

The Sunriser



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JANUARY 2021

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Kathy Cross Reece

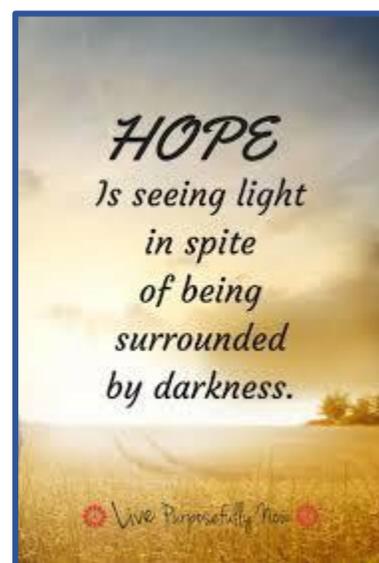
Fellow Lions,

I hope this newsletter encourages you. Be encouraged no matter what you are going through. The year 2020 has been, and continues to be difficult for so many. You are stronger than you think! The fact that we are here is a testimony in itself. I am grateful to know you, serve alongside you, and be a part of something bigger than myself. We are all so much better together. It does not matter if you were not able to attend a meeting or serve on a project.

The year 2020 will be remembered as the time when whole world shared something in common—the Pandemic. COVID-19 served as a catalyst for getting the world's attention. That it did. Masks became common place. Some people sheltered alone to avoid risk of exposure. We lost a mentor and fellow Lion along the way—Bob Kelley. We experienced shockwaves of racial and social injustice, civil unrest, protests, all on the heels of local and national elections, and electing a new President. Wow all of this in one year!

In the mist of it all, *We Serve*. Many of us connect weekly via zoom without hesitation. Zoom has allowed members to continue to meet, strategize, and provide a means of communication to complete fundraisers and projects. After I initiated the zoom meetings, Joel and Ted have been hosting.

My goal as VP has been to make personal connections. This was an opportunity to step out and visit members face-to-face or mask-to-mask. We have accomplished more than we



YES, HAPPIER NEW YEAR!

As we watch 2020 fade in the rearview mirror, let me remind you of WHAT YOU ACCOMPLISHED. While many clubs slowed down or closed completely, you barely missed a step. In a typical year, we often host over 30 charities and fundraisers. Despite the challenges we found ourselves in, we only missed out on 12 of them, like the Maytown Exit Coffee-for-Travelers, which the state shut down. And other events, like the golf tournament, did as well as if there was no pandemic. Imagine how we will do in 2021!

UPCOMING EVENTS

TWO THINGS: First, let me suggest that you visit our website's EVENTS webpage at LaceySunriseLions.org and see what we have scheduled (tentatively) for 2021. Typically, the next thing on our calendar is the *Open House & Chili Cook Off* at the Lacey Senior Center in February. We'll see how vaccinations go and whether we can safely proceed, or perhaps postpone it a few months.

Second, let the Secretary know if and when you get your vaccinations, so we can plan for breakfast meetings.

WE DO WHAT WE DO WHEN DUES ARE DUE

Yes, it's that time of year—sigh—when the Sunrise Secretary annoys reminds you to pay for ONLY THE NEXT SIX MONTHS (thru the end of our fiscal year)—\$43 per person plus \$33 for each family member. See our website for payment options:
LaceySunriseLions.org

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BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

January 5th Tuesday 6:30pm

ZOOM LINK IS AUTOMATICALLY SENT TO MEMBERS

JANUARY GUEST SPEAKERS

- 7 Jan Drake Nicholson, "Do I have enough insurance?"
- 14 Jan Dr. Carrie La Jeunesse, Update on pandemic.
- 21 Jan Lacey PD Jimmy Williams, "Challenges faced by the front line."
- 28 Jan Club Business Meeting



**I finally remember what these Lions
ZOOM meetings remind me of.**

Attend via zoom or go to the LERC on Thursday morning...sit through the zoom meeting with other intrepid mask wearing club members, then work on eyeglasses for an hour.

DG Donna Murr Kindness Matters Awards

- Lacey Sunrise – David Azeltine, Anna Bazil & John Kubena
- Lakewood First – Tami Ellingson
- Olympia West – Dee McDermott and Lindsey Johnson
- Shelton Centennial – Sunshine Pearson & Bill Scholl

FEATURED LION

Randy Harris



In 2001 I retired from the Olympia Brewery after 30 years. I had plenty of hobbies to keep me busy, and we were just starting construction on a new home. Nick Murphy invited me to attend a Membership Drive Meeting for the Lions. I knew Nick from our involvement in the local Corvette Club; and as a favor to him, I agreed. I had resided in Tenino for the previous

imagine possible. Expecting the worse; hoping for the best. The best found its way into our club.

We closed out 2020 with the Firehouse Christmas Charity, where our members baked cookies, created over 100 treat bags, shopped for 8 families, and wrapped the gifts for them. Then we came together the weekend before Christmas with the Drive-Thru Christmas Party to say thank you to our members (photos on page 4), giving away bags of coffee and goodies. Thank you all for your time and fellowship.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



Mike Ragan 7th
Jaye Compton 15th
Jim Perrou 22nd
Joe Crest 24th

FEEDING THE FINCHES on Dec 23rd

You were probably busy, since it was so close to Christmas and a last-minute invite. But Judy Ann visited Joel and Rena, and as you can see from the photo, enjoyed hand-feeding the finches. Ask her about it sometime.



Remember back when we used to eat cake
after someone blew all over it?
Man, were we wild...



33 years across the street from three Tenino Lions members but had never been approached about joining their club. So, I knew very little about the Lions other than seeing their sign at nearly every town I had entered.

At the meeting with Nick, I heard the story of Helen Keller and her speech to the National Lions Convention, imploring them to be Knights of the Blind, and how the Lions responded. I became aware of what Lions do and the large number of members. I thought this would be a good group to be associated with, and so with Nick's sponsorship, I joined.

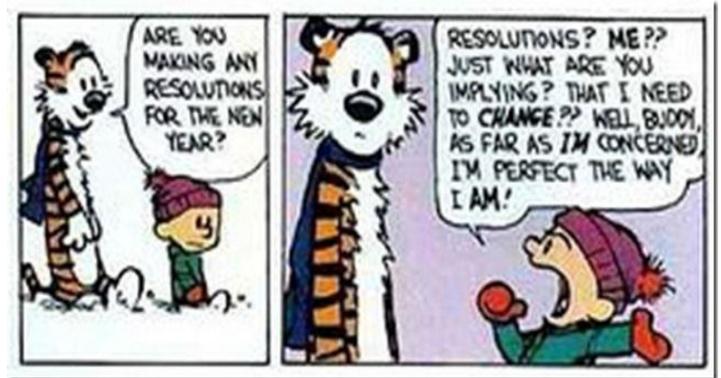
My pride has grown for the support, care, generosity, and service the Lions provide to the local community and around the world. I've always said that if you want to feel good about yourself, then do something for someone else. "We Serve" is a prime example of that belief.

Over the years I have served on the Executive Board in several positions, including King Lion and chaired many programs. For several years, I was the club newsletter editor, as well as the zone newsletter editor. I've been a Guiding Lion, chaired a Leo Club at a local high school, chaired the United Way - Dave Whitcher Day of Caring project, led the Lacey Adopt-a-Road project, and worked on most every other project involving the Sunrise Lions.

But of all the projects I've been involved with, my favorite has been the Bob Kelley Wheel Chair Construction Project, working with Bob and the rest of the crew (photo above). So many fond memories—the feeling you receive when you complete a ramp for someone with a disability and have them come out to look at it with tears in their eyes, thanking you for unlocking them from their home. We built a ramp for a couple near Rochester. She had been hospitalized and had recovered, but was living at a rehab center for several months, because she did not have access to her home. We completed the ramp just in time for her to come home and spend Thanksgiving with her family. Her husband was overjoyed with emotions, and so were we.



ROADSIDE CLEANUP DEC 4th (Lacey Adopt-a-Road) Dec 4th. A perfect project for pandemic safety-minded folks and relieves the landscape of unsightly trash and debris.



HOLIDAY COFFEE FUNDRAISER

Another covid-proof fundraiser. We raised over \$1,000 from November into December, selling coffee, cocoa, and tea. Good work, you coffeeholic champions!



JERRY'S KIDS

THANK YOU to everyone who supported the Jerry's Kids program (started by our member Jerry Goebel, and since his passing, championed by his wife, Jan), which helps families in need at Pleasant Glade Elementary School. This year, we gave more than ever before, because of your astounding generosity.



I was asked to serve as Vice President and eventually King Lion. I was very apprehensive, but soon found that the support, mentoring, and experience of Lions who had been members for many years before me was offered freely and made the job so much easier. The Lions family is a real family and a lot more, and I could not be prouder to be associated with a service organization that is so involved in supporting those who are in need. It is a pleasure to serve with my fellow Lions.

We can't be accused of being idle. No siree, Bob.



John Colvin above, riding Rudolph. Dennis and Dorothy Reed right, then below Pat, Linda, Peggy, Dave, Santa John.

DRIVE THRU CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sat Dec 19th 9-11am at Kathy's office (Imagine Realty 8520 Martin Way). People drove through to receive gifts of coffee and goodies, while being judged for the "best" Christmas sweater.



FOODBANK PACKAGING DEC 17th

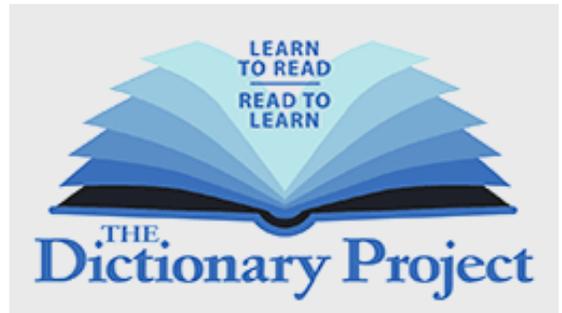
Yes, we were just there on Nov 19th, but these are unusual times, aren't they? And our help is much needed in the community. For December, Lyell and Laura Clark attended, along with Peggy and Frankie, Dennis and Dorothy Reed, Laurel Strong, Bill Miller and Anna Bazil. To get involved, contact Lyell Clark.

LACEY FIREFIGHTERS CHRISTMAS CHARITY



On December 13th, in conjunction with the Lacey Firefighter's Charity Foundation and Adopt-a-Family program, Lacey Sunrise and Midday Lions joined the LFD to help 48 families (150-175 kids) with Christmas gifts. Point of contact was our own Firedog Kevin Davenport. Families drove through Fire Station 34, stopping at certain spots for gifts and a wave to Santa. On Dec 9th, we got together to wrap gifts purchased for eight families.

From left: Pat, Linda, Peggy, Frankie, Kathy, Joel, Dave



Here's another project that slipped under the radar. In November and December Paul Conroy single-handedly led this effort, working within the confines of the public and private school's COVID restrictions to deliver 368 dictionaries to Third Graders. THANK YOU, PAUL!



LACEY SUNRISE HAT FUNDRAISER \$20

This has evolved into an ongoing fundraiser, because people need hats at all times of the year. It is easy to order a high-quality hat: Go to our website, then bottom of home page, click on the link to choose a color, then email the

Secretary LionJoelGraves@gmail.com with your color choices and quantities. Go to our Payments webpage for payment options: Mail a Check, or use a Credit Card via Paypal, or see the Billpay set up instructions.