

### President's Message

#### My Thoughts on Thanksgiving and Christmas...

These could be the days when we get together with our family and friends and eat a lot of food, watch football and enjoy each other and all the things we have.

or

It could be the days when we reflect on the inner satisfaction one gets when they do or have something go right, to help someone else, someone in need.

*-help someone with a financial need obtain the glasses or hearing aids they require;*

*-participate in our youth vision screening program to ensure that those with a vision problem obtain the needed eye care;*

*-clean up the beach and plant grass so we can help our environment;*

*-deliver Meals on Wheels to the home bound elderly;*

*-help those in need within our community to overcome a personal setback;*

*-oversee a Peace Poster Contest which encourages young people to express their visions of peace;*

*-provide scholarships to deserving Indian River High School Seniors*

*-build ramps for the physically impaired;*

*-collect books for the Leos to donate to local schools, in an effort to promote the love of reading and literacy; (Cont'd next page)*



District Governor Richard Merriwether emphasizes International President Wayne Madden's theme of 'In a World of Service' on his visit to our club.

### Mark your Calendar

**Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, District Governor's Ball** 6 PM Sheraton Hotel, Dover

**Monday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, Club Christmas Party**, 6 PM Clarion Hotel Ocean City

**Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> Visually Impaired Christmas party** 6:30 PM Georgetown CHEERs Center

**Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> Grotto's Dinner Fundraiser** About 6 PM +/- Rte 26, Bethany Beach  
Grotto's to benefit club and in support of the Zone Youth Vision Screening program

**Monday, December 17<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting, followed by short Board Meeting** 12 Noon Harpoon Hanna's







## Indian River High School LEOs induct 100 New Members

Wednesday evening, November 7<sup>th</sup>, in the midst of the nor'easter with its gusty winds, falling temperatures and touch of snow, the Indian River High School LEO Club officers, inductees and their families gathered in the high school auditorium where a record 100 new members were inducted.

The Club, which is sponsored by the Fenwick Island Lions Club, is a student run organization whose goals are to provide humanitarian service within the local communities, instill in its membership the importance of such service and to provide members with an appreciation of the fulfillment and self satisfaction that comes with serving others.

Lion Jim Miles acted as MC for the evening and Past Lions District Governor Karl Gude swore in the officers and new members. Club President Gopika Lakshmanan spoke of her experiences as a LEO and the fact that she has come to realize that she is the ultimate beneficiary of her service to others. Following the ceremony everyone retreated to cafeteria where cookies and drinks were served by members of the Fenwick Island Lions Club and enjoyed by all.

It all began in 2003 with an initial membership of 23. Today, the Indian River High School LEO Club has a total of 167 members. Lions Jim and Carolyn Miles serve as liaisons with the LEO Club and the LEO Club advisor is math teacher Ms. Laura Quillen, who is ably assisted by fellow math teacher, Ms. Amy Hughes. Meetings and club activities are directed by the club officers. The officers for 2012-13 are President-Gopika Lakshmanan, Vice President - Rosie Rinker, Secretaries -Jessica Gude (Public Relations & Newsletters) & Delany McMullen (Membership and Activities), Treasurer – Brooke Pendergast and Historian/Webmaster - Amanda Roadarmel.

This fall the Club officers decided upon three primary service goals: To promote literacy by collecting and distributing children's books to an elementary school, to collect used eye glasses for a Lions program that benefits those in third world countries and to provide supplies for the Ronald McDonald House in Wilmington. See graphic at right for additional details.

It should be noted that as the LEOs approach their final week of the book collection drive, they have already collected 1,075 children's books.

### IRHS LEO FOCUS

**"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." Dr. Seuss**

We will be conducting a book drive in the school and community during the beginning weeks of school. All books collected will be distributed to classrooms in local elementary schools by students in our club.

Helen Keller challenged the LIONS to become **"knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness."**



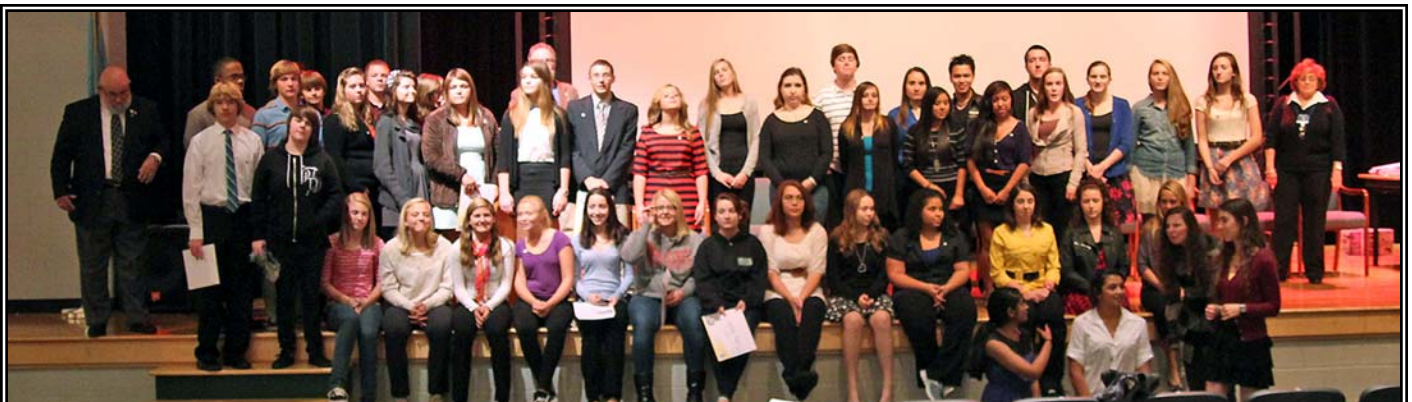
Our LEO club will help collect unused eyeglasses in our school and community to be recycled and donated around the world.

Since 1991, the Ronald McDonald House of Delaware has provided families with a safe, affordable "home away from home" while their children receive treatment at local hospitals.

Our club is going to run two drives for the Ronald McDonald House of Delaware in order to collect household essentials that they offer families free of charge. The fall drive will end with club members traveling to the house to deliver the goods and provide guests with holiday treats and cheer. The spring drive will also end with a visit however this trip will bring with it fun springtime activities for the house families.



**This Year's LEO Club Focus....**  
as shown on a panel of the new promotional folder.



**Pictured here are the LEOs who braved the nor'easter to be inducted into the Club on November 7th. They are flanked by Lions Club liaisons Jim & Carol Miles and are joined by PDG Karl Gude.**

## Lions Clubs International Peace Poster Contest

Each year, Lions clubs from around the world proudly sponsor the Lions International Peace Poster Contest in local schools and youth groups. This art contest encourages young people worldwide to express their visions of peace. For 25 years, more than four million children from nearly 100 countries have participated in the contest.

Each year's art contest has an original theme incorporating peace. Participants use a variety of mediums, including charcoal, crayon, pencil and paint, to express the theme. The works created are unique and express the young artists' life experiences and culture. The theme of the 2012-13 Peace Poster Contest is **"Imagine Peace."** Students, ages 11, 12 or 13 are eligible to participate.

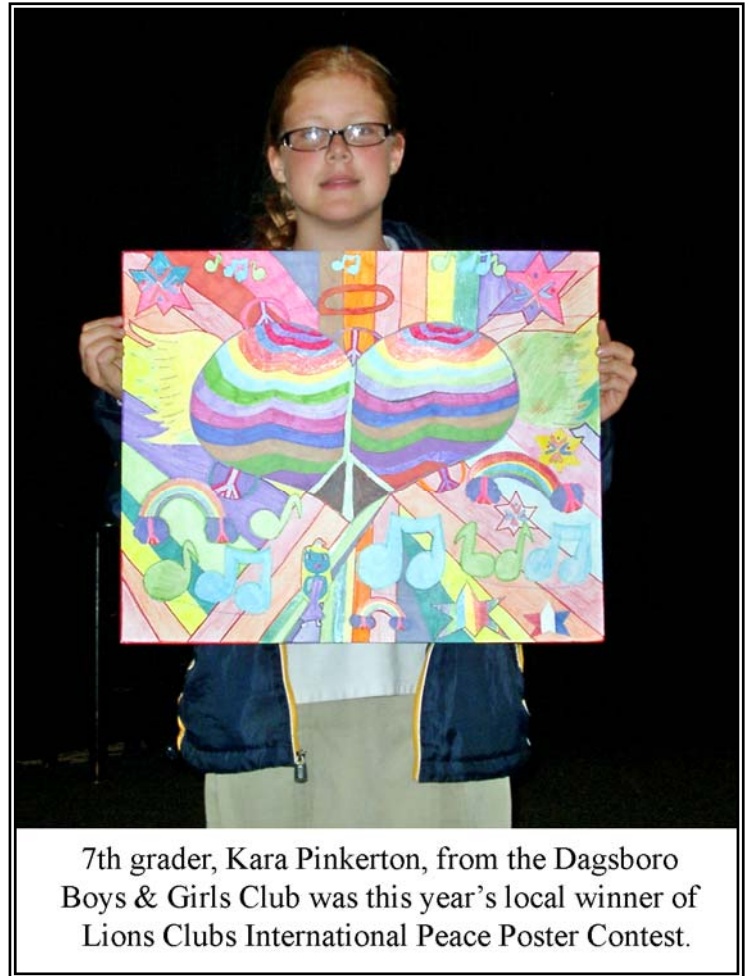
Once again Jim and Carol Miles, members of the Fenwick Island Lions Club, have overseen the annual Peace Poster Contest in the Sussex County area.

There were 13 participants from both the Oak Orchard and Dagsboro Boys and Girls Clubs. The local winning poster, this year, was submitted by 7th grader, Kara Pinkerton, from the Dagsboro club. The winning poster was selected by a panel of judges for its originality, artistic merit, and the portrayal of the contest theme.

Fenwick Island Lions Club president, Jean Bertram, said she was impressed by the expression and creativity of the students at both the Dagsboro and Oak Orchard Boys and Girls Clubs. "We're glad to see children thinking about such an important topic as world peace. I'm so proud that we were able to provide them with the opportunity to share their imaginings of a peace filled future. Our club was happy to award the winning entry with a \$25.00 gift certificate and the other participants with a coupon to a local restaurant."

Kara's poster will advance to face stiff competition through the district, multiple districts, and international rounds of competition if she is to be declared the grand prize winner.

We congratulate Kara for winning the local competition, and wish her good luck as the competition advances.



## LEADER DOG DONATION

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Mrs. Frances Slahetka of St. Ann's Sodality recently contacted Fran Pretty to learn more about the vision programs of the Lions. After Lion Fran explained why 'vision' is one of the missions of the Lions around the world and what the different programs were, Mrs. Slahetka said they would be making a donation to our Club. Last week a check for \$100 was received from St. Ann's Church in Bethany Beach earmarked for the Leader Dog Program.



## Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

We had much to be thankful for in connection with our Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser this year. At the top of the list is that the event was not planned for the prior weekend—when Hurricane Sandy was approaching—and that our area did not receive the direct hit, and the kind of damage, that we could have if the storm had turned to the west earlier, as it had been predicted to do.

While the numbers of patrons served was down because of the storm, the dinner was still a great success, thanks to the organizational skills of the dinner Chairman, Lion Sam Mooney and the generosity of the Lion Scott Fornwalt, who provided his restaurant (as he has for the past 26 years), staff members and financial support. Also contributing to the success was the support of the business community, our members and spouses, members of the Indian River High School LEO Club and the general public. All in all, a successful fundraiser, we can all be very proud of!



## REVIVAL OF THE FITTEST:

### *A Process for Managing Change with the Humor Advantage*

*(The following is excerpted from a presentation by Mary Feeley at the U.S.A/Canada Forum in Tampa.)*

A very serious disease is rampantly infiltrating the workplace like a nasty computer virus. This disease is called H.D.D., which stands for Humor Deficit Disorder... The trigger of H.D.D. is the stress of constant change that organizations have to implement to survive, succeed and prosper.

... To achieve change, true teamwork is critical. Humor can break down barriers; create instant rapport and helps bond in a way that cannot easily be broken. Humor transcends our differences while highlighting our similarities. However, there are two definitions for teamwork. The first is "Persons working or playing together." The second one is "Animals harnessed together". Which definition are you using? Which definition is your organization using? True team spirit cannot be created if the job is all yoke and no joke. Humor communication is the ultimate humanizing trait that leaders need to use to motivate and inspire their teams.

Humor provides many benefits in positive communication. So much business dialogue in information flow and training is predictable, therefore, easy to tune out. Humor breathes originality into all communication so people listen, learn and remember. It creates a creative culture, which encourages idea generation, and switches preset patterns of thinking.

Another benefit of humor is its inherent power to transform the negative to the positive. Viewing life's challenges with the humorous perspective of irony and absurdity promotes a positive attitude by neutralizing emotionally charged events. I was flying in a terrible storm and the landing was very rough. All the passengers were very stressed and fearful. After the safe landing, the flight attendant calmly announced, "Welcome to Kansas City...I apologize for the bumpy landing, however, it was not the plane's fault or the pilot's fault.... it was...the asphalt. Everyone on the plane responded in the loudness and length of laughter that former standup comics, like myself, ache for. The flight attendant could not control or change what happened. However, by using the humor advantage, she reframed the negative perception of this experience into a positive one. Her humor diffused the fear and created a powerful and positive image for herself, the crew, the airline and the flying experience.

We fear the misuse of humor because of its power of offend, distract focus, be misinterpreted, and initiate formal complaints. Humor is a powerful communication device and with it comes responsibility to make sure humor is positive, appropriate and judiciously timed. The benefits of humor far outweigh the negative. Humor guidelines and boundaries need to be set.

When an organization has a culture of humor individuals are less inhibited. When you are less inhibited, creativity has no boundaries. The result is a joyful work environment where loyal individuals want to come to work and true teamwork is created. Problem solving and learning are maximized, information flows, changes are implemented necessary to create innovative products and services. Humor increases productivity which is proven in the bottom-line in productivity and positive image.

If you suffer from Humor Deficit Disorder, take heart as humor is an integral aspect of the human experience and you can learn how to incorporate humor into your own unique communication style. A sense of humor is an attitudinal perspective, combining both the intelligence and the self-confidence to view and respond to life's challenges with a healthy dose of irony and absurdity. Humor is a dialogue – one person initiates the humor another has to enjoy it, so even if you are not the initiator you can still participate with a laughter response.

The good news is that H.D.D. is curable. Humor plays a key role in our personal and professional relationships. The strategic use of wit will enhance your leadership image by revealing intelligence and self-confidence. It is imperative to develop a positive and appropriate sense of humor. By doing so, you will have the winning edge as a leader.



Join us December 12<sup>th</sup>  
Grotto Community Pizza Night  
A meal and the Parade of Trees

Looking for a little break from the fast approaching holidays? Join us at Grotto Pizza, Rte 26 in Bethany Beach, Monday evening, December 12, around 6 PM, (earlier or later as your schedule permits) for a meal and a chance to see this year's entries in Grotto's Parade of Trees. All you have to do is show them a copy of the "Community Night Pizza voucher" (below) and Grotto's will provide the Club with an amount equal to 20% of your total bill.

This is a special time at Grotto's as they are hosting the 26th annual Parade of Trees, which is intended to benefit local charities. This year, the Lord Baltimore Lions Club has agreed to decorate the Lions Zone Christmas tree entry, with all proceeds from this effort going to the Zone's Youth Vision Screening Program.

**Our Zone's Youth Vision Screening Program**

The youth vision screening program is overseen and directed by Lions Jim & Carolyn Miles on behalf of our Club. Other Lions Club participants in this great and rewarding effort include Lord Baltimore Lions Club, the Millville Lions Club and the Laurel Lions Club.

Studies have shown that upwards of 10% of children in the United States have some form of vision problem and that many of these difficulties are not readily detectable by either parent or pediatrician. Our program targets children in the age group of three to five years old. We are most interested in this group because studies have repeatedly shown that if vision problems are detected and treated at this early age it improves the chances for a 100% cure. Conversely, each year beyond age five that a vision disorder is neglected lessens the chances for successful treatment, thereby subjecting the person to a lifetime of vision difficulties.

For the age group we target, it has also been shown that the use of mechanical screeners—photoscreeners and autorefractors, is superior to the use of acuity eye charts. Recognizing the importance of this program, this fall our Zone upgraded its screening device with a state-of-the-art PediaVision "Spot" photoscreener, which can take multiple readings on both eyes simultaneously and instantly provide a printout of results. Jim and Carol have once again begun their annual screening and when complete they will have screened over 500 children.

**Please join us on the 12<sup>th</sup> for an enjoyable evening of good food and fellowship, support our Club and the Zone's Youth Vision Screening Program.**

Please join Grotto Pizza and the Fenwick Island Lions Club for a fundraising event



# Community Pizza Night

**Grotto Pizza** the legendary taste **Bethany - Rte 26**  
**December 12, 2012**  
**4 to 9 p.m.**

When this voucher is presented at time of order, an amount equal to 20% of your total bill will be donated to the Fenwick Island Lions Club.

[www.grotopizza.com](http://www.grotopizza.com)

This offer valid for dine-in and take out only

Birthdays Wishes!

**Keeping up the appearance of having all your marbles is hard work,  
but important.**

~Sara Gruen~ Water for Elephants

**Spring passes and one remembers one's innocence.  
Summer passes and one remembers one's exuberance.  
Autumn passes and one remembers one's reverence.  
Winter passes and one remembers one's perseverance.**

~Yoko Ono~

**Paul Ravilious Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Donald Stewart Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Jim Stone Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Roland Hoffman Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Lynne Whitworth Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Bill Neimiller Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Wayne Holler Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Ash Ashinhurst Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Fran Pretty Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>**

