



Fairfax Lions Club

The Bob Stahl Memorial Newsletter

January 2026

Fairfax Lions Club - Since 1951

LINK to: [Facebook Page](#) [Instagram page](#) [Web Page](#)

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

— Our Service —

Eyeglasses to Recycle

The school nurse at St Timothy's Catholic School (where Fairfax Lions did vision & hearing screening last month) collected eyeglasses for our recycling program. We picked them up Dec 3rd; Lion Scott Dulaney will deliver to [LERC NOVA](#)!



Eyeglasses collected by St Timothy's School

Service by Email: Request for New Eyeglasses

Email Received (Dec 8, 2025)

Hi: My name is Garry Washington, I was told by a neighbor that you all could possibly help me out, I recently had a car accident about 2 weeks ago now that was through no fault of my own, while on my way to work some overtime for my family of 5; got t-boned by some kids running a red light.

Ribs broke and my glasses rendered useless once the firman found them for me. They are the main way I see. I've been squinting for about 2 weeks which is ok for now being that i'm housebound for a while with my rib injuries. But I can't drive or return to work anytime soon without my glasses.

The police report that I need to get anything from the driver who's hit me insurance has yet to be done due to the officer having his own issues health wise I found out today it could be another 30 days before I get it done and can get any possible help for my glasses. I can't go that long squinting and can barely afford anything right now being out of work 2 weeks going on 3. I'm severely behind on all my bills, especially my rent, i'm in danger of being kicked out of my home soon.

Is there any way I can get help replacing my glasses? I Have super high prescription strength so donated glasses normally aren't suited for me, as I have a detached retina in my left eye that requires specialties.

Please let me know if you need anything else from me. I have attached pictures of proof of them broken and recent pic of them together with my youngest daughter. I also have attached a receipt to show you how much they are worth and when I got them if any of this is needed.

If I can't get help with my glasses I could definitely use any help that could be given for my car situation or rent.

FHLC REPLY (Dec 9, 2025)

Good morning, Garry.

I'm sorry to hear you were involved in an accident. We are relieved you weren't severely injured. Our club has no direct way to help you obtain new glasses. It isn't clear where you live. The address for the prescription is in North Carolina. We normally try to assist very needy people in our service area who require a new eye exam and glasses by referring them to the nearest Fairfax County Health Department (FCHD) facility where they can get an appointment to have their vision needs and ability to pay assessed. If the FCHD facility says you qualify, they will probably make an appointment for you at the no-cost Inova/Lions Eyeglass clinic near Inova Fairfax Hospital where a new exam and prescription can be obtained. This is needed because your old exam and prescription are nearly 3 years old. The free clinic will likely advise you about a way to get a voucher to get a new pair of eyeglasses using the new prescription. The FCHD facility also works with certain Lions clubs and other organizations in the county to pay for eye exams and glasses at a nearby MyEyeDr for needy persons. These organizations may have limits on what they will pay, so this may not work for you because of the much higher cost of your lenses.

Temporary alternative: The photos of your broken eyeglasses appear to show that the eyeglass frame was badly broken, but the special lenses are still usable (albeit with a

scratch or two). You might want to consider taking the glasses to a store like MyEyeDr, selecting a less expensive frame, and having the store fit your existing lenses in the new frame. We are aware that frames costing as little as \$30-\$40 are available at MyEyeDr. If this does not work, your best bet is to contact the nearest FCHD facility.

Hope this helps.

Martin Lockard, Fairfax Host Lions Club

Holiday Food Baskets

FX Lions met at Main Street Child Development Center on Dec 22nd and assembled food baskets for 30 needy families. Many thanks to 2VDG Greg for organizing the activity!

Visitor Sharon Puckett, Gordon's Grandson Luke, Lions Bill Szymanski (& Sandy), Harry Pontius, Cory Green, John Wasley, Karen & Greg DeRosa with Daughter Danielle joined...We Serve!







- Our Charity Fund Raising -

December Fruit Sale

We ordered from our FL vendor 233 cases of fruit on Dec 11; fruit arrived Dec 17 for customer pick-up Dec 18-20. This December order was about 40% less than the 368 cases sold in November; charity proceeds will be similarly less. Customer demand is always a question; we used the same advertising approach; pricing was the same; and a better type Mandarin was available. Our sales van location - on Oak Street - is "out of the way," so we get some - but not a-lot of drive-by customers. Hence we depend mostly on advertising for pre-orders. The fruit sale committee continues to seek process improvement,

and would appreciate any thoughts/advice/ assistance from club members!

We are most grateful for our wonderful customers who support our charities. We are grateful for volunteer Lions helping operate the sales site! We greatly appreciate



Wednesday Unload

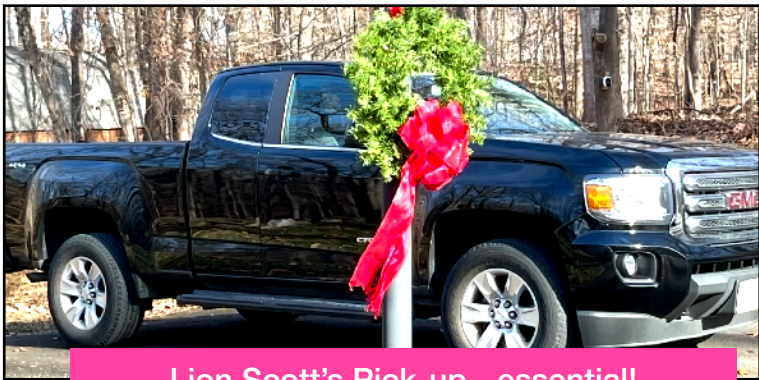


the loan of the sales van from Craig Van Lines.



Thurs, Fri, Sat
Morning Shifts





Lion Scott's Pick-up - essential!



Lion Scott
accepts
payment from
customer for
order



Sold-out...Lion
Cory waves good-
bye from empty
sales van. We will
be back in March
2026!

To say thank you,
for use of their van,
Luke (Lion Gordon's
grandson) presents
fruit and peanuts to
Craig Van Lines
front office staff -
Cindy & Jake Craig

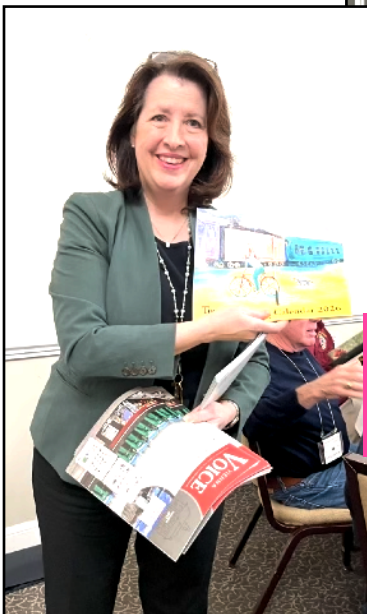


Club Meetings

Dinner Meeting - Dec 2

Our guest speaker was Karen Thayer, editor of the **Vienna Voice** newsletter - one of the last area newsletters in full-color, printed form, mailed to all local households and businesses; it is posted online on the Town website:

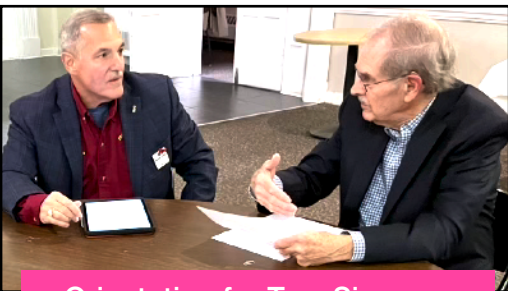
www.viennava.gov/voice. Vienna Voice archives, back to



KL Gary thanks Karen;
Karen hands-out
calendars to all attendees

1960, can be viewed online.
Lion Tom Comi engages

regularly with Karen to publish monthly ads about Lions Charity Fundraiser Night at Fosters Grille in Vienna. Karen told us about the publishing process, and gave each Lion a 2026 calendar, and a nice tote-bag.



Orientation for Tom Simpson

2nd Vice District Gov, Greg DeRosa, conducted an orientation before the dinner meeting, then the induction

ceremony at the meeting for our newest Lion, Tom Simpson.



Induction into Lionism: "It's Great to be a Lion!"



Sponsor for New Lion Tom, Lion Joe Receives Certificate

2VDG Greg worked with Matthew Exley on an Eagle Scout project to collect eyeglasses for recycling.



Matthew delivered them at the Dec 2 meeting; Lion Scott took possession for later delivery to the NoVA Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center.

Eagle Scout candidate with 4 crates of eyeglasses

Board Meeting - Dec 2

Because the Board did not meet in November, it met after the dinner meeting on Dec 2.

Holiday Party - Dec 14

Invited guests included: Larry Larson and Johnny Boaz with spouse Mary. Johnny and Larry are Harley Owners Group members, and volunteer to work at most of our fruit sales!

Received this thank you from Larry:

“Thank you so much for the invitation to yesterday's Lions Christmas event at Post 177. I am very glad that I was able to attend. The meal was great as well as many conversations with members. The Lions do so much in the community. They inspire the rest of us to help as well. As always the day was a pleasure and a blessing. Please pass on my thanks to your fellow Lions as well as our wish for a Merry and Blessed Christmas.
All the Best,
Larry”

And this from Johnny:

“Thanks to all for having us at your holiday party yesterday. Mary and I both enjoyed it. The company

was great and so was the food. See you on
Thursday at the Fruit Sale!
Johnny”











Combo arranged by PCC Harry Parker to play at our Holiday Party



To thank "Flower Den" for the outstanding flowers they provide for our events, Lion Joe B delivered a box of fruit.



Calendar

Jan 1 - Happy 2026

Jan 6 - FHLC Dinner meeting

Jan 10 - District Winter Conf in Winchester [Click to Register](#)

Jan 13 - 2nd Tuesday Fosters Grill Fund Raiser

Jan 20 - FHLC Dinner mtg

Jan 27 - FHLC Board Meeting

Inter-Service Club Council (ISCC)

ISCC met on December 3rd; there was no special discussion topic; each club reported recent activities and upcoming plans.

For January, a speaker from the *Fairfax County Community Services Board* is invited to discuss:
How can *FX County Community Services* best work with volunteer non-profits (like FX Lions Club) to help the underserved in our area?

Lion News From *District 24L Web page*

“Did You Know?”

- 25.3 million people are displaced each year by disasters.
- 820 million people don't have enough to eat.
- Every 2 minutes, a child is diagnosed with cancer.
- Globally, 1 in 11 adults has diabetes.
- Only 14 percent of people who need hospice care receive it.
- Half of the world will soon live in water stressed areas.

There is a world in need and Lions around the world can and are helping. We can't do everything

but our support and service to our communities and the world goes a long way.”

From LCI Portal

2025

Nmbr of Lions

1.39M

Total Membership



Growth in Members

4.08%

Membership Growth in FY



Total Nmbr of Clubs

50,540

Total Clubs



Total Donations

\$33,310,364

Total Donations in FY



Nmbr of Activities

756,963

Total Activities in FY



People Served
(LCI)

149.12M

Total People Served LCI



People Served
(LCIF)

13.90M

Total People Served LCIF



FYI - FX Lions Club Leadership

From LCI Portal: <https://lionsinternational.my.site.com/s/account/001Ns00000EDkChlAL/fairfax-host?tabset-e5080=3>

Name	Title
Tom Hewlett	Club Service Chairperson
Michael Greeley	Tail Twister
Joseph Breda	Director - One Year
William Bartlett	PDG Director
William Smith	Director Emeritus
Ron Zabel	Assistant to Secretary
Jeffrey Root	Club Secretary
Tom Hewlett	Club Second Vice President
Gary Maxwell	Club President
James Kaplan	Club First Vice President
Michael Rumberg	Club Treasurer
Stephen Bilowus	Club Membership Chairpers...
Joseph Rovanseck	Lion Tamer
G Tillery	Club Marketing Chairperson
Margaret Reidy	Director - Two Years
Harry Parker	PDG Director
Pete Conklin	Corresponding Secretary
Michael Greeley	Tail Twister
G Tillery	Bulletin Editor
William Smith	Director Emeritus
Pete Conklin	Corresponding Secretary
Gregory Derosa	Immediate Past President

75th Anniversary - Coming Up

According to the LCI Portal, Fairfax Lions Club's "Charter Established Date" is:

February 21, 1951

We plan to hold our 75th Anniversary "Charter Night" anniversary party on March 21, 2026. On that date FHLC will be 75 years and 1 month old, but I'm sure no one will quibble with being a month late!

Please block your calendar now for Saturday, March 21st. Our 75th Charter Night will be a fun celebration held at the Chantilly Country Club; all past and current members, family and friends are encouraged to attend!

We went to the Way-back Machine, where we could find records - to see memories from a few past Charter Night celebrations....see the following pages for some great Lions - friends - from a few past years.

64th Charter Night (2015)

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A FAIRFAX HOST LION?

At our 64th Charter Night held on April 18 at the Chantilly Country Club, four long-time Lions spoke of what it meant to each of them to be a Lion.

Reminiscences from Lion Joe Breda took him back 40 years ago, when Lion Dick Ferraro sponsored him for membership. "When I joined, our kids were very young and it was challenging, with my job traveling out of town. However, I stayed loyal to the club and gave my support the best I could." Joe went on to say that his years as a Lion have been rewarding due to the club's active participation in helping the community. However, one of the best rewards in his being a Lion has been "having met so many great friends."

PCC Bill Barlett informed us that "next month I will have been a Lion for 35 years and I have stayed involved because of all the things I have been able to do to help those in need and because of the wonderful friendships I have made." He went on to say "my first involvement with the Lions goes back to age 10 when I sold light bulbs door to door with my uncle who was president of the Memphis Lions Club and my teen years when I sold brooms door to door with the local golf pro who was like an uncle to me."

Carl Enix, a member since October 1974, reminded us that as a Fairfax Host member we are a part of a respected international organization, known throughout the world for its humanitarian work. "We have the opportunity to enrich the lives of fellow citizens, exercise our unique talents, and all the while build lasting friendships and have fun. Additionally, you broaden your horizons of the world at large and develop leadership skills." Bottom line: he is proud to be a Lion, particularly a Fairfax Host Lion.

Tom Edick, sponsored by Carl Enix, commented that it was indeed an *honor* and *pleasure* to have served as a Fairfax Lion for the past 33 years. His "highest single honor has been to serve in support of the greater Lions' good, and to that end . . . to serve our Fairfax community and those in need." His highest pleasure has been, and will continue to be, "to serve with such giving and talented Lions as yourselves and to all those who are no longer with us."

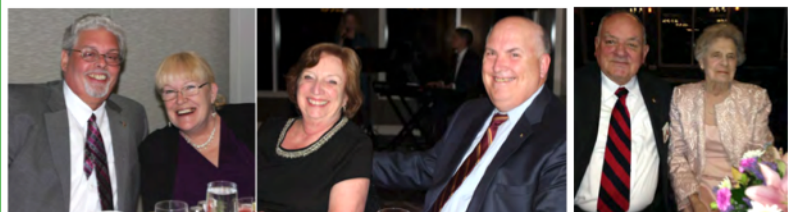


Fairfax Host has a
PROUD PAST
And a
BRIGHT FUTURE



64th Charter Night(contd)

64TH FAIRFAX HOST CHARTER NIGHT—APRIL 18, 2015



IT'S GRRREAT TO BE A LION

59th Charter Night (2010)

CHARTER NIGHT by Bill Bartlett

April 16, 2010



The FHLC 59th Charter Night celebration was held on Saturday, April 17, 2010 at the Chantilly National Golf & Country Club in Centreville. Sixty-seven Lions, family, friends, and associates were in attendance. The CNG & CC did a superb job and the food was excellent.



Sixteen floral arrangements for the tables, mantel and other locations were donated by Flower Den in Annandale. Lion P. J. Story served as the Master of Ceremonies. Lion Don Ballard helped with the door prize drawings. Entertainment was provided by Ginny Carr – a singer, song-writer – some may remember from last year.

A side table was set up with an assortment of cheeses and crackers and an assortment of fresh veggies and a dip. Individuals were able to help themselves dur-

ing the social period. The meal was a buffet that included salad with two dressings, rolls, green beans, scalloped potatoes, chicken with a butter sauce including dried tomatoes, basil & other herbs, mahi-mahi with a pineapple salsa and roast beef in brown gravy. Dessert was a choice of vanilla or chocolate ice cream with real chocolate fudge topping. A wine station was set up with both white and red wine and individuals served themselves. Door prizes consisted of the floral arrangements, 10 computer/office related items donated by Office Depot and a few gift cards purchased by FHLC. Although not usually done at a Charter Night, 50/50 tickets were sold. \$200 was collected. It was divided into four drawings of \$50 each. FHLC kept none of the 50/50 ticket sales proceeds. A great time was had by all who attended and we hope to see you there next year.



62nd Charter Night (2013)

CHARTER NIGHT AWARDS and PHOTOS



The above members received Chevrons for years of service. Lions Marilyn Tanner (10), Don Ballard (10), KL Mike Rumberg (15) Bill Trent (16), Dave MacPherson (30), Gary Maxwell (12) and Terry Smith (34).



King Lion Mike's acceptance "speech" (or some variation thereof) cracks up Lion Bill Smith, as well as the rest of us. The best Charter Night in recent memory. Lots of laughs, good food and fun music.



Weird English Facts

1. There's no English word that rhymes perfectly with "month," "orange," "silver," or "purple."
2. Dreamt" is the only English word that ends with -mt.
3. The word "girl" originally meant any young person, not specifically a female.
4. The word "facetious" contains all the vowels (a, e, i, o, u) in order.
5. "Bookkeeper" has three consecutive double letters.
6. The sentence "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" uses every letter in the English alphabet.

Dad's Joke

Drove past this road sign, and 10-year old in the back seat said: "Looks like somebody drove over the speed limit."



As Usual, 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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