



Special Interest Articles:

- Easter Bunny
Fundraiser.
- Health and
Wellness Fair
- Eyeglass
Collection

Kindergarten
Eye Screening.

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

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*The Monthly Newsletter of the Billerica Lions Club
Proudly Serving the Residents of Billerica Since 1957*

Newsletter Update

Fellow Lions, Welcome to issue 3 of the New Lions Tale newsletter. I received a lot of great feedback on the previous issue and hope to incorporate those suggestions into this and future issues. The club has been busy during the past month with the Kindergarten Eye Screening and the Chocolate Easter Bunny sale. At the same time, many hours of planning are going into future events such as the Health and Wellness Fair, the Canister drive, and the Affordable Fourth festival. Again, I remind everyone, this is Your newsletter....please send me info on projects and events you are working on or involved in, topics you would like to see covered, or just items and articles you want to pass along. Please remember, anything sent to me may be edited due to space constraints. But, as long as there is room, I'll get it in a future issue.

Thanks! Send your comments, articles, and news to me: Brian Lomasney eMail: b_lomasney@verizon.net

Kindergarten Eye Screening

The annual Lions sponsored Kindergarten Eye Screening took place Saturday, March 19th at the Billerica High School library. A total of 78 pre-schoolers were screened during 4 hour event. A total of 9 children were found to have vision deficiencies that will require additional testing and remediation. Parents were also able to have their children's hearing tested. 76 students were tested. The number of hearing defects was not available. A big thank you goes out to Lion Cheryl for organizing the screening, as well as to the 14 Lions and 7 Leo volunteers who helped make the event a big success!! Also thanks to the 17 students and 3 teachers from Shawsheen Tech for assisting the Lions with this important event! See photos on pg. 5.

Affordable Fourth

Planning has begun for the 2011 Affordable 4th Festival. The committee has met and things are starting to come together. Due to lower grant money, it has become more challenging to provide the inflatables, dunk tank, and mini golf as we have in the past. The committee is looking at all possible solutions and alternative entertainment options for the kids. The band will be the same as last year, the Full Turn band. Hot dogs and drinks will again be served. The only planned change will be that more water and non-carbonated drinks will be offered, based on feedback received during and after last year's event. As always volunteers are needed. Sign-up sheets will be available soon!!

Eyeglass Update

A recent donation of used eyeglasses given to the Lions totaled 216 pair, bringing the total for the club year to 1611 pair...an impressive total! This contribution will help ensure that those unable to purchase the glasses they need will be able to acquire them at little or no cost. Thanks to Dick Tracey for processing the glasses.

Nomination Committee

The Nominating Committee for the Officers for the Club Year 2011/2012 met on February 16th at BATV. The meeting lasted over 2 hours with much discussion regarding the next group of officers for the club. The nominations are important because, in addition to setting up the leadership of the club for next year, it also lays the groundwork for the leadership in the years to come. Nominations can be found on page six of the newsletter.



Health and Wellness Fair – submitted by Joan Parcewski (edited for space)

This event is being sponsored by the Billerica Lions Club and the Billerica Lodge of Elks.

A few things that are new for us this year. This year, the Lions will be doing the food concession. The profits from that concession will come directly to the Lions.

Also, we will be holding a "Fitness Makes A Difference! Billerica Lions Walk for Sight" during the Fair behind the Pavilion. The fee is \$2 pp OR \$5 per family to walk around the field at least 4 times to support Lions Eye Research. There will be a water jug at the fair for donations to the Japanese Earthquake/Tsunami relief effort.

We will need help in the eyemobile (Carole Butze will help with a few LPN students), manning the Lion's booth, with the walks out back and to relieve people in the different locations.

Thank you to all who have volunteered and those who will be helping out at the fair!

Chocolate Easter Bunny Fundraiser

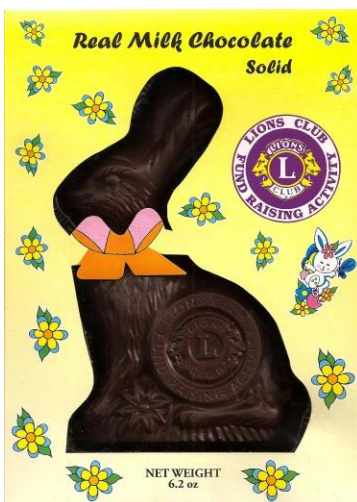
The 2nd Annual Lions Chocolate Easter Bunny sale is almost over and the final results are not quite in. After struggling to sell eight cases last year, the club, and its partners, has sold over 25 cases of Easter Bunnies.

The sale at O'Connor's went very well both weekends. Bugs Tracey is busy tabulating the results and will be published in next month's newsletter. With the profit per bunny coming in at over a dollar each, and with 24 rabbits in a case, the club has been able to raise some truly needed funds.

Thanks Bugs for organizing the sale!

Update: 30 cases purchase, one sold to Leos at cost. If all cases are sold, that will bring in \$986. We have received \$66 in contribution at O'Connors and an additional \$12 for a total of \$1064 less \$15 advertising = \$1049 profit

See photos of the event on page 5.





Culinary Adventures

This month's adventure takes us to Woburn MA, and the China Pearl restaurant. The focus of the meal will be Dim Sum, small individual portions of food. As always, Mike has prescreened the menu choices to ensure there will be something for everyone to enjoy. **Note:** This month's outing will be on SUNDAY, April 17th at 11:30am. Dim Sum is only served between 10:00am – 3:00pm, necessitating the day change. For more details, check this space each month, or contact Mike at 978.453.7429.

2011 William H. Flaherty Memorial Golf Tournament

The details of the 29th Billerica Lions Club / William H. Flaherty memorial golf tournament are starting to take shape. The venue will be the same as last year, the Meadow Creek Golf Club in Dracut. The date will be Monday, July 25th. More information to follow as it becomes available.

Canister Drive

Save the date: April 23. The Lions will be doing the annual Canister drive at all 3 Billerica Market Baskets. Each year, this function is a valuable fund raiser for the Lions club. As the economy gets worse, the need for assistance grows. Please sign up to help out on April 23 for an hour, or two, at the Market Baskets.

Japan Disaster Fund

Just a reminder, you can donate at www.lcif.org/donate, by faxing your credit card information to 630.571.5735, or by mailing a check made out to Lions Club International Foundation, noting Japanese Relief – 2011 on the memo line. Please send the check to: LCIF, 300 W. 22nd St., Oak Brook, IL 60523, USA, Attn.: Donor Services.

Why Collect Eyeglasses?

153 Million Reasons Lions Recycle for Sight

According to The World Health Organization, 153 million people have uncorrected refractive errors (near-sightedness, far-sightedness or astigmatism). Most of these vision impairments are quickly diagnosed and easy to treat with corrective lenses.

Still, millions of people in developing nations are pushed deeper into poverty simply because they don't have glasses. They can't learn, because reading is difficult. They can't work to the best of their ability, because they can't see clearly.

It costs Lions less than US\$0.08 to provide a pair of recycled eyeglasses and change someone's life.

For children, clear vision means a better education, healthier development and a better quality of life. For adults, it means greater employment opportunity and economic strength. For seniors it means less dependence on others.

Lions clubs collect millions of eyeglasses each year, making eyeglass recycling one of our most popular activities!!

THE LION'S TALE

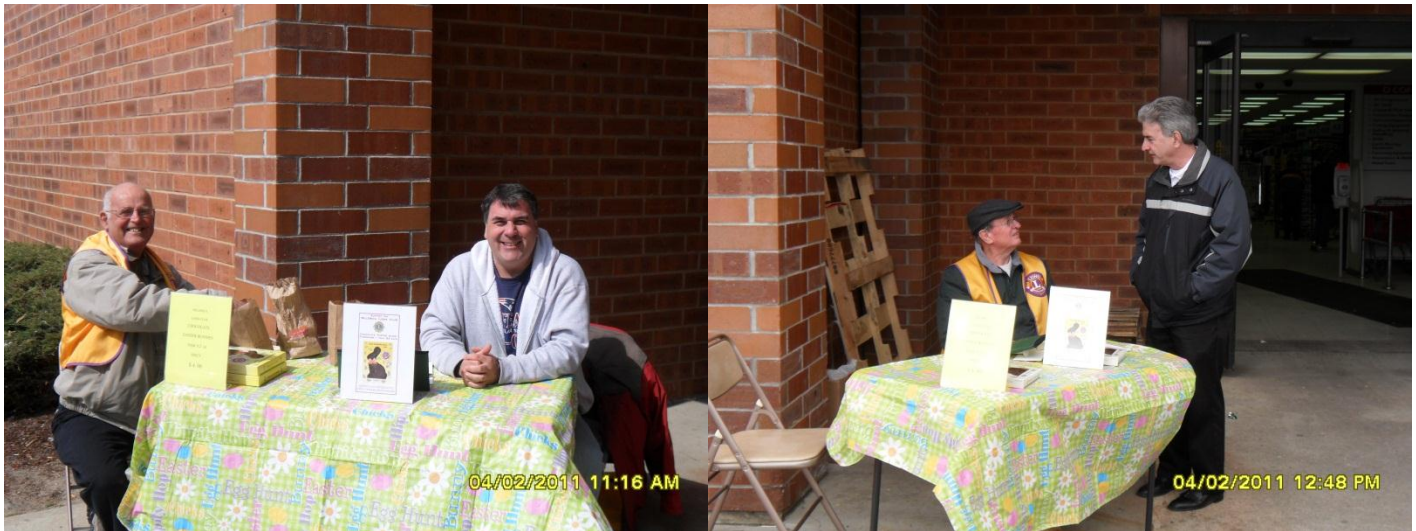


Lions In Action

Kindergarten Eye Screening



More pictures on pg 5



Office Nominations for 2011-2012

- President: Joan DiOrio
- 1st VP: Joan Parcewski
2nd VP: Arthur Walsh
3rd VP: Brian Lomasney
I.P.P: Tony Cucchi
Secretary: Margarita Kalivotis
Treasurer: Bob Kinsman
Membership: Paula Baldwin, Jo Leary,
Leo and Ellie Shea
- Tail Twister: Joan Delmore
Lion Tamer: Don Melendy
Director 1 Yr: Cheryl Marland
Director 1 Yr: Al Melendy
Director 1 Yr: Gordon Gibb
Director 2 Yr: Judy Rogers
Director 2 Yr: Stu Wood
- Newsletter Editors: Brian and Cathy Lomasney
Program Committee: Bruce Baldwin,
Cindy Mac Cormack, Arlene Mazmanian
- Webmaster: George Merrill
Sunshine Lady: Helga Raffaello
Dinner Meeting Caller: Lilli Ralston
Culinary Adventure: Mike Kiskel

Save the date ...
MONDAY, JULY 25, 2011
for the 29th Annual
Billerica Lions Club
William H. Flaherty Memorial
Golf Tournament

LIIONS CLUB
INTERNATIONAL

MEADOW CREEK
GOLF CLUB
DORSET, MA

Questions?
Contact Tony at (978) 663-8314.
or visit: billericalionsclub.org
Watch your mail for Tournament Details to follow.

New Location – Same Low Price!
A top area course with excellent conditions,
scenic vistas, cart-based GPS, new clubhouse.
Check us out: meadowcreekgolfclub.com

Upcoming Events:

Time / Location

April 5:	Business Meeting / Elections for 2011/2012	7:00pm - Billerica Marriott
April 9:	Health Fair	10:00 – 2:00 – Elks Lodge
April 17:	Culinary Adventures (Note Day Change)	11:30AM - China Pearl, Woburn
April 19:	Dinner / Social Meeting	7:00pm - Billerica Marriott
April 23:	Canister Drive	9:00 – 2:00 – Market Basket (3 locations)
April 26:	Board Meeting	7:00pm – Billerica Public Library
April 30:	Lions State Convention Town Recycling Day	Mansfield 9:00-1:00 – Marshall Middle School
May 1:	Business Meeting	7:00pm - Billerica Marriott
May 8:	Culinary Adventures	TBD
May 15:	Dinner / Social Meeting / Board Meeting	7:00pm - Billerica Marriott
May 21:	Yard Sale	8:00-2:00 – COA Lawn
May 22:	Yard Sales (Rain Date)	
June 7:	Business Meeting	7:00pm - Billerica Marriott
June 14:	Culinary Adventures	TBD
June 21:	Dinner / Social Meeting / Officer Installation	7:00pm - Billerica Marriott
July 4th:	Affordable 4 th Family Festival	10:00 – 2:00 Billerica Common
July 19 th	Spinners Game, preceded by BBQ in the Gator Pit	5:30 – LeLacheur Park, Lowell
July 25 th	Golf Tournament	8:00 - Meadow Creek Golf Club Dracut