



Lions Tales

A Monthly Broadcast for
The Lions Club of Cranbury, New Jersey

Contact us at: www.cranbury.org

<u>Ideals in Government</u>	<u>Mutual Helpfulness</u>
<u>Social Progress</u>	<u>Understanding</u>
<u>Civic Betterment</u>	<u>Fellowship</u>

President: Phyllis Johnson	Directors – 1 Year: Dave Cook
1 st Vice President: Walton Caldwell	Andre Mento
2 nd Vice President: Frank Vesce	
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Assistant Secretary: Dave Shaffer	Directors – 2 Years: John Kobland
Treasurer: Dean Koehler	Rick Burke
Associate Treasurer: Christine Thompson	
Immediate Past President: Fay Kobland	Membership Chairman: Jon Goldstein
Lion Tamer: Frank Marlowe	Publicity Chair Interim: Fay Kobland
Information Technology Chairman:	Joe Addonizio
Tail Twister: Open	Lions Tales Editor: Fay Kobland

MEETING SCHEDULE

December 2014

- Dec. 2 – Board of Directors Meeting – 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- Dec. 10 – Regular Meeting – Holiday Party 7PM, Cranbury Bog Buffet Dinner \$35
Program: Holiday Fun with Lions from Hightstown-East Windsor, West Windsor, Ewing Lions

January 2015

- Jan. 6 – Board of Directors Meeting – 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- Jan. 7 – Regular Meeting – 7PM, Teddy’s Dinner: TBA \$22
Program: Girl Scout Meeting

President’s Message

It’s hard to believe that 2014 is coming to a close. Where did the year go? For some, this time of year is a time of reflection. I don’t know about you, but in looking back, I feel that I have been blessed. Yes there were some trying times. But it seems to me that I am much better off giving thanks for what I have instead of dwelling on what I don’t have. There are people in our community and world who have far less than us. Have we, as a Lions Club, done as much to help others as we could have done this year?

This is also a time to look ahead. What can our club do next year to help others? Will the service projects and fund raisers that we held even 5 years ago be viable next year? Our club needs to be more aware of the changes taking place around us so that we can perform effective service projects and continue to serve our community and the communities around us.

I am excited about 2015 and what we can accomplish. I would like to hear from each of you on what you think is not working any more. I also want your ideas on new projects. Even the smallest effort can have a large impact in someone’s life. Have a safe and happy holiday. Yours in Service, President Phyllis

Things To Know

Peace Poster Meeting was held in the Large Group Room at the Cranbury School on Wednesday, November 19th at 7:30 PM. This year's theme was "Peace, Love and Understanding." First place was awarded to Christy Phillips, second place to Miranda Cai and third place to Sophia Teng. Lion Christine Thompson made a cake, which was served for dessert at the meeting. The winners' families attend this annual event. The Art teacher, Stacey Crannage, helped to presents the awards. Dr. Susan Genco, Chief School Administrator, attended the meeting and spoke about the Cranbury School's "nice program" which rewards students for nice behavior. All peace posters were on display. It was a great event, especially rewarding to hear the young artists talk about what their peace poster represented about the theme.



Stacey Crannage, art teacher, Sophia Teng, third; Christy Phillips, first; and Miranda Cai, second. Display of Peace Posters

Lion Alex Johnson picked up, sorted and delivered, almost 500 pairs of eyeglasses to the New Jersey Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center (in the Katzenbach School for the Deaf) the week of Thanksgiving. These eyeglasses were collected from the Pearle Vision store (located in the Target Shopping Center). The eyeglasses will be processed, sorted and sent out as requested for missions to countries such as Haiti, Mexico and the Dominion Republic and to other missions as requested.

Lion Frank Vesci has placed collection boxes in various businesses and locations for the **Marine Toys for Tots** program. Toys are coming in and will be picked up shortly for delivery by the holidays.

The Lions gently used **Winter Coats** drive is underway. Chair Dave Shaffer reminds Lions that the coats for women, men and children are needed. The Coat Drive will continue through December. The coats will be taken to TASK (Trenton Area Soup Kitchen) for distribution to those in need. Warm winter hats, mittens and gloves, scarves and socks are also needed.

Coming Soon

Lions 67th Annual Pancake Breakfast will be held on Sunday, December 7th from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the Cranbury school cafeteria. Two more grills have been purchased for use this year. Returning are Bob Homoky as Santa and Bill Parsons, photographer. Chairpersons, Christine Thompson and Andre Mento have distributed the tickets along with the roster of assignments. It's most important that you notify Christine with any problem about your assignment. The Lions are looking forward to another fun, successful event filled with holiday cheer!

Poinsettia Sale Rick Burke is again chairing the Poinsettia sale. The poinsettias have been ordered and will be picked up Friday. These gorgeous, 7.5-inch plants are again for sale for \$15 or at a discount of 4 for \$50 (if preordered by Friday, Dec. 5th). Rick Burke will deliver to local businesses or they can be picked up at the pancake breakfast. See the Poinsettia Sale flyer at the end of the newsletter. There are just a few days for pre-ordering your poinsettias at a discount.

Our club is attending a **Holiday Party** on Wednesday, December 10th at the Cranbury Bog with Hightstown-East Windsor, West Windsor and Ewing Lions. This is our club's December meeting and is a spouse night. It's a buffet dinner party with appetizers and drinks (for purchase) beginning at 6:30 PM, dinner starting at 7:00 PM. So far 65 Lions and their guests plan to attend. Those who would like can bring a wrapped gift of about \$10 to donate. Any money raised will be donated to the Lions Eye Research Foundation in memory of PCC Jim Hynes. Holidays are always a festive time to get together with other Lions to celebrate a year of giving back to the community and those in need. There is still time to sign up if you'd like to attend this holiday party.



Lions Clubs International Convention will be held in Honolulu, Hawaii this year from June 26th to 30th 2015. What a great location for a convention and a pre or post convention vacation!

John Ryan and Jon Goldstein are planning another field trip/social event to the Working Dog Winery at a date to be announced in January and to the "Ironbound" neighborhood of Newark to dine in a Portuguese restaurant. Details and dates to follow.



The District 16-J Charitable Foundation is hosting a Sweetheart Dinner Dance FUNdraiser Saturday, February 14, 2014 from 6 to 10 PM at the Knights of Columbus in Parlin, NJ. Buffet style dinner, music with dancing, cash bar, 50/50, wine raffle, and tricky tray are included. \$50 per person, (\$90 per couples if paid prior to Jan. 8th). What a fun way to raise money for the Lions Charities! You do not want to miss this Sweetheart Dance.

[Membership](#)

For those of you who are not Lions - Lions are the world's largest service organization and lives up to its motto of "We Serve" at the local, state, country and international level. Much of Lions work is done at the local level in Lions Clubs across New Jersey and the USA.

Cranbury Lions has made, and continues to make, important contributions to Cranbury in the form of financial support to worthy causes, physical gifts to the town and support to other organizations. We are men and women of Cranbury and are always open to those who wish to look us over and make a decision to join and carry on the 80 plus years of service legacy to Cranbury. You may join us for a dinner meeting, work with us on a project or talk with another Lion.

Lions - Here's what you can do: contact a friend or neighbor and invite them to a Lions meeting; talk with Lion Jon Goldstein or President Phyllis about someone you think would be an asset to our Club and willing to serve Cranbury; look inside your own family, religious and other relationships you have and tell them about your experience and invite them to a dinner meeting; ask a group if they would be willing to listen to a short presentation on the Cranbury Lions (Men's/Women's Clubs, PTO, social clubs.) Our club's service to the community depends on committed Lions who continue to make a difference in Cranbury, now and in the future.

[Reminders](#)

Any member who learns of the **sickness or death of another member**, or in a member's family, or any other similar incident or emergency, should call/e-mail Lion Frank Marlowe (Health & Welfare), President Phyllis Johnson and/or Secretary John Ryan so that all members may be notified as soon as possible.



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OR YOUR MONEY BACK

7.5"

- 15+ Blooms
- Size: About 2' x 2'
- Pot wrapped in gold foil

\$15.00

We'll DELIVER to your business
OR
You pickup Sunday, December 7th at

The Cranbury Lions Club
Annual Pancake Breakfast
at the Cranbury School

Phone orders accepted by Lion Rick Burke (609) 529-3371

