



Fairfax Lions Club News - July 2017 "Bob Stahl Memorial Newsletter"



**"I resolve to recruit a new member this Lion's year."
(anyone notice the different resolution...suggested by new KL?)**

New King Lion's Message

Dear Fellow FHLC Lions,

As your incoming King Lion, I am very much honored to serve our club members and our community. Every member and former member I've met is a very special

person with unique skills and a sincere desire to serve those in need. The camaraderie and positive spirit are the right mix to make our club the best ever.

All of you are aware that we have lost a number of very active members over the last few years. Some have relocated or passed

away; others have developed physical limitations. Still others retain their memberships but are unable to be active for a variety of reasons. Unfortunately, we have not brought in new members fast enough to offset the downturn in active members. As a result, our membership numbers, meeting attendance, and active members able and willing to serve on committees or service activities/events has decreased. Smaller numbers typically leads to less involvement in fund raising activities for our charities and actual service to the community. A few doing it all leads to burn-out and will likely result in further downturn.

The outgoing Board of Directors recognized these phenomena and scheduled a special strategy and planning offsite on June 10 with the incoming Board of Directors. The offsite was very productive. Your new Officers and Board of Directors have begun the process of considering and acting upon the recommended strategic actions. Those actions are designed to increase membership, incentivize attendance and involvement, and make our club a fun and rewarding experience. I won't go over all of them in this message, but you will hear and see a lot more as we begin a new year as Fairfax Host Lions. For starters, your 1st VP, Karen Udell Parker, your Tail Twister, Jim Kaplan, and I are planning to implement some significant changes to the way that we conduct our dinner meetings. Our goal: make the meetings fun and interesting; vary what we do and how we do it; reduce outside guest speakers to one a month; engage members or their families to make presentations on a variety of topics that members would enjoy; develop a new approach to club



culture, meeting conduct, and decorum; and focus on a congenial forum that will actually attract guests and potential new members. We encourage any and all helpful suggestions!

Leadership that works in our type of organization is radically different from the leadership we normally see at work or in various levels of government. Our leaders (Officers, Board, Committee and Activity/Event Chairs) are not fixers, healers, or reconcilers. They are all volunteers who are willing to donate their valuable time to serve in a leadership role and help our club achieve its goals. They all need the club's members to fully support and assist him or her to be successful. Your incoming Officers and I ask that every member be ready and willing to help and provide constructive ideas and suggestions as we seek to make this year the best ever for FHLC!

We SERVE and We ROCK!

Marty Lockard

Service - Our Mission

Reading Action Program Supports Braille Literacy Program

by Lion Marilyn Tanner

This is the first year the Fairfax Lions have participated in the Lions Reading Action Program, or LRAP. LRAP's primary goal is to improve the reading literacy of children.

Over a year ago, Lions Marcia Selva and Sandy Mayo proposed that Fairfax Lions Club get involved in this program. Lion spouses Terry Breda and Diane Schutz contributed their ideas for the program. A budget request for \$1000 was submitted by Lion Marilyn Tanner, which was approved by the club's Budget Committee.

We visited a Fairfax Family Shelter and contacted an area Elementary school to determine where our help might be needed. What we found was an abundance of high-quality books and loads of reading volunteers from the community. They did not need our help. So, we considered other groups of young readers to serve. The Braille Enrichment for Literacy and Learning, or BELL program, came to mind. Representatives from that program had spoken at our dinner meetings in the past. What better fit for Lions than to provide Braille books to support the BELL summer program for blind kids, ages 7-12.

A total of 99 books were purchased from Seedlings Braille Books for Children. Seedlings is a non-profit organization that provides high-quality Braille books at a low cost. The cost of their books is offset by charitable contributions, as well as dedicated volunteers.

A sampling of the Braille books was on display at the June 20 dinner meeting. Members and their guests had an

opportunity to pick up and feel the books. It was interesting to see how fascinated Lion Mike Rumberg's son, Nicholas, was with the books. He recognized that the "bumps" in the Braille books are like the ones at many of the doorways at his school. Each book has a sticker that identifies it as being contributed by the Fairfax Lions Club. Most of the books will go home with the BELL students, to become part of their personal home libraries.

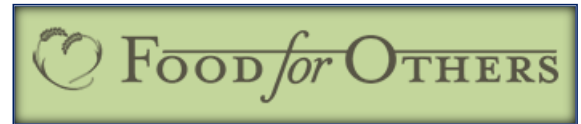


June Food Drive

by Lion Marilyn Tanner

School is out, and area food bank inventories have begun to take a dip as food-insecure families look for help in feeding their children during the summer months. For many years the Fairfax Lions have dug deeply into their pantries to help fill this need, and this year was no exception! At the June 20 dinner meeting, 234 pounds of shelf-safe food was donated by Fairfax Lions. The following day, Lion Marilyn Tanner delivered the trunk-load of high-quality food to Food for Others, one of the largest food banks in Northern Virginia.

Food for Others claims "Every day up to 90,000 people go hungry across Northern Virginia." A special **Thank-You** to Lion Marilyn for recognizing that children go hungry when subsidized school lunches stop for summer.



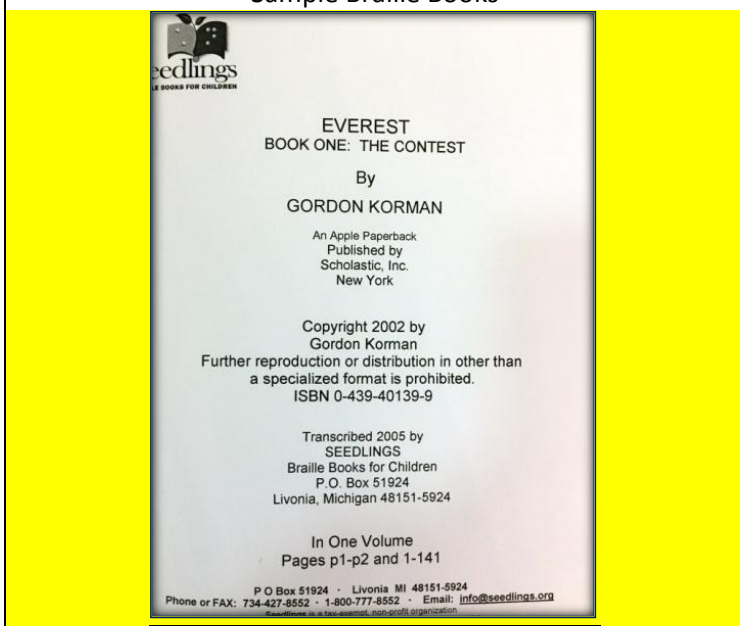
Lion Harry Pontius Brings Food to Add to Club Member Donations



Sample Braille Books



Post-meeting: Lion Jim Kaplan Helps Lion Marilyn Load Up the Donated Food





Wearing Her Lion Colors, Marilyn Delivers Donated Food

Eyeglass Donations

Your club provided five pairs of eyeglasses to the needy at a cost of \$250 in June. Lion Marilyn Tanner has been working with Lion Elden Wright to take over this Eyeglass Donation Program.

Eyeglass Recycling

Fairfax Lions collected 1944 pairs of eyeglasses for processing and distribution in June. Eight Fairfax Lions volunteered 16 hours at the Eyeglass Recycling Center. **For the 2016-2017 Lions' year, Fairfax Lions collected 9799 pairs of eyeglasses and 15 hearing aids.** Fairfax Lions made 93 individual visits to the Recycling Center and volunteered 179 hours.

Nursing Home Bingo

Three Lions, one former Lion, and one spouse conducted Bingo Night at Fairfax Nursing Center on June 21. Six residents participated. Marcia Selva will coordinate Lions' Bingo on July 19.

Inter-Service Club Council (ISCC)

Fairfax Lions club is a member of the City of Fairfax ISCC. ISCC is a forum for service clubs (about 20) to exchange ideas and coordinate schedules - when appropriate. The City's Parks and Recreation office participates. Members pay \$30 a year in dues. Those dues, primarily, are donated to support the Fairfax High School All Night Graduation Party. This year, ISCC donated a total of \$450. (One very small example - \$30 - of how your charity fund raising directly serves your community.)

ISCC is also the City's unofficial agent to recommend which civic groups have a logo on the sign boards at entrances to the city. News: the City has budgeted to replace the old sign board at Picket Rd and Main St; ISCC already has logos on hand for civic groups to be represented - including Fairfax Lions Club - on the new sign. (It is not clear when the City will actually accomplish the budgeted work.)



At the June ISCC meeting, we learned that Fairfax's Rotary Club held a charity golf tournament (on May 15th) that netted \$25,000 for their charity account! Perhaps we should consider that as an idea for our own fund raising...anyone interested in looking into a charity golf tournament...perhaps model one after Woodbridge Lions Golf Tournament in September? (How is that for a segue to the next topic?)

Fund Raising - Underpinning Our Service Mission

Lions Dinner Out

We enjoyed our third, monthly "Dinner Out" on Wednesday June 14th (ALWAYS ON 2ND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH, AND ALWAYS AT THE AULD SHEBEEN!). Three Lions with their spouses (all part of the usual suspects group) engaged, and all had a fun evening with good food at The Auld Shebeen. Our Club Charities Account received \$17 from the restaurant. Total raised so far, after three dinners-out: \$135. While that is a bit shy of the \$50 per dinner we had hoped to achieve, every little bit helps us help others.



Dinner-Out Regulars: Marilyn & Chuck, Gordon & Elsie, Joe & Terry

Mark your calendars - the next Dinner-Out fund raiser: Wednesday, July 12 at The Auld Shebeen (6:30-8:30pm). ALWAYS AT AULD SHEBEEN / ALWAYS 2ND WEDNESDAY,

Charity Fund Raiser – Lions Dinner July 12th

Always the 2nd Wednesday of each month
Always The Auld Shebeen Restaurant
 3971 Chainbridge Rd, Fairfax, VA 22030

Fairfax Lions Club



We Serve
Since 1951

Ask to "Sit with the Lions Group," Yeats Library dining room
6:30 pm - Happy Hour prices on beverages
7pm - Dinner
Order from regular menu
Separate checks; Pay your own bill.
No reservations required.




Biplane Fly-over Signaled
The Parade Start

July 4th Food Booth

The set-up team had the sales site organized by 8am.



New Treasurer Rob Higginbotham Helps Mike Schutz Affix Signs to Flagpole



Sales Operations Ran Like a Well Oiled Machine!



Early Customers - Big Smiles!



Huey Sullivan Donated Big Bag of "Moon Pies" to Sell (Most Kids Did Not Know What a Moon Pie Was)

Membership Chair - and July 4th Event Chair - Ken Schutz Established Membership Recruitment Area



With assistance from Lions Rodney (and Helen) Neely and Suleiman Alibhai, two prospective members were identified to invite to a dinner meeting.

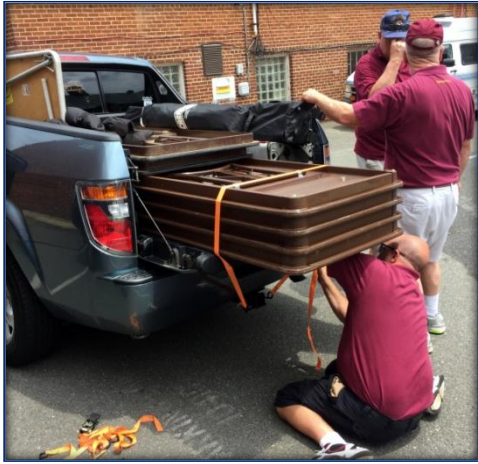
Parade is Always Great, and Tuba Man is a Hit!



We sold out of water early, and sold the last hot dog at 12:10pm. (TBD - Total funds earned for our charity account.)

All good things must end sometime, so we packed-up and moved the equipment back to the storage shed.

Loading Brian Laccone's Pick-Up to Carry Equipment to Storage Shed; Mike Schutz Hauled Grill Trailer with Borrowed Pick-Up



A **BIG THANK YOU** to Ken Schutz for leading the event, and all Lions who participated (most of you are not mentioned by name in this column - but Thank You)!

Vehicle Donation Program

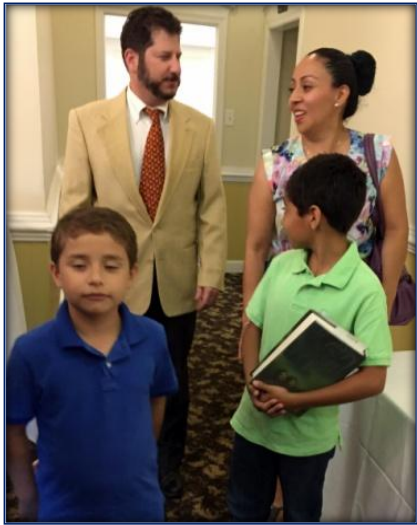
Know a person with a vehicle (car, boat, cycle, plane) they might donate? Ask them to call 844-455-4667. The trained staff will answer any questions, and take it from there. More at: <http://www.fairfaxlions.org/donate-a-vehicle/>

Dinner Meetings - June 20th



Spouses and Guests Arrive

Mike Rumberg Looking Sharp with his Family!



This was a multi-faceted meeting. First, it was "Spouses Night" and each spouse received two roses. In addition, we welcomed as Lion Marilyn Tanner's guest: former club member Marcia Selva. It was great to see Marcia, and learn she has agreed to stand-in for Lion Jeff Root (on vacation in July) to lead bingo. Lion Marilyn had invited Marcia to this meeting, because Marcia - along with Terry Breda, Diane Schutz, and Sandy Mayo - helped set the direction for our Club's Lions Reading Action Program which was a focus for this dinner meeting. (See complete discussion under Service.) Also, this was "installation night" for the Officers & Board for the Lion Year that began July 1st. Past Council Chair Bill Bartlett conducted the installation ceremony. And finally, Lion Marilyn collected food at this meeting, donated by FHLC members. (See complete discussion under Service.)

PCC Bill Bartlett conducted a brief, but serious, ceremony to install the Officers and Board members for Lions year July 2017 -June 2018. Each individual to hold office was challenged to perform the duties associated with that office, and all accepted the challenge!

PCC Bill Bartlett Installs New Officers



Board of Directors and Officers 2017-2018

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| President (King Lion) | Marty Lockard |
| Immediate Past President | Gene Brown |
| First VP | Karen Parker |
| Second VP | Mike Rumberg |
| Third VP | Doug Brisson |
| Secretary | Jeff Root |
| Treasurer | Rob Higginbotham |
| Corresponding Secretary | Mike Greeley |
| Tail Twister | Jim Kaplan |
| Lion Tamer | Cory Green |
| Bulletin Editor | Gordon Tillery |
| Membership | Ken Schutz |
| Director (Two Yr) | Phil Mayo |
| Director (Two Yr) | Joe Breda |
| Director (One Yr) | Scott Dulaney |
| Director (One Yr) | Greg DeRosa |
| PDG Dir | PDG Bill Bartlett |
| Dir Emeritus | PDG Bill Smith |



Lion Jim Davis with PCC Special Award for Excellence



New King Lion Marty Lockard Installed!



Lion Marilyn Presents Braille Books Certificate to Alex Castillo of the National Federation of the Blind

PCC Special Award

PCC Bill Bartlett presented a "PCC Special Award for Excellence" to a most deserving, outgoing Treasurer Jim Davis.

King Lion Gene, in his final dinner meeting as our President, read letters from these organizations thanking us for our Club's donations from our Charity account:

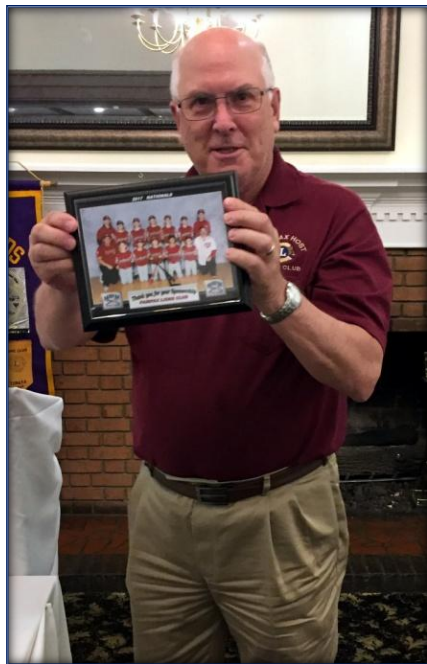
- \$300 - Lions Project for Canine Companions
- \$1000 - GMU's Veteran's Scholarship Fund
- \$500 - Leader Dogs for the Blind

KL Gene also announced his selection of FHLC "Volunteer-of-the Year." That person will be recognized by the Fairfax City ISCC on Aug 2nd.



KL Gene Brown Announces Volunteer-of-the-Year, Lion Gordon Tillery

Lion Ken Schutz presented a plaque to FHLC from the "Nationals" Little League team, thanking us for our sponsorship.



Little League Team Includes Charlie Schutz (rear row, player at top left)

Incentive Prize Winner: You may recall, in April the Club started an incentive to encourage meeting attendance. At the beginning of a quarter, each attendee at a dinner meeting buying 50/50 tickets has a ticket (with their name on it) put in a container. At the last meeting of that quarter, one name is drawn (must be present). That winner then draws from a second container to win one of three prizes:

- Free Dues for one quarter (a \$110 value)
- Two free guest meals (a \$33 value)
- One free guest meal (a \$16.50 value)

Lion Scott Dulaney's name was drawn (by guest Andrea Lockard) and Scott drew the award of " Two free guest meals." Congratulations Scott - keep on coming to meetings!



Lion Scott Dulaney Reacts to winning Incentive Prize

50/50 winners: Guest Nicholas Rumberg; Lion Phil Mayo (who donated it to Youth Camp Pavilion charity fund)

July 4th

No dinner meeting - Independence Day!

Membership

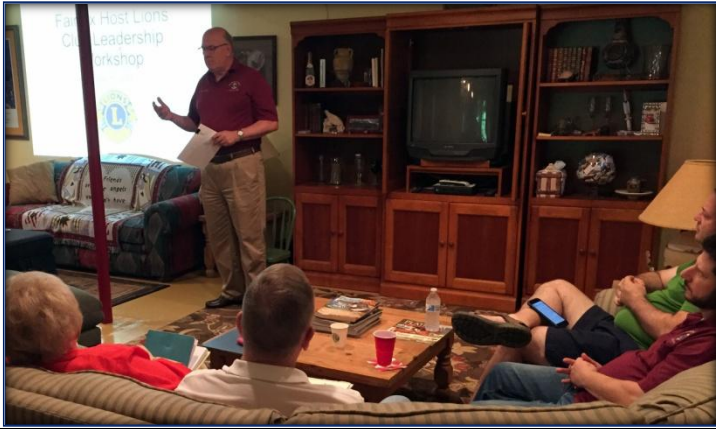
FHLC has a new Membership Committee chair - Lion Ken Schutz (stand by for action!). Please note suggested resolution for all club members, in the newsletter header.

Board Meetings

Offsite - June 10th

As new King Lion Marty reported to you in his email of June 11: "The outgoing and incoming Boards of Directors had an all-day meeting (off-site) at Lion Joe and Terry Breda's beautiful 'getaway' home near Marshall, VA. We very much appreciated excellent facilitation by Lion Ken Schutz. The discussions were lively and very productive. A series of strategic actions were agreed upon. We all came away believing that they will make our club stronger,

incentivize service and social interaction, and help us grow by attracting new members. You will hear and see a lot of changes over the next few months. Stay tuned."



Lion Ken Facilitates Off-Site Meeting

Interjections of humor by many participants assured the discussions included laughs, while the work focused on strengthening the club's processes.

In addition to making this a productive work session, the 15 attendees enjoyed a wonderful summer lunch of grilled hamburgers and dogs - courtesy of Joe and Terry Breda. Joe had some help - he had invited frequent club guest and PCC Lion Harry Parker to be the Assistant Chef - thank you Harry!

By day's end, the off-site group advanced these actions:

- Revamp structure of meetings to be attractive to new members
- Develop plan to conduct at least 1 hands-on major service project per quarter that has significant member (and non-member volunteer) participation, and/or in coordination with other clubs/organizations
- Develop an approach to club culture, meeting conduct and decorum to implement over the 1st quarter
- Conduct survey of membership to assess member attitudes and needs to improve value of club and member retention
- Develop outreach plan to community businesses and professionals to get broad representation in the club membership
- Articulate membership goals for year and plan to achieve (include training of club members)
- Expand our visibility and communications through all types of media (social and others), develop plan to execute.
- The KL and VPs will develop tactical plan for each standing committee for the year, including goals and a reporting schedule

- Review fundraising activities and report possible new sources of funding to the BOD
- Need to immediately address committee leadership of Fruit Sale fundraiser



Assistant Chef Harry Parker Helps Lion Joe Breda Feed 15 Folks at the Off-Site

Thank you Joe and Terry Breda for your wonderful hospitality! It was a productive day that will no doubt result in positive changes for the Club.

Regular Board Meeting June 27th

A few hi-lites of the June Board meeting:

- **TRANSITION TO NEW BOARD:** King Lion Marty Lockard and the new Board members assumed their positions for the 2017-2018 Lions' year.
- Approved reimbursement (from Club Admin find) of convention registration fees for club delegates (PDG Karen Parker, Lion Jeff Root).
- Approved purchase of standing floral arrangement for Mary Ellen Wright's memorial service on July 22. Lion Jeff Root will order flowers from Flower Den.
- Lion Marilyn Tanner has been working with Lion Elden Wright to take over the Eyeglass Donation Program. One concern is LensCrafters will no longer accept a voucher system which we have used for years to obtain the eyeglasses. Changes in procedures must be found to provide this service to our community.
- 1st VP Karen Parker discussed locations for the Club's Fall Retreat and Holiday Social. Consensus is to hold Fall Retreat at local park (e.g., Burke Lake Park) and Holiday Social at Fair Oaks Waterford.

Upcoming Events

- July 5 - Eyeglass Recycling
- July 6 - Lions Lunch Bunch
- July 12 - Lions Dinner-Out Charity Fund Raiser
- July 18 - Regular Dinner Meeting
- July 19 - Eyeglass Recycling
- July 19 - Bingo at Fairfax Nursing Center
- July 25 - Board Meeting
- Aug 1 - Regular Dinner Meeting
- Aug 2 - ISCC Volunteer-of-the-Year Recognition

Lions Information

This Item Provided by PDG Karen Parker

Email dated June 19, 2017



"Subject We're 1,445,591 Lions strong—and counting!

Dear Fellow Lions:

I am pleased to announce that **we just surpassed our all-time membership record of 1,445,591 Lions!**

I want to thank each and every one of you for your dedication to changing lives and growing our association's humanitarian impact over the past year. Thanks to you, we are positioned to enter our second century of service stronger than ever before. Thanks to you, Lions clubs are serving in more communities around the world. And thanks to you, we are helping more people than ever before.

Thank you for helping Lions reach new heights!

Very truly yours,
Chancellor Bob Corlew"

Photos below by Lion Jeff Root at International Convention

Lion Jeff in LCI President Bob Corlew's Office



LCI Headquarters



Peace Poster gallery



Melvin Jones Statue in Front of LCI HQ

The Last Word

With great sadness, and our sympathy for Elden and family...

Mary Ellen Wright

June 25, 1934 - May 30, 2017

Mary Ellen Wright, age 82, of Fairfax, VA, passed away peacefully on May 30, 2017.

Beloved husband of over 56 years to Elden Harvey Wright (Col, USA, Ret.) Loving mother of William Harvey "Bill" Wright (Shellie



Bingham). Cherished grandmother of Isabelle Marie and Benjamin Michael Bingham-Wright. Dear sister of Reverend Conrad G. Crow (Carolyn) and adored aunt to his children, Terri Knight and Marshall and Charles Crow. She was the daughter of the late Osler Gilbert and Myrtle Lenore Crow.

Mary Ellen was born in Bluefield, WV, graduated Valedictorian at Beaver High School, and received her degree in Chemistry at Auburn University, of which she was a fervent life-long alumnus. She also received a post-graduate Medical Technology certification at the Medical College of Richmond (now VCU) and worked as a research chemist for the University of Tennessee. Mary Ellen traveled the world with her family, as Elden served our country in the United States Army. Mary Ellen and Elden were inseparable, where there was one, the other was right there. She was a devoted member of the Providence Presbyterian Church, where she worked and volunteered for many years and was also the longest serving member of the choir. Mary Ellen also participated in many projects with the Fairfax Lions Club, as she stood hand in hand with her husband who is a lifelong member of the organization.

A memorial service will be held at Providence Presbyterian Church, 9019 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax, VA 22031 on Saturday, July 22, 2017 at 11:00 AM. Inurnment in Arlington National Cemetery is planned but not yet scheduled.

Special thanks to...

New King Lion Marty, Karen Parker, Marilyn Tanner, Jeff Root and Harry Pontius for providing input (whole articles, reports, photos) for this month's newsletter. Such help from all is essential to making this a decent newsletter! (Suggestions welcome also.)

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 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

