

Presidents Message

Happy New Year!

I hope that your holiday season was full of family, friends and good cheer. We had a busy and fun time shuffling between Maryland and our daughter's family, then on to Georgia to spend Christmas with our son and his family... And last Friday we flew to St. Thomas and are now getting settled into our home on St. John.

I have been chatting with and e-mailing Bill Gay, the gentlemen who spoke to the club this past September about his experience as a principal in 'Operation Seas the Day'—the Bethany Beach initiative that honored and paid tribute to 25 service veterans and their families.

Our club's participation in this initiative and Bill's subsequent presentation made me painfully aware that our country is not doing enough to support those individuals (and their families) who have defended our freedoms and in the process have been injured, either physically, mentally or both.

You should know that Bill has agreed to do a seminar at the Lions MD-22 Convention this May in Ocean City, on ways that Lions clubs can give back to those who have given so much for their country. Following is the initial draft of the announcement for this seminar, which will be disseminated shortly by the MD-22 convention committee:

Can Your Lions Club Do More To Help Veterans Help Themselves Live More Fulfilling Lives?

- What help do post-911 era veterans need that is different from that needed for returning veterans of the first Gulf War, Vietnam or Korean War?
- Are you convinced that the major veterans related initiatives of Lions Clubs International —offering a financial incentive for veterans to join your club, Project Hope, Purple Heart Pups, to name a few—offer sufficient support to veterans, especially those with the severe physical and/or mental disabilities?
- What can your club do that will support what other local or national programs are doing to help veterans?
- Are there gaps in existing programs that the strong community and national infrastructure of Lions Clubs is uniquely qualified to fill for veterans?
- How much time and effort might be required to add a veteran-focused program to your club's already full agenda of service projects?
- How would you even find veterans in your community who need your help?
- Can female Lions and the social media and Internet savvy LEOs, make a big difference in helping Lions find and stay connected with veterans' families, especially those dealing with disabilities?

Want answers to these questions and more? Join us for this thought provoking, in-depth and timely seminar—that will raise your awareness and provide 'food for thought' on ways to support



those who have given so much. William F. Gay, a dynamic and engaging combat wounded veteran and retired business man will help you find practical answers to these questions, based on his experiences working with a variety of veterans' help-groups and his research into the current and evolving opportunities and challenges related to helping veterans help themselves.

We Care. We Serve. We Accomplish.

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And, We can all be very Proud!

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The MD-22 convention seminars will be held on May 13th and May 14th and I hope you will pencil in those dates on your calendar and plan on attending this seminar on one of those days.

In the meantime, I will continue to chat with Bill about ways that our club can locally support military veterans. Bill has already had some interesting and fruitful conversations with some local VFW and American Legion personnel about current needs.

I hope you agree with me that this is the sort of community need that we, as a Lions Club, should support.

My thanks to Don Stewart, Fred Moreland, Theresa Pitman, Bill Neimiller, other members of the board and our club members for carrying on our important service projects in my (and Sharon's) absence.

Yours in Lionism, Bruce



Visually Impaired Christmas Party



Fenwick Island Lions Christmas Party



Fenwick Island Lions Christmas Party Partie Deux



FILC Regular 12-16-13 Meeting



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District 22 D Governors Ball



January 20 Regular Meeting

Another super Speaker... Lion John Pitman introduced Representative Ron Gray. Ron is the 38th District Representative. He spoke about Delaware Minimum Wages, The Way Home, House Bill 88 and our very own Route 26 expansion!

Concerning the Route 26 Expansion: this major project for us started last week. It was originally set to be completed in 4 years. It is planned now to take only 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ years, thanks to the vote of the public to agree to night time construction. The cost will be \$26,000,000 – this includes the replacement of two bridges on Route 26. Thus far, 240 poles have been relocated. There will be lots of signs around the area indicating to take an alternate route, north, south and west.

Ron was one of the Judges at our Halloween Parade last October, he said he really enjoyed being able to participate and thanked the Lions for their support and getting everything ready. Lion Fran thanked Ron for his part in the Parade. Fran also thanked him for the attention given to a drainage problem in

Keenwick where she lives.

Representative Ron is shown here at the parade.

Come to these important winter meetings and witness all the many things we and others do to help our community.



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ASH	ASHINHURST	DEC	SAMUEL	MOONEY	FEB
WAYNE	HOLLER	DEC	RAYMOND	KRESS	FEB
BILL	NEIMILLER	DEC	JOHN	CARL	FEB
ROLAND	HOFFMAN	DEC	DONALD	LYNCH	FEB
FRAN	PRETTY	DEC	BRUCE	SCHOONOVER	FEB
JIM	STONE	DEC	RICHARD	WAUGHTAL	FEB
DON	STEWART	DEC	WILLIAM	WATSON	MAR
LYNNE	WHITWORTH	DEC	JOSEPH	LEONARD	MAR
JAMES	LUCAS	JAN	ROBERT	BERTRAM	MAR
ТОМ	FOLEY	JAN	PATRICIA	SCHLAUCH	MAR
CAROLYN	MILES	JAN	FRED	MORELAND	MAR
THE & SAL	A VANNER B		THERESA	PITMAN	MAR

it is but often prompts us to rearrange the past. Eric Hoffer