



# Lions Tales

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

Contact us at: [www.cranbury.org](http://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 <sup>st</sup> Vice President: Walton Caldwell	Andre Mento
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Frank Vesci	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President: Elaine Homoky	
Secretary: John Ryan	
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
IT Chairperson: Open	
Tail Twister: Open	Lions Tales Editor: Fay Kobland

## MEETING SCHEDULE

### January 2015

- Jan. 6 – Board of Directors Meeting – 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- Jan. 7 – Regular Meeting – 7PM, Teddy’s Dinner: Roast Beef & Mashed Potatoes \$22  
Program: Girl Scout Meeting ~ Bring canned goods for the pantry!

### February 2015

- Jan. 27 – Board of Directors Meeting – 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- Feb. 4 – Regular Meeting – 7PM, Cranbury Bog Dinner: Buffet \$20  
Program: Joint meeting with West Windsor Lions

### March 2015

- Feb. 24 – Board of Directors Meeting – 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- March. 4 – Regular Meeting – 7PM, Teddy’s Dinner: TBA \$22

### President’s Message

Happy New Year! The holidays are over and folks are putting away holiday decorations, putting Christmas trees out at the curb, and generally trying to get back into a normal daily routine. We had a successful coat drive and Toys for Tots collection. Thanks to all for your contributions and assistance with these two important service projects as well as the pancake breakfast.

While we should all feel good about helping others, we cannot rest on our laurels. The Lions Worldwide Week of Service in January is an international event that brings Lions around the world together for a week of service during January 10-16. While time is short, it is not too late to participate. Information to follow soon. The next Worldwide Week of Service is to help children in need and will be held May 16-22, 2015. Please give this some thought and send along your ideas for a project.

Yours in Service, Phyllis Johnson

## Things To Know



**Lions 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Pancake Breakfast** was held on Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. Chairpersons, Christine Thompson and Andre Mento have the organization of this fundraiser down to a science. Two more grills have been purchased for use this year. Bob Homoky as Santa and Bill Parsons, photographer returned to provide pictures with Santa. Rick Burke chaired the Poinsettia sales. The Cranbury Lions thank our sponsors for the pancake breakfast: Perkins Restaurant & Bakers in East Windsor, Teddy's Restaurant, Bill Parsons Photography, Cream-O-Land Dairy, McCaffrey's Food Market in West Windsor, Cranbury Inn and Zinna's Bistro. The Lions held another fun, successful event filled with holiday cheer!



Lion Frank Vesci placed collection boxes in various businesses and locations for the annual **Marine's Toys for Tots** program. The many new toys collected were presented to the Marines for distribution.

Lion Dave Shaffer, Chair reported bringing 80 men's, women's and children's gently used **Winter Coats** to Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK) on December 23, 2014. With the cold winter here these coats will be put to good use. Thanks are extended to all contributing Cranbury area residents!

The Cranbury Lions had two tables of members attending the **Holiday Party** held on Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at the Cranbury Bog with Hightstown-East Windsor, West Windsor and Ewing Lions. There were appetizers served before the dinner so there was time to circulate with Lions from the other clubs. Individual Lions brought a wrapped gift of about \$10 to donate. The President of Hightstown-East Windsor Lions, Paul Cousineau, auctioned off the wrapped gifts, raising over \$450 (plus over \$400 of Lions donations), which was donated to the Lions Eye Research Foundation of NJ in memory of PCC Jim Hynes.

## Coming Soon

The Cranbury Lions are participating in the **First Worldwide Service Challenge** leading up to the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Lions Clubs International. This first worldwide service challenge runs for the January 10<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup> 2015 in celebration of Melvin Jones' birthday. This first service challenge is for world hunger. The Cranbury Lions in conjunction with Cranbury businesses, Kuehne + Nagel and New Jersey Community Bank are collecting food for Skeet's Pantry (Cranbury Presbyterian Food Pantry). Following the holidays, kitchen pantries are typically in short supply of food. Bring a can or two of food to the January Girl Scout meeting at Teddy's on Wednesday January 7<sup>th</sup>!

Save the date. The Cranbury Lions have their annual meeting with the **Hightstown-East Windsor Lions on Wednesday, March 25, 2015** at 7:00 PM at a place yet to be announced.



**Lions Clubs International Convention** will be held in Honolulu, Hawaii this year from June 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> 2015. What a great location for a convention and a pre or post convention vacation! **Registration is discounted until Friday, January 9, 2015.** Don't delay!

John Ryan and Jon Goldstein are planning another field trip/social event to the Working Dog Winery (in the spring) and to dine in a Portuguese restaurant in South River to be set up in February. 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, 775 Washington Road, Parlin, NJ 08859. 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. 8<sup>th</sup>)**. 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.