supporting our local businesses. I truly enjoy attending your club meetings and hearing about the variety of projects enriching our communities. It is always remarkable to hear about the fundraisers we have in common. And those that are unique to a club and very cherished by the respective communities.

There is also the 'behind the scenes' work that goes on with many events -- coordinating venues, navigating legalities, and ensuring our dates don't conflict with other local happenings. Then 'hope' that we get a good response, particularly as some projects re-emerge following the COVID pandemic.

Then comes the 'reality' part some of our clubs are facing. We are aging out and with that comes the decision to give up an event to another organization or let it dissolve completely. Sometimes these decisions come from new laws or legal issues or reasons beyond our control and we just have to move on. But one way to keep that special event going is to recruit new members. Ask a friend, relative or neighbor! We have a membership challenge underway in District 36G. The two clubs that excel in recruiting, by (1) percentage gained and (2) total individuals -- will win a free registration for the district convention! The details of our district's convention are being finalized and it will be one you do not want to miss. Reserve April 5-6, 2024, and prepare for a memorable weekend! We encourage families to come join in the fun.

If you're curious about Lions Club on a broader scale, seize the opportunity to become a Zone Chair. At this level, you will see and hear more about Lions above the club level. The time commitment is minimal and the rewards can be great. Send me an email if you're interested or ask me when I visit your club.

'Be Instrumental In Service'

DG Lion Pete Runnels, MD36-G

Astoria Lions Entry Wins 2023 Regatta Land Parade First Prize!



Award Winner! – (l to r): Unidentified Astoria High School Football Player (banner carrier), Lion Nancy Lockett (Plaque is on the dash)

Great News! Returning to the Regatta Land Parade after many years, the Astoria Lions Club scored a First Prize in this year's land parade. Our club entered Lion CJ Bell's German Fire/Rescue/Camper vehicle decorated with colorful information banners, garlands, and flags. To really make an impact, a large pair of blue pool noodle eyes glasses were mounted over the front windshield. Made by Lion Mark and Wendy Montgomery, the new pair replaced those used on the vehicle entered in Warrenton's 2023 4th of July Parade (awarded a Clatsop Award – yeh!)

After checking in at the Aquatic Center and obtaining our slot number, the vehicle was decorated by Lions Wendy and Mark Montgomery, CJ Bell, Charlene Larsen and Ray Montgomery. Our club was aided by Lion CJ's son, Micah Bell, and her roommate Lael Johnson. We parked in our slot (under a nice shade tree) and waited for the judging and start of the parade. While waiting, Lions Charlene, Mark and Wendy greeted people they knew passing through the line. Adding to the fun, Lion Dr. Phil Bales (up from Arizona and participating as an Astoria Clown) stopped by on his bike to say hello and catch up. To round out our group riding in the

parade, Lion Ron arrived from doing Saturday morning papers. A bit later, Lion Nancy Lockett arrived on her scooter with a carry basket holding a small, stone Lion statue and an American flag. We spent a few minutes catching up with her.

After a short wait, the judge team began moving through the assembled vehicles/floats. A short while later, the group returned and stopped at our spot. They announced that we had won First Prize and presented us with a Regatta Land Parade plaque (which we put behind the windshield) (see photo). Publicity photos were taken and congratulations were given to all. What a surprise!

As we neared the starting time, Lion Nancy said that she wanted to accompany the vehicle to hand out candy to the crowds. Lion Nancy was asked to place herself between the vehicle and the two Astoria High School football players carrying a Regatta Land Parade First Prize Award banner. Very nice touch!

The parade started at Noon and we pulled into the flow of the parade with Lion CJ's son, Micah, driving. We drove the route with Lion Nancy, Lion CJ, and Lael Johnson riding and walking alongside distributing candy to the crowd. Inside the vehicle, Lions waved to the crowd and shook clackers. The crowds were wonderful to see and many clapped and thanked us as we passed by. In one instance, Lion Ray responded to a question about where used glasses could be taken to.

We completed the parade route and returned to the Aquatic Center where we removed the decorations and took several group pictures in front of the vehicle. Lion Ray thanked everyone for making the day a great success.



(l-r) Lions CJ Bell and Mark Montgomery install a Banner.

submitted by Raymond Montgomery

The 2023 KMUN Block Party is a Success!

On July 29, 2023, I (Lion Ray Montgomery) worked alongside my sister-in-law Lion Wendy Montgomery to offer games, Lion stickers, dum-dum pops, and typewriters to visitors at the KMUN Block Party held in Astoria.

One of many non-profits, vendors, and service organizations lining Exchange Street between 14th and 15th, visitors were invited to enjoy the beautiful weather, the music, the games and activities, the food, face-painting, a magic show, and community outreach offered to one and all.

With an emphasis on fun and games, Lions Wendy and Mark Montgomery built a game (aptly named “Feeding the Lion”) which required players to move plastic balls from a box to a small tub (decorated with Lion photos) using a split-tube device with a handle of one end (see photos). A pair was made to allow two people to compete in transferring all the balls. Winners were offered a choice of candy or a Lion sticker. With any tie, a tie breaker wheel was spun to determine the winner.



Lion Wendy Montgomery (standing) and Members of the 2023 Astoria Regatta Court.



Lion Wendy Montgomery Staffs our Tent (Photo Taker – Lion Ray Montgomery)

Competition between family members was often fierce and several families returned for a second and even a third round as the day progressed. The game was a success and will likely appear in a future venue with a few minor improvements. Many thanks to Lions Wendy and Mark for their efforts. Our always popular (yet difficult) Ring Toss Game was also offered to visitors.

Visitors and players were steady throughout the day with children and adults taking turns at the game and typewriters. Notably, we were visited by the 2023 Astoria Regatta Court who tried both the game and the typewriters. Thank you to those who visited!

Finally, I want to thank Lions Wendy and Mark for helping set up and breakdown our tent with double-thanks to fellow Lion Wendy for making this an enjoyable day of service and fun. We Serve!

submitted by Lion Ray Montgomery

Crooked River Ranch Lions Endorse CC Phyllis Carlin as Candidate for Lions International Director for 2025-27



The Crooked River Ranch Lions Club is proud to announce its endorsement of CC Phyllis Carlin as a candidate for Lions International Director 2025-27.

Lion Phyllis joined the Crooked River Ranch Lions Club in March of 2009 and quickly became an active and involved member. She has served as Membership Chair 2011 - 13; Vice President 2013 - 14 and President 2014 -16. During her time as Membership Chair the club “broke 100” and enrolled over 100 members for the first time in the club’s history. In addition, development and institution of an Orientation Program to welcome and educate new members was a priority. Phyllis went on to serve as District Governor 2018 - 19, Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation Chair 2021 - 22 and is currently serving as Council Chair for MD-36.

Chairing the MD- 36 Environmental Committee gave Phyllis the opportunity to share the beauty of our state with Oregon Lions. She considers her service as a vision screener and her work with the Crooked River Ranch

Phyllis recently retired as editor of the Crooked River Ranch Telegraph, a position she held for twelve years. Through her role as editor, she was very involved in many aspects of community life at Crooked River Ranch.

Phyllis has the support of her family and friends, her club and her community. Please contact PDG Jim Stagl with questions or comments. I can be reached at reata2@gmail.com.

submitted by Lion PDG Jim Stagl

Elgin Lions Purchase School Supplies for Elementary Students



(l-r) Jim Baker, Shana Baker and PDG Gerald Hopkins donating items to Bottger.

One of the ongoing initiatives undertaken by the Elgin Lions is to provide essential support for students within the Elgin Schools. Among the dedicated Lions, Kate Bottger, an esteemed literacy specialist working in the elementary school, has meticulously curated a list of materials that would greatly benefit students in need. Over the course of two weeks, our Lions have actively procured a wide array of school supplies, including crayons, Kleenex tissues, adhesive glue, markers, and spiral notebooks, all with the intention of enhancing the educational experience for our local students.

submitted by PDG Gerald Hopkins

St. Helens Lion Kathy Syrstad Receives Melvin Jones Award!

On August 21, 2023, the St. Helens Lions Club held a regular meeting at Warren Country Inn. Invited by Zone Chair Linda McCoy, the guest was District 36-O District Governor, Ed Glad who reminded us of the local club's reach as far south as Scappoose, as far north as Clatskanie, and offered exciting news regarding plans to attract new club members and to focus on new member orientation.

The presentation closed with references to Chicago and Lions Founder Melvin Jones. Many were delighted, but not really surprised, as Kathy Syrstad took the stage to receive her plaque and pin as she became a Melvin Jones Fellow. There was a standing ovation.



(l-r) 1VP Mark Johnson, 2VP Kathy Syrstad DG Ed Glad.

Serving as a Lion for almost 8 years, Kathy's focus includes all 5 Global Causes, as well as Youth programs, Humanitarian efforts, Teambuilding and community partnerships.

Throughout Columbia, and neighboring counties, there are some 80 all-season benches on walking paths, in libraries, school yards, parks and break areas as a result of her efforts. Since 2018 Kathy's club has collected, sorted, and transported in excess of 42,000 pounds of recyclable plastic, which is exchanged for 4-season benches made by the Trex company. Kathy, who always seems to have bags of the material in her vehicle, on her porch, and in her garage manages to keep organized records, and explains the program to non-profits encouraging their participation.

A retired school teacher and long-term resident of Columbia County, Kathy enjoys networking with city employees, shop owners and members of other volunteer groups. She likes being a Lion, working with Ronald McDonald House and the cities of St. Helens, Scappoose, Columbia City and the Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation. Future plans include continuing to provide weekend meals for students through the Backpack program, expanding the Club's diabetes and childhood cancer programs and becoming a club President in 2025.

Congratulations Lion Kathy A. Syrstad.

A Perfect Day for Eugene Downtown Lions

After days of triple digit high temperatures and dangerous air quality due to local wildfire smoke, the fires and weather cooperated bringing more comfortable conditions for the Eugene Downtown Lions Club's Annual Pat and Annie Picnic for the visually impaired. The picnic is in conjunction with the Oregon Commission for the Blind. The picnic's guests numbered 66 and guests who needed transportation were driven to the park and a return trip home by 8 Lions volunteers. Guide and Service dogs were also in attendance.



A perfect day to get together with friends.



Mike Thomas from the Oregon Commission for the Blind addressed the group.



Past President Lion Jim Newton explains who Lions Pat and Annie were.



Let's not forget one of the canine helpers.

Emerald Park is the perfect place to have the picnic each year because the pavilions have plenty of table space and shade needed for the event. Lion President Jimmy Koch welcomed everyone.

Continued on page 11

“To Serve” our Visually Impaired Neighbors



Honoring the Club's 100th Year of Service.



Lion Kat Chinn's family manned the Hot Dog Table.

Lion Kat Chinn's family manned the hot dog table. The food table contained Fried Chicken, Macaroni Salad, Potato Salad, Cole Slaw, Fresh Vegetables, Fresh Fruit, Cookies, Water, and a variety of sodas.



The food table had servers to help fill the plates with wonderful picnic delights.



Thanks to Lion Past President Sharon Newton for organizing the picnic.



The guests really enjoyed the food and the company.

The guests were assisted in filling up their plates and returning to their table by 4 volunteers from the Eugene Active 20/30 Club, and 20 members of the Eugene Downtown Lions Club. Thanks to everyone involved in this great event and special thanks to Lion Past President Sharon Newton for organizing the picnic as skillfully as she has done in the past. Many of the guests said they really look forward to this picnic each summer because for many it is the only time they are able to get together and have an enjoyable time. We're all looking forward to next year's Pat and Annie Picnic.

*submitted by Tim Chuey, Publicity Chairman
Eugene Downtown Lions Club*

What are Lions Grateful for this Thanksgiving?

It's November, which means it's time to share **what we are thankful for!** This month, we reached out to Lions to ask one very important question: **"What are Lions grateful for?"**



"I am so humbled and grateful to be able to have led and continue to be a part of an organization that has the compassion, consideration and generosity to continue to provide assistance for those children and adults with hearing and vision problems who, without help, would never receive the care that everyone deserves no matter their ethnicity or financial status."
– **Bob Chaney, Myrtle Creek, OLSHF Board Chair**

"I am grateful to be part of the process of helping Oregon school children of all ages receive top-quality vision screenings and referrals to vision care. This is so important to their learning and well-being."
– **Lucinda Awbrey, Crooked River Ranch, OLSHF Board Secretary**



"I am grateful to the fantastic staff that is part of OLSHF. They are always friendly, knowledgeable and supportive of our needs as Sight & Hearing chairs."
– **John Drake, Cedar Hills-Sunset, OLSHF Trustee**

"I am grateful for having not one but TWO organizations, filled with amazing and loving people, that care so much about our children being able to see!"
– **Jadie de Lille-Wright, East Albany, OLSHF Trustee**



"The Foundation with their SPOT machines make a huge difference in our communities. I have been vision screening this week & it is amazing how many children in our schools don't know they need glasses & can't see. Yesterday we did the Middle School & today we did two grade schools. My guess is that 12-15% of these kids need to see an eye doctor. This is one of the reasons that I love being a Lion, we make a difference in our communities."
– **Mike Kilkenny, The Dalles, OLSHF Trustee**

"We're grateful for incredible providers and partners such as Nick Schenfeld of Play It Again Hearing and Verian Wedeking of Casey Eye Institute for their incredible work throughout MD-36!" – **Kelly Asbra, Beavercreek, OLSHF VP of Programs**



Nick Schenfeld



Verian Wedeking



MD-36 Lions & OLSHF Are #1 - Again! - in Screening!



Project SEE CLEARLY is “a national vision screening and correction campaign to help clear the national backlog of the 25 million children – aged 6 months and through early grade school – who have gone for nearly 3 years without a basic vision screening due to pandemic interruption.”

Our Multiple District received the #1 ranking nationally for the number of children screened in 2022-23 and 2021-22!

Lions KidSight USA (www.lionskidsightusa.org) is a nation-wide program that brings Lions Clubs across the country together to ensure our children receive eye screenings and follow-up care when needed. One in three young children have poor but correctable vision – often they just need eyeglasses.



OLSHF's School Vision Screening (SVS) program has partnered with MD-36 Lions to screen over 45,000 children through October. **SVS is projected to screen over 165,000 children during the 2023-24 school year.**



"Always remember...kids experience that their sight problems are what is normal, so screening gives them that advantage to succeed."
 -- Paul Zastrow, OLSHF Vice Chair

Ideas Fly at District G Cabinet Meeting



DG Pete Runnels leads discussions.

District Governor Pete Runnels opened the floor to ideas from members and many suggestions were thrown out for consideration. One of the topics included the meeting place for the District G convention, and a service project which might be the central theme for the convention. Several suggested that DG Pete check into the possibility of meeting at Kah-Nee-Ta. Several volunteered quickly to assist including PCC Bev Bridgewater, PCC Judith Poage, Kristen Harmon, PDG Kathy Oliver and PCC Steve Oliver. The convention date is set for April 5-6, 2024.

DG Pete also included a district newsletter as a way of connecting clubs, as well as a service section that highlights activities. PCC Steve also emphasized that clubs are looking for new ideas for connecting clubs and communication would be a good way to boost membership. DG Pete stated that he is looking for an increase of 15% growth with increased membership and new clubs.

Discussion then centered on communities where clubs might be started. DG Pete stated that we need to recognize stress factors and know how to recognize and work on them. The lively discussion followed the DG's theme of "Be Instrumental in Service." PCC Bev Bridgewater stated that the Instrumental Service will help reinvigorate clubs and our district. She added, "Let's be sure that we are visible and recognize visitors to club meetings. And be sure that the DG has someone to travel or visit clubs with him."



Kristen Harmon and Ethan Wray, President of The Dalles Lions Club.

Awards Chair, Kristen Harmon, outlined what awards are available and the criteria they are judged upon, as well as making them easier to compete at the state level. She emphasized the need to update criteria both for clarity and for competition.

Ideas Fly at District G Cabinet Meeting continued

PCC Paul Zastrow, discussed the advantages of youth exchange and that we need to re-implement it this next spring. PDG Gerald Hopkins gave an outline for a youth video contest and encouraged the program to be used to introduce youth to Lionism. Under environment reports, the photos will again compete at the district and multiple district levels.

Various clubs gave a report on their activities. Russ Chase said that 15 applications had been granted for vision service, 1,600 glasses were sent to recycle, and pop tabs were sent to the Ronald McDonald house.

The Burns Lions Club has just completed cooking at the Demolition Derby and provided \$68,900 in student scholarships just for the year.

PCC Steve Oliver said that the Elgin Riverfest was the most successful to date and their club is looking for ways to fund a community bathroom for Trails to Rails. PDG Hopkins is looking into a matching grant funding from LCIF for the Elgin project.

PCC Bridgewater said the clam chowder and flower basket has helped replace fair monies and can be ordered online to distribute at events. She indicated it is a fun and easy project for clubs and each delivery nets approximately \$7. The Hermiston Lions are now doing Mo's Chowder twice a year.

Although members of the Odell Lions have joined Hood River, they will continue with the Applerama. Members are helping with local parks and museums. Close to \$60,000 has been given in scholarships. They are continuing with Families in the Park every Thursday through August.

The Hood River Eye Openers is going great guns and raising about \$1,000 per month on can and bottle recycling. Twelve students attended the Lions International Convention in Boston.

DG Pete summed up the need to evaluate why clubs are losing members and are not healthy. There is a need to look closely at reasons and then target several clubs to assist or restructure. He then announced the next cabinet to be held at Roosters in Pendleton on November 4, 2023.



PCC Bev Bridgewater stresses need to work with club members.

submitted by PDG Gerald Hopkins



Doug Thompson
Chief Executive Officer



OREGON LIONS
Sight & Hearing
= Foundation =

Roaring With Gratitude



Bob Chaney
Board Chair

With Thanksgiving season upon us, we are pleased to share with you, throughout many of the pages of this edition of the Oregon Lion magazine, examples of gratitude that have been shared with us by OLSHF Board of Trustees and OLSHF Staff. As Lions here in MD-36, we believe you will share our pride -- and will be grateful to learn -- the following exciting news:

OLSHF is #1....Again!

Oregon Business Magazine has released its ratings for the Best Nonprofits to Work For in Oregon and your Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation is rated as the #1 Best Nonprofit to work for in Oregon in the medium sized category for organizations with 26-50 employees.

The ratings are based upon employee surveys gauging satisfaction with workplace features including: Work environment; Management and communications; Mission and goals; Career development and learning; and Benefits and compensation. OLSHF recognizes that a healthy, vibrant work environment translates into an effective and efficient delivery system for sight and hearing services and our #1 rating is indicative of the support of the OLSHF Board of Trustees and MD-36 Lions to this end.

For over a decade, OLSHF has landed in the Top 10 of the list, including being rated #1 in 2020 and 2021, and being rated #2 in 2022.

Lions KidSight USA Ranks MD-36 and OLSHF #1...Again!

We are also extremely grateful that for the second year in a row, MD-36 Lions and your Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation has received the #1 spot in the Lions KidSight USA "See Clearly Awards" recognition program, which identifies the Lions vision screening programs in the United States that screen the most children for vision health issues.

The 2022-23 "See Clearly" awards are calculated on data entered into LCI's Lions KidSight USA system between July 1, 2022 and May 30, 2023. During this time period, OLSHF partnered with the Lions of MD-36 to screen over 158,000 Oregon students for

vision health issues at over 620 schools in Oregon. Cumulatively, the Lions vision screening programs that entered data from across the U.S. reported screening over 518,000 children towards a target of screening 1 million children to provide better opportunities to see and learn to their full potential.

We are so grateful that, here in Oregon, Lions are screening roughly 30% of all students screened -- and reported to LCI -- in the United States!

A Look to the Future

In addition to being grateful for being named as one of the best nonprofits in Oregon and for having the premier School Vision Screening program in the U.S., we also are thankful for having developed the world's first charitable optical finishing lab, and for having the ability to restore the world of sound to Oregonians in need through our ROAR! hearing assistance program, and for being able to save and restore vision for Oregonians in need through the Foundation's Patient Care program.

All of these features were made possible due to past Strategic Planning efforts by OLSHF Board and Staff members based on feedback provided by MD-36 Lions and other sources of external information throughout the State of Oregon...and soon we'll be asking for your help again.

During the 2024 Lions Convention season, you and your fellow MD36 Lions will have the opportunity to help us shape the future of your Foundation by participating in our new Lions survey to let us know what we're doing right, how we can improve, and to let us know what opportunities exist to help us deepen the impact of our sight and hearing services.

Based on your feedback, we'll release the OLSHF 2025-2030 Strategic Plan in early 2025. Just think, as we kick off the celebration of the Centennial of "keeping the promise," we will also offer a look ahead at the next 100 years of addressing preventable blindness and hearing loss.

And for that, we are extremely grateful.

GIFTS & MEMORIALS

Contributions list includes gifts received in September to mid-October 2023. OLSHF values all of our donors and we do our best to recognize each and every gift. To help us maintain accuracy in our recognition, thank you for letting us know of any errors on our part by calling or emailing us at Info@OLSHF.org.

Lion Champion - \$10,000 & Above
Lee H & Marion B
Thompson Foundation

Lion Heart - \$5,000 to \$9,999
Charter Mechanical
KEX Kids Fund
Nina Wiley

Lion Sentinel - \$1,000 to \$2,499
Laser Eye Care of California
Nelson Rutherford
OHSU, Casey Eye Institute

Lion Tamer - \$500 to \$999
Albany East LC
Belinda Petshow
Investment Services
Eric Weberg
John Anderson
Peter & Beverly Jorgensen
Steven Mansberger
Thomas & Kathryn Albert
Umpqua Health

Lion Patron - \$100 to \$499
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Brian & Sherri Rangitsch
Canby LC
Carol & Todd Morrison
Craig Jackson & Judy Havens
Dale & Sharon Rollins
David McBride
Deborah & Rodney Bach
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Henry & Lynn Calhoun
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Karen Norton
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Melissa & Jeffrey Plummer

Oregon Optometric Physicians Association
Red & Karla Rowley
Steven & Rebecca Morse
Susan Forbes
Terry Bowman
Tracy Brown
Trudy Tallman
West Linn LC

Lion Donor - Up to \$99
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Arnold Anderson
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Barbara Thompson
Becky & Mel Clark
Becky & William Scott
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IN HONOR OF

In Honor of Bob & Susie Thomas
Gerald & Mary Martha Hopkins

IN MEMORY OF

In Memory of Barbara Hassler
Canby LC

In Memory of Dean Butts
Albany East LC

In Memory of Don Jackson
Hillsboro LC
Susan Forbes

In Memory of Donald L Moss
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In Memory of Gene Norton
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In Memory of Patricia Anne Barreth
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In Memory of Patricia Jaffer
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In Memory of Pauline Goyette
Nelson Rutherford
West Linn LC

In Memory of Robert Lund
Lakeview LC

In Memory of Susie Harris
Gerald & Mary Martha Hopkins

In Memory of Ted Forbes
Susan Forbes

Please find our complete list of PRIDE members online at www.OLSHF.org/pride



OREGON LIONS
Sight & Hearing
= Foundation =

OLSHF's Hallowe'en Ball

Our annual fundraising gala was such a success! On Saturday, October 21st, we gathered at the Sentinel to celebrate the **2023 OLSHF Hallowe'en Ball** to raise money for our sight & hearing programs! We had some ghoulishly great fun and are so grateful for the support of everyone who participated this year!



OLSHF also wants to thank the following Lions Clubs for participating in our first-ever **Lions Gift Card Challenge!** These Lions Clubs donated at least one \$50 gift card for our live and online auctions -- thank you all for your participation! We hope to see more participants next year!



Beavercreek Lions
Forest Grove Lions
Klamath Falls Lions
Lake Oswego Lions

Milwaukie Lions
Portland Bentham Lions
Portland Legacy Lions
St. Helens Lions

Sutherlin Evening Branch
Sutherlin Lions
The Dalles Lions
Tualatin Lions





OREGON LIONS
Sight & Hearing
Foundation

What is OLSHF Grateful for this Thanksgiving?



"I'm grateful for those that have remembered the Foundation in their estate planning process so our long-term investments are able to sustain our sight and hearing programs for tomorrow and into the future."

— **Doug Thompson, CEO**



"I am grateful to have met so many outstanding Lions over the past 10+ years who inspire me to be better and do more in my community!" — **Melinda Rhodes, Patient Services Director**



"I'm grateful for working with a team that's not just a team, but a family from the Board through staff to all of the Lions of MD-36." — **Brad King, SVS & Development**



"I'm thankful to have joined an organization and team that's so passionate about providing for its community and is also ranked as the #1 Best Nonprofit to Work For in Oregon!" — **Sam Doyle, Development Director**



"I am grateful to be a part of a Foundation that goes above & beyond to help others in need. And that it also has volunteers who advocate in finding funding to help with sight & hearing. It is always done with a smile and gratitude." — **Voycetta White, Optician**



"With some extended family members passing over the past year and the challenges that come with that, this year I'm particularly grateful for all my family and chosen family (including our Foundation staff). The relationships we make in life mean a lot. And here at the Foundation, it just wouldn't be the same supporting our mission without the dedication, support and warmth that our team members bring to their work and to each other." — **Matt Phillips, SVS Director**



Vision Quest Information Shared With La Grande Lions



VisionGift CEO, Chris Stoeger is introduced by secretary Linda Gleeson.

Chris Stoeger, CEO of VisionGift, was guest speaker at the regular Lions Club meeting in August. Stoeger, who has more than 25 years of eye and tissue banking experience, shared information on eye banking and cornea transplantation. Through slides and visual aids, the Lions learned more about VisionGift and the various diseases of the eyes. He also described the jobs of 85 employees working as recovery technicians. The process of preserving eyes for the Eye Bank was a major topic of the discussion.

Stoeger has served in many important capacities on Eye Bank Association of America committees, including the Board of Directors and Accreditation.



Halley Durrant was recognized with a plaque for service as president from 2020-2023.



Ray Hyde (left), encouraged by Lion John Howard, shared some of the major trophies for his work with Lions the past 46 years. Included in the awards were a Melvin Jones plaque and plaque from the Oregon Sight and Hearing program.

submitted by PDG Gerald Hopkins

Crooked River Ranch Lions Land a Grant

A few days ago the CRR Lions were excited to break out the brand new wood chipper they acquired as part of an \$82,000 grant for community fire abatement. In addition to the wood chipper, the grant includes a 7 ft by 14 ft dump trailer and a wood splitter for use at the limb dump. Thanks to a great deal of grant writing work performed by Lion Sheryl Jones the Club is celebrating this opportunity to be an integral partner in making Crooked River Ranch safer from wildfires.

Coordinating with the CRR Fire Department and the CRR HOA, the grant allows an important community partnership to flourish in helping to prevent fires. The wood chipper will be used to grind up branches from trees that have been trimmed and/or cut down by homeowners and others to make their properties safer from fire. Another coordinating effort with the Fire Department is underway. It will involve the use of the wood chipper to help remove potentially dangerous trees on CRR roadways such as is seen in the pictures with this article.



Mike Dries, Mike O'Brien and Pat Snow assemble the new wood splitter.



Tim Bell saws off limbs after felling the tree.



The crew takes off limbs for chipping.

The terrific upside for the CRR Lions Club is that after the downed trees have had their branches removed they will be transported to the CRR limb dump where they will be cut up into firewood. The firewood is sold to customers on the Ranch with the proceeds designated for the CRR Lions Foundation Scholarship Fund. Residents of CRR are eligible to apply for scholarship funds to continue their education.

submitted by Doug Reinart, CRR Lions Communication Chair
photos contributed by: Lions Mike Dries, Greta O'Brien and Sheryl Jones

Hood River Lions Assist with 40th Anniversary of Families in the Park

The Hood River Lions Club organizes and sponsors the largest concert series in the Columbia Gorge each August. This year the Families in the Park event celebrated its 40th Anniversary season with huge crowds that averaged over 2,000 people each week. This year consisted of five concerts held every Thursday night in August at Jackson Park in Hood River.



(l-r) Lions Elaine Johnson and Doug Roof.



Lion Mike Schend as concert MC.



(l-r) Lions Ashley Brown, Pam Chandler and Beth Flem.



Hood River crowd at one of the concerts.

Families in the Park concerts are free to the public thanks to the Hood River Lions and many business and corporate sponsors. Each concert provides food vendors in the park and many non-profits the opportunity to raise funds for their organizations. The highlight of each week is the Lion's Club selling 50/50 raffle tickets for the purpose of providing funds for chosen non-profits such as the Oregon Sight and Hearing Foundation and Camp UKANDU. The Hood River Lions are proud to report that we raised thousands for five different organizations this summer.

The Hood River Lions are already starting to plan for 2024 and researching bands for next summer.

submitted by Mike Schend

South Salem Lions Received Special Award and Recognition

South Salem Lions Stacy Lofgren and Alan Tocchini are two deserving Lions.

Stacy received an award for her dedicated service and commitment to the vision and fellowship of Lionism. The Vision and Fellowship award is presented in the spirit of the great Pioneers, the Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation.

Fellow Lion Alan Tocchini was awarded the Norman Ross Fellow Award for his dedicated Humanitarian Service. The award supports a lasting legacy in his honor through the Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation.



In the middle is PDG Tom Hilgers who presented the two awards to (l-r) Lions Stacy Lofgren and Lion Al Tocchini.

The Lions of the South Salem Club, District 36R, celebrate these special dedicated members.

submitted by Bruce Schnieber

Elgin Lions Collect for Food Bank

The Elgin Lions donated five hours and collected a total of 450 pounds for the Elgin Food Bank. In addition to the carts of canned goods, donations of paper supplies and cash were given to the Lions.



Jared Rogers, Bob Reiter, PDG Gerald Hopkins, President Pat McDonald and PCC Steve Oliver



Elgin Lion Amanda Long, shares banners she made for the Lions to use for various occasions with PCC Steve Oliver.

submitted by PDG Gerald Hopkins

October Vision Awareness Month Eyeglass Collection Projects



PDG Bert Diamond of the Portland Bentham Lions Club.

Our October Vision Awareness Month used eyeglass collection service events, on October 14th, were carried out by several clubs across MD36. Of the many events that took place, I received photos from the Astoria Lions, Bentham Lions, Oregon City Lions and Crooked River Ranch Lions at work in their communities. The number of eyeglasses, plus hearing aids and cell phones, was amazing! GREAT work, Lions of MD36!



Lake Oswego Lions Club Lions Genevieve Ford, Lucien (one of our VisionEnvoy cub Lions), PCC Sharon Rollins and Dane Parreira.



Oregon City Lion Scott Arpan with a donor.



(l-r) Astoria Lions Rose Lewin, Ron Larsen and Wendy Montgomery hard at work.



Crooked River Ranch Lions Club donor.

*submitted by PCC Sharon Rollins
MD36 Global Service Chair*