



LIONS TALE



Monthly Bulletin of Venice Lions Club Inc. Venice, Florida

JANUARY
2023

Inside This Issue

1	President's Message
2	New Lions Member Recognition
3	Club News
4	Guest Speaker Resolutions & Volunteerism
5	Club News
6	Service Opportunities

Upcoming Events

JANUARY

28	LOVN Chat Health Fair
----	-----------------------

FEBRUARY

2	Vision Clinic Lions Community Room
2	General Meeting Lions Community Room Dinner @ 6 PM Meeting @ 6:45 PM
4	Waterway Cleanup 8:30AM Behind Publix on the Island Family Promise Annual Volunteer Picnic
9	Board of Directors Mtg. 6:30PM Community Room
11	Venice Little League Opening Day
16	General Meeting Lions Community Room Dinner @ 6 PM Meeting @ 6:45 PM
17	Jumping with the Stars Fox Lea Farm

President's Message

We are halfway into the month of January. Wow! Where is all the time going?

We have been blessed with new members, and I continue to ask every Lion to sponsor at least one Lion for the remaining 6 months in our Lions calendar.

When I was in Calgary, many other Clubs lined up to chat with me to ask how we keep Lions engaged and bring on additional members.

The Venice Lions Club has 38 projects available for members to serve in: Like Life Savers candy, there are different flavors for all our Lions.

February will bring many volunteer efforts. Please contact the Committee Chair or me so you will have the opportunity to serve in an activity that appeals to you.

The Nominating Committee will be contacting each of you regarding your interest in serving on the Board. Our Board oversees the financial, service, and social activities of our club. We need your talents and ideas to help us maintain our outstanding status and help us grow. The nominating committee will be happy to talk to you about the positions that are available.

Education is one of my hot buttons.

Lions International offers many on-line training opportunities as well as the Lions University managed by US Canada Lions. Next up for me will be obtaining a Master's degree in September in Reno.

The Mane Event is sure to be an outstanding affair. Remember to invite your friends, buy your tickets, ask your business colleagues for sponsorship and/or contribute something for the door prizes or raffle items. This is our major fundraiser and we need your support.

Lion President Louise Elleo



Please RSVP for Dinner!!

There are two ways to make your reservation

- ◆ Call before 2PM on the Monday before the meeting
- ◆ Make your reservation at the club meeting for the next dinner

Dinner is @ 6 PM, Club meeting to follow @ 6:45 PM

lionbevflynn@aol.com 941-773-5705

★HAPPY★
BIRTHDAY!

2nd Barbara McGillicuddy
3rd Tom Cookingham
5th Bob Hoesly
18th Annette Goodsen
24th Keith Backhaus
30th Jeff Sterne

Happy Anniversary

5th Jan & Ed Stack



January Membership Report

Our Club membership is now at **65!!**

We need to ask folks to become members. We do not ask enough. We need to make it a point to ASK! Each new member brings 2 more hands to share in the work and offer services that we provide to our community. Also, they bring new ideas and their enthusiasm for service.

Have you asked someone to join today?

Welcome New Lions !

Terry and Melissa Burke have joined the Venice Lions as our newest members. Lions Terry and Melissa were inducted by Lion President Louise Elleo at our January 5th Club meeting. They are sponsored by Lion Pamela Brown

Congratulations Lions Terry and Melissa !



Attending our January 19th meeting to address the Club was 2nd Vice District Governor Patty Jean Strong.

As part of 2nd VDG Lion Patty Jean's official visit she took the opportunity to present Lion President Louise Elleo with *The Order of the Golden Chain*

Congratulations Lion Louise !!



Club News



There was a great Lions turnout for **Make a Difference Day**. We had a great time and made an impact on the beauty of Venezia park. Our group consisted of twelve Venice Lions and 21 students from the Venice High School Interact Club. After our cleanup we were treated to lunch at Maxine Barritt Park.

TIME FLIES *Lion Ann Favreau*

A brand new year is here.

*Time to live. Time to love.
Time to cherish every moment.*

*Each new day arrives unbidden.
Quickly goes. Joy is hidden
Beneath the busyness.*

*Hands of time move ever onward.
Minutes savored. Minutes lost.
Lifetime moments ne'er regained.*

*Cloudy memories seek the surface.
Bubble up with recollection,
Dissipate too soon.*

*Photos seek to fill the void.
Illuminate those special moments
Conveying fond recall.*

*Embrace the year with joy and
sorrow.
Each day brings a new tomorrow.
Seize the seconds.
Time flies.*

Club Service Report

July 1, 2022 — January 23, 2023

56,145 - People Served
74 - Service Activities Completed
4,667 - Volunteer Hours
\$6,545 - Funds Donated
\$600 - Funds Raised

75 YEARS

“It’s Great to be a Venice Lion”



“We Serve”

Upcoming Service Events and Opportunities

LOV'N CHAT Health Fair in Laurel - January 28
Family Promise Annual Volunteer Picnic - February 4
Venice Little League Opening Day - February 11

Please see page 6 for more information



At our last Club meeting Lion Rick (and Cassidy) delivered a presentation on the **Leader Dogs for the Blind** organization. Leader Dogs is based in Rochester Hills, Minnesota and provides services including training, room and board, and travel expenses to campuses throughout North America. Lion Rick explained the training, education, time and expense required to pair the vision impaired individual with their canine companion.

Thanks for a wonderful presentation Lion Rick, and thank you Lion Cassidy !!



RESOLUTIONS & VOLUNTEERISM

Lion Ann Favreau

The holidays are over. The decorations are stored for another year. 2023 is here. Many of us have once again made resolutions. Oh, we want to get in shape, lose a few pounds, take better care of ourselves, and kick our bad habits. By the middle of February, our best intentions will be long forgotten as we slip back into our comfortable ways. The Lions, however, are an exception to the abandoned resolution tradition.

When a Lion is installed, he or she vows to serve. This is one declaration that perseveres. Each approaches the service mission with a determination to succeed. They quickly volunteer for a committee. Lions are some of the spunkiest people I know. They give their time and talent in a way that I am sure skews the data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics which keeps records of volunteer work in the United States.

In most clubs, there is a nucleus of people who seem to be the most visible volunteers. They man the vision clinics, collect gasses, raise funds, connect with youth groups in the community and provide services to those less fortunate. While these folks are out and about raising awareness about Lionism and helping others, there is yet another cadre of Lions who should not be overlooked. We need to remember that age and health-related issues may deter some Lions from being in the forefront but does not prevent them from taking an active role behind the scenes or as dedicated donors. We need to honor their steadfastness to the cause. They also serve. In their day they approached tasks with tenacity. Now, they may have to be content to share their expertise with new leaders and cheer from the sidelines. Many of them are Melvin Jones Fellows.

Dynamic newsletters can keep them informed about club activities. Phone calls to ask their advice or review their successes for clues to solve current problems enhances the circle of connectedness. Studies show that those who make a practice of helping others live longer lives. These dedicated Lions may be with us for years to come. Their spirit of service is still embodied in their hearts although their aging bodies may be unable to conform to the level of stamina they once demonstrated. In the past, their volunteer service was a gift to others. Can we present them with opportunities for small-task involvement? As Helen Keller said, "I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish small tasks as if they were great and noble." Let's resolve to engage all members of our Lions club in our benevolent efforts and determine that this is one resolution we will keep.

Bags-to-Benches Project Venice Senior Friendship Center

The first Bags-to-Benches project has completed with the delivery of the bench Lions earned by collecting 500 lbs. of plastic .

The Management of Winn-Dixie also made a generous contribution of plastic for the project

Pictured here with the new bench are Lions Pamela Brown and Judy Terrel. Seated is Tammy Stark, Director of the Venice Senior Friendship Center.



Sledding in Sverige ?



Breaking News !!

The paparazzi has recently shared a photo with the *Lions Tale* of what appears to be Venice Lion Bev Flynn barreling down a hill somewhere in Sweden on a toboggan (?) Lion Bev was in Sweden recently visiting family, we hope you had a great time, Bev!
The paparazzi would not release a second photo showing the result of Lion Bev's ride down the hill. Perhaps because — as rumor has it — it did not end well.

Venice Lions and the Old Betsy Museum

The City of Venice and Venice Heritage Inc., are raising funds for the construction of the "Old Betsy Museum". As part of the fundraising effort the Venice Lions Club donated funds for the installation of a park bench at the museum campus. Shown below is the plaque which has been added to the bench.



For those who are unfamiliar with "Old Betsy", she is the 1926 American La France fire engine frequently seen in Venice holiday parades, and has led the Lions Halloween parade for years.

Do you have photos, news, a story, a poem or a bit of Club history you would like to share?

Please forward it to Lion Jeff Myles

Jmyles19@gmail.com



Family Promise
of South Sarasota County



Annual Volunteer Picnic

Presented by
Family Promise of South Sarasota County

Saturday, February 4th, 12-2pm

850 Cockrill St. Venice, FL 34285



Food provided by:
Brewburger's
British Open Pub
Gold Rush BBQ

To RSVP for this FREE Event,
please scan the QR code above or visit:
<https://familypromiseofsouthsarasota.salsalabs.org/2023volunteerp picnic>

Later this Spring....

Eggstravaganza and Beeping Egg Hunt

This date has been set for **April 8**. Volunteer information will follow as the date approaches.



Venice Shark Tooth Festival 2023
April 21—23

This event will resume this spring after a two year hiatus. The event is now being sponsored by Venice Main Street.

Information for Venice Lion volunteers will follow as the event date approaches.

On **February 4** Venice Lions will be assisting at the Family Promise Annual Volunteer Picnic event.

For more information, or if you would like to volunteer, please contact Lion Pamela Brown.

pamelajeane.brown@gmail.com



Venice Little League Opening Day
February 11

This is an annual event for the Club at Chuck Reiter Field. Venice Lions work the concession so that Little League parents can participate in the opening day events.

Lion President Louise will have more information on this event.

louiseelleo@aol.com



Venice Lions Club Inc.
 Venice Health Park
 1289 Jacaranda Blvd
 Venice, FL 34292-4522
 Tel: (941) 837-2789
 Fax: (941) 837-2804

www.venicelionsclub.com



Club Meetings
 1st & 3rd Thursdays
 Dinner at 6:00 PM
 Meeting begins at 6:45 pm

Board of Directors
 Meeting 2nd Thursday at
 6:30PM



Our Venice club is part of the largest international service organization in the world. We support international efforts to save the sight of millions, provide measles vaccinations and disaster relief.

At the local community level, Lions provide free vision and hearing services to those in need, screen the vision of preschool children and collect used eyeglasses.

Every dollar donated goes back to the community in the form of grants, scholarships, and educational and fun activities for children.

Our members like serving in a club with a purpose. It makes us feel good to give back to our community.



Do you shop on Amazon?

Shop at Amazon at:
smile.amazon.com

and Amazon donates to the
 Venice Lions Club!

Just select "**Venice Lions Club
 Foundation, Inc**" as the Charity.

As of January, 2023 the Venice Lions Club has received **\$1165.80** through AmazonSmile!



Venice Lions Club 2022-2023

President	Louise Elleo
1st Vice President 2nd Vice President	Tom Cookingham Dan Long
Secretary Assistant Secretary	Jeff Myles
Treasurer (Admin.)	Bev Flynn
Treasurer (Found.)	Barbara McGillicuddy
Tail Twister Lion Tamer IPP	Judy Rocquin Bob Hoesly Paddy Padmanabhan
One Year Director One Year Director Two Year Director Two Year Director	Pamela Brown Tim Werla Jody Fall John Tagye
Membership Chair	Jeff Sterne
Bulletin Editor Publisher Photographers	Jeff Myles Jeff Myles Richard & Dusty Namikas

Lions Club International

300 22nd Street, Oak Brook IL, 60521

Website	www.lcif.org
President	Brian Sheehan
IPP	Douglas X. Alexander

District 35-I

Website	www.lionsMD35.com
District Governor	Jim Gregory
IPDG	Charles "Chuck" Carter
1st Vice District Governor	Gary LaSpina
2nd Vice District Governor	Patty Jean Strong
Cabinet Secretary	Robert Jenkins
Treasurer	Beverly Flynn
Bulletin	Linda Gregory
MD Executive Secretary / Treasurer	Neil Spencer
Zone 6 Chair	Vergne Gregrich