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A Lion in Need...

Submitted by Dave Rawson

So often I scramble around doing this or that for other people and I love to do it. I always seem to find that when I am in the service of others it benefits me and helps me forget about my own worldly cares and pain.

Then, I head off to meeting after meeting visiting with friends of like minds who give of their time, energy and talents. I generally figure that because they are there then they are doing okay themselves and I often times fail to look further than the surface at these fantastic people around me.

Case and point... Ron Staggs. I have sat and chatted with him on a number of occasions and even knew that he wouldn't make it to as many Lions meetings as he use to because of job scheduling. On the outside, everything is on the up and up until I receive an email (the most current) on his very dire situation:

The email from Helen Sutfin:

Terry and I spent time with Ron today (12/30). He is still in Intensive Care and by the looks of things he will be there for awhile.

He is not very responsive, but is better than he has been the last few days.

The week before Christmas he had a huge set back and is now recovering from that. His sister and brother

seem to be in touch with the hospital and he could really use some prayers.

Think of him as he struggles to get his body back under his control.

Wow! Could I have done something to benefit my friend had I looked a little further, a little deeper, past the surface? Who is to say? But the fact remains that here is a man who truly needs our help in a way that I am not real good.



I know, there are various ways to pray. Some get on their knees, others hold hands with loved ones, some close there eyes while others shout out loud to the heavens. A thought, a prayer, a keen desire in our hearts for our friend is needed however it is done.

Ron needs us, his friends. Take a moment and think of him, wish him well and hopefully we will see him back in our midst again and soon.

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JANUARY

PROGRAM SCHEDULE Program Director - Chris Denny

Jan.9 - Scott Northup, speaking about the local Blood Center

Jan. 16—Liz Elfring, speaking about the High School Program that she presents to the students

Jan. 23 - Jo Franz, motivational speaker

**Jan. 30 - TBA
 - a fellow Lion!**

President's Corner



King Lion Al Rhyasen

TIME Is On Our Side!

As I prepare to write this column in our monthly newsletter, I review the 3 month calendar to see what we have done recently and to look ahead to future events and activities. The first thing that struck me was this is the year 2009! We can all remember the turn of the century and what excitement Y2K brought to the world! Now it's nine years later!

How has our club grown over these past years not only in numbers [which are important] but in community events, service and more importantly fellowship to one another and the community? A good barometer of how you feel about the club and us as members is "Did you miss us, since our last club luncheon was Dec 12th and our last community event was the Santa Store moved ahead two days to Dec 16th? Unfortunately, we had no Christmas lunch with Caroling from WSU Choir. Our next luncheon meeting is not until Friday Jan 9th. Well, I missed all of you and felt like a Lion in a cage, instead of free to roam around in our community. Dave Rawson will now insert pictures of our 50 year snow storm to show our posterity why it was that our club did not meet for such a long time.



A word about **Walk and Knock**- I read in the Columbian that County residents donated 282,000 pounds of food and \$30,000. Money donations would equate to another 12 tons of food, for a grand total of 153 tons, which was 2 tons shy of the record set in 2002. Congrats to our own Dave Rawson who was vice president this year. His efforts along with our own Zone Chair Lee Denny helped coordinate over 4000 volunteers walking the streets and working to load and unload.



Next year's Drive is Dec 5th!

June Serviss

Santa's Store! Because of inclement weather Washington Elementary asked us on Monday morning Dec 15th if we could set up the store that afternoon and open it the next day Dec 16th, which was two days earlier than planned. The committee made



the calls and our members, family and friends responded to make this one of the most memorable years ever. Once again thank you to all who participated in both the

set-up and the store itself! About 6 Lions met at 8 a.m., Dec 26th [Boxing Day] and purchased just shy of 800 gifts spending almost \$2000 for next year's store. Lion Lee Denny told of a lady who

wanted to know what was happening as she saw the carts of toys they were moving around the store. She was very interested and said she wanted to donate to this worthy cause. [Lee just happened to have a Lion's card to give to her.]

Whose Bell was Rung?

On Thursday Dec 11th, ten Lions rang the Salvation Army Bells from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. in two hour shifts. Lion Bruce Armstrong coordinated this event and reported that we raised a healthy donation. [Boy it was chilly!]



Bruce also organized gifts for our **Secret Santa** family that saw Christmas gifts delivered to a single mother with two young daughters. Despite the weather Santa made the delivery.



What's Upcoming?

There are three

Presidents Corner Continued from Page 2....

Lions International Website www.lionsclubs.org
 MD-19 Website www.lionsmd19.com
 Fort Vancouver Lions Club www.fortvancouverlions.com

events that I wanted to highlight:

1. Spring Concert

Regarding our next concert that is to benefit Clark County Sight, please invite your family and friends to this evening of wonderful music. Tickets are only \$15 each and this concert has sold out in years past. See Roy Pulliam at our Club lunch meeting Jan 9th to buy your tickets. I am coordinating the ad sales for this concert. Please contact any eye doctor in Clark County you know and ask them to support our concert by purchasing a \$100 business size card ad. [\$250 for ¼ page and \$500 for ½ page]. If they don't want to place an ad ask them if they would like to come themselves, or purchase tickets for those in our community that we could donate. Because of the weather and the holidays, time is short, so we all need to get behind this fund raiser!

2. Membership Banquet

On Friday, Feb 20th, our membership committee has planned a wonderful potluck dinner to celebrate our newest Lions and to fellowship together. Plan on attending this free event!

3. Spring Convention

Our Spring Convention this year is a month earlier than in year's past and at a different location. This weekend promises to be a memorable time so calendar it in! [Mark down March 13th and 14th in Long Beach Washington]

As you set your New Year's goals for 2009, be sure to include 2 or 3 new goals to accomplish in your own Fort Vancouver Lion's Club! [Introducing a friend to our club would be a very worthwhile goal!] Congratulations for all your efforts and support for the Year 2008!

Yours in Lionism,
 President Allen Rhyasen

Concert to Benefit the Blind III

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Friday, February 6th, 2009 at 7:00pm (Doors open at 6:30PM)

Emil Fries Auditorium - Washington State School for the Blind
 2214 E 13th Street, Vancouver

Tickets: \$15.00 and may be reserved by calling WSSB 360-696-6321
 Ext.

A Concert Benefiting the WSSB Student Betterment Fund, the Clark County Sight Committee, and the Fort Vancouver Lions Club



Thank You Ft Vancouver Lions
 for your support during my Official
 Visits to the clubs in our zone,
 Thanks ZC Lee

CLARK COUNTY SIGHT COMMITTEE

Report by Lion Ken Milligan

We met on December 2008 with 14 Lions from 11 Clubs attending.

We reviewed 29 applications for exams & glasses approving 14 of them.

A total of 15 were denied. 1 as non-resident of Clark County, 10 returned for more information, 1 as DSHS eligible, 1 as too soon since glasses last received and 2 for too many requests over recent years.

Our next meeting will be on January 5th at the WSSB Administration Bldg.
 Starting at 6:30 pm.

Hope to see you there!



Calendar of Events... JANUARY 2009

EARN YOUR FREE RAFFLE TICKET: LOCATE YOUR NAME
(THERE ARE 2 HIDDEN NAMES IN THIS NEWSLETTER)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Happy New Year!	2	3
4	5 Happy Birthday Marilyn Robertson! January 6th →	6 Sight Committee 6:30PM School for the Blind Hearing Committee 6:30 PM School for the Deaf	7	8	9 Board Meeting 12PM WEEKLY MEETING	10
11 Year:1922 First use of insulin to treat Diabetes in a human patient	12	13	14 Happy Birthday Rodger Vandewater!	15	16 12PM WEEKLY MEETING	17 Happy Birthday Marsel Tingey!
18	19 Year:1953 68% OF ALL American TV's tuned in to watch Lucy give birth on the I Love Lucy Show	20	21 Share House 2:30 pm Contact Steve Staudinger	22 Happy Birthday Don Fish!	23 Happy Birthday DeLores Milligan! Board Meeting 12PM WEEKLY MEETING	24  Blazer Night
25	26	27 Happy Birthday Taj Aoki!	28	29	30	31

Mark your calendar... February dates to remember...

- Tuesday, February 3rd - Sight/Hearing Committees
- Friday, February 6th - Concert for the Blind - WSSB
- Friday, February 20th - Membership Banquet

WANTED WORK EXPERIENCE

Training Sites for students who
are blind or visually impaired. Help educate a
handicapped student

Contact: Lori Pulliam

WSSB Vocational Coordinator

360-696-6321 Ext# 116



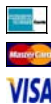
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BOARD MINUTES...

From December 5th, 2008

Correspondence:

Newsletter-Seafarers Center

Contests and awards reminder for Spring Conference from chairman

Unfinished Business-Follow-up:

A motion to deny request of funds to the students in the Close Up Program at the WSSB to help finance their trip to attend the inauguration in January. Motion carried. *Dorothy Scott*

A motion to donate up to \$1500.00 of additional funds above the budgeted amount for the Santa Store. 1 opposed motion carried.

L. Denny announced he has purchased the in focus ma-

chine projector for the club.

A discussion was held regarding the 501(3)c status and a committee was formed. Staudinger, Limoges, L. Denny and Harding were given the deadline of March 2009 to bring back a proposal to the board.

New Business:

Limoges announced PDG Stacy Walters will be inducting the new members at the Membership banquet on Feb 20th.

Limoges reported the National Diabetes Association Fair will be Feb. 21st and will have more info at the next board meeting.

President Rhyasen ended the meeting by announcing the next board meeting will be January 9th, 2009.

TWO TICKETS AVAILABLE!

Act Now!

Blazer Tickets



Portland vs Washington

January 24th

Contact Roy Pulliam

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FORT VANCOUVER LIONS CLUB

PO BOX 701
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Donated funds go to purchase eye glasses and hearing aids for local residents plus scholarships and public service.

We help the Schools for the Blind & Deaf; WA Eye Bank, WA Elementary School, Local Scouting, our Health Screening Unit & Many Others.