



We Serve

Lions District 22-A

InSights



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Fellow Lions:

Welcome everyone to our mid-winter newsletter. As I write **this there are a couple inches of reminders outside why it's good to stay where it's warm and dry.** Many thanks to the clubs that responded to my request to send words and photos about your feed-the-hungry projects. We had around a half dozen submissions, which meant our web diva, Suzette Kettenhofen, could post items on our District 22-A Facebook page every week in January. This was an easy way to publicize what we already do to support hunger awareness without worrying about what special projects to create.

Now that we've had practice, what was good for one month is good year-round. Please continue to post your club activities on MyLion, which certainly is more user-friendly than it was a year and a half ago. Being the secretary for Linthicum Lions, I know. At the same time, when you send those same items to Sue Parks for the newsletter, be sure to copy Suzette, PDG Paul Rufe, Cabinet **Secretary Marie Marucci and me on the email.** We'll take it from there to be sure your hunger awareness, childhood cancer, diabetes, environment, sight, hearing or any other community service gets posted, liked and shared on Facebook and elsewhere. If you already posted the project on your club Facebook page, drop a line and let us know. Facebook being Facebook, I know **that even though I like a page, I don't get notices when new posts appear.** That includes our District page. There are other social media venues, but with more **than 1 billion users, we hurt ourselves if we ignore Facebook and the like.** Let's continue to tell our local communities and the rest of the world about how Lions serve them every day. In the process we can attract new members, which conveniently supports one of our district goals.

Virtual is still the word of the year. The LCI Convention in late June is now virtual rather than in Montreal. Likewise, the Multiple District Convention formerly in April will now be a virtual event May 20-22. Rather than try a virtual social, our Honorary Committee of PDGs agreed that **we won't tempt fate and will pass on that gathering altogether this Lions year.** Just as the rest of the cabinet and I have said throughout our terms, our first priority is for members and their families within District 22-A to stay safe. Do what you can to serve your communities without taking unnecessary risks. Then we can come through better than before with perhaps lessons learned to meet and serve in the future.

That service includes leadership. As you think about your future, I would be **remiss not to ask you to consider leading our district.** Next year's first and second vice district governor positions are there for you to step in and step up. **We are an equal opportunity "employer" with a good training program to bring you up to speed.** Please ask us what you can do to be the next up and coming district leader.

Thanks again for your service yesterday, today and tomorrow.

DG Jim



Vice District Governor Bijoy Mahanti:

I have been wondering, as a wonderer and seer. How are your HEARTS feeling? A New Year has always been a time of mixed emotions and feelings. There is the almost compulsory celebratory feeling – It's a NEW YEAR, as though somehow simply the newness holds inherently a betterness than that which has just passed.

However, new does not inherently mean better. There is nothing “new” about January 1st compared to December 31st on any level that would render the world somehow easier to navigate, more peaceful, more conscious, or that would somehow provide extra water, food, medicines, education for those who don't have. If there was no water on December 31st, there will be none on January 1st. If we are at war with someone who looks different from us, or our next-door neighbor or a family member living in the same house on December 31st, we will also be at war on January 1st.

Unless, we make a conscious decision to actually do something differently, we won't see any difference. Our own thoughts, choices and behaviors are the missing links between new and better. So as we look toward 2021 the question we need to ask ourselves is: What will I change about how I think, speak, eat, dress, vote, and live that can actually have the ripple effect in my own life and in the world that I am hoping for? Everything in our world is created twice, first in our minds and second in our lives.

2020 has been an unprecedented challenging year for the world and this country. Pandemic, social and political upheavals, partisan divisions, financial challenges, personal isolation etc. The event on January 6th in our Nation's capital shook the psyche of majority of our citizens. They were in shock and in disbelief that this is not our core values. Nothing comes from nothing. Do we reevaluate our values? I wonder what was there to be in shock and disbelief. We have a brutal / violent past in our country. The culture has evolved to be violent. We have lost our souls as a Nation. Just look at our numbers in our country: homicide, suicide, work place and family violence, sexual harassment, drug addiction, bullying and taunting in schools workplaces, violent sport, increased gun sales (it has drastically increased during the pandemic), increased poverty, divisiveness, not to mention we terrorize other nations. With all this darkness, light is there. We are stronger than our circumstances and events. We are far better than what we think of us.

Bertrand Russell once wrote: “Order, unity, and continuity are human inventions.” And he was right. There is no doubt that we can invent them again. We have forgotten we are all one, and in our forgetfulness, we have treated each other – and the earth itself insanely. But we are going to repair because we are slowly remembering now, we are awakening, we are opening our eyes to things we need to see.

I want to share a beautiful poem which I came across couple of years ago named **DESIDERATA** (meaning Things To Be Desired). Read it periodically after being quiet and taking few slow long breaths. I pray our better natures, smarter hearts, and higher-minded spirits will prevail. It begins, as always, with our conscious intentions and us.

May it be so, and so it is.

With gratitude and wonder to you all

Bijoy



Desiderata

GO PLACIDLY amid the noise and the haste,
and remember what peace there may be in silence.

As far as possible, without surrender,
be on good terms with all persons.
Speak your truth quietly and clearly, and listen to others,
even to the dull and ignorant; they too have their story.

Avoid loud and aggressive persons;
they are vexatious to the spirit.
If you compare yourself with others,
you may become vain or bitter,
for always there will be
greater and lesser persons than yourself.

Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans.
Keep interested in your own career however humble;
it is a real possession in the
changing fortunes of time.

Exercise caution in your business affairs,
for the world is full of trickery.
But let this not blind you
to what virtue there is;
many persons strive for high ideals,
and everywhere life is full of heroism.

Be yourself.
Especially do not feign affection.
Neither be cynical about love,
for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment,
it is as perennial as the grass.

Take kindly the counsel of the years,
gracefully surrendering the things of youth.
Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune.
But do not distress yourself with dark imaginings.
Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness.

Beyond a wholesome discipline,
be gentle with yourself.
You are a child of the universe no less than the trees and the stars;
you have a right to be here.

And whether or not it is clear to you,
no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.
Therefore, be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be.
And whatever your labors and aspirations,
in the noisy confusion of life, keep peace in your soul.
With all its sham, drudgery, and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world.
Be cheerful. Strive to be happy.

by Max Ehrmann (1927)



Lions Clubs International

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION TO BE VIRTUAL!!

Due to the continuing concerns about the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the board of directors voted to transition the 2021 Montreal Lions Clubs International Convention to a virtual event that will be delivered totally online. This decision was made with the health and safety of our Lions, staff and vendors in mind as limiting international travel and large gatherings is key to global containment strategies.

Although we are disappointed that we won't be able to host this event in person, we are excited about hosting our first virtual international convention that can safely connect Lions from around the world. We are still finalizing the details of your new convention experience, and will share those with you as soon as they are ready.

Here are some important details about the 2021 virtual convention we'd like to share with you:

- **Everyone's invited** – Our 2021 convention will be a virtual event that's open to all Lions and Leos around the world.
- **Registration fees** – The registration fee will be US\$50 until March 31, then US\$75 beginning April 1. The registration fee for Leos will be US\$30 regardless of date. Convention is currently scheduled for June 25-29. Additional event and registration details will be provided soon.
- **Current registrants** – Lions who are currently registered for convention will receive an email soon with more information about their registration options.
- **Elections** – Executive officer and international director elections will be conducted electronically, and voting procedures will be forthcoming.

Convention updates – Check our convention website LCIcon for convention updates and details as they become available.

This global health pandemic has forced us all to make decisions and changes that place health and safety first. However, we are optimistic that with each new day there is hope, and as Lions, we continue to find new ways to stay connected, safely serve our communities and continue our global mission of service. We appreciate your understanding during this challenging time for our organization and the world, and thank you for your incredible service as a Lion.

Regards,

Dr. Jung-Yul Choi, International President

The 2020-2021 Leader Dog

"Bark, Brew and Wine" Has Been Cancelled

Co-Chairs regret this really tough decision. If you had already bought a ticket, they will be in touch soon to find out if you'd like a refund or the monies given as a Leader Dog donation. Hopefully, in the 2021-2022 Lions Year we will be able to bring back this fundraiser.

Thank you for your support of this event.

PDG Owen Landis, Chair PDG Angela Bruce, Co-Chair





HUNGER AWARENESS

ANNAPOLIS - Club Secretary Carol Kellner reported that Annapolis donated 4 warmer casserole trays to the Lighthouse Shelter in Annapolis as our continuing support of feeding the needy. *KL Jeff Fair shown delivering warmers to the LIGHTHOUSE SHELTER.*



CHURCHVILLE - Donated \$250 Food Lion gift card and numerous food donations to Mt. Zion for their food distribution pantry; donated \$250 to the Maryland Food Bank; donated \$350 to the LCI Disaster Relief Fund; donated \$500 and 9 turkeys to the Christ Our King Food Basket Program, and a Club member volunteered 9 hours working there. Club members are also providing groceries each month to households in need.



ELLICOTT CITY - COLUMBIA - For the calendar year 2020, the Ellicott City/Columbia Lions Club donated \$28000 to the Community Action Council of Howard County for the Howard County Food Bank, Volunteered at the Howard County Food Bank, donated to and participated in HorizonWalks to support Kids with Cancer.

LONG GREEN VALLEY– Lions Ed and Lorna Bills reported that they had a very successful Fruit and Flower Sale in December, and were able to send \$100 to Meals on Wheels in Maryland and \$100 to the Food Bank in Maryland.



Too early for Save the Date? Nah...
August 12-13, 2022

Multiple District 22
Will observe 100 years of service
with a huge celebration.

If you'd like to volunteer for a committee, contact Lion Sue Parks - rich99991@verizon.net.



Multiple District 22
will host the
2027 Lions International Convention in
Washington D.C.



PIP Clem Kusiak announced that Multiple District 22 has won the bid for the Lions International Convention to be held in 2027. More details will follow over the next few years as the Multiple District makes plans and organizes volunteer.

ABERDEEN LIONS CLUB HIGHLIGHTS

The Aberdeen Lions Club participated in support for the hungry during the month of December as follows:



*Catholic Charities - Director Inez Dixon
(left) with food gift cards)*



*Burton Manor - Manager Anne Fink
(with food gift cards)*



The Aberdeen Lions have partnered with MQC Labs for several years because they wanted to be involved in the Aberdeen community. They dropped off a donation of non-perishable food items along with a check for \$1,000 and \$40.00 cash to Lion Sandy Osborn (right). The non-perishables will be shared with local food pantries in the Aberdeen area. We really do appreciate the great partnership that Lion Senora Haywood helped establish several years ago with MQC Labs and their employees.

Lions Cheryl and Lambert Rickey and their grandchildren Patrick and Zoey help gather, wrap and get gifts ready for the Club's adopted Christmas family.





BEL AIR LIONS CLUB HIGHLIGHTS

Bel Air Lions Christmas Tree Sale a Huge Success

The Bel Air Lions Club took a brave chance to run our Christmas Tree Sale fundraiser. Despite COVID-19, tree sales were very good. We sold 1400 trees in 22 days following all State and County safety guidelines. Several organizations also volunteered to assist including the VolunTeen Leo Club. Each year the Lions donate several trees to local groups. This year the Lions donated a tree for the Bel Air Downtown Winter Wonderland event. Special recognition to the project lead, Dave Ellis, for his diligence to ensure this event was completed safely.



All hands on deck as the Tree Lot is assembled before Thanksgiving



Sales of trees were brisk

Members of the VolunTeen Leo Club provided support



Leos Thank Teachers

VolunTeen Leos created a video to show their appreciation to Harford County teachers. The group created the video to recognize the efforts of educators meeting the challenges of virtual learning over the past year.

Here's the link to watch the video.

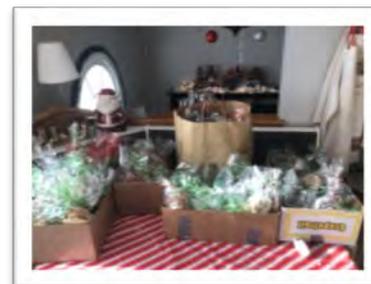
<https://www.wmar2news.com/goodtoknow/volunteen-thanks-teachers>



Lion Amy Biondi and Her Daughters Thank Workers Christmas Eve



Lion Amy Biondi and daughters Alyssa and Liana expressed appreciation to those working in our community on Christmas Eve. She and her daughters baked cookies and made deliveries to numerous businesses on Christmas Eve.





DARLINGTON LIONS CLUB HIGHLIGHTS

The Darlington Lions adopted 28 families for the Christmas holiday. Each family was provided a turkey and fixings to have a traditional holiday meal, two bags of groceries, and a \$100 gift card to a local grocer. The project received significant support from the community with 10 turkeys being donated, canned goods from the Darlington Elementary School food drive, and more than \$5800 in cash donations. This represented the largest outpouring of support we have received in the more than 20 years we have been adopting families and allowed us to increase our support to a record level as well.



The Club also continues to collect aluminum at our recycling trailer local at the pharmacy on Main Street. We turned in 1482 pounds of aluminum during the 2020 calendar year that yielded nearly \$400 for the club's activity fund. We also purchased a new Christmas light display for placement by our sign board which helped brighten up Main Street for the holidays. Unfortunately, because of Covid, we had to forego our usual community gathering for caroling and cookies this year.



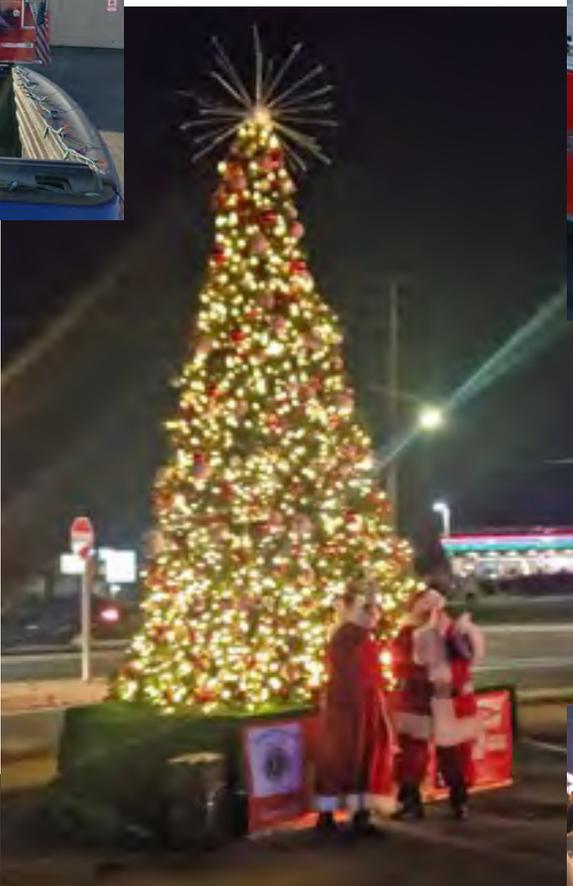


EASTERN REGIONAL LIONS CLUB HIGHLIGHTS

EaRL the Lion in the Dundalk Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting



Parade line up



39 horses participated in the Dundalk Christmas Parade sponsored by Eastern Regional.



Lions hand out hats and gloves at Tree Lighting



GLENWOOD LIONS CLUB FUNDRAISER

FRESH FLORIDA STRAWBERRIES

How Sweet They Are for a Great Cause!

AVAILABLE THROUGH OUR FUNDRAISING PROGRAM!!

Florida Fruit
GlenwoodLionsFundraiser@gmail.com
443-266-7726

Florida strawberries are in peak flavor in March, and soooo delicious!

The strawberries come packed in sealed one quart plastic containers and there are eight quarts to the flat.

\$32.00 Full Flat
\$18.00 Half Flat

These prices are a great value to you. Strawberries can also be stored in the freezer.

Strawberries are loaded with nutrients including powerful disease fighting antioxidants and 93% of the daily recommended allowance for vitamin C.

To Order by Email: glenwoodlionsfundraiser@gmail.com

Order by Phone: (443) 266-7726

Order by PayPal (credit/debit):

<https://www.paypal.com/Half Flat Strawberries Glenwood Lions>

<https://www.paypal.com/Full Flat Strawberries Glenwood Lions>

Fundraiser Dates

January 28 - February 28, 2021

Buyers can pick up their strawberries at the Howard COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS dates and times will be coming soon.

Please call with any questions and Thank you!!

Charla Long, Program Chair

Jean Riley, Co-Chair

410-442-2048 Home

410-707-4434

301-980-9585 Cell



SEVERN RIVER LIONS CLUB HIGHLIGHTS

SEVERN RIVER LIONS JANUARY FOOD DRIVE & CARING CUPBOARD



As a Feed the Hungry project, Service Team member, Lion Ashley, recommended holding a food drive during the January Fruit Sale. After discussion as to where to allocate the food, King Lion Chris suggested CARING CUPBOARD. Results again, rewarding those that donated, collected and recipients receiving the food pictured in this article.



For those who aren't familiar with the Caring Cupboard, it has its roots in a 2001 program ministry of the Palmyra Church of the Brethren (PCOB), Palmyra, PA. From the Palmyra Area Cooperating Churches CARING CUPBOARD started food collecting and distributing in neighboring states and counties.

The mission of the Caring Cupboard program is to try to ensure that no citizen, and especially children, in Anne Arundel County suffers from food insecurity or hygiene issues of any kind and for any reason through providing food and basic necessities through their schools, home delivery for those without transportation, on-site pop up pantries, and by supporting other food pantries throughout the county with the resources needed to help those they serve, regardless of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, genetic information, gender identity, or disability. The only requirement to receive the services of the Caring Cupboard is need.

CARING CUPBOARD currently serves families at Riviera Beach Elementary, Chesapeake High School, Arundel Middle School, Brooklyn Park Elementary, Marley Middle School, Chesapeake Bay Middle School, Old Mill Middle North.

As an additional project, Severn River has been delivering citrus to SPAN during every Fruit Sale for more than 20 years. This month it was 10 cases each of grapefruit and honeybell oranges.



SEVERN RIVER LOAN CLOSET has so much inventory that we decided to expand our storage. Pictured to the left is the first of two sheds that will be built behind our Loan Closet location on B&A Blvd. Project was spearheaded by Lion Jackie Hetrick who has been overwhelmed with donations and little space to store them. This is the ideal space now for storage of hospital beds.

Severn River Announces a New Fundraiser - You are familiar with Terri Lynn nuts and candies. Order now thru <https://severn-river-lions.terri Lynn.com> and product will come directly to you with a flat shipping charge of \$5, regardless of size of order. 20% of your purchase comes to Severn River. Contact Lion Sue Parks for more info - rich99991@verizon.net.



Lions Vision Research Foundation, Inc.
at the Wilmer Eye Institute, The Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions

Fellow Lions,

Many of you have come to know, and perhaps have interacted with, Dr. Bob Massof. It is with mixed emotions that Chair Wayne and I share with you that he has decided to retire as Director of the MD22 Lions Vision Research and Rehabilitation Center at the Wilmer Eye Institute as of the end of this year. Below is the official announcement from Dr. McDonnell.

We will miss his active role in forging a path to understanding and addressing low vision needs, as well as his active support in encouraging Lions to meet those needs. We also hope that, as Dr. Bob moves into his retirement years, he will find the time to enjoy personal pursuits and also continue to be a mentor to others in his field and to Lions.

As indicated in Dr. McDonnell's announcement, Dr. Judy Goldstein will be taking over the leadership role of the Center with the assistance of Dr. Gislin Dagnelie on the research side. Both of these individuals have been an integral part of the LVRRC for many years and the Lions of MD22 look forward to continuing to partner with them in our mission of helping patients with vision loss and to carry forward the work of Dr. Patz and Dr. Massof.

Dr. Goldstein has shared that there will be an occasion to celebrate Dr. Massof's accomplishments and to congratulate him on his retirement, once we can all come together in person - a Zoom get-together just isn't the right vehicle for the recognition he deserves.

PCC Dee Hawkins, LVRF Vice Chair

"Dear Colleagues:

After 32 years of distinguished service as founding director of the Multiple District 22 Lions Vision Research and Rehabilitation Center at the Wilmer Eye Institute, Robert Massof, Professor of Neuroscience, is making a change in career focus and will therefore be retiring December 31, 2020. While at Hopkins, Dr. Massof's scientific achievements in vision science, technology development, and outcomes research exemplify excellence. His technological work with the Low Vision Enhancement System was recognized in 1994 with awards from Popular Mechanics and Discover magazine. In addition to others, Dr. Massof was presented the prestigious Alfred W. Bressler award and William Feinbloom award in recognition of his lifetime contribution to the vision research community. His dedication to advancing the field is demonstrated through his multidisciplinary collaborations, his contributions to the literature, his dedication to teaching, and his partnership with the Lions Multiple District 22. The relationship with the Lions, begun by Arnall Patz, was strengthened by Dr. Massof in their collaborative work to endow the research and clinical programs at the Wilmer Eye Institute. This professional partnership resulted in Dr. Massof being recognized as one of the 11 White House Champions of Change representing Lions Clubs International in 2012. Please join me in recognizing Dr. Massof's contributions to the field.

Effective January 1, 2021, Dr. Judith Goldstein will be taking on the leadership role of the Lions Vision Research and Rehabilitation Center, and Dr. Gislin Dagnelie will be the Associate Program Director. Their strong working relationship and passion for the Lions mission will assure continued progress. Based on her years of experience building the program at Wilmer as Director of Clinical Services and the fellowship program, I have every confidence that Dr. Goldstein will build on the foundation laid by Dr. Massof and lead the next generation of researchers and clinicians in low vision. Please join me in supporting Drs. Goldstein and Dagnelie in their new roles in the Lions Vision Research and Rehabilitation Center at Wilmer.

Peter J. McDonnell, M.D."

Update:

Effective July 1, 2021, Dr. Massof has been appointed a 3 year Trustee to LVRF from District 22-A.



Lions Association for Sight and Hearing (LASH)

LASH needs financial help from District 22-A clubs to fund hearing aids for individuals who cannot otherwise afford them. We are currently handcuffed by lack of income. Help from clubs comes as monetary donations and sponsorship (paying for hearing aids) of applicants who live within the club service area. COVID has prevented many clubs from being able to hold fundraisers, and consequently there are qualified hearing aid applicants who are on a waiting list for funds. We have only received \$2,300 in club donations this FY. That is enough to help at most 4 people. District clubs can help by stepping up to send whatever funds they can now, instead of waiting until the end of the FY. They can also help by volunteering to pay for the hearing aids for a needy individual who lives outside the club's service area. In the meantime, LASH has begun the search for grant sources. This will take time to come to fruition and there are clients we could help right away if District clubs and individuals contribute. If your club has a current or past member they would like to honor, send a donation to LASH in their name. Mail checks to: LASH Treasurer, P.O. Box 821, Bel Air, MD 21014.

Disposition of LASH Eyeglasses, Hearing Aids, and Cellphones from 11 Oct 2020 Sorting



Eyeglasses drop off 11 Oct 2020. Pictured are June Livingston, Joee Livingston and Dave Ellis

Broken eyeglasses frames sent to Respect Co. for recycling. Moderate income expected. Still waiting on eyeglasses refurbishment organizations to reopen due to COVID. Refurbished eyeglasses go overseas to mainly Africa and South America. 1,000 cellphones w/chargers sent to a Veterans organization for recycling. Income used to provide phone cards for overseas military to use to call home. Cellphones delivered to Towson University Hearing & Speech Center for refurbishment and reallocation to clients who could not otherwise afford hearing aids. Thanks to the 14 District 22-A clubs and District 22-B who participated.

The next semiannual LASH Eyeglasses sorting is scheduled for 10 April. Given the current COVID environment, we will most likely have a "drop off" again instead of gathering to sort items. An email will come out in advance to provide the location and any change in date.

Important Dates:

1. Saturday, 20 Feb 2021, 10 AM - General Membership Meeting via Zoom
2. Saturday, 10 Apr 2021 - Eyeglasses, Hearing Aids, and Cellphone Sorting – location TBA
3. Saturday, 24 Apr 2021, 10 AM - General Membership Meeting via Zoom

Bel Air Lions sort and sanitize some 7,800 pairs of eyeglasses, 11 sets of hearing aids and 58 cellphones to drop off, 25 boxes in all.





Tips for Marketing Your Club in Your Local Newspaper

- Send photos as jpg attachments (the larger file size, the better – it helps with reproduction quality).
- Include full names and the order of everyone pictured in photos.
- If more than one photo is sent, space limitations may require that only one will be published.
- Include the date of the meeting or event and the location, if appropriate.
- Spell out any abbreviations on first reference. Keep in mind that club members are familiar with abbreviations, but not the general public.
- If the newspaper has questions about your submission, respond to them in a timely manner
- Generally, your news will be run in the order in which it was received by the paper.
- Include information on upcoming fundraisers, drives, things that need RSVPs, etc.
- Become familiar with your local newspaper and find out the best email address to use.
- Reach out to the editor with story ideas and things you think should be covered.

Lion Susan Bonura

PDG District 22-W

Multiple District Marketing and Communications Chair

"We cannot solve tomorrow's problems if we don't solve today's!"

Coach Bob Mahr



Submit **brief** articles on service activities or ads for fundraising events to InSights' Editor Lion Sue Parks (rich99991@verizon.net).

Only email copy is acceptable.

Deadlines for materials:

3/20/21 for April issue

5/20/21 for June issue

7/20/21 for August issue

9/20/21 for October issue

11/20/21 for December issue

Upcoming Events

Given current events, schedule is subject to change.

MD Convention was moved from April 2021 to May 20-22, 2021 and it will be a Virtual Convention. Details are being worked on for registration and an online platform that can

REMINDER TO CLUBS

Thank you to the Clubs who submitted articles for this issue. Short articles with pictures (jpgs) should be submitted by the deadlines shown above. These articles must be emailed to me separately from your club newsletters which are often locked into formats I can't use. Thanks.



MEMORIALS

Kenneth Absher (Charter Member Churchville Lions Club)

*Robert McGowan
Linthicum Lions Club*

*Oliver Wittig
Severn River Lions Club*

*Joe Kidwell
South Anne Arundel Lions Club*



Keith M. Williams - Overlea

Sponsor - PCC Bob Eisenberg