



# The Grand Island Lion

## April 2014

[www.gilions.com](http://www.gilions.com)



### Split Club



Will Resume in April

### President's Message for April

The weather did not cooperate in March and our meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> was cancelled due to a blizzard. Aren't those supposed to be over in February?



Lion Tom Rusert ran the meeting at the BLC on the 26<sup>th</sup> while Brenda and I listened to Dr. Sanjay Gupta, CNN medical journalist, in the UB Alumni Arena, as part of the Distinguished Speaker series.

On March 8<sup>th</sup>, Lion Paul and Judy Bassette, Lion Tom Witkowski and Brenda and I represented the Grand Island Lions at the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of the Merritton Lions Club. It was a very enjoyable evening with entertaining and humorous speakers. We joined many other clubs and organizations in presenting a donation to help with their continuing work and mission.

On Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, Lion Tom Witkowski and I represented the GI Lions at a District Cabinet meeting at Shea's Theatre. It was a very full agenda. Upcoming events include a Convention in Lake Placid, April 25 to 27 and an International Convention in Toronto, July 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>. For WNY Lions, this could be a once in a lifetime opportunity to attend an International Convention within a 1.5 hour drive.

April is a big month for Grand Island. On April 9<sup>th</sup>, we will visit Merritton. Meet in front of Mighty Taco as usual for carpooling. Let's have a strong turnout to show the Grand Island Lions spirit!

On Wednesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, we will have Sheri Shaw of the Ross Eye Clinic as our guest speaker. This should be educational and enlightening. Some or all of our club's "snow birds" should be back from Florida.

Our major fundraiser of the year, the Spaghetti Dinner, will be on Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup>. I was out this weekend collecting donations for the basket raffle. This year we will have displays and personnel from some of the agencies we sponsor. It will provide an opportunity for the public to see the many ways the Lions help others. Lion Tom Witkowski gets the credit for this idea. Thanks Lion Tom!

April is a great month to be a Grand Island Lion!

Yours in service,

Lion President Brooks



**WE SERVE**

### Upcoming events:

**Wednesday April 9th**  
Lions General Meeting  
Merritton Clubhouse  
Cocktails 6:00PM Dinner  
6:30PM

**Program: Joint GI/Merrittons  
Lions meeting.**

**Wednesday April 23rd**  
Lions General Meeting  
Buffalo Launch Club  
Cocktails 6:30PM Dinner 7PM  
Program: Sheri Shaw Ross Eye  
Clinic

**Monday April 28th**  
**Grand Island Lions Spaghetti  
Dinner.**  
**Byblos Resort**  
**5PM- 8PM**

**“DECADENCE”**

PRESENTED BY THE MEMBERS OF  
THE GRAND ISLAND LIONS CLUB

**WINES**

Adesso Romagna Cagnina Dolce (sweet Italian red wine)

Menage a Trois red

Menage a Trois white

7 Deadly Zins zinfandel

**CHOCOLATES**

Guylian truffles

Perugina dark bar

Godiva dark almond bar

Godiva milk salted caramel bar

Godiva extra dark Santo Domingo

Godiva milk

Ferraro Rocher hazelnut

Harry and David dark “Moose Munch”

**COOKIES, CRACKERS**

Aiello amaretti

Jules Destrooper Belgian chocolate thins

Hickory Farms olive oil and rosemary crackers

**MEATS**

Busseto hot Italian dry salami

Un Mondo salamis and sausage collection

(refrigerate meats after opening)

**Value: \$157.00**



**Pictures from the Eye Ball:** Vision Beyond Sight Foundation Eye Ball basket donation, a photo of Lion Tom and Diana Witkowski and a picture of the party at Babeville. The basket had a "Decadent" theme. A heart felt thank you to all Lions who contributed and made the Decadent Basket possible! Lion Tom



**Merritton Lions and Lionesses**



**PDG George Hostick, Lion Tom, Lion Paul and Judy, Brenda Rimes and Lion President Brooks**



**Lion President Brooks presenting check to Merritton Lion Chief Wayne Kinnear.**

**Merritton Lions 75th and Merritton Lioness 65th Anniversary Party**

Lion President Brooks and Lion Paul Bassette, accompanied by their lovely brides Brenda and Judy respectively, and Lion Tom Witkowski attended the Merritton's celebration March 8th. With Master of Ceremonies Lion Geoff Crane, the party was a huge success. Many political dignitaries recognized the clubs numerous activities over the years and their continuing service to Lions and the local community. PID Carl Young attended and spoke about if you have a dream, believe in it, then following your dream to its completion. His eloquent suggestions regarding membership for new Lion candidates were quite poignant: offer the right and the opportunity to participate, give new and seasoned Lions the opportunity to grow in ways they never imagined, and giving new members a sense of fulfillment. And to top it all off, he stated that we should be having fun while performing service. A great time was enjoyed by all.



# 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Spaghetti Dinner

**Monday April 28<sup>th</sup>  
5:00 to 8:00 PM**

**Byblos Niagara Resort and Spa  
100 Whitehaven Road  
Grand Island NY**



**Basket Auctions  
50/50 Split  
Desert Table**

**Lions Supporting Agencies Displays**

**Proceeds to Benefit the Grand Island Lions  
Special Kids Picnic to be held on July 16<sup>th</sup> 2014**

The Grand Island Lions will have their 45th, annual Spaghetti Dinner on Monday, April 28th at Byblos Niagara (former Holiday Inn), 100 Whitehaven Rd , Grand Island , from 5-8 pm. In addition to the delicious spaghetti, there will be a basket auction, 50/50 drawings and a dessert table. For the first time, many of the Agencies that the Lions support will have displays showing the ways in which they serve the community and staff to answer questions. The invitees include Niagara Frontier Radio Reading Service, Lion Ann Stadelmeier Hearing Aid Fund, the Olmsted, and several others.

All Lions and friends are warmly invited!

Thank you.  
Lion Brooks Rimes,  
President

VBSF will be hosting its biannual meeting on Saturday, April 12, 2014, 9am, at the Olmsted Center For Sight, 1170 Main Street, Buffalo. I encourage all club members to attend this meeting to learn about the Foundation, what the Lions Diagnostic Eye Center does to diagnose and treat every single client that comes to the Ross Eye Institute including over 230 island residents, and to learn of the opportunities to serve on the Foundation board. Please contact Lion Tom Witkowski, 909-1862, to reserve your seat at this meeting. Consider augmenting your service as a Lion. member on the board. It truly is a wonderful way of connecting to those who turn to the Ross and Lions to save their vision.

**Did You Know?**

Our Valentine's Dinner featured a fun, do you know your couple's quiz.

Can you identify these couples?

- A. They met at the Como Restaurant, had their wedding reception and honeymoon in the Florida Keys.
- B. Met in Niagara Falls, had their wedding reception at the Shawnee Fire Hall and honeymooned on a Caribbean cruise.
- C. Met at Perkins Restaurant in Cheektowaga, had their wedding reception at Ripa's in Lancaster and honeymooned in Alexandria Bay.
- D. Met at the Executive Hotel, had their wedding reception at the LakeView Restaurant and honeymooned in Bermuda.
- E. Met in High School, had their wedding reception in the Sister's Backyard and honeymooned in Hilton Head.
- F. Met in Buffalo, had their wedding reception at the Buffalo Yacht Club and honeymooned in the Finger Lakes.

**Answers are below. Don't peek until you have guessed them all!**

**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**



Anne E. Fahning  
Corey Rathbun  
Patrick Patterson

Thanks to Lions Tom Witkowski,, Glenn Connell and Brooks Rimes for contributions to this newsletter. The deadline for the April Newsletter is Sunday April 29th. If you have material for the newsletter, you can e-mail it to Lion Dave Chervinsky, the editor/publisher, at: grandislandliondave@gmail.com.

**Grand Island Lions web site:**  
[www.gilions.com](http://www.gilions.com).

A: Anne and Bob  
B. Brenda and Brooks  
C. Diana and Tom  
D. Judy and Paul  
E. Maria and Dick  
F. Peggy and Tom

**Answers to the Couple's Quiz**