

### President's Message

**A New Year and new ideas!!!**

I don't mean new fund raising ideas (although new ideas are always welcome.) I am thinking of ways we as Lions can expand the things we do for our community.

We already collect used glasses and hearing aides...

**Thanks to Joe Leonard and all our members.**

We collect aluminum cans to help the environment and our treasury...

**Thank John Pitman, Sam Mooney, Fred Moreland, Bob Schlaugh.**

We do vision screening of pre-school and kindergarten age children because studies have shown that it is this age group that can benefit the most from the early detection of childhood vision disorders...

**Thanks Jim and Carolyn Miles, Joe and Margret Ann Leonard, Ray Hamm, and Debbie Moreland.**



King Lion Jean confers with Sharon, Muriel and Fran prior to the Visually Impaired Christmas Party. Together these ladies represent a formidable force within our Club and for Lionism.

We build ramps to help disabled people maintain a measure of independence...

**Thanks Sam Mooney, Fred Moreland, Jim Stone, Don Stewart and Joe Diehl.**

We collect canned goods to help the local food pantry serve those in need...

**Thanks Muriel Mooney and to all the canned goods contributors who so faithfully remember the less fortunate.**

We make it possible for those with a financial need within our community to obtain both eye care and hearing assistance through our Community Outreach Committee...

**Thanks, Fran Pretty, Bruce Schoonover, and Debbie Moreland.**

*(Continued next Page.)*

### Mark Your Calendar

**Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting** 12 Noon Harpoon Hanna's. Guest speaker will be Merritt Burke IV, Town Manager of Fenwick Island

**Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup> Melvin Jones Breakfast** 9 AM Dover Sheraton

**Monday, January 21<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting** 12 Noon Harpoon Hanna's

**Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting** 4 PM Fenwick Island Town Hall

Our Meals on Wheels drivers deliver meals and provide friendship to people who need this help for various reasons.

**Thanks Dave & Kay Crum, Joe & Jean Diehl, Larry & Ann Kovacs, Jim & Carolyn Miles, Bob & Fran Pretty, Jim Stone, Donna Waughtal, Wally Colender, Bob and Patty Schlaugh, Theresa & John Pitman, Suzanne Nilsson, Susan Rixham and Roberta Rogers.**

Through our LEO Club and our Scholarship Fund committee we help Indian River High School students develop leadership skills and help defray a small part of their college expenses...

**Thanks John Furlow., Fran and Bob Pretty, Bruce and Sharon Schoonover., Jim and Carolyn Miles, and our fantastically motivated LEO Club advisors Laura Quillen, and Amy Hughes.**

We donate money where needed to all worthy causes and individuals when it is brought to our attention.

**Thanks to an active and engaged board of directors and all who have brought these needs to our attention.**

We tackle even larger projects and address significant social and economic issues, statewide, nationwide and worldwide...

**Thanks to our affiliation with the Delaware Lions Foundation, Delaware Valley Eye Bank, LeaderDog program, Delaware Special Olympics, Lions Vision Research Foundation and Lions Clubs International Foundation, to name a few.**

What else can we do?? Where can we expand our services and funding to better serve our communities? It is quite appropriate for us to periodically pause, reflect on our accomplishments and consider the various needs within our community.

I challenge each one of you to bring, e-mail, snail mail, or carrier pigeon a suggestion to the first meeting in February. I'll have one, will you??

Yours in Lionism and with my best wishes for a healthy and Happy New Year,

KL Jean

**PS My thanks to Sam and Fred for building a new can recycling cage at Grotto's... It looks absolutely GREAT!**



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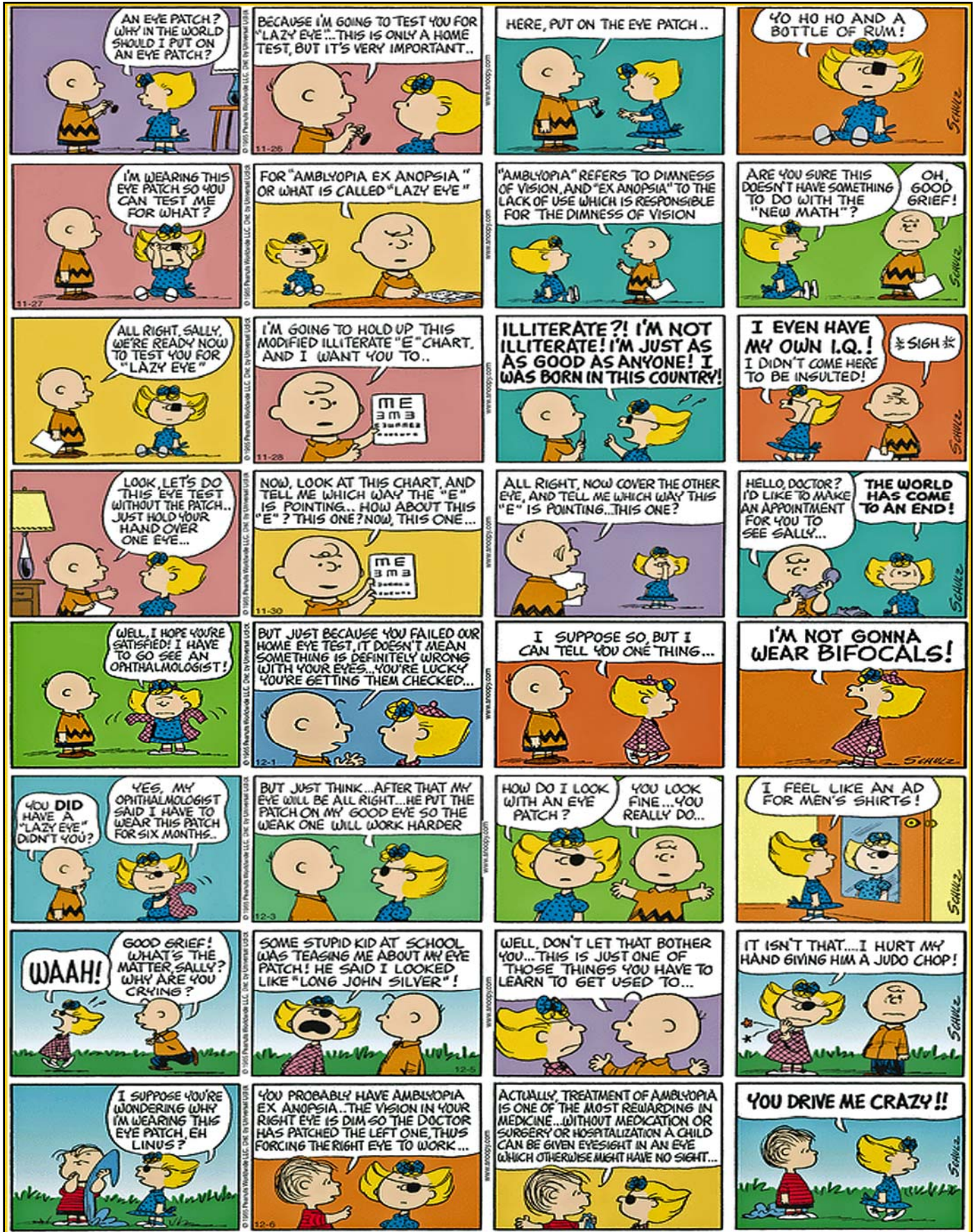
## Club Party at the Clarion

Tradition has it that the first Monday in December we come together for our annual club Christmas Party. This year was no exception and what a great and festive evening it was! The filet and crab cake entrée was a real hit and the music by Bob Hughes added a special touch to the entire evening. The singing provided by the Nautical Sounds put us all in the holiday mood and our Santa brought much laughter and smiles to all. The gifts distributed by his elf helpers made the evening special... as did the center pieces on each of the tables provided by Sharon Schoonover. A special thanks to Martha Stone, Betty Cummings, Fran Pretty, Jean Bertram, Jean Diehl, Roland Hudson, Sharon Schoonover and Theresa Pitman for being Santa's helpers, selecting the gifts and wrapping them... And, to Jim Stone our Santa extraordinaire.



# Even Charlie Brown Says Vision Screening is Important!

My wife is an avid Peanuts cartoon fan and she pointed out that recently they did a series on amblyopia and vision screening. Good Grief, we wanted to share it with you!



## Visually Impaired Christmas Party

Region 3 Chairperson Lion Fran Pretty, members of the Fenwick Island Lions Club and others orchestrated a wonderful evening of fun, food and fellowship at the Georgetown CHEER Center on Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. It was all about bringing a bit of joy into the lives of those who are blind and visually impaired and Fran and the Lions of this region succeeded in 'spades.' The turkey dinner catered by Lighthouse Landing Restaurant of Georgetown was wonderful! Members from the Indian River, Laurel and Cape Henlopen LEO Clubs served our guests and distributed gifts provided by the Lions of our region, the Delaware Association for the Blind and from their own clubs with joyous, youthful enthusiasm. And, the 'Humanaires' added to the Christmas spirit with their holiday favorites and a reading of an amusing Christmas story in which, all gathered, participated on cue with sound effects. Adding to the festive feeling of the evening were both the visit from Santa Claus (Lion Jim Stone) and the beautiful center pieces on each of twenty-eight tables, which were assembled by Lion Sharon Schoonover and Lion Fran.



Meals on Wheels... Making a Difference  
**For Homebound and Lonely Seniors,  
Meals on Wheels Volunteers Are Like Family**  
By Dave Crum

Our responsibility is to deliver meals to elderly shut-ins and disabled persons in the area between Roxana and Fenwick Island every weekday. We normally have ten teams regularly scheduled for one or two days every month and one team handles every Wednesday. Also we normally have about four other teams able to do occasional substitutions when needed.

This program is now developing its usual problem this time of year – when the Snowbirds head out of town and other distractions or disabilities occur that imperil our ability to deliver regularly. We are always grateful to enlist more volunteers to do this very important service to ease the load on some of the others. However, **right now there is an urgent need for three more volunteers to help in January and two volunteers from then to May and possibly beyond that time.**

Many of the Lion's programs are fund raisers to provide for student's scholarships and other community endeavors. This Meals on Wheels program is the only one that involves direct contact with the needy on a daily basis throughout the year. Because delivering this food is a one-on-one effort, it is very gratifying to experience the joy and thankfulness in those receiving our deliveries. If time permits, brief visits are possible to learn of any other needs of these people. In some cases we may be the only persons these people can talk to each day. Some of our volunteers go beyond the call of duty at times when they see a special need or problem arise that needs to be reported or where additional assistance can be given. Our Meals-on Wheels volunteers experience an immediate sense of accomplishment when our deliveries are made.

Please contact Lion Dave Crum (302-541-4730) or King Lion Jean Bertram (302-436-5326) if you can join us in this program... whether it can be one or two days per month or even as an occasional alternate driver.

We will be happy to show you the routes and how simple it is to bring these seniors daily nourishment and to make a difference in their lives.



"Meals On Wheels is  
the greatest thing that  
ever happened to me."



**This is Lionism at its Best!**

## LEOs Collect for the Ronald McDonald House

*(For those of you who might have missed the November 23<sup>rd</sup> article in the Coastal Point newspaper—or my recent e-mail—I wanted to provide you with the details of the LEOs latest service initiative, as reported by Laura Walter, reporter for the Coastal Point. This initiative also inspired Sharon Schoonover to obtain 50 dental hygiene paks from Bethany Dental Associates to supplement the supplies being provided to the Ronald McDonald House.)*

At Indian River High School, the Leo Club knows firsthand how important places like the Ronald McDonald House are to families. Leo Club advisor Laura Quillen stayed at the McDonald House in Wilmington when her own baby needed surgery twice last year. Now 18 months old, baby Brady is doing well, and Quillen found the perfect way to give back.

Students in the Leo Club, a service organization operating under the Lions Club, are asking the community to help collect goods for the McDonald House.

The McDonald House is run like a hotel, but families stay for free and get dinner provided to them. The Quillens only paid a \$15 donation per night to stay in the city near A.I. duPont Hospital for Children. Basic toiletries are found in

each room, but busy parents who forget anything can get additional supplies, from snacks to hairbrushes.

“It’s all based on donations. They also do all of the housekeeping,” said Quillen, who knows several other locals who have benefited from the McDonald House.

“The Ronald McDonald House gives so much to the people that do stay there,” said Gopika Lakshmanan, Leo president. “It’s such a great help, because the family’s probably worried about paying for expenses like the medical bill. It’s just nice to alleviate that stress — of not having to pay for a hotel or something.”

The Leo Club is asking students, staff and the public to contribute cleaning supplies, kitchen and household items. That includes Lysol disinfectant, fabric softener sheets, Tupperware, tall kitchen trash bags, paper towels, toilet paper, facial tissues, disinfecting wipes, aluminum foil, dishwashing detergent, sponges and more.

Anyone wishing to contribute can send supplies to school with an IRHS student or deliver it to the high school main office in Dagsboro, labeled for Mrs. Quillen’s room. The deadline is Friday, Dec. 14.

After the drive, several Leos will donate the goods in person in Wilmington, possibly getting to meet and play with some of the children.

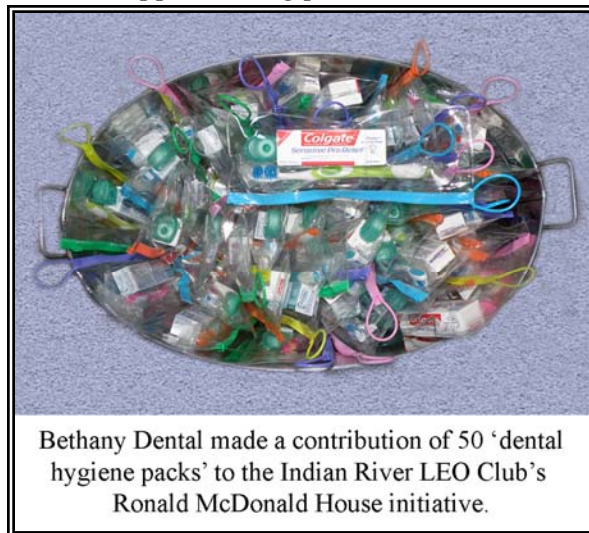
While Quillen’s family only stayed a total of five days, some families have extended visits to the house. “I think the Ronald McDonald [House] is important because it’s not a charity I feel that that people think about,” said Delaney McMullen, Leo officer. “[Families] are being provided housing and whatnot, but you don’t really think about the other things that they might need.”

The drive is expanding the Leo Club activities as their membership increases. “It’s good to start new activities, because we were in this mode of just repeating activities year after year, and it was just refreshing to see a new activity being added in,” said Brooke Prendergast, Leo officer.

IR Leo Club will also adopt a family in need at John M. Clayton Elementary School, providing clothes and toys to brighten their Christmas.

“We’re trying really hard to get really involved with the community, and we’ve had a successful fall so far,” said Quillen. “We hope to keep going.”

*(While the December 14<sup>th</sup> deadline for collecting items is well past, the LEOs plan another drive in the Spring and I am sure they would welcome contributions to their efforts at any time. What a wonderful program for both the recipients and the LEO members themselves. Congratulations Laura and Amy!)*



Bethany Dental made a contribution of 50 'dental hygiene paks' to the Indian River LEO Club's Ronald McDonald House initiative.

## Birthday Wishes!

**To keep the heart unwrinkled, to be hopeful, kindly, cheerful and reverent—that is to triumph over old age.**

*~Thomas Bailey Aldrich~*

**The best part about being my age is in knowing how my life worked out.**

*~Scott Adams~*

**Roland Hudson Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Carolyn Miles Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Bob Jones Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Tom Foley Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>**

**James (Luke) Lucas Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Nick Bartolomeo Jan. 30<sup>th</sup>**

