

Fairfax Lions Club News

October 2022

The Bob Stahl Memorial Newsletter
- Fairfax Lions, Serving Since 1951 -



**WE SERVE THE WORLD AND OUR
LOCAL COMMUNITIES WITH PRIDE,
COMPASSION AND KINDNESS**

Service

Dog Fest (Supporting Canine Companions)

PCC Harry and PDG Karen Parker attended “Dog Fest” in Reston on Sept 24th. Dog Fest is held to raise money for Canine Companions - which provides trained service dogs to adults, children, and veterans with disabilities...FREE of charge. Dog Fest activities included service dog demonstrations, music, games, speeches and activities for kids. Lions Harry and Karen presented a \$1000 donation from Fairfax Lions Club. Dog Fest raised a total of \$10,450 for Canine Companions. The event is put on by “Lions Project for Canine Companions” (see LPCCI on our check in the photo). LPCCI has a “Give with Confidence” rating on Charity Navigator (<https://www.charitynavigator.org/ein/942878307>). Great Work!!!



PCC Harry Parker, friendly Lion, PDG Karen Parker at Dog Fest

Vision Screening

October is Lions Vision Awareness Month. Our Club has not held a vision screening service since Feb 1, 2020, when COVID shut down such face-to-face activities. We own excellent screening equipment, and look forward to re-starting screening when the customer base welcomes it. See more

about our screening equipment (SPOT) under “Lions Information,” later in this newsletter.

Fairfax Lions Club Charity Fund Raising

SERVICE DEPENDS ON CHARITY FUNDS

Fall Festival (Oct 8)

If you have not signed up yet - please do so ASAP!!!! This is one of our most popular and fun fund raisers: selling beer & brats at the Fairfax City Fall Festival. And, it is also a great opportunity to promote our fruit sales.

Fruit Sales Orders Start Oct 1 (Pickup Nov 17-19, Dec 15-17)

The sales van location is different this year, the American Legion parking lot - NOT Home Depot lot. At our picnic on Sep 18, we gave each Lion several cards to use to advertise the sale, and steer people to signup for future email notices & discounts. We asked Lions to give the cards to local businesses/churches/etc, to display.

New cards after Oct 1 will steer people to the “Square” web site to order fruit, etc, also schedule a pick-up date/time. Lion Ken Schutz will have the cards at the Fall Festival. A sample is on the next page - watch for latest info coming soon.

Fairfax Lions Club **Fairfax Lions Club Citrus Fruit Sale**
Ordering begins October 1



for pick up **November 17-19, and December**
All Proceeds go to Charity

We sell Fresh Florida navel oranges, mandarins, and grapefruit, Vermont maple syrup, and Virginia peanuts to raise money for charity programs in the Fairfax area.

Order Online to guarantee what you want is ready for you to pick up at **NEW SALES LOCATION** - American Legion Post 177, 3939 Oak St, Fairfax, VA 22030

DO NOW - Sign-up for email notices & discounts; Online orders begin on Oct 1. Go to this address: <https://www.fairfaxlions.org/citrus-sale-notification/> or QR Code.



We encourage

**“Sign-up” Card,
used before Oct 1st**

on-line orders so customers get the product they want when they come to pick it up. Help get the word out!

Fairfax Lions Club **Fairfax Lions Club Citrus Fruit Sale**
Ordering Underway



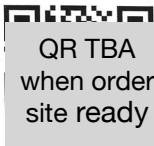
We Serve
Since 1951

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DO NOW - Online orders began on Oct 1. Order now at this address:
(Our Square web page) or use QR Code.



QR TBA
when order
site ready

“Order Now” Card to use

Club Meetings

Sep 6th Dinner Meeting

Our guest was Jim Cech, VA Lions District 24-L Vice District Governor. About Jim: he became a Lion in Nov 1999, joining the Montclair Club. He is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow; received the LCI President's medals for Leadership and for Service; is a graduate of the Regional Lions Leadership Institute, Advanced Lions Leadership Institute, Faculty Development Institute of Lions University and has received his Doctorate. Lion Jim is certified as both a Guiding Lion and Lions Instructor. He has served as Zone Chair, District Global Membership Team lead for New Members and Retention, on the Board of Directors for the NoVA Mobile Sight and Hearing Screening Unit, and as LCIF District 24-L chair for the past three years. Whew!

A more complete bio of Jim's military career and life is in a you-tube video endorsing Jim for 2VP (see link).



As District 24-L Chair for LCI Foundation, Jim Cech raised over \$2 million - that has to be a record, for a wonderful cause.

One topic Jim talked to us about was engaging youth in Lions service. He discussed the possibility of our club organizing a LEO youth Club in a local High School (Fairfax HS - where a Lion is the mascot), as a way for teenagers to do community service and connect to Lionism.

Sep 18 Picnic (in lieu of Sep 20 Dinner Mtg)

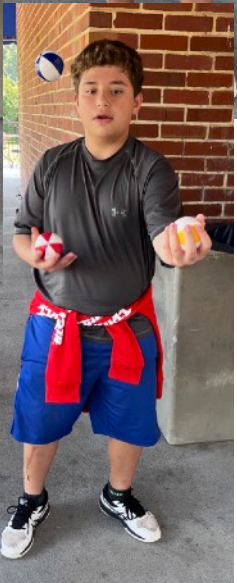
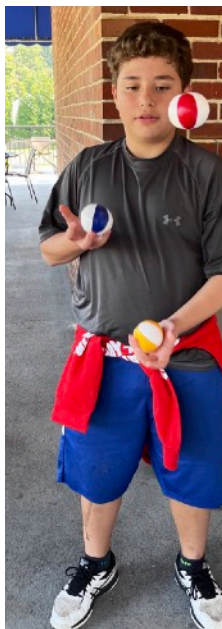
PDG Karen Parker orchestrated a wonderful picnic, including nice weather for dining “al fresco” on the terrace at the American Legion Post. Lions and family members came and went during the afternoon, all having a good time.











Lewis Rumberg keeps
a lot of balls in the air!

Sep 27 Board Meeting:

Secretary Jeff Root announced that our District 24-L has provided our club (and other District clubs) \$100 to use to hold a Peace Poster contest this year.

PCC Harry Parker reported delivering the club donation (\$1000) to Lions Project for Canine Companions (see front page story).

The Board approved disbursement of \$250 to the [City of Fairfax Theater Company](#) , one of the planned items in our annual Charity budget.

KL Greg DeRosa has submitted a grant application to Walmart - if approved, it should cover the cost of our two holiday food basket programs. KL Greg also reported he has a stash of donated eyeglasses to deliver to the Recycling center. PCC Bill Bartlett said he has some too.

The Board approved inviting (at no cost) spouses of deceased Fairfax Lions to our Holiday party on Dec 18.

The Board approved new membership application of Maureen Johnson. Orientation and induction TBA. There was discussion of follow-up action to assure new Club Members receive the embroidered Fairfax Lions shirt, cap, etc, in a timely fashion.

October Events

- Oct 1 - Fruit Sale OnLine ordering opens (tentatively)
- Oct 3 - New Lion Orientation: Maureen Johnson
- Oct 4 - Club Dinner Meeting (Induction ceremony)
- Oct 5 - ISCC Meeting
- Oct 6 - Lions Lunch Bunch - 1130am (PCC BB
email: Wegman's Market Cafe, Fairfax)
- Oct 8 - Fall Festival Food Booth (all hands)
- Oct 18 - Club Dinner Meeting
- Oct 22 - Honoring Lion Jim McKeever's life -
Musical Tribute, Providence Presbyt Church
- Oct 25 - Club Board Meeting

Coming Up

- Nov 2 - Lion Jim Davis Interment - Arl Nat Cemetery
- Nov 2 - Blood Drive
- Nov 8 - Election Day
- Nov 16 - Unload Citrus Fruit (need many hands)
- Nov 16-19 - 1st Citrus Fruit Sale (all hands)
- Nov 18-19 - District 24-L Fall Conf, Fredericksburg
Register: <https://valions.org/fall-conference/>
- Nov 21 - Thanksgiving Food Baskets (30)
- Dec 14-17 - 2nd Citrus Fruit Sale (all hands)
- Dec 18 - Lions Holiday Brunch (1-5pm, Chantilly CC)
- Dec 19 - Holiday Food Baskets

Fairfax City Inter-Service Club Council (ISCC)

The ISCC has begun to hold 2022-2023 monthly lunch meetings at the Moose Lodge near Rte 123 and I-66. The Moose prepare a decent lunch for ISCC members, for \$9.



At the September 7th ISCC meeting, the featured speaker was Jeff Platenburg, Superintendent of Fairfax City Schools. He is constantly working to define the best service sharing arrangements between Fairfax City Schools and Fairfax County Schools; example - city using county bus support, and county residents attending city schools. Of ISCC member interest, the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum (rep Pete Conklin) reported that declining number of volunteers in “the Station” organization

poses an existential situation, and the Station may need to consider transferring its operation to the county.

Lions Information...

Membership

Have any leads? Invite the person(s) to a dinner mtg; talk to Membership Chair Pete Conklin. Invite them to participate in a fund raiser, or a service activity!

Public Relations Grant

You may have received an email from Cabinet Secretary Carol Byers on behalf of District Governor Rose Burrus, titled: "Communication Monday 5 Sep 2022." It included this interesting note:

Public Relations Grant

The Multiple District applied for a Public Relations Grant to support a new initiative in promoting our Lions Clubs across all three Districts. We were notified the grant has been approved and we are moving forward working with LCI Marketing and EffecTV. The project consists of 30 second pre-rolled videos about Lions to targeted populations and areas

with QR codes linked to each District. The hope is we generate interest in learning more about Lions and potentially growing our clubs. Congratulations to the MD-24!

Vision Screening



SPOT Vision Screening Camera

Fairfax Lions should be aware of vision screening capabilities available to us. First, our club owns a “SPOT” vision screening system. That Spot screener is one of the top photoscreeners available.

This “screener” is a hand held camera-like easy-to-use instrument. SPOT screenings are very simple to do and produce excellent and fast results. Our SPOT system has proven itself to be a very useful way for us to SERVE our community.

Photo below shows IPP Mike Greeley using the SPOT system at vision screening we conducted (Feb 1, 2020). COVID halted all screenings. We will begin again!



IPP Mike Greeley using SPOT system, Feb 1, 2020

There is also the “NoVA Sight & Hearing Van.” Read the following article, to understand the “tension” between the SPOT system and the Van.



Van FHLC used in 2014



NOVA Lions Mobile Sight & Hearing Screening Unit



(This article From September PAWPRINTS)

By Lion Doug Taggart, Secretary

When the Northern Virginia Lions Mobile Sight & Hearing Screening Unit Corporation was formed in 1976, the mobile approach to accomplishing sight and hearing screenings was basically “the only game in town.”

At one time, the vans conducted over 250 screenings per year. In addition to taking sight and hearing screening capability directly to the customers, the vans also served as a rolling billboard providing a very visible marketing asset for recruitment of future Lions.

There were many more Lions Clubs in our District back then, and almost all of them supported the Corporation with annual donations. Over the years, the number of clubs has diminished to where today, there are just 51 clubs in the Northern Virginia area

distributed across eight of the Zones within District 24-L. These 51 Clubs represent the voting membership of the Corporation and serve as the source for the eight Board of Director positions. A listing of those 51 clubs is found on the Corporation's website at <https://e-district.org/sites/nvsh/page-9.php>

The times they are a-changin' -- factoring in the availability and affordability of portable screening equipment (primarily SPOT machines and audiometers) that are owned by individual clubs, combined with the decrease in school screenings during the past two years of the COVID-19 pandemic, the annual donations received from member clubs has fallen dramatically. For example, for the FY 2021-22, which ended on June 30, 2022, just 18 Clubs out of 51 provided a donation to the Corporation. The Corporation's total FY2021-22 income was nearly \$7,000 short of what was budgeted for the year.

Fortunately, the impact on this decreased income was offset by a reduction in the expenses required to operate the van. Driver payroll and maintenance/insurance costs were 42% less than budgeted. These reduced expenses are directly linked to the remaining one van not being scheduled for screening

events with numbers consistent with the projections used to generate the annual budget.

On a positive note, donations made in support of screenings conducted at Catholic Schools (requested without a supporting Lions Club) were more than planned and accounted for over 85% of the total screenings done during the past year. Donations received from Catholic School screenings exceeded the budget by 28%, for a total of \$850.

As part of these changing times, a vast majority of the screenings conducted at Catholic Schools had parents of the school children serving as volunteers rather than having the screenings conducted by local Lions Club volunteers. In these situations, the van's driver (a paid position) served as the trainer for the volunteering parents who conducted the screenings using equipment transported to the schools by the van.

With these factors confronting the current Corporation's Board of Directors (see <https://e-district.org/sites/nvsh/page-11.php>), there is an initiative underway to review our business model and consider making adjustments on how future services may be provided.

The first step is to collect data, in order to better understand how the Corporation's mobile screening capability may be restructured for the future. A survey has been prepared and e-mailed to eight Zone Chairs within District 24-L. The purpose of the survey is to determine how many SPOT machines and Audiometers are available across the 51 Clubs.

Information collected and a restructuring proposal is being formulated to be presented at the Corporation's Annual Meeting which will be held during the 2022 Fall Conference scheduled for November 19-20. All 51 clubs served by the Corporation are encouraged to send at least one delegate to the Northern Virginia Lions Mobile Sight & Hearing Screening Unit Corporation's Annual Meeting. In early October, details on the topics to be discussed at the meeting will be provided via e-mail to all 51 Club Presidents.

It is important to remember that the Corporation exists to support all of the Lions Clubs operating within the Northern Virginia region of District 24-L. The Corporation's Board of Directors is currently structured with eight members, each elected for a term of three years.

For the upcoming year, there is at least one vacancy on the Corporation Board that needs to be filled. In addition, the Scheduler position also needs to be backfilled. So don't be shy about stepping forward to get involved and help set the course for moving the Northern Virginia Lions Mobile Sight & Hearing Screening Unit Corporation forward.

If you have any questions, you can contact me at dougtag@aol.com. In addition, for more information, visit our website.

[Early Voting \(for Nov 8 Election Day\)](#)

Early voting for midterm elections began September 23rd at the Fairfax County, Mount Vernon, and North County Government Centers. Go to this [link](#) for information on hours/days of operation.

13 more early voting sites open October 27th; information can be found using the link above.

Fairfax County elections include:

- Congressional Districts 8, 10, and 11
- Town of Herndon Mayor and Council

NOTE: Redistricting occurred last year. Check your registration info [here](#) to be sure you vote at the correct polling place.

[From September Paw Prints: Sign-up Genius](#)

Did you know your club can use [SignUp Genius](#) to recruit volunteers for your service projects?

Create your own or email the information about your event to sallyca75@gmail.com, and it will be posted on the [existing site](#).



Misc

Gen Z Never Learned to Read Cursive

By Drew Gilpin Faust, [The Atlantic](#)

It was a good book, the student told the 14 others in the undergraduate seminar I was teaching, and it included a number of excellent illustrations, such as photographs of relevant Civil War manuscripts. But,

he continued, those weren't very helpful to him, because of course he couldn't read cursive.

Had I heard him correctly? Who else can't read cursive? I asked the class. The answer: about two-thirds. And who can't write it? Even more. What did they do about signatures? They had invented them by combining vestiges of whatever cursive instruction they may have had with creative squiggles and flourishes. Amused by my astonishment, the students offered reflections about the place—or absence—of handwriting in their lives. Instead of the Civil War past, we found ourselves exploring a different set of historical changes. In my ignorance, I became their pupil as well as a kind of historical artifact, a Rip van Winkle confronting a transformed world.

In 2010, cursive was omitted from the new national Common Core standards for K–12 education. The students in my class, and their peers, were then somewhere in elementary school. Handwriting instruction had already been declining as laptops and tablets and lessons in “keyboarding” assumed an ever more prominent place in the classroom. Most of my students remembered getting no more than a year or so of somewhat desultory

cursive training, which was often pushed aside by a growing emphasis on “teaching to the test.” Now in college, they represent the vanguard of a cursiveless world.

The remainder of this article (in *The Atlantic*) is several pages long. For the entire article go to:

<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2022/10/gen-z-handwriting-teaching-cursive-history/671246/>

Red Flag Law

On July 1, 2020, Virginia’s Emergency Substantial Risk Order (ESRO) law, commonly called a “red flag law,” went into effect, making VA the 19th state to enact such legislation. Its purpose is to prevent individuals, who show signs of being a threat to themselves or others, from purchasing, possessing or transporting a firearm. If you know of someone with a gun acting in a way that concerns you, speak up to prevent a gun tragedy.

ESRO assures **no firearm is removed without *due process***, while intending to preclude tragedies, like the school shooting in Parkland, FL are not repeated.

Prevent Gun Tragedy: Speak Up
- TO REQUEST AN ESRO -

CALL POLICE NON-EMERGENCY LINE

703-691-2131

- IF AN IMMEDIATE DANGER -

CALL OR TEXT 9-1-1

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/topics/red-flag>

When to Take Social Security

(At a recent dinner meeting, there was informal chatter by a few Lions about the best timing to begin to take Social Security...this article offers thoughts.)

“Collecting Social Security Too Early”

By Charles Schwab

It's the age-old question: When should I start collecting Social Security? Many Americans opt to collect as soon as they become eligible at 62, but taking benefits before you reach full retirement age (from 66 to 67, depending on your birth year) means settling for smaller payments—for life.

If you are in good health, have a spouse, and are able to wait even a few years longer, you stand to receive a much larger monthly check—as the table below shows.

<u>Age</u>	62	67 (FRA)	70
<u>Monthly \$</u>	\$1706	\$2437	\$3022

Individuals who collect Social Security beginning at age 62 receive 30% less in monthly benefits than if they had waited until full retirement age (FRA)—and roughly 56% less than if they had waited until age 70.

For more info: <https://www.schwab.com/learn/story/when-is-best-time-to-file-social-security>

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Festive Celebration: A Musical Tribute



Please join us in honoring Jim McKeever's life with a Festive Celebration: A Musical Tribute

Saturday, October 22 at 2 pm
Providence Presbyterian Church
9019 Little River Turnpike
Fairfax, VA 22031

Light refreshments will follow the tribute.

All are welcome to celebrate the wonderful life of Jim.

Special thanks to...

Several Lions always step up to help make this newsletter happen...thank you for providing ideas and/or input (whole articles, reports, photos). Such help is essential to presenting the news of this Club!

About “The Bob Stahl Memorial Newsletter”

Bob Stahl was a WW2 veteran (US Navy - Pacific Theater) - part of the Greatest Generation - and a Fairfax Lion for nearly 40 years and a Melvin Jones Fellow (who served as Club Secretary, President, bulletin editor, and shared at each meeting a bit of “Lions Information.”)

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“The Bob Stahl Memorial Newsletter” is published on the Fairfax Lions web page. Club members are alerted around the 1st of each month to its availability on the web page.

YOUR COMMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME! Send words & photos for the newsletter, anytime. They must be received by the 25th of the month to be included in the next

issue. We need your help to publicize information about our Club, and about you.

That's all folks!

Send any suggestions, or items to include in the next newsletter.

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