

# Fairfax Lions Club News

## August 2024

- Fairfax Lions, Serving Since 1951 -

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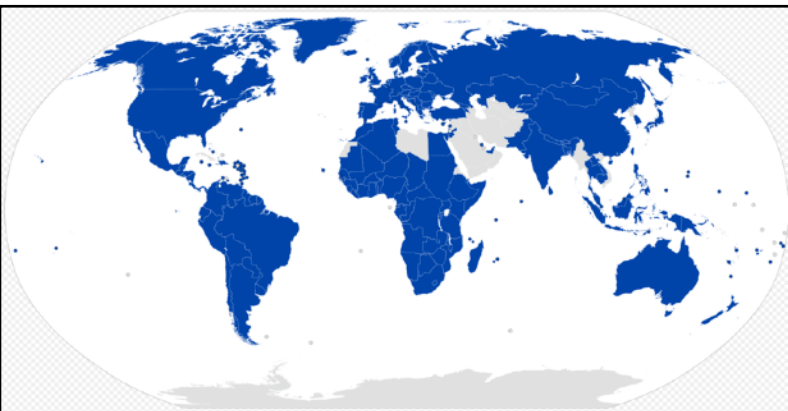
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**WE SERVE THE WORLD AND OUR  
LOCAL COMMUNITY WITH PRIDE,  
COMPASSION AND KINDNESS**

— We Serve —

International Lions News



**BLUE Areas:** Countries & territories in which Lions International has one or more projects running

(source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lions\\_Clubs\\_International](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lions_Clubs_International))

## Instagram Post by Lions Clubs of Somalia



Some people think of The Federal Republic of Somalia (situated on the horn of Africa) as a tough place.

It's interesting the long arm of Lionism extends there.

“We Serve,” world-wide.

## Eyeglass Recycling

Lions Greg & Karen DeRosa and Scott Dulaney collect and deliver

donated eyeglasses to the Recycling Center in Arlington. This month, delivering 1,848 pair of eyeglasses, Mrs DeRosa (Greg's mom) helped.

Photo on right - Ms DeRosa gracefully moves box of donated eyeglasses.



## Red Cross Blood Drive

*By Lion Bill Szymanski*

The Fairfax Host Lions are sponsoring an American Red Cross Blood Drive at Providence Presbyterian Church on Tuesday, September 17, 1pm - 6pm. Address: 9019 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax, VA 22031.

We hope the timing of the blood drive will make participation possible for club members who are on a work schedule.

If you are able to donate the precious gift of blood, I encourage you to make an appointment by going to American Red Cross website <https://www.redcrossblood.org/mydrives.html/drive/1-EAB9FFG> and register using the sponsor code: FAIRFAXLIONSVA. (You need an ARC ID to sign-in.)

## **— Charity Fund Raising —**

**SERVICE DEPENDS ON CHARITY FUNDS**

## July 4th Hot Dog Stand

The weather was hot, we had a great time, saw a good parade, showed our colors to our community, and we raised money for our charity programs. All good!



(Above) Everything sets up quickly

(Below) Fire Marshall checks grills/fire extinguishers





(Left) Food Inspector sanitation check  
(Right) QC Lion Gary checks food quality



Before the  
parade starts  
Lions Judith,  
Cindy, Ben  
walk the  
street & sell  
water





(Above) Lion Tom fires up the grill  
(Below) Lion Harry monitors food prep

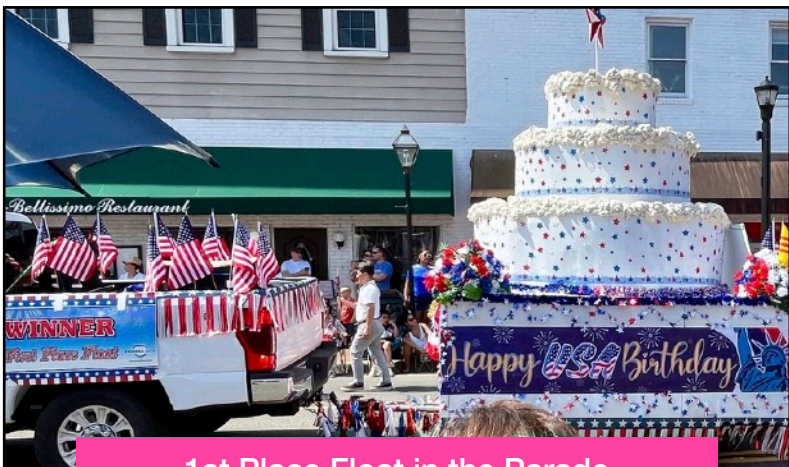




Good Turnout: A great Team makes it all happen!



Lion Don sells to early customer "Nate"  
who buys from us EVERY YEAR!!!



1st Place Float in the Parade



Line forms to buy dogs!



Lion Judith  
Advertises sales!

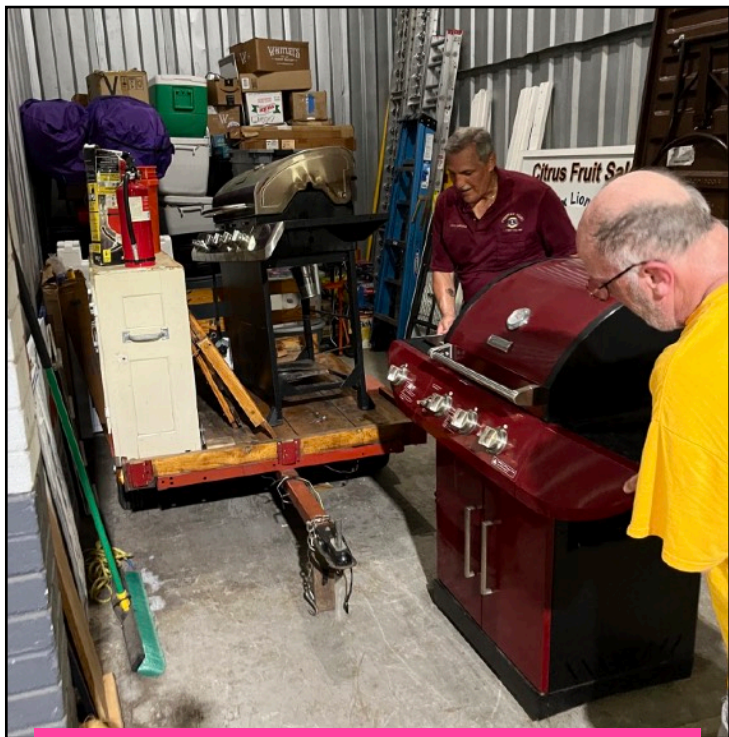
Lions Cindy & Ben  
Note: "rubber ducky"  
earrings





We sell out...of most everything...  
Success! And pack up.





Equipment goes back to the Club's storage shed; another successful July 4th Food Sale complete!

July 3:  
Team  
Loads  
U-Haul at  
the “Shed”



FYI: This is where  
FHLC rents a  
storage unit (“the  
shed”) to store our  
equipment

Preliminary Treasurer’s report: Gross sales & tips totaled \$927.00. By comparison, last year’s gross was \$858. (Final net for the Charity account awaits expenses.) As we say: this event is fun, and we enjoy good community exposure!



## Fosters Grille Fund Raiser

On the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 20% of all spending (based on receipts in the cashier's "Lions Box") goes to Fairfax Lions Charities.



Nice bunch of nice Fairfax Lions at Fosters, July 9th

## Fruit Sales

Our Club's Nov & Dec fruit sales are the primary source of our charity funds. They enable all our Services. The committee is beginning to plan the sales - would you like to help? Contact Lion co-chairs [Joe Rovanseck](#) or [Gordon Tillery](#). We can use your ideas and help! Info Tech-savvy folks to help operate Square point-of-sale boxes at the sales site at especially welcome!

## Club Meetings

### Dinner Meeting - July 16th

Our first dinner meeting of the new Lions year featured an outstanding speaker - Rob Calhelha, a Civil War reenactor. 1st VP Cory Green and Rob work in the same TSA organization, and Rob agreed to speak - showing up in full uniform as a Private of the [2nd Wisconsin Infantry](#) of the Union Army. That regiment spent most of the Civil War in the "Iron Brigade" of the Army of the Potomac, and suffered the largest number of casualties (by percentage of total enlistment) of any Union Army unit.



Hardtack

Private Calhelha  
2nd Wisconsin Infantry

Rob discussed his weapon (1861 Springfield musket with bayonet) and equipment, and explained early military insignia - such as the solid red circle



[Manual of Arms](#)

badge on his hat identifying 1 Corps (1st Division). He discussed horrors of warfare and the primeval

field medicine at that time (if wounded, the most likely treatment was amputation), and the very large numbers of soldiers killed - especially in the [Battle of the Wilderness](#).

Ron also brought samples of the standard food that foot soldiers carried, [hardtack](#) and [salt pork](#).





Club President and Queen Lion Karen presented Rob the customary speakers gift from our club.

We heard a report from the fruit sale committee... the committee will meet 6-630pm, just before club dinner meetings, on Aug 6, 20, &

Sep 3.

Lion Bill Szymanski gave a report on the next American Red Cross Blood Drive our Club is hosting on Sep 17th (for more info, see page 3 of this newsletter).

## **Board Meeting - July 23rd**

Guests are welcome at FHLC Board meetings, and Lions Phil Hendrickson and Joe Rovanseck attended this meeting.

Reports included:



- We have received our 2024 City of Fairfax Business License, required for us to operate as a non-profit organization.
- We received thank you letters for our charity donations to Foundation Fighting Blindness, and Sprout.
- A rising senior at Woodson HS contacted the Club, asking about service projects. While club membership is probably not appropriate (but Leo membership may be) we will be sure to invite the student to participate in fund raising and service projects ahead, and invite peers at Woodson also!
- Secretary will serve "Visitation Coordinator," to provide information of opportunities, and record member visits to other clubs. (Should a member plan a visit, Jeff has Club Banners to take.)
- Our club-held IT accounts (those controlling our Domain Name - [fairfaxlions.org](https://fairfaxlions.org); Web Site; and Fruit Sale advertising, messaging, sales and inventory) are in the process of transferring to different club members. There is always something you can do to help your Club!
- Committees are beginning to plan our Holiday party (December), Charter Night (April), and our 75th Anniversary Service Project (2026).

## **August Dates**

- Aug 6 - FHLC Dinner meeting (DG Jim Cech visit)
- Aug 7 - Fairfax City Volunteer-of-the-Year Ceremony
- Aug 13 - Lions "Dining for Dollars," at Fosters Grille
- Aug 20 - FHLC Dinner meeting
- Aug 27 - Board Meeting (all welcome)

## **Coming Up - Mark your calendars**

- Sep 15 - Club picnic!!! [Paradise Springs Winery](#)
- Sep 17 - FX Lions Blood Drive (see Page 3)
- Oct 12 - Fall Festival fund raiser
- Nov 21-23 - Club's 1st Fruit Sale
- Dec 19-21 - Club's 2nd Fruit Sale

## **Fairfax City Inter-Service Club Council**

ISCC has adjourned until September. The ISCC signature event - the Volunteer of the Year Ceremony to acknowledge member organization volunteers of the year, is at 7:30pm, Wednesday, August 7th at the Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center on Blenheim Blvd in Fairfax. All welcome. Lite snacks served. Please arrive by 7:15pm

## **Club Marketing**

With the great speaker lined up by 1VP Cory Green, for the July 16 dinner meeting, we posted the

ad (below) on the Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce Events calendar...we tried, no guests showed.



Find out more about Fairfax Lions Club  
and our Community Service

About Fairfax Lions Club



Fairfax Lions are men & women of all ages, from all walks of life. We bridge religious, political, economic & social boundaries. We want to make a difference by contributing our time & talents to help others!

**Civil War Re-enactor to speak, Lions Club Dinner  
Mtg July 16**

Post

Share

Fairfax Lions meet monthly on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, with buffet dinner and speaker. The July 16th speaker is a Civil War re-enactor who will be in his blue uniform with equipment. All are welcome. Please RSVP by email to [info@fairfaxlions.org](mailto:info@fairfaxlions.org)

Follow our [Instagram Account](#) & [Web Page](#) !

## Spouse News

Thanks to  
Lion Jeff Root  
for passing on  
this news...

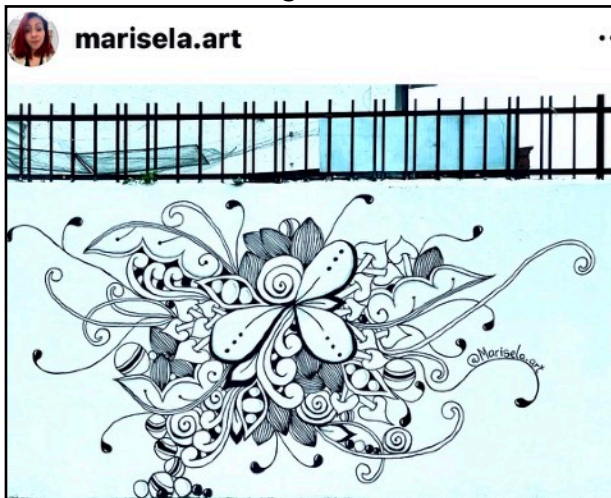
Marisela  
Rumberg,  
spouse of Lion  
Treasurer Mike,  
has completed  
a wall mural in

Mesepec, Mexico. Photo above with artist Marisela  
with mural in background.



#MariselaMurals

#MetepecMural



 **marisela.art**

Photo on  
left - the  
mural.

Both  
photos are  
from  
Marisela's  
Instagram  
page.



## Surplus Equipment

FHLC owns a small 2-wheel trailer, stored in our “shed.” It was hand built several years ago by a club members, Bill Trent among them. Its purpose has always been to transport grills to fund raising events, like July 4th hot dog sales. It holds two grills, and has built-in cabinets for grilling supplies. We no longer use the trailer, because it is hard to find a volunteer with a trailer hitch. We now rent a UHaul to move equipment.



**Last used: July 4, 2023**



The trailer remains in the shed.  
Any ideas what to do with this trailer?  
Email: [tilleryg@gmail.com](mailto:tilleryg@gmail.com)

## Guess Who?

### Hints:

- Born July 28, 1935 in Crow Wing, Minnesota
- Past President FX Lions Club
- Yearbook photo, Oregon State University, 1960



## Answer to Previous Month's "Guess Who"

### Hints:

- Born in Pittsburgh, 1934; Died 2014
- Past President FX Lions Club
- Yearbook Photo - South Hills HS, 1952



### ANSWER:

Congrats to Lion Spouse Terry Breda, who was the first person to guess correctly (others



also guessed correctly)...the pictured person from Pittsburgh is George Mocharko. George graduated from Univ of Pittsburgh with BS in electrical engineering. His career as a petroleum engineer spanned working for Columbia Gas, Consumers Power, and the

US Department of Transportation. He retired in 2001 from the National Transportation Safety Board, as an investigator for the pipeline safety division. He and his wife, Linda Mocharko, were



married 47 years. George was Fairfax Lions Club President 1997-98, a great Lion, and friend to all. If you knew George, you remember every New Year's Eve he would invite us to a dinner dance hosted by his church, where George brought down a Polish polka band & buffet dinner from PA. Bill Bartlett said with his guess, "at least I still recognized my long time friend George."

## Membership

New club members **on rare occasions** seek us out by our web page contact info, or some other way.

But, by far, the best way to find new members is for YOU to invite a friend or acquaintance to a dinner meeting, or to help as a volunteer at a Club event. For example, relatively new Lion Tom Hewlett (1VP

Cory Green's brother-in-law) helped at several of the October Fall Festival fund raisers, and at fruit sales, and finally decided to become a member. Think about our Club as you engage with friends and neighbors, and invite one! Alert membership chair Lion Stephen Bilowus at [sbilowus@gmail.com](mailto:sbilowus@gmail.com) so we can have folks prepared to talk to your guest.



**Volunteer Tom Hewlett (on the right) serves beer at FX Lions booth for October Fest 2023. Tom joined our club in April 2024.**

## Miscellaneous Info...

### The “Dog Days” of Summer



“Dog Days” refers to a period of hot & humid weather in July & August, in the Northern Hemisphere. In ancient Greece and Rome, the Dog Days were believed to be a time of drought, bad luck, and unrest, when dogs and men alike could be driven mad by extreme heat! The phrase doesn’t infer such bleak imagery, today, but Dog Days are associated with summer’s peak temperatures and humidity.

This period of sweltering weather generally coincides with a year’s “*heliacal*” (*at sunrise*) rising of Sirius,\* the Dog Star. Sirius is part of the constellation Canis Majoris—the “Greater Dog”—where Sirius gets its canine nickname, as well as its official name, Alpha Canis Majoris. Sirius is the brightest star in the sky (not including our own Sun). In olden days, it was believed Sirius’s dawn rising in the summer led to the extreme weather of the season. That is, the “combined heat” of super-bright Sirius and our Sun was thought to cause summer’s





sweltering temperatures. The name “Sirius” even stems from the Ancient Greek seírios, meaning “scorching.”

For the ancient Egyptians, Sirius’s dawn rising also coincided with the Nile River’s flood season. They used the star as a “watchdog” for that event.

Of course, Sirius does not actually affect seasonal weather on Earth; but its appearance during the

**Sirius, the  
brightest star**

**Dog Icon in this Sirius  
Radio Logo**

hottest part of summer ensures the lore surrounding the star lives on today!



The exact dates of the Dog Days can vary from source to source. Most sources agree the Dog Days occur in mid-to-late summer. The Old Farmer’s Almanac considers the Dog Days to begin July 3 and end August 11, amidst the typically worst of summer’s heat.

### \*More on Sirius

Sirius is the brightest star in the sky if you don’t count our own Sun. Under the right conditions, it can

even be seen with the naked eye during the day. As the brightest star in the sky, it's not hard to find.

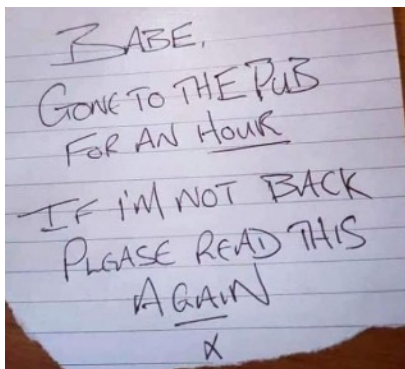
**[Learn how to find the Dog Star in the night sky](#)**

## **Shark attacks are rare...but if you do encounter a shark, here's what to do.**

The 1975 movie JAWS broadly introduced a fear of sharks. Today, it seems like there are a lot of sharks at the beaches. Although shark attacks are actually very rare, if do you spot one in the water, here's what to do: Stay calm; move away; definitely leave the water. If you are in a boat, do not toy with the animal. If you are attacked, fight back. Shark experts say: strike sensitive spots — eyes and gills ...make the shark regret having you in its mouth. For more, see [NPR](#)

By the way, in the movie JAWS, the crusty old boat captain “Quint” (played by actor Robert Shaw) told of being a shark-attack survivor of the WWII USS Indianapolis that was sunk by an enemy sub in the Pacific. Of 1,195 crewmen aboard the Indianapolis, about 300 went down with the ship. The remaining 890 faced exposure, dehydration, saltwater poisoning, and vicious shark attacks while stranded in the open ocean with few lifeboats and almost no food or water.

## Time for a Dad's Joke...



## 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!

**YOUR COMMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!** (News items, photos from recent trip, etc.) 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.

“The Bob Stahl Memorial Newsletter” is published on the [Fairfax Lions web page](#) (see right hand column under the section titled “Pages”). You should check the FHLC web page periodically.

Club members are alerted around the 1st of each month to the newsletter’s availability on the web page. That's all folks!

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

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Since 1951