



# Proud Lions News

The Official Newsletter of Manassas Lioness Lions Club, Manassas, VA  
**FEBRUARY 2016**

Web site: [www.thoseladylions.org](http://www.thoseladylions.org)/E-mail: [thoseladylions@gmail.com](mailto:thoseladylions@gmail.com)

## **REGULAR MEETING INSTEAD OF AUCTION THIS MONTH**

Contrary to what February's traditional activity has been in years past, we will NOT be holding our White Elephant Auction fundraiser in February this year. That being said, mark your calendar for **Monday, February 15** for a regular dinner meeting at City Tavern, perhaps with some Valentine's Day surprises in store. Lion Tamer Pat Dekkers will be contacting you within a few days with the menu choices. Be sure to RSVP promptly! And, keep your fingers crossed that Mother Nature doesn't deter our plans with another ginormous snowstorm.

## **WHAT A BIRTHDAY BASH WE THREW FOR OUR FOUNDER!**

When the Manassas Lioness Lions throw a birthday party, we do it in style! On January 18 we turned our regular dinner meeting into a birthday party honoring the father of Lionism, Melvin Jones. January 13 would have been his 137<sup>th</sup> birthday. We had table decorations, party hats, and a delicious cake! Of course, the song for the evening was "Happy Birthday"!

With everyone in the spirit, Program Chair Teresa Kaufman gave us a quiz on Melvin Jones and his history. Newsletter Editor Barbara Kirk had the most correct answers and was awarded a plush Lion.

*(Ed. Note: I plead unfair advantage because of the research I do for newsletter stories. Sorry, ladies.)*



## ***GNO GOES ITALIAN***

This month it's back to Bella Vita, 9675 Liberia Ave., Manassas for our Girls Night Out social on **Tuesday, February 9**. We'll meet at the restaurant at 6 p.m.



Who doesn't love Italian, and this restaurant is among our favorites! You can check out their menu ahead of time at [www.bellavitaonline.com](http://www.bellavitaonline.com).

Please RSVP to Susan MacAuley by noon on February 9 so she can reserve enough seating for our group. (703-331-4777, home; 571-213-8661, cell; or [trustyred@aol.com](mailto:trustyred@aol.com)). If you need a ride, Susan can arrange for carpooling.

## ***NOMINATING COMMITTEE TO MEET***

Have you considered taking a leadership role to help determine the future of our Club? Our Nominating Committee chaired by Immediate Past President Anita Waggy has begun to compile a slate of officers and directors to serve during the 2016-17 Lion Year, which begins July 1, and are seeking candidates.

Some of the current Board members will be stepping down after having spent several years in their respective positions. This means there are several options for you to consider to take a leadership role in the Club. **Active participation as an officer or committee chair means you can make a real difference in the future direction of our Club!**

Position descriptions will be e-mailed to all members in the next few weeks so that you will know exactly what each position entails. The new slate of officers and directors will be presented at the March dinner meeting, with elections held in April.

## ***SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT BAGS***

Our White Elephant Auction has been scheduled for **Tuesday, April 26** at the Park-West Lions Community Center, 8620 Sunnyside Drive, Manassas. We're hoping to beef up attendance by holding it in warmer weather. This will be a joint meeting with Park-West (counts as a visitation!) and takes the place of our regular April dinner meeting. Ladies, we want to get a reputation for having REALLY nice stuff in those unidentifiable gift bags. What a great place to regift the scarf you got from Aunt Lucy that really isn't your style or the candleholders you'll never use. Start looking around for hidden treasures in your closets and put 'em to good use!

## ***BOOK DRIVE UNDERWAY***

From January 15 through March 15 we'll be collecting used children's books in good condition for distribution to children in local schools who do not have access to age-appropriate reading materials in their home. This has been one of the Club's favorite service projects for the past several years and is well-received by both the school staff members and children alike. As in past years, VP Pat Nichols will be spear-heading the drive. She'll be sending our members updates via e-mail in coming weeks. We plan to have the book distribution in the spring.

## CLUB SEEKS MELVIN JONES CANDIDATE



Our Club has traditionally awarded a Melvin Jones Fellowship each year to a member who has embodied humanitarian ideas consistent with the nature and purpose of Lionism. Named for our founder, The Melvin Jones Fellowship Award is the highest form of recognition in Lionism. It is presented by Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF). Recipients of this award are model Lions because of their exemplary service to their Club and to their community.

This year we have again decided ask the general MLLC membership for recommendations of worthy candidates. A committee made up of past Melvin Jones recipients will vote on the selection. The winning candidate will be selected in March, with the presentation being made at our Charter Night in June. To add to the suspense and prestige of the honor, the name of the recipient is kept secret until the actual presentation.

Although the recipient does not need to be a member of our Club, or even a Lion, we have traditionally chosen a person from our ranks.

Recipients are presented with a handsome plaque, a special Melvin Jones pin and a letter from the International President. Their name goes on a computer-generated display at the LCIF Room at Lions International headquarters, joining over 357,000 others worldwide who have received this honor.

**Past recipients in our Club are Ruth Fleetwood (now deceased), Bunny Blair, Margaret Warren, Anna Marie Robinson, Marie Robinson, Karen Thompson, Ruth Gorgas, Pat Nichols, June Rich and Barbara Kirk.** Any of these can be nominated again, to be eligible for a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship, or we can select a different candidate.

**To place a name in nomination, contact Melvin Jones Committee Chair Barbara Kirk by e-mail at [bjkirk107@aol.com](mailto:bjkirk107@aol.com). Please put "Melvin Jones" in the subject line and provide a brief write-up on why the person should be considered. All nominations need to be received by February 29.**

## CLUB TO CATER WORLDWIDE INDUCTION DAY LUNCHEON

On **Sunday, April 24**, District 24A will celebrate the future of community service as we honor new members who have come into the Clubs in the District since April 2015 and also recognize the dedication of their sponsors. The ceremony will be held at the Park-West Lions Community Center, 8620 Sunnygate Drive, Manassas from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Although it's the new members being honored, ALL Lions are invited to attend. If you're interested in going, let President Amy know.

A deli lunch will be served to attendees at no cost. The Manassas Lioness Lions have been asked to make arrangements for the food, and Nancy Sliger will again be chairing this event for the Club. She will be contacting members shortly to get help with set-up and clean-up. There will be very little food preparation involved as we purchase deli trays already made up.



## HERE'S THE TALLY ON INDIVIDUAL VISITATIONS

One of the fun things we do in Lions is pay visits to other Clubs to get ideas for activities and just to make new friends. Lions International encourages this and we have the opportunity to earn awards for participation in the visitation program. There are two categories of awards: 100% Member Visitation and Club Visitation. For the 100% Member Visitation award, all active members who are physically able must have visited at least one other Club. For the Club Visitation award, a team of two or more of our members needs to have visited a total of 16 clubs, including all those in our Zone. If you visit a Club more than 50 miles from your home base, the team-of-two requirement does not apply and a single person visiting will count as a Club visitation.

Several members have asked if they have made a qualifying visitation to another Lions Club's activity during the current Lion Year. According to the Visitation Chair's records, the following members have made at least one visitation, which will count toward our getting the 100% Member Visitation award at year end:

*Pam Carpenter  
Barbara Kirk  
Amy Newman  
June Rich  
Rhonda Thompson*

*Pat Dekkers  
Susan MacAuley  
Pat Nichols  
Marie Robinson  
Cindy van Noppen*

*Teresa Kaufman  
Ann Marie Macdonald  
Beth Oravec  
Nancy Sliger  
Katheryn Williamson*

Did we miss anyone? If so, please contact Visitation Chair Barbara Kirk (bjkirk107@aol.com) and tell her the Club event and date you visited. A complete list of visitation award requirements can be found at [www.valions.org](http://www.valions.org).



For those of you not on the list, a quick way to get a visitation in (and to help support another local Club), is to attend the Manassas Host Groundhog Pancake Supper on **Saturday, February 6**. This event is held at The Rock (the former Marsteller Middle School next to Manassas Baptist Church on Sudley Rd.) from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$7 for adults, \$3 for children. Remember, if you do attend, let our Visitation Chair know!

## EYEGLASS RECYCLING OPERATION NEEDS HELP

Here's a way you can spend two hours of your time and make a BIG difference. The eyeglass recycling operation at Park-West Lions Club Community Center, 8620 Sunnygate Dr., Manassas can use some extra hands on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. and on most Thursday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon. Call ahead of time to let them know you're coming.

They need help with washing eyeglasses gathered from collection boxes, then sorting and reading them with a lensometer, ophthalmic equipment which measures the optical properties of a pair of glasses. Training on the equipment will be provided.

Contact for the Wednesday night operation is Stan Pearson (571-220-7038) and for the Thursday morning operation, Bob Kirk (703-743-5508).



## ***BITS 'N PIECES***

- ✚ The Board of Directors has made the decision to change the site for their monthly meetings to the community room at the Central Library on Mathis Ave. in Manassas on the first Monday of each month instead of asking members to host the meetings in their homes. BOD meetings are open to the general membership and begin at 6:30 p.m.
- ✚ The Board voted against participating in the Strikes for SERVE Bowl-a-thon this year because of diminishing participation in recent years.
- ✚ We will not be having a booth at the City of Manassas Live Well Festival this year. We used to be given space free of charge; this year they are charging \$50 for a space. This was purely a financial decision based on return on investment.
- ✚ Zone level competition for the James Bland Music Competition for youth will be held at 7 p.m. **Friday, February 19** at Manassas Baptist Church. Our Club will be providing refreshments. Contact President Amy Newman if you can help with refreshments or with sign-in for contestants.
- ✚ Vice President Pat Nichols has proposed we consider starting a Pennies for the Community fundraiser, placing jars to collect pennies at local merchants. She will provide more details about this program in coming weeks.
- ✚ The Spring Wine Tasting and Vendor Fair will be held on **Sunday, May 15** at Harris Pavilion in Old Town Manassas. More details as the date approaches.



## ***WINTER CONFERENCE SET FOR FREDERICKSBURG IN MARCH***

This year's District 24A Winter Conference will be held on **Friday, March 18 and Saturday, March 19** at the Fredericksburg Hospitality House, 2801 Plank Rd., Fredericksburg, VA. This will be a one-day service project conference in lieu of the traditional workshops and guest speaker. A dinner is offered to the group on Friday night and the hotel has a special rate on rooms so that attendees can arrive Friday and be on-site for the Saturday activities which begin at 8 a.m.



Preliminary details and a reservation form can be found on the District's Web site, [www.valions.org](http://www.valions.org).

Attendees have their choice of off-site service opportunities with Hospice Patient Support, Fredericksburg Area Food Bank, Senior Visitor Program, Stafford Head Start and Salvation Army, to name a few.

For those not able to go out into the community, there will be on-site service opportunities offered. These include sorting for Stamps for the Wounded, making fleece lap blankets for a nursing home, and eyeglass recycling. You will need to make your own reservations, using the form provided on the Web site or District newsletter. Remember, for those MLLC members attending, the Club will reimburse you the \$15 cost for registration.

## **WE'RE LOOKING FOR FEEDBACK**

Our Board wants to hear from YOU ... whether it's a **compliment** (\*blush\*--that's always nice!), a **complaint** (hey, we're not perfect) or a **comment** (we really ARE open to new ways of doing things) let us know what you're thinking.



To make it easier for you to communicate (and retain anonymity if you choose) we're going to provide a suggestion box at our regular dinner meetings with feedback forms for you to use. Be sure to look for it at our February 15 dinner meeting!

## **OTHER IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Thursday, February 11**

Bingo at Caton Merchant, 7 p.m.

**Monday, February 22**

Bingo at Willow Oaks, 7 p.m.

**Saturday, March 5**

Newsletter deadline for March issue. Send photos and articles to Editor Barbara Kirk, [bjkirk107@aol.com](mailto:bjkirk107@aol.com).

**Monday, March 7**

BOD meeting at Central Library community room, 6:30 p.m.

### **Can we ask a favor???**

When an event like a dinner meeting calls for an RSVP, would you please respond with a "yes" or "no" so the event coordinator knows that the word has reached everyone. This REALLY helps with our planning. Thanks!!!

## **It's G-R-R-eat to be a Manassas Lioness Lion!**

