STERLING HEIGHTS LIONS CLUB NEWSLETTER

International President, Dr. Patti Hill - “Change the World”

District 11-A2 Governor Kelley Unruh

JULY 2023

As you may know, Lion Sue Joye has stepped down from the position of 3rd Vice President and I would like to acknowledge her time, effort, and dedication of putting our newsletter together for the last year. Thank you for filling the position so well. Sue and other fellow Lions will help me ease into this new role and I will do my best to share all the happenings, events, and new members who have joined our Club.

Let me share a little bit about myself and how and why I became a LION.....

I am carrying on a LEGACY! My grandfather, Lion George Webster DeClark (pictured below), was a member of University Lions Club in Detroit and then a Redford/Livonia Lion for many years. He attended Lion meetings until 2007, when he passed at 103 yrs. old. He is also a recipient of the Melvin Jones Award!

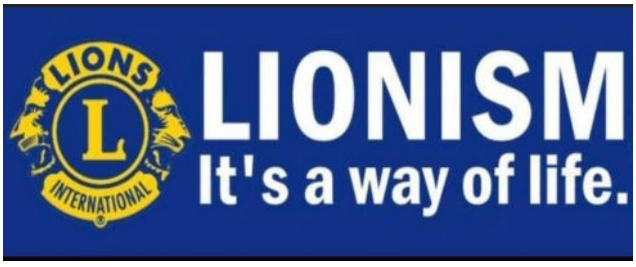
My uncle, Lion Jim Oak (DUDE), asked me to become a SH Lions member in 2021 and I couldn't be more proud that he is my Sponsor!

I have been a Nanny for over 20 years and graduated in 1999 from O.C.C with an Associate in Early Child Development. My passion is working with young children and animals. I have also volunteered/worked for the Michigan Humane Society, which was very rewarding.

Being a Lion to me means being a part of a family of like- minded individuals who want to fill the needs of those in our community.

In other words, TO SERVE!

We want to learn more about you, your background, ideals, and why you chose to become a LION? Send me your STORY 📖
declarkd@yahoo.com Lion Dawn DeClark



PRIDE NEWS

Presidents Appreciation Dinner and Annual Installation of Officers

We welcomed the new incoming Officers for the year 2023-2024

President	Dr. Mary Welsh
Immediate Past President	PDG John Bingham
Lioness Lions President	Pat Meadow
1st Vice President	Chuck McAllister
2nd Vise President	Ken Sharp
3rd Vice President	Dawn DeClark
Secretary	Joe Welsh
Treasurer	Eileen Maciasz
Membership Chair	Bob McAllister
Lion Tamer	Dipesh Bhalsod
Tail Twister	Jim Oak
Director	Dr. Gary Ciolek
Director	Frank Singer
Director	Susan Joye
Director	Joseph Croke

DISTRICT 11-A2 OFFICERS

District Governor	Kelley Unruh (Sterling Heights)
Immediate Past District Governor	Shawn Blaszcyk (Selfridge Chesterfield)

DISTRICT 11-A-2 OFFICERS (CONT.)

1st Vice District Governor	Rhonda Furby (Eastpointe)
2nd Vice District Governor	Mark Scicluna (Beverly Hills)
Cabinet Secretary	Kimberly Thiede (Fraser)
Cabinet Treasurer	Eileen Maciasz (Sterling Heights)
Region 1, Zone 2 Chairperson	Pat Wojas (Beverly Hills)
Region 2, Zone1 Chairperson	Yaz Abusaif (Shelby Township)
Region 2, Zone 2 Chairperson	Bob Westbury (Royal Oak)
Region 3, Zone 1 Chairperson	Jaime Lucero (Romeo)
Region 3, Zone 2 Chairperson	Dawn Porter (Mt. Clemens)
Tail Twister	Jim Oak (Sterling Heights)
District Administrator	Cheryl Satterthwaite (Roch. Hills)
District Newsletter Editor	Ryan Covert (New Baltimore)
Global Leadership Team	Jim Leach (Lake Orion)
Global Membership Team	David VanDeek (St. Clair Shores)
Global Extension Team	Leo Schaefer (Armada)
Global Service Team	Dr. Mary Welsh (Sterling Heights)

CONGRATULATIONS

Our Members have dedicated their time and effort to being of service to our club and community, therefore some were the recipients of the following awards at our Presidents Appreciation Dinner, although all members were awarded Certificates of Appreciation because IT TAKES A TEAM!! The club sponsored our 3 Melvin Jones recipients.

President's Award	Dr. Mary Welsh
Outstanding Secretary	Joe Welsh
Outstanding Treasurer	Eileen Maciasz
Appreciation Awards	Jim Oak & Eileen Maciasz
Spark Plug Award	Dawn DeClark
Leader Dog Tribute	Susan Joye & Lorie Papa
Ken E. Lautzenheiser Fellowship	Ken Sharp
Charles Wier Sight Conservation	Ron Papa
William "Doc" Barr Knights for Vision Fellowship -	Chuck McAllister
Joe Sandomierski Humanitarian	Barb McAllister
Melvin Jones Fellow-	Pat Meadows, Joe Welsh, & Bob McAllister
Lion of the Year	Joe Welsh

Did You know….

The Melvin Jones Fellowship (MJF) is the backbone of our foundation. Presented to those who donate US$1,000 to LCIF or to people for whom a donation was made by others, it's a tremendous contribution to humanity and to the legacy of our founder, Melvin Jones.

"WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER"

MEMBERSHIP

Please welcome our new Members to the SH Lions Club this month. We are all looking forward to being of service in the community with all of you!

Ashley Welsh	(sponsored by Joe Welsh)
Donna McFarlane	(sponsored by Barb McAllister)
Jasmine Anderson	(sponsored by Dr. Mary Welsh)
Judy Welsh	(sponsored by Basil Welsh)
Monica Hamlet	(sponsored by Dr. Mary Welsh)
Austin Lee	(sponsored by Dr. Mary Welsh)
LaShawn Mico	(sponsored by Monica Hamlet)
Kimberley McAllister	(sponsored by Chuck McAllister)
Scott Chambers	(sponsored by Dr. Mary Welsh)
Sonya Weaver	(sponsored by Monica Hamlett)
Adeline Martin	(reinstatement)
Larry Carson	(reinstatement)
Ken Neilson	(reinstatement)

We are glad to have former members reinstate their memberships.

Thank You to Lion Shawn Blaszcyk, Lion Kelley Unruh, and Lion Ron Papa for swearing in our new members.

Thank you to Dr. Mary Welsh for utilizing your networking skills and continually bringing in new members.

GUEST SPEAKERS & OTHER NEWS

Congratulations to our Lions of Michigan White Cane Scholarship Recipient, Brenna Hayward, who received a $500 check towards her education at Grand Valley State. Out of 12 applicants, only 4 are selected.

SIMASKO LAW (Elder Law)

Professor Patrick Simasko (Attorney at Law) & Dave Howard (Financial Planner) spoke to the members about planning ahead and being prepared for the future. If you would like more info, you can contact Patrick Simasko at (586)468-6798 or **Pat@simaskolaw.com**

EVERSIGHT

Jim Pettinato spoke with us about the impact Eversight has had on many individuals..... DID YOU KNOW....

There have been 130 Cornea Donors and 101 Recipients from District 11-A2. The Statewide # of Donors is 637.

GRACE CENTERS OF HOPE

We were honored to have Mark Cunningham, the Director of Donor Relations, speak with us about one of the largest faith-based, long term life skills programs for those afflicted by homelessness, chemical dependency, and abuse in Southeast MI.

Mark states “Poverty is the lack of opportunity, not the lack of money. We shower our residents with opportunity.”

Thanks to Scott Harper, who came with Mark, to bravely speak about his story and working the program at GCH.

Thanks to CEO Pastor Clark, this organization is run solely on the goodness and compassion of others with no gov’t funding. If you would like more information on how you can help, donate or get involved ...Check out the Website...

https://gracecentersofhope.org

DONATION BOX

Just a reminder that we now have a Box by the front door for people to drop off eyeglasses, hearing aids, & contact lenses. Thank you again, Joe Welsh!!

ADOPT A ROAD

All participants interested are required to review the safety brochure, read the safety guidelines, watch the safety video and sign the Indemnification Agreement. Our stretch of road is Van Dyke Rd., between Utica & Canal Rd.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Please follow our Sterling Heights Lions Club Facebook page, if you don't already. It's a great way to see pictures of events, new members, and feel inspired by what's going on in our club. You can also follow the Sterling Heights Lioness Lions Facebook page.

The Sterling Heights Lions Club website is looking great!

(https://sterlingheightslionsclub.org) You can also sign up on the website for our 2nd Annual Tom Klingensmith Golf Tournament, if you're interested in golfing, sponsorship, dinner only, or would just like to donate.

PRESIDENTS CORNER

Dr. Mary Welsh

It's been a year already, it's hard to believe. Look at our beautiful clubhouse, the team has really come together to spruce it up and the new sign is being approved by the city. Reflecting on how much I have learned, experienced, and shared with you has been challenging, inspiring, and fun. It has set the stage for continued growth, new people, new friendships in our team, in our district, state, and community, new ideas, more hands, and more possibilities. As you look around the room or read the meeting minutes, you can see members coming in and bringing their friends with them. How exciting to see friendships blossom and others becoming stronger through the commitment to Lionism and helping our community.

This year, think of that person that might be a new retiree or a new empty nester looking for ideas to get involved, the young mom or dad that could engage remotely with their skill sets and involve their kids in our family friendly events, and the teenagers looking to help but not sure how to get involved

(they can help with ideas, social media, etc.). We need to show them who we are and how we make a difference.

Our collaboration event in March was wonderful, opening the door to new possibilities, people asking "What do the Lions do? What do they support? How can I be involved?" We will be planning more and exposing each other's organizations to what we do so that we can complement or collaborate on outings and events with our district Lions and other service agencies and nonprofits.

I am proud to say an introduction to Traci at Bear Lake Camp and Peggy at Henry Ford Sandcastles brought a new camp experience to the kids, a grief camp. There are no other local overnight grief camps for kids, we are setting the stage. They are filling their program up fast if you know anyone that can benefit. We fulfilled our Eagles grant this past Monday at the club making camp bags for the Lions Bear Lake Camp and Henry Ford Sandcastles Grief camp. We had Optimists, Rotarians, Kiwanians, and businesspeople in the room. All asking, "when is the next opportunity to collaborate?" One couple asked if they could be in Kiwanis and Lions, they like what they are hearing and seeing. Joe said "of course."

No idea is too small, bring them forward and let's see how expanding our footprint in the community can create a buzz to "Join our team – together we can make a difference." Fill out the flyer and let's get those shirts ordered, wear them proudly, and continue to build things bigger and better.

But first, let me take a moment to thank each of you for all the hard work this year, the many ways you helped make this club stronger, seasoned, and new team members alike. In your envelope, you will find a certificate of appreciation, thank you. We would not have a team without you. Each of you bring something to the team, whether it is greeting people, making scarfs, sewing patches on the banner, working the kitchen duties, cleaning or maintenance of the hall and the grounds, etc. This is just my small token that each of you is important and appreciated.

With that said, I would like to thank several team members for their contributions and commitment, and without their support I could not have succeeded, or you would not have re-elected to another term. DGE Kelly Unruh's motto is "mentor for change". I relied on the mentorship, knowledge, and guidance of several key people in the room if you could stand for me: Kelley, Ron, John, and Ken along with my wonderful husband Joe who listened relentlessly and acted in the best interest of the club. As my husband Joe and I explored the club, its needs, and asked a thousand questions, these four were extremely patient in listening and exploring our options. On my behalf and the club members here, thank you!

Secondly, I would like to recognize the Lioness Lions for their hard work and dedication, I will be attending their appreciation dinner June 27th to offer my gratitude and appreciation for their commitment in the club, our charities, and in the community. These ladies rock!

There are always leadership positions, some that are defined and some where individuals that stepped up. I would like to share my appreciation to the following individuals that work relentlessly to make our club run smoothly and address the concerns of the team, the renters, and the community we support including our own sponsored Boy Scouts and Soccer League.

Club Secretary, Joseph Welsh. Did he want this position, no! He stepped up to assist in making the transition mid-year seamless and will do our club well in the coming year. This is a small token of my appreciation.

Treasurer, Eileen Maciasz. Eileen's commitment is unwavering, she will be assisting at the District Level this year as Treasurer as well. Her skills keep us running and on task. This is a small token of my appreciation.

Appreciation Awards.

EIleeen Maciasz. She has run the monthly Euchre nights, the Charity Poker programming and the White Cane and the Candy Cane programs. With her new duties, we are looking for people to step up for the White Cane and Candy Cane programming, please show your interest. This recognition plaque shows my appreciation for all the hard work to keep everything running smoothly and on task. Thank you.

Jim Oak. Jim your work with Mike Pedrie has not gone unnoticed. As we continue to explore the community and you receive more and more, you step up to the plate and get them processed. United Way brings requests for assistance along with other sources, you tackle them with empathy and tact. Your efforts can be seen throughout the district and beyond, Autism Play Center, Wigs for Kids, school initiatives, and Lions Bear Lake Camp. For your hard work and dedication, please accept this small token of appreciation. Thank you.

Spark Plug. Dawn DeClark. Dawn is a breath of fresh air. She has dabbled in taking pictures, creating a social media presence, communicating between the Lioness Lions and Lions groups, and is working on the website ongoing. She has hopped right in, asks lots of questions, seeks training, and always acts ethically and with empathy to share the stories of those we touch. She is our storyteller, and this Spark Plug award demonstrates how I value and appreciate her. Thank you.

Leader Dog tribute. Sue Joye. Sue raised her hand when I needed a position filled. Although she has a very busy schedule, she embraced the job of creating our newsletter, of telling of our accomplishments, our new members, new babies, grandchildren, pets, etc. She told of our impact in the community, the district, and on our team members. When a funny quote was added or a sad remembrance, she took the patience to say the right thing. Her Pancake Easter Breakfast planning and coordination was highly successful, everyone had a blast! This is a small token of thanks for all you did and continue to do! Thanks.

Leader Dog Tribute. Lorie Papa. Lorie has been instrumental in making sure our events are run smoothly under her care, the food, the setting, and the ambiance of the event. Thank you for all you do to make others feel welcomed and a part of the team.

Ken E. Lautzenheiser Fellowship. Ken Sharp, the name is appropriate. When at the bar, there are several who are there relentlessly so that the rest of us can sit and enjoy the meeting or event. His and their presence does not go unnoticed, thank you Ken for your friendship, your smile, the time behind the bar and for spearheading the Golf Outing with Chuck. It was a big success, and we look forward to this summer. Sign up everyone! Thanks, Ken, for your hard work.

Charles Weir Sight Conservation. Ron Papa. Lorie thanks for not getting mad at all the time Ron sat with Joe and I after an event or meeting to discuss past practices, people and business challenges, policies,

updates, what ifs, the list goes on. Ron, without your guidance, we would have limped through the year. You allowed us to ask away without any worry of offending you to get to the past practices, the how and why, and where we need to go for a brighter future. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. By the way, the plaques in the mail, 😊

William "Doc" Barr Knights for Vision Fellowship. Chuck McAllister. Along with Ron, Joe and I had many, many discussions with Chuck about where we want the club to go, to grow and be sustainable. Your friendship and your families is invaluable, thanks for always doing what you can for everyone here, your commitment is worn in that smile and laugh always. This is a small token of my appreciation. Thanks.

Joe Sandomierski. Barb McAllister. Barb picks up and simply does. Whether it is here at the club or out In the community. The flowers, the cleaning, the keeping Bob on task 😊, the smile of encouragement, the note of support, or "what can we do to help another group like Macomb Foster Closet" If you follow her, she is involved in many outside organizations, she truly is a kindred spirit committed to positivity and helping others. I am honored to bestow the Joe Sandomierski Award to her for her love of life and community. Thanks Barb.

Melvin Jones.

Bob McAllister. Where Barb is, so is Bob. He is always checking on the building, the grounds, the hall situations and parties, and spearheads membership. We are going to continue to keep him busy, he needs help to greet new visitors and ensure new members are welcomed and learn about who we are individually and as a team. Sign up to be on the membership committee, we plan to ensure our new members are happy and others consider joining us. This honor is designed to show our team's appreciation, I think we had close to 20 new members and several rejoin. Thanks Bob.

Pat Meadows. Pat is always working with the hall renters, the hall hosts, the bartenders, the maintenance team, and cleaning teams to ensure a quality service is provided to all. She leads the Lioness Lions in their hard work in the community and is inspirational in keeping us all on task to hit our metrics and exceed our expectations. Thanks Pat, this honor is well deserved. Your Lioness Lions are lucky to have you another year as the President. I look forward to our Co-leadership for another year.

Joseph Welsh. Joe, without your strong support, your sense of business and calmness, your ability to manage a situation whether person or place, and mostly with your sense of laughter, and ability to make me and others feel at ease and to laugh, we would not have gotten through the challenges of this past year and life. Thank you for your commitment to the club, your peers, the Euchre players, the charity poker, white/candy cane events, bark and brew, etc., we are all better for it. Thanks.

Lion of the Year. Joe, you helped from day one looking at finances, policies, practices, ways to improve things, creating systems and check lists, dealing with different temperaments and situations, and stepping up when necessary. We worked together tirelessly to explore the finances, the food, the dues, the systems, the people, the ways to grow. We attend other clubs, we go to different meetings, you covered for me when I went to region and district meetings, you attended district and state conventions, you attended trainings, you continued holding down the building maintenance even when you took over the secretary role. You are amazing for putting up with me and this team always with a dose of laughter and fun. Thank you**.** **LION DR. MARY WELSH**

FUTURE EVENTS

JULY 10th (Mon) – Susie Q's Kids Bag Stuffing (volunteers welcome)

JULY 11th (Tues) – Training Seminar for Diabetic Retinopathy

(Free Screenings 12-4)

July 12TH (Wed) – Dinner Meeting (starts at 6:30pm) (Planning Meeting)

(Come with your Ideas)

July 13TH (Thurs) – Lions Bear Lake Camp Ice Cream Social @ 5pm

July 14th. (Fri) – Euchre Night (Doors open at 6pm)

July 19th. (Wed) – Board Meeting (starts at 6:30pm) (All are Welcome)

July 23rd (Sun)– Cabinet Installation Picnic

July 25th (Tues)- Impact 100 Macomb & Christian Women's Business Networking Group Meetup…👍🏽

July 26th. (Wed) – Dinner Meeting (starts at 6:30pm)

******MARK YOUR CALENDER******

Aug. 3rd. (Thurs) – Red Cross Blood Drive (9–3pm)

Aug 9TH (Wed) -Dinner Meeting (starts at 6:30 pm) (Jasmynn's Voice)

Aug.5th (SAT)- LMSF "Hall Of Fame" Dinner Mt. Pleasant)

Aug. 11th (Fri) –Euchre Night (Doors open at 6pm)

Aug 19th (Sat) – Club Officer Training (if interested)

Sept. 23RD (Sat0 – 2ND Annual Tom Klingensmith Golf Tournament (Timberwood Golf Course)

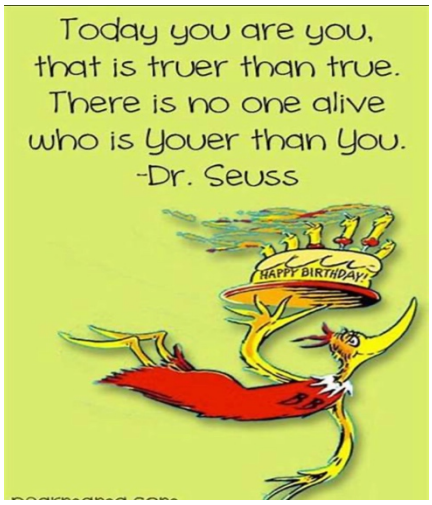
Oct. 1st((Sun) – JDRF Diabetes Walk

Oct. 21ST (Sat) – Evening with the Stars

Oct. 23rd (Mon) – Penrickton Kick–Off Dinner

Nov. 2- 5th – Lions of Michigan Leadership Training, Higgins Lake

Charity Poker Dates: **Aug** 4-7 days, **Sept**. 14-17 nights, **Sept**. 9/29 - **Oct.** 10/3 nights, **Dec**. 27-30 nights (Still Looking for Volunteers for Aug. 4th /Contact Eileen Masciacz (ejmm8@comcast.net)



BIRTHDAYS

Ashley Welsh (6/27)

Jim Oak (7/1)

Tom Smith (7/11)

Kelley Unruh (7/23)

Karen Corey (7/31)

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Dawn DeClark (2yrs)

Please keep the following Lions in your Thoughts and Prayers.....

LL PHILLIS WEXLER

LION BOB MCALLISTER

LION HANK CARROLL

LION JOE WUNCHEL

LION MARLENE VARTO

LION ROBERT VARTO

LION ROY CECI AND FAMILY

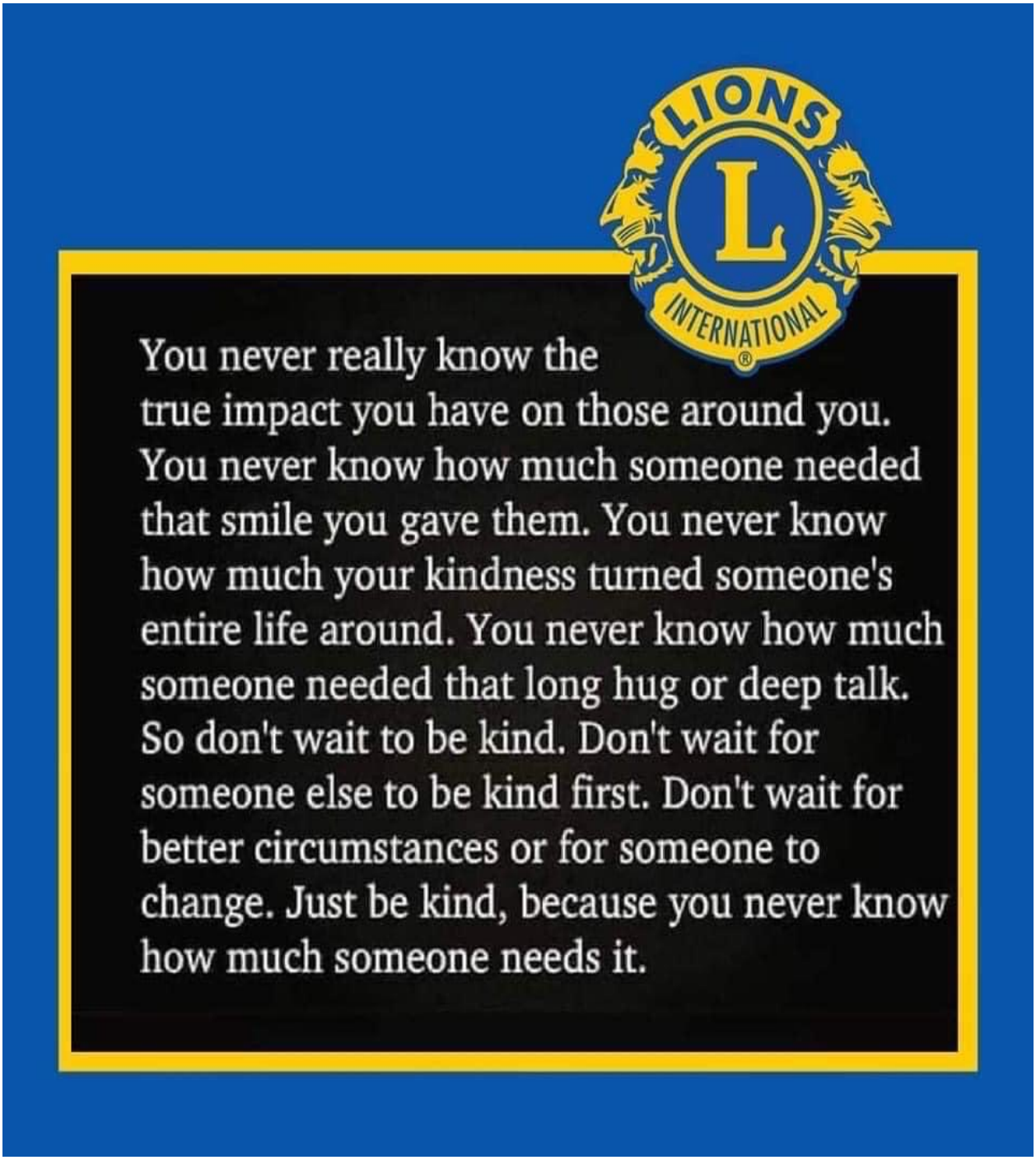
LL VAL GACH

CORA (LION JIM HARTENS WIFE)

GARY LOOPER (GOOD FRIEND OF LL PAT MEADOWS)

SHELLY (DAUGHTER OF LION MILDRED BUTTS)

NATALIE (GRANDDAUGHTER OF VERALUCKENBACHER)


LIONS
L
INTERNATIONAL
You never really know the
true impact you have on those around you.
You never know how much someone needed
that smile you gave them. You never know
how much your kindness turned someone's
entire life around. You never know how much
someone needed that long hug or deep talk.
So don't wait to be kind. Don't wait for
someone else to be kind first. Don't wait for
better circumstances or for someone to
change. Just be kind, because you never know
how much someone needs it.

LIONESS LIONS

UPCOMING EVENTS.....

July 11th – Board & General Membership Meeting (starts at 6pm)

July 18th – Bunco (Doors open at 6: 30) (Cost is $10)

August 8th – Board & General Membership Meeting (starts at 6pm)

August 15th – Tea & Strumpets (Starts at 12pm) (Cost is $15)

ONGOING COLLECTIONS....

Val Gach/Marilyn Winter- New/Used Greeting Cards

Val Gach – New or Slightly Used Stuffed Animals

Grace Shalawylo – Used Stamps

Cynthia Coraci –Can Tabs & Tennis Shoes (any condition)

Pat Meadows – Plastic Lids & Caps

(Please deposit in Bin in the Back Room)

Amy Casali – Crib/Twin Sheets, Kids Pajamas, & Toothpaste

(Macomb Foster Closet)

QUOTES FOR THE DAY:

"BEING A MEANS KNOWING THAT KINDNESS MATTERS"

"BEING A MEANS KNOWING YOU'RE A PART OF A COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITY"

"IF I CAN'T DO GREAT THINGS, I CAN DO SMALL THINGS IN A GREAT WAY" MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.