



# The Grand Island Lion

## September 2015

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



### Split Club Jackpot is \$78

Lion Fred drew the king of diamonds at our last meeting. The Lion that draws the Ace of hearts will win the pot.



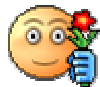
**WE SERVE**

### Upcoming Events:

**Wednesday September 9th**  
General Membership Meeting  
Byblos Resort and Spa  
Cocktails 6:30 Dinner 7PM  
Program: Organizational

**Wednesday September 23rd**  
General Membership Meeting  
Buffalo Launch Club  
Cocktails 6:30 Dinner 7PM  
Program: Macula Degeneration  
Speaker from the Ross Institute -TBA  
Joint Meeting with Rotary and Zonta

### Sunshine News:



The Club is sending our thoughts to Lion member Earl's wife, Rita DeGlopper, on her convalescence.

### Fellow Lions,

September is here and time to get our Lion's year in gear. The first meeting is at Byblos on September 9th. I would like to see all members in attendance for a 2015-2016 group photo.

Check your desk drawers, glove boxes, pockets, etc. for no longer needed cell phones as we can donate them to the Erie County Sheriff's Domestic Violence Unit run by Deputy Joseph Chudoba. The phones are reprogramed for emergency use only by domestic violence victims.



Thanks to Lion Norm and everyone who helped make White Cane a success with about \$2400.00 collected.

Many members are looking sharp sporting new polo shirts in white or black with our club logo. They are available at a reasonable price from Stuart Sports (754-4895) in Lewiston. Contact them and request the Grand Island Lion's logo on your order.

See You at Byblos,

Lion President Tom

We are again eligible to apply for a **Brandel-Murphy Youth Foundation** matching grant up to \$2,000. Our district enjoys the largest amount of grants received from the Foundation totaling over \$13,740.00 with our club obtaining one for the Miracle League playground. One of the uses of the grant can go for our Special Kids' Picnic held every July.

Lion Tom Witkowski

### Bon Ton Days

We will again be selling Bon Ton Books as a fundraiser Please consider buying 2 books as a minimum for us to meet our goal.

Lion Annette

## Dining in the Dark

Olmsted Center for Sight's (OCS) 4<sup>th</sup> annual "Dining in the Dark" gala will be held this year on Thursday, September 24, 2015 from 5:30 pm-9:00 pm. Please save the date and join us as we work together to serve the visually impaired community.

As you know, Dining in the Dark is our signature event, where guests are faced with the unique challenge of dining blindfolded, guided only by an instructor and the remaining senses. The purpose of this event is to raise both awareness and dollars to support programs and services offered by OCS.

Since its inception in 1907, OCS strives to help people who are blind or visually impaired achieve their highest level of independence. Community support from organizations like the WNY Lions Clubs continues to be instrumental in helping us achieve our mission.

Tickets and sponsorship opportunities are available on our web site: <http://olmstedcenter.org/event/dining-in-the-dark/>

It is our hope that you and your fellow Lions will join us for this unique event. Guests will undoubtedly be left with a lasting appreciation of the daily challenges experienced by individuals who are blind. If you are unable to join us, an easy way to show your support is by purchasing advertising space in the event program.

On behalf of the Olmsted Center for Sight, we wish to thank you in advance for your consideration and look forward to seeing you at our event. If you have any questions, please contact me at 716-888-4631.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Lion Jeff Hirschfelt

Olmsted Center for Sight



Pictured above, our Lions members enjoying our annual summer picnic on July 18th, hosted by Lion Anne and Husband Bob. A great time was had by all....

### Loan Closet News

8 requests were handled in August with Lions Dick, Dave, Tom R. and Tom W. handling the requests.

Lion Fred handles our north island annex.

Lion Annette

We will no longer bring our used eyeglasses to Southside Trailer. PDG Tom Reinagel has worked with Walmart for them to ship our used eyeglasses to the Lions New Jersey Eyeglass Recycling Center (LNJERC). LNJERC will only accept whole eyeglasses with clear lenses. They will not accept reading eyewear, safety eyeglasses, sunglasses, or eyeglass cases. Further, they will accept the qualified eyewear on specific days of the month. The closest Walmart, 1540 Military Road in the Falls, will only accept them in a box no bigger than 12" x 12" x 20" on Thursdays only. All other complete eye where will be brought to St. Christopher Outreach program located at St. Edmund Campus, 530 Ellicott Creek Rd., Tonawanda, NY 14150 to benefit Hopeful Ways, Inc. Nicaragua eye care missions.

Lion Tom W.

**Our September 23rd meeting** will feature a speaker from the Ross Eye Institute with the latest developments of treating Macular Degeneration, the one eye disease that has no cure yet. Additionally, we will be hosts for the island service clubs. The meeting will be held at the Buffalo Launch Club on September 23 at 6:30 PM

Lion Tom W.



On July 15<sup>th</sup> the Grand Island Lions Club held their 57<sup>th</sup> annual "Special Kids Picnic" at the Buffalo Launch Club. Over 840 kids with special needs and their chaperones enjoyed a variety of entertainment including boat rides, pony rides, Shriner mini kar rides and face painting and entertainment by Step in Time Baton Dancers. Sabretooth and the Lions mascot, magicians and Pringles the Clown, milled through the crowd and engaged the children. Lunch included hot dogs, hamburgers, soda and popcorn. Lion Annette Boies-Lobl, picnic chairman, gave credit to the 90 volunteers who helped our club carry this out. Volunteers included Lions from other clubs in the district including Gasport, and our sister Club of Merriton Ontario, Canada as well as members of the Knights of Columbus, the High School Football Team, Kenmore Boy Scout Troop 104 and the Schnettler Face Painters. Special thanks goes to the Buffalo Launch Club for donating their facilities, to Island Prescription Center as the lead sponsor, to the boat captains and Collins Marine who donated their boats and time including the Excalibur Boat and to Tops Markets, Tim Hortons and Dunkin Donuts for their donations.

Our club's winning entry for the **Lions International Photo Contest** must be submitted to the district no later than 10/30/15 for judging at the following Cabinet Meeting on November 7. For full rules, go to [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org) and type in "Lions Environment Photo Contest" to get to the link for official rules.

Lion Tom W.



**White cane sale:** Lion Norm Hahn, this years White Cane Chairman reported that we took in \$2393.90, and a bag of random foreign currency! The traditional Lions fundraiser was held on August 14th and 15th in front of local businesses and an early morning shift on the corner of Staley and Stony Point Roads. Posing for a photo in between traffic are Lions Henry Lobl (left) and Fred Ruocco.



**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**

Mary Jo Tucker  
Brooks Rimes

Thanks to Lions Tom Rusert, Tom Witkowski and Annette Boies-Lobl for contributions to this newsletter. The deadline for the October Newsletter is Sunday September 27th. If you have material for the newsletter, you can e-mail it to Lion Dave Chervinsky, the editor/publisher, at: [grandislandiodave@gmail.com](mailto:grandislandiodave@gmail.com).

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