



Olympia Host Lions

December 2019 - January 2020



Dear Fellow Olympia Host Lions,

We've had some great meetings this year for 2019. From Dr. Ferris talking about low vision to Norm Schoss on his work with "Aliens," to Andrew's talk on strengthening your "quads" for better balance and knee health, we've had some very informative talks. Hope you have enjoyed some of our helpful informational speakers at our Tuesday meetings this year.

We've served the community in many ways. Our members have volunteered to do screenings for sight and hearing in our Olympia schools, at our Low Vision Resource Center, supported the children at Evergreen Vista, abused women at Safe Place; Youth with Camp Leo, and so much more – all made possible by your support of our fund raisers at Lake Fair and Apple Sales. What was your favorite?

Whether you celebrate the holidays with a festival of lights, a visit to the Holy Land, a Nutcracker performance, or a beautiful Nativity scene, I wish you all a very Happy Holiday Season.

Together we can look forward to a very Happy New Year. See you next year when we resume Tuesday's meetings on January 7, 2020.

Best regards for a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season!

Sally French, President
Olympia Host Lions 2019-2020

Meet Kathleen Anderson, our new club secretary!



You will be receiving club information as well as our newsletter via email from Kathleen.

You can also reach her by email if you have something you would like more information about. You can reach her at:

andersonwrit@aol.com

If you are unable to attend our weekly meetings, she will keep you informed on upcoming events!



Olympia Host Lions – Celebrating the Holiday Season

This is the time of the year when the members of the Olympia Host Lions Club gather together to celebrate the holiday season. Joined by family members and friends, the Lions Club offers an opportunity to dine on fabulous food, sing traditional songs, and embrace the joy of being with friends and loved ones. The event is capped with a variety of deserts and the opportunity for a member of each table to go home with a lovely Poinsettia plant.



This event is typically held at noon on the second Tuesday of December. You can find us in the large Fellowship Room of the Olympia First Baptist Church at 904 Washington St. SE, Olympia, WA. Our 2019 event is priced at \$11.50 per person. For members that don't have the opportunity to attend many of the regular meetings, this is a great way to join us during a special time together – either this year or in the future.

Upcoming Meetings

December 11 • Zone C2 Meeting in Shelton at the Tap Room, RSVP Kathy McDowell 360-426-3256

December 12 • Board Meeting at LVRC

December 17 • Johnthan Pleger, President/CEO of Morningside "Everybody Works, Everybody Wins"

December 24 • Happy Holidays.
No meeting until January 7, 2020

January 7 • Dick Pust
The Great Balloon Ride

January 14 • Open Meeting

January 21 • Chuck Fowler - Parthia and Maritime WA
National Heritage Area

January 28 • David Nicandri, Historian - Journey to the Artic



Olympia Host Lions meets weekly Tuesday from Noon to 1PM
First Baptist Church 9th E. & Washington, Olympia, WA

Lion John Calhoun the Right Man for the Job

If you know anything about John, is that he doesn't sweat the small stuff. A good trait for the manager of Olympia Host's largest service project: sight and hearing screening for 18 schools in Olympia! He successfully orchestrated the shift from screening within the large NW Lions Foundation van to using District C vision and hearing screening equipment inside the school. What might seem like a small change actually adds oodles more details to coordinate inside locations, transport of equipment, training on the use of the equipment and connection with school nurses. Take a look at these stats!

- Students in grades K, 1, 2, 3, 5, and 7 screened in 14 Olympia School District and 4 private schools
- 23 individual Lion volunteers stepped up, some working more than one shift
- Equal numbers of parents volunteering
- No less than 120 Lion volunteer hours and 120 parent volunteer hours



Lion John Calhoun screens the hearing of a young fellow at McKinney elementary.



Cate Fairhead, RN, screens the vision using the Plus Optics Spot Vision machine.

So John, you get the rest of December off so you can come back refreshed in January!!

The Mandatory Annual Distribution (MAD) Dilemma



Many of us who are retired include IRA's, deferred compensation, 401(k)'s, or other tax deferred accounts as part of our retirement package. At some point, when we reach the "magic" age, regardless of our income status, we are required to take a Minimum Distribution from these accounts each year. This can be a rude surprise

to your tax withholding strategy when the bump appears in your annual income.

There is a remedy. For those of us who participate in charitable giving, some or all of your MAD (kind of brings back the Cold War doesn't it?) can be paid from your retirement account directly to the 501(c)(3) charity of your choice. Here's how it works:

Determine the amount of your required MAD for the year;

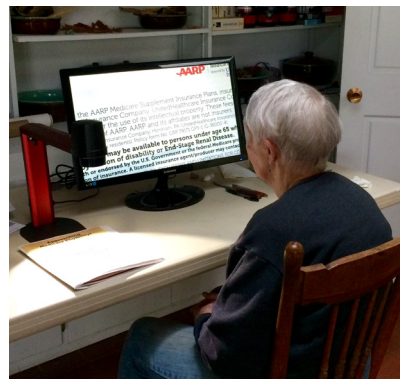
Itemize your charitable giving to 501(c)(3) charities. Remember, your church almost certainly qualifies, Olympia Host's new Foundation does now as well, LCIF also.

Contact the manager of retirement accounts and tell them you want cheques from your MAD to be issued directly to the charities of your choice, in amounts you choose.

Request the checks be forwarded directly to the charities, or to you to be forwarded to the charities.

The MAD has been made, you, the taxpayer never took custody of the funds so cannot be taxed for them as income. You have made your chosen charitable contributions from pre-tax dollars, and may, or may not, chose to continue to make your normal contributions from your regular sources of income. Sounds almost like something for nothing.

Carl Corbin Low Vision Resource Center



The Carl Corbin Low Vision Resource center is a project of the Olympia Host Lions Club. Established in 2007 the Center has assisted numerous clients in solving low vision issues by providing much needed tools to improve their daily living. During 2019 well over 65 clients have received help.

In early 2019 the Center's much loved and respected co-manager of the Center, Margie Corier passed away. In the ensuing months the Center continued to provide limited services and began training volunteers to fill the gap. In the summer and Fall Olympia Host lions came together and began the process to bring the Center back to full operations. With the assistance of local Optometrist Dr. Mary Ferris and Occupational Therapist Suzanne Anthony, a student working on her Master's Degree with a focus on Low Vision, we have made substantial progress towards a fully functioning resource center. Organizations and individuals in our community and elsewhere have donated low vision devices to the center. As a result of the community's generous support we have a large amount of equipment which is available to be loaned or given to those needing assistance. At the current time the Center is open on Tuesday and Thursday afternoon on an appointment basis. Always looking for dedicated volunteers to help out at the Resource Center. Lions Eye Line number is 360-790-8667.

Many Thanks from Students for Dictionaries



Dear Lions Club, thank you for coming to our class. It will be interesting to learn sign language. It will also help me spell words that I don't know how to spell.
Sincerely
Sophie

Dear Lions Club,
Thank you so much for the dictionary. I used it to fix this letter.
Sincerely
Mose

Dear Lion Club,
Thank you so much for this book! I think the longest word in English history is super cool! This is so awesome! Thank you again!
Sincerely
Ethel B

Thank you Lions Club
Dear Mrs Nathan
IT IS REALLY COOL BECAUSE I CAN COMMUNICATE WITH MY SISTER BETTER AND THAT IS REALLY KIND OF YOU.
Sincerely
Violet

Dear Lions club,
Thank you for the Dictionary book I bet that I will find something really cool and when I looked I liked that I get to see were my parent went on there vacation.
Thank you!
Sincerely
I Sa bella

A student
Dictionary

Thank you Lions Club did you know that the word rang is spelt rang in dictionary I am going to use it every day.
Sincerely
Lillian,

OFFICERS 2019 - 2020

Olympia Host Lions

- President Sally French
- 1st Vice President..... Michael Petty
- 2nd Vice PresidentKathie Roberts
- Secretary..... Kathleen Anderson
- TreasurerAndy Stepleton
- Club Administrator.....Norman Schoss
- Membership ChairViolet Hofman
- Immediate Past President.....Violet Hofman
- Board Member (1 year)James Reddick & Earl Hughes
- Board Member (2 years)..... Elsie Higgins & Sandra Petty

- Lion Tamer Pat Creighton
- Tail Twister Earl Hughes
- Branch Coordinator Jan Weatherly
- LCIF Coordinator.....Karen Sell
- Service Chair Jan Weatherly
- Marketing Communications ChairDarlene Kemery

Steamboat Island Lions Branch

- President Debbie Swift
- Secretary..... Annette Piliaris
- Treasurer Cheryl Piliaris

Representative Needed for our district to the Northwest Lions Foundation

Thank you everyone for allowing me to represent you at our Foundation meetings. My time is nearly up and our district needs a new face to represent us.

Term: 3 yrs (July 2020 - June 2023) max 2 terms

Duties:

- Attend club, zone, and district meetings to answer questions about our foundation or inform us of what our foundation is up to.
- Attend 4 meetings each year of the NLF Board of Directors (typ. 1st Saturday in March, June, September, and December from 9:30 - 11:30 am).
- Attend the VDG meet and greet (typ. Friday evening before the September meeting).
- (optionally) You are invited to the Annual SightLife Gala (typ. a Saturday evening in early February).

If you have questions call or email your current representative: PDG Dave Risley, 360-930-2751, davidrisley@comcast.net

If you are interested contact DG Pat to get on the ballot at our annual convention.

Extra Apples



Hello, Lions!

FYI, Lacey Midday Lions have some extra "euro" boxes of fresh Fujis. Euro boxes weigh 27 pounds @ \$25.00 - a smaller box than our usual 40 lb. If your club can use some, kindly contact Lion Pat Baron at 360-491-9030 or pcardmaker@comcast.net.

Thanks and Merry Christmas Season...

Lion Pat

Apples Were Late this Year AND Worth Waiting For!

Apple pie, apple crisp, apple butter, waldorf salad, apples just for munching. To quote a seasoned Lion to this project...The apples this year are "Over the Moon"! Indeed they are. Many clubs emailed back their sincere thanks for the quality of the apples AND our service to make the distribution process easy. So with 2069 boxes distributed on a damp and cold weekend, Nov 9 & 10, happy faces received beautifully polished, crisp tasty apples that will last well into 2020. Twenty two clubs and Camp Leo sold apples with us and every box has a home. Many thanks to all who sold apples, worked the distribution process and delivered apples happy customers.

What made the difference this year? Getting all our apples from our original orchardist in Wenatchee, specially packed for us to our specification. Yep, they are Over the Moon!

PDG Jan Weatherly, 2019 Apple Sale Chair



Did you Know...

There are many aids for those with low vision issues. Some you are probably aware of but others may come as a surprise.

Maybe you were not aware know the "popcorn" button on the microwave can cook most frozen items for the correct time. A textured 3M dot on that button makes it easy for those with low vision to

prepare food.

Talking watches make it easy to keep track of time. Microsoft has a free app for smart phones that can read text aloud, making shopping and price comparison within reach.

One new product on the market is a white cane with a talking GPS that can guide you to addresses, bus stops, and

alert you to curbs and objects in your path.

Some of these items are available at our low vision resource center and others we are hoping to be able to purchase this year.

If you have not yet signed up to volunteer at our LVRC consider doing so in the coming year. It's not only a learning experience but a "feel good" opportunity by personally helping others.



Happy Holidays
from the
Olympia
Host Lions