



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
1st Vice President: Walton Caldwell
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3rd Vice President: Elaine Homoky
Secretary: John Ryan
Assistant Secretary: Dave Shaffer
Treasurer: Dean Koehler
Associate Treasurer: Christine Thompson
Immediate Past President: Fay Kobland
Lion Tamer: Frank Marlowe
IT Chairperson: Open
Tail Twister: Open

Directors – 1 Year: Dave Cook
Andre Mento

Directors – 2 Years: John Kobland
Rick Burke

Membership Chairman: Jon Goldstein
Publicity Chair Interim: Fay Kobland

Lions Tales Editor: Fay Kobland

MEETING SCHEDULE

March 2015

- Feb. 24 – Board of Directors Meeting – 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- March 4 – Regular Meeting – 7PM, Teddy’s Dinner: Roast and mashed potatoes \$22
Program: Peter Katsaros, Identity Theft – How it occurs, how to detect it, and how it can be restored.
- March 25 - Regular Joint – 7PM, Santinos Italian Family Style Appetizers, Dinner & Cake \$25
Program: Joint meeting with Hightstown-East Windsor Lions

April 2015

- March 31 – Board of Directors Meeting – 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- April 28 – Board of Directors Meeting – 7:30 PM, Town Hall

President’s Message

At the last Board meeting I presented an idea for a fundraiser. It seemed silly at first and got a lot of laughs. But once we all stopped laughing, we all started thinking. And the ideas started flowing. Could this work for us? What obstacles are there and how do we overcome them? Is it something that would attract a lot of participants? The discussion ended with the decision to pursue the idea and see if it leads to an actual event.

It seems like a never-ending task to have well-attended events and to keep them from becoming stagnant. Since I’ve become a more active Lion in the last couple of years, I find myself looking at news stories in other places and considering if and how they could work for us. Some I dismiss right away because of our location or resources not available to us. Others I examine to see if there is some part that could form a basis for us to expand on to make it our own unique event. (continued page 2)

Over time there can be subtle changes in our town and the interests of our town residents. We should never be hesitant to try new things. But it is also a challenge to determine which events to keep and which to retire. Feedback is vital for the growth and strength of our club. I encourage all members to pass along remarks, good or bad, to the Board. It will help our club to change along with our town.

Yours in Service, President Phyllis

Things To Know



The Cranbury Lions held a joint meeting with the West Windsor Lions Club in February at the Bog. Speaker for the evening was our Lion Frank Marlowe talking creatively about Martin Luther King and Lions service.

Second Vice District Governor Dave Shaffer will be elected as First Vice District Governor of District 16-J at the New Jersey Convention in Atlantic City May 14 to 16th. Cranbury Lions are encouraged to attend to support Dave as he progresses up the District Governor ladder. The voting will be in the District 16-J breakout meeting held on Saturday, May 16th.

There is a **field trip** planned at Ria-Mar (Portuguese) Restaurant at 25 Whitehead Avenue, South River (phone 732-257-1100) on this Saturday, **February 28, at 5:30 PM**. Approximately 15 Lions and guests signed up for this event. The Lions will be in a separate room and have a choice of 14 entries plus soup, salad, dessert, soda, wine, beer, sangria, coffee for a fixed price of \$43 which includes tax and tip. Lions must bring cash. Because we have our own room, there is still time to sign up. It's sure to be a fun evening for all who attend with lots of food and good times.

District 16-J is offering a **Leadership Diploma** for all youth ages 12 to 18, which is a 10-week seminar on development of leadership skills beginning the second Saturday of March. Registration is \$50 and can be made online by following the link below. Jamesburg Leos Kervin B. and Taron C. are registered and will attend online. Their registration fee was waived. It is open to all youth so spread the word if you know of a young person who might be interested in attending. <http://16j.org/leadership-academy/leadership-diploma>



The Lions Club of Cranbury is administering three **\$1,000 Scholarships** and one \$250 Award all of which are available to students residing in Cranbury. Students are encouraged to apply for the scholarships; and parents, school staff members, youth leaders, and neighbors are encouraged to nominate any worthy student for the Stan Thomas Community Service Award. Applications are due by April 15, 2015. For more information on these scholarships and the award go to [Student Programs](#). The Cranbury Lions also offer the Jamesburg Leo Scholarship but it's not advertised on our website since the application is restricted to Jamesburg Leos.

Coming Soon

The Lions Eye Bank of New Jersey is holding it's annual 2015 Visionary of the Year Dinner honoring PCC Elspeth Moore on Thursday, April 23, 2015. John Ryan is trying to get a table for the Cranbury Lions at this dinner. Lions from all over the state will be attending. Dinner is buffet style. Contact John Ryan if you are interested in attending.



White Cane Day at ShopRite in Hightstown has been scheduled for Saturday, May 2nd. **Mark your Calendar now!** In order to meet our charitable programs budget for this year, we need Lions to be generous of their time to help raise money at ShopRite.

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! Don't delay to make your travel plans!



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.

Lions, Join the International President Joe Preston's "**Just ask One**" membership campaign. Just ask one neighbor, co-worker or friend to join the Cranbury Lions club. Give others the opportunity to learn the gratification of giving service to others.

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.