

Fairfax Lions Club News

June 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 —

May 21st HorizonWALKS to Benefit Childhood Cancer Camp

A big “Thank You” to Lion Judith Richter-Murphy for organizing the “You Matter” team for the May 21st walk at National Harbor, to help raise \$ for children with cancer to attend camp. See Judith’s team at [page](#).



**Lions Jeff Root Judith
Richter-Murphy,
Maureen Johnson**



**“You
Matter”
Team**



Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center (LERC)

PCC Bill Bartlett reports that all renovation work has been completed in the facility for the new Northern VA Eyeglass Recycling Center. PCC Wilma Murphy, LERC president, has organized a group to pick up construction debris. An open house is scheduled for Saturday, June 24. A food truck will serve barbecue.



This Northern VA ERC replaces the facility that had been used successfully for many years - until 2019. It will host the recycling processes that will convert thousands of donated eyeglasses each year into serviceable eyeglasses to go with medical mission teams around the world. Fairfax Lions have volunteered at the ERC for many, many years.

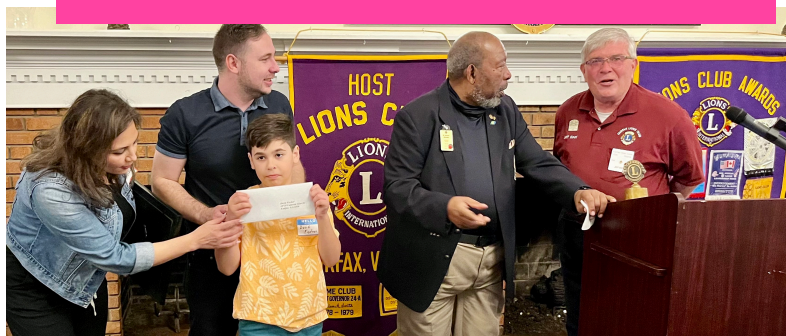
More about ERC at: <http://lercnova.org/>

VA Lions Eye Institute Fn Scholarship

Thanks to the coordination of Lion Jeff Root, David Fischer - a 4th grader at Providence Elementary School - accepted his VLEIF Scholarship from VLEIF President Woody Woodward at our Club meeting on May 16th.



VLEIF President Woody Woodward presents scholarship and cash award to David Fischer



Lions Club Charity Fund Raising

SERVICE DEPENDS ON CHARITY FUNDS

None.

Club Meetings

May 2nd Dinner Meeting

KL Greg open the meeting by reading a thank-you note from District Governor Rose Burrus for being invited to our recent Charter Night celebration.



Lion Gregory,

I wanted to thank you and your club members for making our visitation so wonderful. It was nice to see familiar faces and to meet new ones. Food was delicious and the venue was beautiful. We do so appreciate you having us share in your club's special celebration. And, I got to take home beautiful flowers and a nice pen. Your club will continue to do great things —

Regards

DG Rose & Lion Wally

The global leader in humanitarian service.

www.lionsclubs.org

Our guest speaker at his meeting, Nancy Loe (by Zoom, from San Luis Obispo, California) is a professional librarian, archivist, and genealogist. Nancy specializes in US and European Genealogy Research, has assisted hundreds of people with their family research in the US, Norway, Sweden, Scotland, Germany, Prussia (Poland), and other European countries. She has a useful website, an online blog, a monthly newsletter, published many e-books on genealogy topics, and she provides expert guidance on information management to help genealogists search smart, find more records, and organize the results.

A world class genealogist, Nancy gave a wonderful presentation at the FX Lions Club meeting on May 2nd. She spoke about basic resources to discover our family roots and define family ancestry.

Nancy provided the information shown on the next page; be sure to visit her web page at <https://www.sassyjanegenealogy.com/> for more information about genealogy.

Genealogy Treasure Chest Links

© Nancy E. Loe, MA MLS |

SassyJaneGenealogy.com Discover free and subscription websites for US and state censuses, vital records, newspapers, and military records.

1. Top US Resources Online & In Person

Free Sites	Subscription Sites	Brick & Mortar
FamilySearch.org	ancestry.com	County Courthouses
ChroniclingAmerica.loc.gov	newspapers.com	Public Libraries
ACPLGenealogyCenter.org	fold3.com	State Archives
CyndisList.com	FindMyPast.com	National Archives
linkpendium.com	AmericanAncestors.com	Library of Congress
FindaGrave.com	MyHeritage.com	Family History Centers
USGenWeb.org	GenealogyBank.com	Local Historical Societies

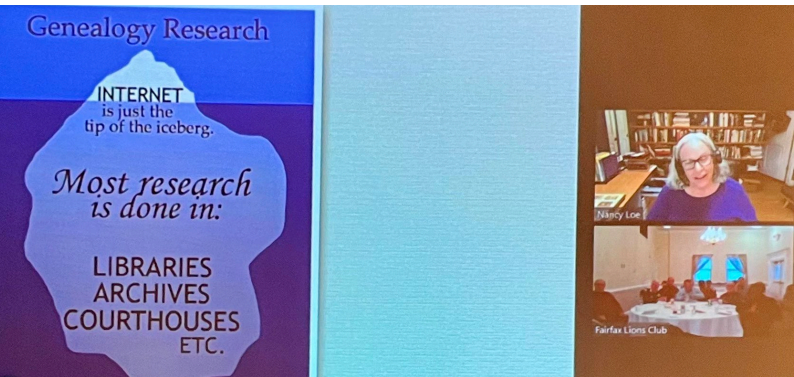
2. Additional Resources

Nancy Loe's website, SassyJaneGenealogy.com, helps you search smart and find more ancestors. You can subscribe to her free [monthly newsletter](#) and discover [eBooks on US and European genealogy research](#).

She also provides expert guidance on managing genealogy research and records. She has presented

at the National Genealogical Society, RootsTech, and Legacy Family Tree, and to genealogists in the US, Canada, and Australia. It keeps her out of the pool halls after a misspent youth in academe. Nancy had visited seven of the eight ancestral villages of her great-grandparents before COVID. Sweden is still on her list. Contact her at nancy@sassyjanegenealogy.com.

One point in Nancy's talk: on-line research is available and easy, but - it is only the tip of the genealogy iceberg.



Also at this meeting, PCC Bill Bartlett led our Club to induct its newest Club member, G Sanchez. New Lion G has participated already in many Lions activities.

Lion Bill Bartlett Presents New Member Certificate



G Sanchez Tells the Lions Club About Himself



G used the time offered to make personal remarks, and told us about living all over the world due to his Mom's job, and he looks forward to his service as a Lion.



As Sponsor, KL Greg also received a certificate

After the dinner meeting, a special committee met - at the direction of the Board - to consider potential changes to quarterly membership dues. Our fixed costs (LCI & State dues, etc) are increasing, and the Club is running a declining balance in the Admin Account. It is useful to recall, the previous club business model (before COVID) assured a healthy admin account, because members paid quarterly club dues including the cost of meals - whether they ate meals or not. During COVID, with

no dinner meetings, the club changed quarterly billing to bill only for meals actually consumed (because of no dinner meetings/meals, during COVID). We continue to operate under that model, and the admin account has no “reserve” revenue. (See the more under “**Board Meeting.**”)

Afterward, a few members adjourned to the downstairs cafe to get adjusted for Cinco de Mayo.



Tuning up for
Cinco de Mayo

May 16th Dinner Meeting

Our meeting opened with presentation of the VLEIF Scholarship grant to David Fischer (as noted earlier in the newsletter).



1VP Jim Kaplan Welcomes Claudia, Joshua and David Fischer to the meeting.

Our guest speaker, Dr Ahmed Nasrullah, spoke to us about eye health. Dr Nasrullah is recognized as one the “Top Ophthalmologists” in the US, and has performed eye surgery on our club members! See [Link](#)



One point Dr Nisarullah made was: in the US, eye care availability can be like healthy food availability. There are grocery store “deserts,” and eye care “deserts;” those occur in geographical areas where incomes are low. He challenged Lions to



KL Greg Thanks Dr Nisarullah for his wonderful talk

explore the possibility of providing glaucoma screening in such areas, as a means to alert people to seek eye treatment early - before it is too late for vision-saving care.

After the meeting, a few members adjourned to downstairs to check out the product offerings.



Quality Control Sampling by Lions Harry P, Mike R, Cory G, Joe B, and Gordon T

May 23rd Board Meeting

DUES REVIEW: For a number of years, Fairfax Lions have paid regular club membership dues of \$33 per quarter. The Board approved an increase in FHLC dues (for regular members) to \$50 per quarter.

Student and family member dues will also increase, from \$25 per quarter to \$42 per quarter.

CLOSING OF VIENNA LIONS CLUB: The Vienna Host Lions Club is closing and had requested to merge with Fairfax Host Lions Club. Such a merger would require a change to the FHLC name, and also a new Club constitution and by-laws. The Board did not accept the merger requested and instead approved accepting individual Vienna Lions into FHLC without a club merger. It is likely, for FHLC advertising, FHLC will include words such as “Fairfax Host Lions Club (serving Fairfax, Vienna, and Centreville).”

June Events

Jun 1 - Lions Lunch Bunch: (Qs? [email Lion Bill](#))

Jun 6 - Dinner Meeting (VA Senator Chap Peterson)

Jun 7 - ISCC Meeting

Jun 14 - Flag Day 

Jun 14 - [Birthday of the US Army](#)

Jun 18 - Father's Day

Jun 19 - Junteenth (Freedom or Emancipation Day - emancipation of last enslaved African Americans)

Jun 20 - Voting Day...VA Primary Elections ([link](#))
(Nov 7 is VA General Election day)

Jun 20 - Dinner Meeting (Install New Officers)

Jun 21 - [2023 Summer Solstice](#)

Jun 24 - Eyeglass Recycling Center Open House

Jun 27 - Joint Board Meeting (new & old Boards)

Fairfax City Inter-Service Club Council (ISCC)

The ISCC

met May 3rd at the Centreville Moose Lodge (located in Fairfax City). The ISCC continues to work to get new signs from all service clubs, to go on sign boards at the entry points to Fairfax City.

Our Lions Club signs are ready to install!



Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce

CFCC published their latest Community Guide (see photo of the cover), and it's good to see our club listed in the group of Non-profits.

Fairfax Lions Club

Dinner Meetings: American Legion Post 177

Fairfax, VA 22030

(703) 879-5795

www.fairfaxlions.org



(Note - the clock on the cover was donated by Fairfax Rotary Club, and stands in the park by the Old Town Hall.)

Lions Information...

Fairfax Lions' "Shed"

Our Club's operations have many facets. One such is the "Shed." Fairfax Lions Club rents a local storage space; we call it the "shed." It's for Club equipment...primarily, the equipment used to operate charity fund raises (Independence Day hot dog stand, Fall Festival food booth, and annual fruit sales). Lions involved in those events have keys to the shed, and we visit the shed to load-out and then re-store equipment after use. The next fund raiser is the Independence Day hot dog stand, which requires grills, tables, tents, and other items in the shed.

PHOTOS of the Shed

NEXT PAGE



Upper Left -
Entry door to
Lions Shed

Lower - Inside;
note “steps” for
fruit sale van,
trailer with grills
for food
booths, tables,
signage, etc



Lions State Convention, April 27-30

by Lion Jeff Root

The 100th Virginia Lions State Convention was held on April 27-30 in Bristol. The Guest of Honor was International Director Ken Ibarra from San Bruno, California. Escorting ID Ken was International Director Jay Moughan from the Clifton Lions. Past Council Chair Bill Smith and Lion Jeff Root represented the Fairfax Lions.

Highlights of the Convention included the Pin Traders Luncheon, the World Induction Ceremony, the James Bland Music Contest, and the Convention Banquet. At the banquet, Lion Shirley Eye of the Fredericksburg Host Lions Club and Lion Chuck Schwab of the Broadway Lions Club were awarded the International Presidential and Leadership Awards.

Delegates elected the following 24-L officers for 2023-2024:

District Governor: Donalda Lovelace, Lake of the Woods Lioness Lions Club

First Vice District Governor: Jim Cech, Montclair Lions Club

Second Vice District Governor: Dan Visone, Aquia Harbour Host Lions Club

In addition, delegates passed an amendment to the MD24 Constitution/By-Laws.

The State Convention is always a great opportunity to renew old friendships and bolster enthusiasm for Lionism. Next year's State Convention is scheduled for April 22-25 in Reston.



**International Director Ken Ibarra with PCC
and Fairfax Lion Bill Smith**

Miscellaneous Info...

What's Up With the Name "June?"

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

June is a great month...school's out; days are longer; weather's warm; gardens are planted; vacations begin; and many weddings occur.

In ancient Rome, ***Iunius*** was the fourth month of their 10-month calendar. Iunius, a Latin word, means "of Juno." ***Juno*** was a powerful ancient Italian deity...protector of Rome, wife of Jupiter, queen of gods, and goddess of marriage, childbirth, and fertility. ***June*** took over with the spread of Christianity in England in the Middle Ages.

In the US, the female name June was popular in the early twentieth century. In 1925, June was the 39th most popular name for a baby girl...the spot held today by Hannah. The name June was not as popular the rest of the century, but was among the top 200 most popular girls names in 2020. It remains a popular name for girl born in the month of June.

June is the month we honor our fathers with Father's Day on the third Sunday in June and commemorate the emancipation of the last

enslaved African Americans on Juneteenth (June 19). The whole month of June is Pride Month, in celebration of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people - and the history, culture, and contributions of these people and their communities. June 14 is Flag Day, the anniversary of the day in 1777 when Congress adopted the Stars and Stripes as the national flag of the US.

Flag Day - June 14th

Flag Day commemorates adoption of the US flag on June 14, 1777, by resolution of the Second Continental Congress, stating: "Resolved, That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation."

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation establishing June 14 as Flag Day. On Aug 3, 1949, National Flag Day was established by Congress (Flag Day is not an official federal holiday). The Star-Spangled Banner Flag House in Baltimore is the birthplace of the 1813 flag that inspired Francis

Scott Key to pen his famous poem in the early morning hours of September 14, 1814.



US Flag Day poster from 1917: patriot raises the American-13 star flag

What's the Rumberg Artist Up to?

Lion Mike's better-half, Marisella, is an accomplished artist...see her [webpage](#)

Marisella invites you to a special exhibit in June, with the opening reception on Saturday, June 10, 6-9 pm at the Workhouse Arts Center. The exhibit is called "Alebrije Skin."

Alebrijes are mystical "guardian spirits" in Mexican culture. These imaginary creatures combine elements from different animals, for example, dragon bodies, butterfly wings and rabbit



ears. Colorfully painted, they were originally made using the ancient Mexican paper-making form of cartoneria. Today they are usually made of paper-mache and sometimes carved from wood.

Exhibit: Workhouse Arts Center - Building W6, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton VA, 22079

99 Red Balloons

An opinionated editorial

In 1983, amidst the heat of the Cold War and the doctrine of mutually assured destruction, President Reagan started the “Star Wars” program to build a weapons system to defeat Russian ICBMs. Tensions rose - because USSR could not compete. That same year, German singer [Nena](#) released a hit song: *99 Luftballons*, about an accidental nuclear war. In 1984, the English version - *99 Red Balloons* - was a hit in the US. The lyrics....

*You and I in a little toy shop
Buy a bag of balloons with the money we've got
Set them free at the break of dawn
'Til one by one, they were gone*

*Back at base, bugs in the software
Flash the message, "Something's out there!"
Floating in the summer sky
Ninety-nine red balloons go by*

*Ninety-nine red balloons
Floating in the summer sky
Panic bells, it's red alert!
There's something here from somewhere else!*

The war machine springs to life

*Opens up one eager eye
Focusing it on the sky
When ninety-nine red balloons go by*

*99 Decision Street
Ninety-nine ministers meet
To worry, worry, super-scurry
Call the troops out in a hurry*

*This is what we've waited for
This is it, boys, this is war
The president is on the line
As ninety-nine red balloons go by*

*Ninety-nine knights of the air
Ride super high-tech jet fighters
Everyone's a superhero
Everyone's a "Captain Kirk"*

*With orders to identify
To clarify and classify
Scramble in the summer sky
Ninety-nine red balloons go by*

As ninety-nine red balloons go by

*Ninety-nine dreams I have had
In every one, a red balloon
It's all over and I'm standin' pretty*

*In this dust that was a city
If I could find a souvenir
Just to prove the world was here*

*And here is a red balloon
I think of you, and let it go...*

Hear Nena sign “99 Red Balloons” at this [link](#).

Since the August of 1945 Japanese surrender, after being atomic-bombed, tons of money has been spent on ever more and better nuclear weapons. We have seen scares, threats, alerts, and DEFCON warnings of nuclear war. Possibly the closest we came to full nuclear war was in the Cuban Missile Crises...did you know, on Oct 27, 1962, the commander of a Soviet submarine attempted to fire a nuclear-tipped torpedo when he believed (mistakenly) his sub had been attacked by a US warship? That would likely have caused a major global thermonuclear response (WW III?). But, another Soviet officer onboard, Vasily Arkhipov, was able to counter the command. Whew - close; thank you Vasily...read about him: [Vasily Arkhipov](#). Over time, nine incidents are surmised to have taken us close to the brink of nuclear war - read [here](#).

Recently, we have seen Chinese spy balloons (not 99 balloons, and none red), North Korean bluster and missile demonstrations, China's threats to Taiwan, Putin's warnings to the West over Ukraine, and this past month a flaky exploding drone seemingly aimed at the Kremlin. Putin's Army is on thin ice, and *possibly* he might do anything to avoid loss of face/power. Was that flaky drone actually a Russian ruse - a deception tactic to provide "cover" for Putin to employ weapons of mass destruction to blunt the coming Ukraine spring offensive, which many think may limit or end Russia's special military operation?

Bottom line: "Red Balloons" are all around us. We must hope and pray - and vote - for national leaders that exhibit sanity, reason, and calming words. Our survival is not free. It requires: strong unified national commitment spoken with reason (and with aa unified national voice); reliable alliances; close attention to expert intelligence, and shrewd advisers; constant diplomacy; strong talk (but not bluster) when needed - backed up by credible capabilities; and also words (and actions) showing respect for our fellow man. With nuclear weapons across the world, we cannot afford less.

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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Since 1951