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CLARK COUNTY LIONS HEARING COMMITTEE SCORES A HOME RUN!

CLARK COUNTY LIONS HEARING COMMITTEE
 Report by Lion Rick Giles

To the right of this column is a wonderful letter that was received by the Clark County Lions Hearing Committee. What a wonderful letter to receive!

Other news at the hearing committee... We would like to welcome Jeff Garnett (Columbia Crest) & LR Smith (La Center) to the committee! It is great to have at least one representative from each of our Clark County Lions Clubs!

A sincere thanks to the following clubs: Fort Vancouver, Vancouver, Hazel Dell, Battle Ground and Camas. Along with the local Lion's club and private party donations we have received donated funds for the fiscal year 2008-2009. Without your support we would not have been able to help the low-income hearing impaired persons in Southwest Washington.

In February we received two applications and approved two devices, one for each applicant and made available a second device at cost should they want it.

Our next meeting will be on March 3rd, 2009 at 7pm at the Washington State School for the Deaf. Hope to see you there!

I can't tell you enough how grateful I am for the gift you gave me.

You see in August 2008, I was a victim of domestic violence. Then in November 2008, my employer informed me that not being able to hear was affecting his business and that I had until the end of January to either purchase hearing aids or find another job.

On my list of hopes for rebuilding my life was a set of hearing aides. At the time, this seemed impossible because of the costs involved, both financial and emotional.

My domestic violence counselor has helped me reach my emotional strength. You made it possible for me to be blessed with hearing aids. For me, both elements together equate to enormous strength.

More than this, my experience has been life changing and I wanted you to know that you played a major role in enabling me to continue on with my life as a strong, productive, healthy individual.

I will never forget what you did for me and the way you treated me with respect and kindness.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for helping me reach what seemed to be an unattainable, life-changing milestone.....

Sincerely, Leticia

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MARCH PROGRAM SCHEDULE
 Program Directors - Dave & Susie Rawson

March 6th
 Guy Drennan
 Identity Theft Specialist

March 13th
 Jim Quintana
 C-Tran Public Affairs

March 20th
 Gary Mack
 Family Documentaries

March 27th
 Walt Miller
 Member, Recent Travels

President's Corner



King Lion Al O'Rhyasen

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Family folklore has my ancestors emigrating from Ireland in the 1850's with my great grandfather being killed on board ship, before it



Immigrants Arriving at Ellis Island 1800's

landed in New York City and his wife dying, giving birth a few months later to my Grandfather Parker

Rhyasen. Parker was an adventurous young man who left New York and the family that adopted him and 45 years after his birth, emigrated to Northern Alberta with his wife and huge family.

He died in 1922, so obviously I never met the man, but my father told stories of his many exploits that demonstrated his optimistic spirit and his Irish temper. His optimistic spirit was an asset to him and his Irish temper was not.

Optimistic Spirit

This past weekend Marilyn Martin our club participated in two very successful events. Friday evening saw over 40 Fort Vancouver Lions, spouses and friends joining together for our annual membership banquet where not only were we fed well, but we were entertained by Peter Anderson (photo on

right >>) (Pin man from Washougal club) acting as moderator of a Jeopardy Game that pitted 4 teams (each with a new member) against each other. Lee Denny's team was victorious! (It helped that Dave Rawson, who made up the questions, was on that team, even though he denies any involvement)

The evening culminated with Stacy Walters inducting 6 new members into our club in an inspiring ceremony. A fun time was had by all.



The next day some 11 Lions worked the Diabetes Expo at the Portland Convention Center. We helped man 8 booths, where participants came to collect information, and we stamped their passport cards. It was hard work but very satisfying and the lady, from Washington DC that was in charge, was very impressed with



our club's participation. Over 5,500 people attended this event and you can be proud that our Fort Vancouver Lions Club was there.

Both of these events this past weekend happened to fall under Craig Limoges responsibility as our Club's Membership Chair [banquet dinner] and Diabetes Chair. I'm aware that this past year has not been an especially easy one for Craig.



Some of you may be aware of the difficult and multiple professional and personal challenges Craig has faced over the past year. Most of us would have curled up and said enough al-

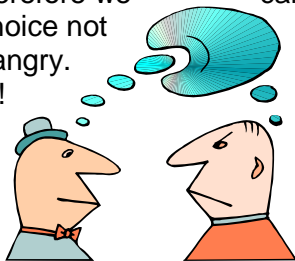
ready! Leave me alone! Craig chose to stay involved with his Fort Vancouver Lion's Club family and worked extra long and hard, following through on the responsibilities of his positions and as a result we benefited from his hard work. In the next few months he'll meet with all the new members [7 since January] and orient them into Lions. Craig Limoges represents what Lionism is all about We Serve even when it's not convenient or easy. Thanks Craig for jobs well done.

Presidents Corner Continued to Page 3

Presidents Corner Continued from Page 2....

Irish Temper

As mentioned earlier, my grandfather had a temper . Working together in a service organization places us together with all types of people and many different situations. Working effectively together necessitates us to be patient and understanding and, yes, to love the other person even though sometimes it's not easy. 'He made me mad.' This is a phrase we hear, or "I just lost my temper" That's an interesting choice of words as to "lose something" implies not meaning to, accidental, involuntary, not responsible. No one makes us mad. Other's don't make us angry. There is no force involved. Becoming angry is a conscious choice, a decision; therefore we can make the choice not to become angry. We Choose!



I love my family heritage and I'm proud to be a Rhyasen but that Irish temper that didn't serve my grandfather well has not helped me either. I've worked hard all my adult life to keep it under control. Working together as Fort Vancouver Lions in all the projects we're involved with, shoulder to shoulder, even when it's not convenient , as shown to us by Craig Limoges, makes us better people. One lady I met Saturday morning at the Diabetes Expo said "I'm just getting this information for my 72 year old neighbor. His diabetes makes him irritable and his family won't help, so I've adopted him." May we all learn to serve with this type of patient love.

Yours in Lionism,
Allen Rhyasen

Lions International Website
MD-19 Website
Fort Vancouver Lions Club

www.lionsclubs.org
<http://lionsmd19.com>
www.fortvancouverlions.com

**Lions Liking Vikings
Spring Conference
March 13-14**

March is here and soon will be the **Lion's District G Spring Conference!**

Reservations and registration need to be made soon.

Spring Conference will be held in **Long Beach Washington** this year, **March 13th and 14th** at the **Chautauqua Lodge Resort**. For reservations to stay at the lodge you may want to check out their website at www.chautauqualodge.com or phone them at **360-642-4401**.

**New Member Info
for your rosters...**

Catrina Galicz
7509 NE Van Mall Dr #F23
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PO Box 1047
Vancouver WA 98666 H 360-635-7048
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11518 NE 34th Ave
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closinge@amfam.com

Marilyn Martin
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Kama May
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Lori Pulliam (Roy)
2103 NW 139th Street
Vancouver WA 98685 H 360-574-9038
lpulliam@wssb.org

Diana Ross H 503 512-8365
dianaross@comcast.net



CLARK COUNTY LIONS SIGHT COMMITTEE
Report by Lion Ken Milligan

The Clark County Lions Sight Committee met on February 3, 2009 with fifteen Lions from ten clubs in attendance!

We reviewed fifty five applications for exams & glasses approving thirty one of them.

A total of twenty four were denied for various reasons, as follows: six were denied as non-residents of Clark County, eleven were returned for more information, four were DSHS eligible, two had sufficient income and two for too many recent requests.

Our next meeting will be on March 3rd at the WSSB Administration Bldg. We start at 6:30pm



Calendar of Events...

MARCH 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 Iceland National Holiday... Beer Day! (yes, Beer Day...)	2	3 Sight Committee 6:30PM School for the Blind Hearing Committee 6:30 PM School for the Deaf	4	5 Happy Birthday Irene Schultz!	6 Board Meeting 12PM WEEKLY MEETING	7
8 Happy Birthday Fred Larson!	9	10 Happy Birthday Dave Rawson!	11 Happy Birthday John Caldwell!	12 Happy Birthday Terry Sutfin!	13 12PM WEEKLY MEETING	14
15 Happy Birthday Natasha Rezhnev!	16 The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne is published in 1850	17 St. Patrick's Day! Lions Council 7pm	18 Share House 2:30 pm Contact Steve Staudinger	19 Happy Birthday Bruce Armstrong!	20 Board Meeting 12PM WEEKLY MEETING	21
22 Happy Birthday Rick Giles!	23	24 Happy Birthday Ray Casey!	25	26 Happy Birthday Poet Robert Frost 1874 San Francisco, CA	27 12PM WEEKLY MEETING	28
29	30 Game Show "Jeopardy" premieres on NBC 1964	31				Friday's marked in red indicate our regular weekly meeting

Mark your calendar... April dates to remember...

- April 11th - Pancake Breakfast at Washington Elementary
- April 15th - Share House
- April 18th - Sight Committee 60th Anniversary

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WSSB Vocational Coordinator

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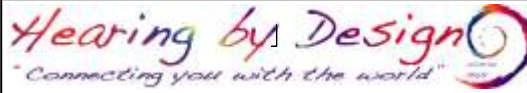
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February's Concert for the Blind... A HUGE Success!

Our recent Concert to Benefit the Blind III was an outstanding success!

On February 6 Misty Mama's and Three Together donated their time and talents for the third consecutive year for our benefit concert.

The event took place in the lovely Fries Auditorium at the Washington State School for the Blind. It was a fund raiser for the charities of our club, the Clark County Lions Sight Committee, and the Student Betterment fund at WSSB.

The auditorium was packed. The music was wonderful and those in attendance got to see the performance debut of "Reggae Roy."

The Misty Mama's, who are about to sell their first CD, played the blue grass/folk music we have all enjoyed in the past.



Three Together, led by Grammy Award winning guitarist Doug Smith, again impressed the crowd with music we all recognized from the 60's and 70's. We owe a huge thank you to Doug Smith you was hit with a bad case of the flu that week, but still dragged himself on stage to perform.



Ethos Salon also provided a gift certificate Chris Losinger valued at \$250.00 to raffle off at the event. The raffle crew of Susie Rawson, Dotty and Elaina Scott raised a whopping \$240.00. The lucky winner was Lion Elaine Sabo from the Orchards/Evergreen club.



The total net income, after expenses, for this event was \$4342.50!!

I would like to thank Rick Giles for his printing of the fly-

ers, tickets, and programs. Dave Rawson, as always, was extremely helpful by designing the flyer and putting together the program. President Al Rhyasen was our cheer leader and leading ticket sales guy. Ken Milligan sold a bunch of ads and a lot of other members sold tickets, bought ads and attended the event. It was a great team effort!

Mark your calendars for September and our next benefit concert.

Thank you for all of your efforts and support of this event!

Roy Pulliam, Concert Chairman

Mark your calendar For May 21st!

May 21st the Fort Vancouver Lions Club will conduct the WSSB Track meet and we will need you! Kids from all over the Northwest participate in this event! It's a great day for participants and volunteer alike!

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FORT VANCOUVER LIONS CLUB

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SUPPORT THE FORT VANCOUVER LIONS CLUB

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.