

Fairfax Lions Club News

May 2023

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



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

— We Serve —

Vision Screening

By Lion Marty Lockard

Fairfax Lions completed its first, post-COVID, vision screening on April 18. The location was the Pre-school at Fairfax United Methodist Church. 36 children, ages three - five, were screened over April 17-18. Based on their test results, eight of those 36 children (a relatively high 22%) were referred to an optometrist for a complete eye exam. The School Principal and most of the teachers were also screened. Special thanks to Lions Bill Szymanski and Mike Greeley for their valuable help. Over the 2 days, approximately 9 hours of service was involved using the Club's SPOT vision screening equipment.

Upcoming Vision Screenings, Dates TBD

St. Leo the Great Catholic Church School (kindergarten & elementary children), 3704 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax,

2023 Vision and Hearing Screening: TBD Oct

Main Street CDC Preschool 4401 Sideburn Rd, Fairfax

2023 Vision Screening: Pending - TBD

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) (unknown, may be handicapped children) 4210 Roberts Rd, Fairfax

2023 Vision Screening: TBD

TRURO Anglican Church Preschool 10520 Main St., Fairfax

2023 Vision Screening: TBD

Trinity K-12 Independent Christian School, 11204 Braddock Rd., Fairfax

2023 Vision & Hearing Screening: TBD

St. Bernadette Catholic School (partner with Springfield-Franconia)

2023 Vision & Hearing Screening: Pending in Oct

St. Paul VI High School 42341 Braddock Rd., Chantilly

2023 Vision & Hearing Screening: TBD in Oct

St. Timothy Catholic School, 13809 Poplar Tree Rd., Chantilly

2023 Vision & Hearing Screening: TBD in Oct

St. Mark Catholic School 9972 Vale Rd., Vienna
2023 Vision & Hearing Screening: TBD in Oct

Our Lady of Good Counsel 8601 Wolftrap Road, Vienna
2023 Vision & Hearing Screening: TBD in Oct

From the above plan, you can see there are several opportunities for all Lions to participate, learn how to use the vision screening system, and render a valued and appreciated service to folks in our community (including many youngsters). Stay tuned for details, and participate if you can!

VA Lions Eye Institute Fn Scholarship

By Lion Jeff Root

Fairfax Lions sponsored two Virginia Lions Eye Institute Foundation (VLEIF) grant recipients this year. David Fischer, a 4th grader at Providence Elementary, was not able to attend the VLEIF luncheon on March 11. The Fairfax Lions had planned to present David's certificate and \$3000 check (to be used to purchase vision equipment) at the April 4 dinner meeting, but David and his family canceled due to a family emergency. Lion Jeff Root stopped by David's house on March 30 to present

the certificate and check. (We hope to recognize David and do a second presentation at the May 16th dinner meeting.)



Lions Club Charity Fund Raising

SERVICE DEPENDS ON CHARITY FUNDS

No charity fund raising activities in April. Vehicle donations are always accepted - pass the word, see details on our web page: <https://www.fairfaxlions.org/donate-a-vehicle/>

Club Meetings

April 4th Dinner Meeting

This was the Club's annual "Election Meeting" and members voted approval of the slate of Lions nominated to serve as Club officers/directors for the next Lion's year (1 July - 30 June). Thanks to all for stepping up to serve! These duly elected individuals that will be "installed" in June:

President (King Lion)	Gregory DeRosa
Immediate Past Pres.	Michael Greeley
1st Vice President	Karen DeRosa
2nd Vice President	Cory Green
Secretary	Jeff Root
Treasurer	Michael Rumberg
Corresponding Sec.	Pete Conklin
Tail Twister	Gary Maxwell
Lion Tamer	Phil Mayo
Bulletin Editor	Gordon Tillery
Membership Director	Stephen Bilowus
Director (Two Years)	Joe Breda
Director (One Year)	Jim Kaplan
PDG Director	PCC Harry Parker
PDG Director	PDG Karen Parker
PDG Director	PCC Bill Bartlett
Director Emeritus	Bill Smith

The current Bulletin Editor could not attend this meeting, due to family duty (dog-sitting) in Chicago. Photo below shows the two charges that required lengthy walking - three times each day, and TLC the entire time. (Note the snowfall outside the window, in downtown Chicago in early April!)



I contacted Windy City Lions Club https://e-clubhouse.org/sites/chicago_windy_city/ about attending a club meeting...but found they had just had their **one** monthly meeting. Lesson learned: reach out early before traveling, to visit a club at your destination.

April 18th Dinner Meeting

No dinner meeting, due to Charter night!

April 23rd Charter Night

FHLC celebrated its 72nd Anniversary. The Master of Ceremonies was Lion Jim Kaplan, Song leader was Lion Pete Conklin, Pledge was led by Lion Cory Green, and Invocation was given by Lion Jeff Root. The food was great - perfectly prepared steak, salmon, and chicken with all the trimmings, and festive Lions cake with ice cream. A Special Presentation was made by PCC Lion Bill Bartlett, to KL Greg DeRosa...a 2nd progressive (meaning a 3rd award) Melvin Jones Fellowship. District Governor Rose Burrus offered personal remarks about what being a Lions means to her - how performing service in our community provides great satisfaction. One example DG Rose cited, she was signing-in clients at a food pantry and, signing in a veteran, she thanked him for serving the nation in the military. Rose recalls the veteran saying, "I once was somebody; now I'm just hungry." Lions service helps people.

KL Greg presented gifts - special bottles of wine to Charter Night committee members Karen Parker and Joe Breda, and also to DG Rose Burrus. Rose's wine label featured a Lion! A great time was had by all at the 72nd Charter Night. Every Lion went home with a "door prize" - either a beautiful flower arrangement, or a Lions pen.





A great time was had
by all.





The
International Association
OF
Lions Clubs
CHARTER

To All to Whom These Presents Shall Come:
GREETING

Now Ye that The International Association of Lions Clubs has granted, and by these presents does grant to the Members, whose names are hereunto affixed, and to all regularly elected members and their successors, this Charter, fully constituting them a Local Club, under the name and title of

THE LIONS CLUB OF

Fairfax

Sponsored By:

Vienna

Located at Fairfax, Virginia with all the rights and privileges given to members of The International Association of Lions Clubs, according to the rules and regulations of the Constitution and By-Laws of The International Association now in force, or hereinafter enacted.

This Charter shall be in full force and effect from the day of the date hereof, and for such time as the Members of the Local Club shall conform to the laws and rules of The International Association: Otherwise this Charter shall be revoked.

In Witness Whereof The International Association of Lions Clubs has authorized its President and Secretary to affix their signatures, and caused the seal of the Association to be hereunto affixed this 21st day of February in the year of our Lord 1951



Eloa Daintiffel

SECRETARY

H. C. Pety Jr.

PRESIDENT

Charter Members

Duplicate Charter

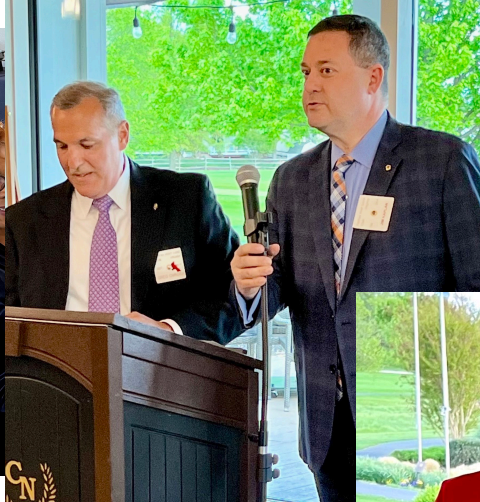
Ernest W. Ballou
George J. Barnes
George Brittinghouse
C. E. Carr
Lewis M. Capner
N. McK. Downs *
Edward D. Gasson
Culver V. Gatto
D. J. Glascock
James S. Hamilton

H. Wise Kelly, Jr.
Rothwell J. Lillard *
Capt. James M. Mahoney
George Byron Massey
Capt. H. F. Mayberry
Cyrl Miles
Cecil E. Parker
Walter L. Ralph
F. Carberry Ritchie
Stacy C. Showood

Howard W. Stull, Jr.
Frank D. Swant
Roy A. Swayze
Stanley E. Thompson
Dr. E. S. Waring
C. William Warren
Allen H. Williams
John C. Wood
Harry Otis Wright
* Transfer Member





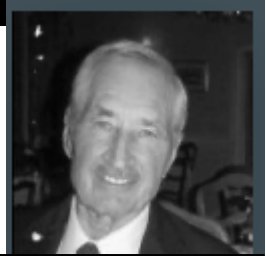








Lion Scott Dulaney
proudly wore his
dad's (Hubert) Lions
jacket.



Obituary: HUBERT LEE DULANEY of Clifton, VA, on June 11, 2010. Beloved husband of Audrey Dulaney. Loving father of Gary L. Dulaney, Stephen A. Dulaney and Scott R. Dulaney (Liz). Dear brother of Carl, Ervin and Ronald Dulaney. Cherished grandfather of Kimberly, Andrew, Lauren, Wyatt (Dace), Mark and Kelly (Eugene). Great grandfather of Dalija, Ethan and Benjamin. Mr. Dulaney was the former owner of Fairfax Hardware for many years, and was a US Army veteran. The family will receive friends at the EVERLY FUNERAL HOME on Wednesday, June 16, 2010 from 5 to 8 p.m. where a Lion's Service will be said at 7:30 p.m. Funeral services will be on Thursday at 11 a.m. Interment will be private. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be made to the Fairfax Host Lion's Club Charities, PO box 98, Fairfax, VA 22038

New Member Orientation

On April 15, Fairfax Lions held an orientation for two prospective members. As is customary, attendees enjoyed breakfast first, then conducted the orientation.



Pictured above, soon-to-be new Lions:
Don Beyer (L), G Sanchez (R)



April 25th Board Meeting

The Board noted the pending closure of Vienna Host Lions Club (due to decline in active members). Possibly, some active Vienna Lions will move their membership to Fairfax, and continue to serve!

Five Fairfax Lions are late (by at least 180 days) in payment of dues; per club policy, each will receive a letter from the Club. All members: please pay your dues in a timely fashion. Our precious “admin account” (which largely comes from members dues) shows a steadily declining balance; a committee is examining the situation to propose, at the May Board meeting, possible adjustments to dues, etc. (All members are welcome to attend the May Board meeting.)

This year, FHLC delivered 9610 pair of donated eyeglasses to the Lions EyeGlass Recycling Center.

The Board approved charity disbursements: \$600 to Lions Clubs International Foundation; \$1000 to Food for Others; and \$800 for our Reading Action program (that provides books for children). The Board agreed to “ear-mark” \$5000 from this year’s charity revenue to use for the Club’s 75th Anniversary Charity Project (in 3 years). The Club welcomes all ideas for such major project.

May Events

May 1 - May Day, the return of Spring

May 2 - Dinner Meeting (Topic: Genealogy Basics)

May 3 - ISCC Meeting

May 4 - Lions Lunch Bunch: (Qs? [email Lion Bill](#))

May 5 - Cinco de Mayo, Mexican army victory over over French army at Battle of Puebla, 1862

May 14 - Mother's Day

May 16 - Dinner Meeting

May 20 - Armed Forces Day

May 23 - Board Meeting

May 29 - [Memorial Day](#): last Monday in May, originally called Decoration Day, to memorialize veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Fairfax City Inter-Service Club Council (ISCC)

ISCC reports that Inova Medical will now make “House Calls” for certain individuals (Geriatrics and Advanced Illness). Details at: <https://www.inova.org/our-services/senior-services-inova/medical-house-calls>

Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce

No news to report.

Lions Information...

Report from Food for Others

SNAP into Action with Food for Others

"People are having to choose between putting food on the table and paying rent," Erin Pulling, CEO of Food Bank of the Rockies, told CBS Colorado. "We are seeing more people than ever needing help with food assistance."

The cold days are beginning to melt away as signs of spring appear! Activity here at Food for Others continues to increase along with the demand in our community. The COVID-era emergency allotment for SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) participants ended mid- March. March 16th marked the first SNAP distribution without this additional support. There are over 25,000 families that are impacted by the change in benefits, many receiving up to \$250 less per month in support. Food banks and pantries across the country are preparing for the uptick in demand as families adjust the changes. Food for Others was

recently featured in a Washington Post article addressing the 'Hunger Cliff' that families are facing with the end of the COVID-era benefits. In the words of Food for Others Executive Director, Annie Turner, "We'll be ready." Check out The Washington Post article below to learn more: <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/local-families-face-hunger-cliff-as-pandemic-era-food-assistance-ends/ar-AA17Mbgq?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=baa9b5d0-3f91-4675-8740-0955a379e57b>

Miscellaneous Info...

How Did The Month Of May Get Its Name?

Many Thanks to Lion Joe Breda for suggesting this monthly topic as a Newsletter feature

"May" may seem like a simple name, but its origin is fairly complex and interesting.

What does May mean? The fifth month of the Gregorian calendar, May, is the fifth month of the year, and contains 31 days. The name for the month of May (and with the rest of the months of the year) comes from Latin. (Thank the Romans for instituting the modern calendar.)

May entered English in the 1050s. It developed from the Old English Maius, borrowed directly from

the Latin Maius, short for Maius mēnsis, “Maia’s month.” But who is Maia? The Greek goddess Maia was one of the Pleiades, the companions of Artemis, goddess of the hunt. This Maia was the mother of Hermes, the messenger of the Gods. But the Romans had yet another goddess named Maia, who just happened to share a name with the Greek goddess.

The Greek goddess became conflated with the Roman Maia Majesta, a goddess of fertility and spring—appropriate for the growth and increase we see in the month of May.

The Greek name Maia comes from a root meaning “mother, nurse, midwife.” The Roman Maia appears to be related to magnus, meaning “great” and source of such words as magnify.

May vs. may: That there is the month, May; the auxiliary verb, may, is a small linguistic coincidence, not a meaningful overlap. The verb may came from the Old English mæg, ultimately related to a Germanic root meaning “to be able, to be strong, to have power.”

A native Old English name for the fifth month of the year was primilce. It literally meant “three milkings,” apparently because it was touted that the

cows were so productive in ancient England that they could be milked three times per day.

When you think of May, you may think of flowers, spring, and great weather. May is a month of spring in the Northern Hemisphere, and autumn in the Southern Hemisphere. Therefore, May in the Southern Hemisphere is the seasonal equivalent of November in the Northern Hemisphere and vice versa. Late May typically marks the start of the summer vacation season in the United States (Memorial Day) and Canada (Victoria Day) that ends on Labor Day, the first Monday of September. Other facts:

- Taurus season ends and Gemini season begins in May—usually around May 21.
- May's birthstone is the emerald - emblematic of love and success.
- The proverb 'April showers bring May flowers' dates back to at least the 1500s!
- May 4 is a day Star Wars fans tend to celebrate. May the force be with you!
- And, Cinco de Mayo is May 5.

Do You Remember Yuri Gagarin?

The little girl who found Yuri Gagarin

By Bill Murphy, April 12, 2023

Sixty-two years ago today, a 5-year-old girl in Russia earned her footnote in history.

Meet Rita Nurskanova, who was planting potatoes with her grandmother on a farm a few hundred miles south of Moscow, just after 11 a.m. on Wednesday April 12, 1961.

Then, "something orange and beautiful" appeared in the sky, she later recalled. It landed nearby:

"I didn't know what it was. It was coming toward us. Granny was frightened. She grabbed my hand ...

He yelled at us: 'Ladies, stop! I'm one of our guys!'

I said, 'Granny, stop! He's probably human!'"

The orange stranger? Maybe you can guess: Yuri Gagarin, a 27-year-old Soviet Air Force pilot-turned-cosmonaut, who had just ejected from his Vostock-1 capsule, after becoming the first human being in space.

I love this anecdote because it highlights just how uncoordinated early space flight was, out of necessity. Other points paint a similar picture:

Gagarin's space helmet had "CCCP" on it, but it had been blank until just before launch, when an engineer hand-painted the letters. His reasoning: They couldn't predict where Gagarin would land (as the Rita story shows), so they wanted to reduce the risk of some farmer thinking he was a spy and shooting him.

Why couldn't they predict the landing? The Soviets at the time of launch had only a 50% success rate on getting rockets into orbit! Add together a human launch, an orbit, escape from orbit, and return to Earth, and the odds of everything going according to plan were small. In fact, there were many near-misses during the flight, but these were covered up for decades.

There was no advance public notice of the launch (see above; 50%+ chance of failure). But, the Soviet news agency, TASS, announced the story while Gagarin was in orbit, so no foreign government announced it first.

There was no backup for the single retrorocket on the capsule to get Gagarin back to Earth, so he

carried 13 days worth of food and water in case he had to wait for the orbit to decay naturally. It's a good thing the retrorocket worked, because the Russians later realized that their math was wrong; it would have taken 20 days. Gagarin might have made it to space, only to die of thirst waiting to return!

Gagarin's life story up until 1961 was highly improbable; he'd lived through the Nazi occupation of his village as a child during World War II, and was beaten by the Germans for refusing to work after they sent his brothers to a slave labor camp. Later, when he joined the air force, he nearly washed out of flight school because he was too short to see out of the cockpit of a MiG-15 trainer. (Eventually, they let him use a cushion.)

The mission itself lasted only a total of 1 hour and 48 minutes, from launch to ejection. Gagarin spent more time in the capsule on the launchpad waiting for the countdown than he actually did in space. And, upon landing, he had no way to contact Moscow; the first thing he asked Rita and her grandmother for was help finding a telephone. (They initially offered him a horse to go find the nearest phone.)



Afterward, Gagarin became an international hero, despite the Cold War. The New York Times reported it as a tremendous achievement, President Kennedy offered congratulations, and Adlai Stevenson (the US ambassador to the UN), and Gagarin went on a world tour.

My educated guess is that Gagarin's ready smile and the fact that he was very small and not physically intimidating (only 5 feet 2 inches) made him easier for the world to accept. All of the early

cosmonauts were small people, simply because it takes less power to lift a capsule into space if it's designed for a small person.

But, only five days after Gagarin's flight, the Cold War got colder: the U.S. backed a failed effort to overthrow the government of Cuba (the Bay of Pigs Invasion), and the next year Kennedy announced the mission to beat the Soviets to the moon. A month after that speech, we had the Cuban Missile Crisis, and the space race was on in full force.

Gagarin only went to space the one time; the Soviets feared a mishap that could take the international hero's life. Ironically, in 1968 only weeks after he was cleared to fly jets here on Earth, he died in a crash of a MiG-15—a jet similar to the one in which he'd nearly washed out of flight school.

I wonder how many people alive today under the age of say, 40, would know who Gagarin was, or could identify the first person of any nationality in space? Fame is fleeting; although I suspect we'll see a real resurgence of interest in the next few years, as the first astronauts in more than 50 years return to the moon.

And, of course, a 66-year-old woman still living in Russia remembers: "I think I was very lucky to be

the first to greet him," Rita Nurskanova said, "that I was in that field, planting potatoes with Granny."

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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