



## Fairfax Lions Club News - February 2017 "Bob Stahl Memorial Newsletter"



**"I resolve to participate in at least one Lion's service activity each month this year."**

### Early News Letter?

Yes, this is an early issue. Your newsletter editor will miss the Feb 7 dinner meeting, the day prior to normal publication. So you get this issue early. Back to normal in March, hopefully.

### Coming Soon: Club's James Bland Music Contest

It will be at 1:30 PM Sunday, February 12, at St. George's United Methodist Church, 4910 Ox Road, Fairfax - across from University Mall. (Snow date: Sunday, Feb 19.) This is a wonderful event, just to attend. And, if you want to help, contact Lion Jeff Root. (This is a service activity, if you need one to **satisfy the resolution cited in the header.**)

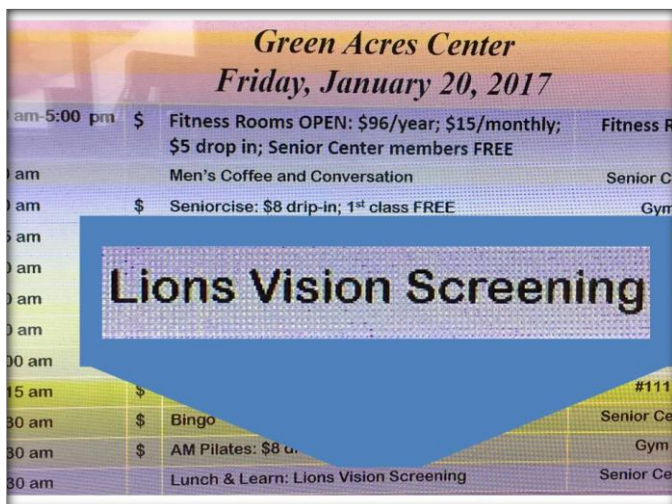
### Service - Our Mission

#### Vision Screening

Our Club performed two SPOT vision screening activities. Over three days - Jan 17-19 - Lions Marty Lockard, Ted Kuriata, Harry Pontius, and Mike Greeley screened 24 persons at the Lamb Center. Results: Eight persons (33%) were referred for specialized vision care. Several of these were severe cases that mandated urgent referrals. A number of others need "readers" that are available in the Lamb Center store room on-site. These readers were donated by the Lions eyeglass recycling center.

Support for the Lamb Center is one of our budgeted Charity programs. Because of our involvement, the Lamb Center now looks to our Club as a key partner and resource. About that, see more info later in this newsletter.

On Friday, Jan 20, Lions Marty Lockard and Gordon Tillery spent about an hour at the Green Acres Senior Center doing vision screening that had been advertised at the Senior Center.

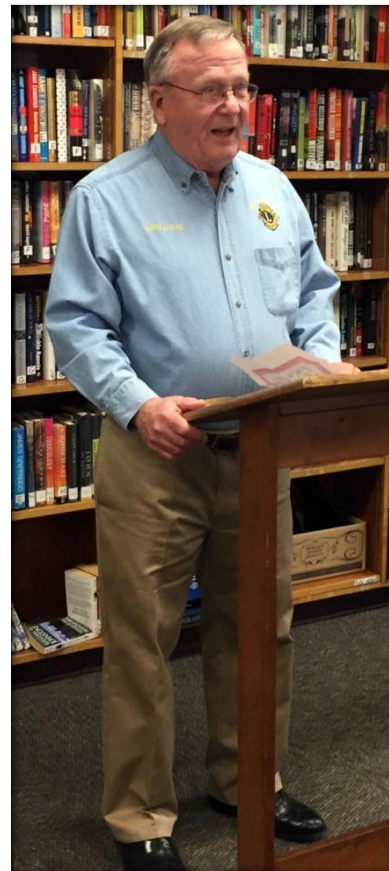


Senior Center Advertised Our Vision Screening

The Senior Center offers weekly Bingo, and it happened to be scheduled just prior to our vision screening. We were pleased to see the Bingo callers display a sign that recognized our Club for sponsoring Senior Center activities (one of our current Charity Budget programs).



Sign on Bingo Callers table... "This event supported by Fairfax Lions Club"



When we arrived, we found a signup sheet already listing names of several folks who wanted to be screened.

Marty opened the event with a short talk about the dangers seniors face with outdated prescriptions, our the screening process and its usefulness.

Marty Opens Vision Screening with a Short Talk

## Lion's Club Vision Screening with Marty Lockard



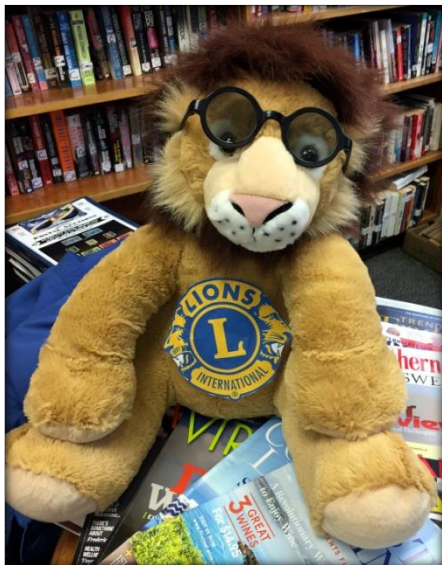
Friday, January 20, 2017  
11:30am – 1:00pm

*Are you at risk for eye disease? Get screened for  
diabetic eye disease, glaucoma, low vision, and age-  
related macular degeneration.*

Green Acres Senior Center

Signup Sheet  
Already Filled Out  
with Names of  
Folks Wanting  
Screening

Results: We screened eight seniors at the Green Acres Senior Center. One was referred to an optometrist. One had "pupils too small," and we couldn't test him with the SPOT system. All were very happy our club offered the screening, and one person asked about joining our Club! (Have your elevator speech ready.) The Center's Director has asked us to come back again; it is scheduled for May 4.



Lion Marty Donated Vision Screening Mascot; His Daughter Provided the Glasses.

### **Eyeglasses for Those Needing Help in Our Community**

Here are few of the metrics Lion Elden Wright uses as he manages the New Eyeglasses Program for our Club:

- Glasses purchased in January 2017 to date = 5
- Glasses purchased this Lions Year-to-date = 34
- Dollars spent = \$1800 (from Club Charity budget)
- Outstanding Requests\* for eyeglasses = 10

\* *Outstanding Requests: Fairfax County referrals to our Club of qualified individuals seeking vision care, for our consideration.*

### **Eyeglass Recycling**

Since July 1, 2017, our Club has collected 4,385 pair of donated eyeglasses, and 9 hearing aids, and delivered them to the LIONS EYEGLOSS RECYCLING CENTER OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA. Since that center opened in 1998, it has sent more than 1,800,000 pair of eyeglasses to persons in need around the world. Thank you Lion Scot Dulaney and PCC Bill Bartlett for this information!

### **FHLC: Key Partner and Resource of The Lamb Center**

by Lion Marty Lockard

As mentioned earlier, the Lamb Center looks to FHLC as a key - and only - partner and resource for vision and hearing issues. While many other groups and individuals address other forms of assistance for Lamb Center guests, the staff and case workers have experienced considerable difficulty with vision and hearing needs for the homeless, the very poor, and those with serious mental and physical health issues. We have conducted vision screening events at The Lamb Center since 2015. More and more, we are asked for help when something unusual happens with vision or hearing. At their request, Lion Marty Lockard recently provided the staff and case workers with the following practical ways to deal with vision and hearing issues. They all involve FHLC and Lions of District 24-A in some fashion.

#### I. Vision:

*Our Fairfax Host Lions Club eyeglass program (run by Lion Elden Wright) is set up to assist needy people in our geographic area who are referred to him by Fairfax County health care officials. Usually, very needy (qualifying) individuals have been vetted and referred to be examined (perhaps at the special, Lions-funded eye clinic at Inova Hospital on Gallows Rd). After receiving a no-cost eyeglass prescription, they are referred to the appropriate Lions club in Northern Virginia for eye glasses. Elden typically works with over 50 referred individuals each year to get them to Lens Crafters in Fair Oaks Mall where our club pays for glasses with a voucher. If the individual resides outside our geographic area, the individual is referred to the appropriate Lion club coordinator in their geographic area.*

*At times, there will be "Guests" who appear to have more serious eye problems. They can be referred by a Fairfax County health care official (such as the County nurse who works at the Center) to the same Lions-supported eye clinic at Inova Hospital on Gallows Road. It is set up for those who meet Fairfax County's poverty level requirements. It is unclear if they will see and treat undocumented aliens. The doctors can examine and treat these more serious eye problems, to include surgery – if necessary.*

*We may supplement the above process using one of our periodic Lions Club vision screenings at The Lamb Center. With the SPOT screening equipment, we assess whether or*

not those who are screened have problems with their eyesight. We produce a report after the event for Lamb Center staff. The report reveals who needs and who doesn't need glasses, and it addresses severity and type of vision problems found in screening. A Lamb Center case worker gets the reports for the "Guests" they support. At that point, they then have the information for a reasoned decision about referring the individual to the Lamb Center's pro bono (volunteer) optometrist at Fair Oaks Mall. The optometrist provides a free test and eyeglass prescription, and the case worker provides the eyeglass voucher for the "Guest" to be fitted at the same Lens Crafters at Fair Oaks Mall.

If the "Guest" is assessed to only need reading glasses (readers), there is a large donated supply of them from the District 24-A Northern Virginia Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center and a chart to determine the strength they need – all located in the Lamb Center second floor storage room. There are also plenty of eyeglass cases. Reader strengths usually range from +0.75 to +3.5. If the need for reading glasses is outside that range, Fairfax Lions can get one from the recycling center upon request. It is recommended that the case worker accompany the "Guest" to the storage room to be fitted with needed readers. Once the strength is determined, the "Guest" can select the style and size of reader from those available in the storage area. Fairfax Lions will periodically check the inventory and re-stock, as necessary.

In addition: we know one "Guest" who is nearly blind because of long-standing, untreated diabetes. She is finally getting help through some sort of Government insurance (Medicaid?), but the level of assistance remains unclear.

The Virginia Lions Eye Institute (VLEI), led by Fairfax Lion Elden Wright, executes Joe Lipomi Memorial Scholastic Grants. They are awarded to qualified visually handicapped individuals who are sponsored by Lions Clubs in District 24-A. The overriding objectives of the grants are to enhance the potential of a recipient to achieve an independent, self-supporting life. Grant dollars may be used for assistive devices, educational/training expenses, and other expenses associated with the objectives of the grants and needs of the recipients. Further, an active blind Lion in our club, Rodney Neely, has volunteered to step up and assist a needy recipient in these areas. He is a native English speaker who is also fluent in Spanish.

## II. Hearing:

This is to address the occasion of a "Guest" who may be completely deaf or needing severe hearing assistance. Lions clubs in Northern Virginia have collection boxes in many locations for used eyeglasses and hearing aids.

Fairfax Lions take large bags of donated eyeglasses, eyeglass cases, and a few hearing aids to the District 24-A (Northern Virginia) Eyeglass Recycling Center twice a month. A group of Fairfax Lions use special equipment to determine the prescription of donated eyeglasses, record

them on labels, and place them in bins for further processing. This is only one of a number of processes performed by a myriad of Lion and non-Lion volunteers every day. The result is millions of eyeglasses shipped to needy areas, mostly in impoverished countries. They may be shipped as part of missionary doctor trips (or equivalent) when an optometrist is part of the medical team.

There are hundreds of used hearing aids collected each year at the Recycling Center. There is a Lion organization called the District 24-A (Northern Virginia) Lions Hearing Aid Bank Foundation, Inc. The district chair is Lion Mike McLaughlin. Lion volunteers take donated hearing aids to a special site in Northern Virginia where they are refurbished. The foundation works with a number of audiologists in the area who provide used (and in some cases, new) hearing aids to those who cannot afford them. There were over 70 individuals in Northern Virginia helped during 2016 and at least 15 are already in the queue for 2017. At least six of those helped in 2016 had Fairfax City addresses. We are informed that Lion Mike McLaughlin stands ready to help with Lamb Center hearing aid needs. In order for one of The Lamb Center "Guests" to qualify and get into the queue, it is necessary for The Lamb Center case worker to work with the "Guest" to fill out a form (provided). If the "Guest" is homeless, they use The Lamb Center address as their home address. Mike is very upbeat about Lions being able to help The Lamb Center with these special needs. The criteria for qualifying is not totally clear, but we should explore possibilities.

There is also the University of Virginia Division of Audiology. They work with Lions clubs across the state to provide hearing tests and hearing aids for indigent individuals. Working with them is certainly a possibility, although it appears to be more complicated and costly – based on earlier attempts. For this reason, the District 24-A Lions Hearing Aid Bank Foundation, Inc. appears to be the best way to proceed for hearing aid needs.

Thank you Lion Marty - for your commitment and service helping the disadvantaged in our area, and proposing a growing partnership with the Lamb Center! And thank you Rodney - for volunteering to provide additional help for blind and even Spanish-speaking Lamb Center clients.

## VisionWalk

One last Service note...Last year, you may recall, our club gave \$1000 to the NoVA VisionWalk, helping Lion Davida Luehrs raise \$32,500 which was then matched by a wealthy individual. Our charity budget this year is fully obligated and does not permit us to support the 2017 VisionWalk (to be held Sunday, May 7, 2017). If you as an individual wish to support it with your presence, or a donation, see: [2017 NoVA VisionWalk](#)

## Fund Raising - Underpinning Our Service Mission

### Vehicle Donation Program

Lion Ken Schutz reported three vehicles have been donated since the first of the year; one has been sold and the remaining two are being inspected to determine market value. Proceeds go to our charity account.

All WE need to do, to emphasize this excellent program to generate funds for our charity programs is: **tell others about it!!!**

**Any person with a vehicle they might donate - ask them to call 844-455-4667. The trained staff will answer any questions, and take it from there.**

### Amazon Smile

You know about "Amazon Smile" and how purchases benefit our charity programs. Your newsletter editor made a purchase recently, and this "popped up:"

#### **You made a difference.**

Because you placed this order at smile.amazon.com, Amazon will make a donation to **Fairfax Host Lions Club Charities Inc.**

Your purchases have supported charity **34 times** by starting at smile.amazon.com.

[See your AmazonSmile impact](#)

Amazon Smile

Need to get my numbers up - only 34 purchases!

## Dinner Meetings

January 17th:



Lion Steve Bilowus buys 50/50 tickets from Lion Rob Higginbotham

Thank you, meeting volunteers:

- Greeters: Lion Cory Green
- Pledge: Lion Gordon Tillery
- Song, "Eyes of Texas:" Lion Ted Kuriata
- Invocation: Lion Rodney Neely

*(Note: It's easy to help your club as a meeting volunteer. 1st VP (Marty Lockard) solicits volunteers and then reconfirms them just prior to printing names in the program. Make his job easier - add your name to the volunteer sheet passed around at meetings; remember what you volunteered for, and show up at that meeting. Pretty simple, unless no one volunteers.)*

We should not miss an opportunity to also thank two other Lions for their support at dinner meetings - Rob Higginbotham for running 50/50 ticket sales, and Cory Green (our Lion Tamer) for steadfastly bringing all support equipment (signs, banner, speaker system, song books, etc) to every meeting.

Our buffet dinner offered Salisbury Steak, baked fish, a pleasant jumbo-style soup, wild rice and steamed veggies.



Lions Enjoy A Good Meal

The featured speaker was Jack Zimmerman, along with Al Leightley, of the Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke. The Shepherd's Center (like our club) is a "not for profit" 501(c)3 organization. It helps older adults continue to live independently in their own homes. A variety of support services and enrichment programs are provided by older adult volunteers to offer assistance to their peers.

The Fairfax-Burke center is one of 3 Centers in Northern VA. It is located at 4019 Olley Lane, Fairfax, VA 22032, phone number: 703-323-4788. Programs they offer to older adults:

- Adventures in Learning:  
One day per week classes including exercise and interesting speakers. (modest fee)

- **Lunch 'N Life:**  
Six times a year at one of the Faith Community Partners locations.
- **Medical Transportation:**  
Five days a week volunteer drivers take older adults not able to drive to hospitals or medical appointments.
- **Companion Shopping:**  
Volunteer driver take seniors who cannot drive to a variety of destinations: stores, bank, hairdresser, library, etc.
- **Friendly Caller/Visitor Program:**  
Volunteers managed by a professional nurse. telephone or visit homebound seniors to assure they are cared for and help them maintain connections within their community.
- **Wednesday at the Movies:**  
Monthly film at "Cinema Arts Theater" with discounted tickets, and discussion after the movie.
- **Dementia Caregiver Support:**  
Monthly meeting for those caring for someone with dementia (spouse, family member, friend) to learn more about care giving.
- **Morning Exercise Classes:**  
"Gentle Exercise Classes" at Lord of Life Lutheran Church (registration fee).
- **International Travel:**  
Overseas travel opportunities for interested individuals.



For more info, visit: [Shepherd's Center - Fairfax/Burke](#)



Jack Zimmerman (L) and Al Leightley (R) receive memento from KL Gene Brown

Lions from the Floor:

- Guest PCC Harry Parker told us about the District 24A Lions Centennial Celebration Legacy Project - reconstruction of the pavilion at the Youth Camp, to be dedicated in May, 2017, in honor of past Lions Marge and Wayne Davis.
- Tail Twister Jim Kaplan opened the floor for "A Buck to Brag," and got 2 takers: Mike Rumberg told us one of Marisela's hand-made quilts will be featured in a book; and Marty Lockard told us of a trip to Richmond with Ted Kuriata to "lobby" state legislators.

50/50 winners: Treasurer Jim Davis, and KL Gene Brown.

### **Feb 7th Dinner Meeting:**

You newsletter editor will miss this meeting, sorry - no report (but you get an early newsletter).

### **Board Meeting - January 24th**

A few hi-lites of the Board meeting:

- Youth Camp Renovation cost exceeded allocated funds by \$48; Board approved covering this.
- Reduced dinner meeting attendance and support of club activities was discussed; membership committee was asked to address.
- Board approved 2017 Charter Night being held in the Farr House, vice the Chantilly Country Club.
- Lion Ken Schutz reported three vehicles have been donated since the first of the Year, one has been sold and remaining two are being inspected to determine market value.
- As current sign boards do not comply with City standards, the Board approved three new signs be fabricated to support the next fruit sale, the 2nd week of March 2017.
- Fruit Sale committee is considering hardware purchase options to process credit cards.
- Board is considering changes due to the dismal member response for monthly Bingo Night at the Fairfax Nursing Center.
- Board approved \$500 for additional eyeglass vouchers, to address *Outstanding Requests*. This expenditure completes our charity eyeglass budget allocation for the year ending June 30.

### **Upcoming Events**

- Feb 2 - Lions Lunch Bunch
- Feb 4 - Vision Screening, Choc Lovers Festival\*
- Feb 7 - Special Election, Mayor of Fairfax City
- Feb 7 - Dinner Meeting
- Feb 8 - Eyeglass Recycling\*
- Feb 12 - Bland contest\*

- **Feb 14 - Valentine's Day (Don't you forget!)**
  - Feb 21 - Dinner Meeting
  - Feb 22 - Eye-glass Recycling\*
  - Feb 23 - Bingo at Fairfax Nursing Center\*
  - Feb 28 - Board Meeting
- \*Service activity, if you need one to satisfy the resolution cited in this newsletter header.

### Lions Information

The Lions Centennial commemorative silver dollar is impressive (exceeds my expectations)! A couple of photos of a just-arrived coin follow....



The "Proof" Version (\$47.95)

There are a few of places to order a coin on-line; the best price I found is at the US Mint (not "govmint"), at: [US Mint - Commemorative Silver Dollar](http://www.usmint.com)



Comes in Nice Presentation/display Case

As a dues paying Lion, you should be receiving Lion magazine in the mail, published by LCI. Take a look at it. Each issue probably has an item of interest to you. The current "Centennial Issue," dated Dec 2016/Jan 2017, has an article entitled: "Serving in a Changing World." (Begins on page 58 of that issue.) The title itself was sufficient to capture my attention, and I am glad I read it.

Essence of the article: LCI has a new service vision for the future. The graphic below (copied from the on-line version of the article) depicts five service areas in a new Global Service Framework, for Lions to concentrate their service.



This new Global Service Framework is to be formally launched in 2017. It features these five service areas:

- Vision
- Diabetes
- Hunger
- Environment
- Pediatric Cancer

You can find this magazine issue on-line at:

[Lion Magazine "Serving in a Changing World"](http://www.lionmagazine.com)

Next, look at District 24A's February newsletter; see: [District 24A Feb 2017 Newsletter](http://www.district24a.com) Recommend you page thru the whole newsletter and, in particular, you might enjoy seeing the representation of the new pavilion to be built at the Lions Youth Camp (on page 18); and, the excellent article with photos (on page 19) about **OUR CLUB'S** renovation of our cabin at the camp. We are justifiably proud of that work led by VP Ted Kuriata. **Once again Ted, thank you for your leadership and drive!** There is an article (on page 22) describing the SPOT vision screening system which we often use. And, at the top of page 28, you might recognize the photo on the left - it is **OUR CLUB** in action at our screening at the Labor Day Car Show in Fairfax City, Sep 5, 2016. All good stuff!

### What's Up With Lion Spouses

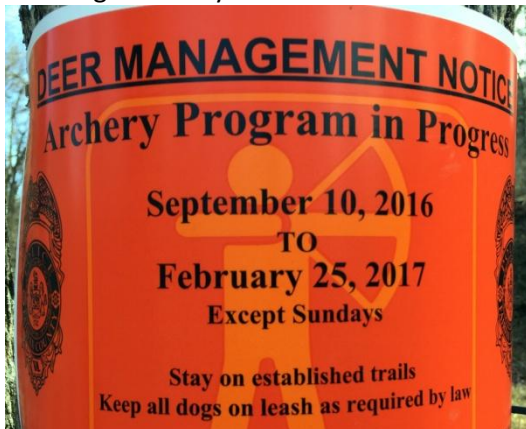
We are grateful for our spouses and our families. After all is said and done, families are our lives - and everything

else is incidental. In the context of our Club as a whole, we may think of Lion spouses and family members as an extension of our own families....one big family.

It is especially sobering and heart breaking for all of us when a Lion's spouse is not well. Our prayers and best wishes go out to Lion Elden and Mary Ellen Wright. In late January, Mary Ellen was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit at INOVA Heart and Vascular Institute. We know she has the best medical care available. We pray for that medical care team to lead Mary Ellen to full recovery. Mary Ellen, you are in our hearts - we all love you!

### The Last Word...Some Local Information

In western Fairfax County, deer have been a significant problem for folks with yards, flowers, shrubs, trees, etc. Well, we now can say, deer WERE a problem. Deer would eat almost anything growing in the yard (except of course that stuff we did not want - like weeds). Last Fall, the County designated certain areas for "Deer Management," which means bow hunters could help "reduce deer population." Sign near my house:



Problem solved: trees and plants in the yard are thriving, and there are no sign of deer anywhere. But - you need to watch where you walk, and be alert to your surroundings (especially if you resemble, even-a-little-bit, a deer). And, thank you for reading this far in the newsletter!

### A Note About This Newsletter

Bob Stahl was a WW2 veteran (US Navy - Pacific Theater) and a Fairfax Lion for nearly 40 years (serving as President and bulletin editor, among other duties). This "Bob Stahl Memorial Newsletter" is published in PDF format, and is sent by email to club members after the 1st dinner meeting each month. **YOUR COMMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!** (That does not mean \$ contributions, but your words & photos!) Send anything, anytime, to [tilleryg@gmail.com](mailto:tilleryg@gmail.com) I need your help to publicize information about our Club, and about you.

### That's all folks!

*Send me items to include in the newsletter.*  
[tilleryg@gmail.com](mailto:tilleryg@gmail.com)

# Fairfax Lions Club



## We Serve

Since 1951