



# LOOK & LISTEN

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NEWSLETTER OF THE DISTRICT 22-C LIONS COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOUNDATION Summer 2016

## President's Message

By PDG Gary Burdette

On behalf of the Lions Community Outreach Foundation, I would like to congratulate Lion Susan Matthews and Lion Mark LeRoux for receiving the Lions International President's Certificate of Appreciation. The awards were presented by Lions Clubs International President Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada at the recent MD 22 Convention, in Hagerstown. The Lions International President's Certificate of Appreciation is presented to deserving Lions in recognition of distinguished achievements in fulfilling the mission of Lions Clubs International.

I can't think of two more deserving recipients. They are exemplary Lions who have demonstrated, countless times, their commitment to Lionism through their service to the Lions Community Outreach Foundation.

Lion Mark serves as the principal driver of both the Mobile Health Bus and the Mobile Health Trailer, a position he has held for the past 15 years. In addition, he takes care of most of the mechanical maintenance on the bus and trailer, and helped install the electrical systems in the trailer and suspension upgrades in the truck. Lion Mark has been indispensable to the screening program; without Lion Mark, we would not be able to participate in many screening events.

Lion Susan serves the LCOF as the coordinator of the Eyeglass Recycle program, a position she has held for the past 8 years. Under her leadership, the Eyeglass Recycle program has grown significantly. Lion Susan was instrumental in establishing the Melwood Recycling Center, where most of the donated eyeglasses are now processed. Every Tuesday and Thursday you'll find Lion Susan at the Melwood Recycling Center overseeing the Lion volunteers as they clean, inspect, and sort hundreds of donated eyeglasses.

Again, congratulations to both on receiving this most prestigious and deserving award. You've made us very proud!



From left, DG Mike Bigler, Lion Mark LeRoux, LCI President Jitsuhiro Yamada



From left, DG Mike Bigler, Lion Susan Matthews, LCI President Jitsuhiro Yamada

### In This Issue

President's Message . . . . .	1
Foundation Officers 2016-17 . . . . .	2
Hearing Program . . . . .	3
Eyeglass Recycling Center 3rd Quarter Report . . . . .	4
Why Do Vision Screenings for Preschool Children? . . . . .	6
Pages 2, 3, and 7 portray Lions performing Vision, glaucoma, and hearing screenings	

Silver Hill, Southgate-Clinton, and Gateway Lions collaborated on May 12th to perform health screenings at Southern Management Corporation's Health Fair held at the Showplace Arena in Upper Marlboro.



**LCOF BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Lions Year 2016-2017**

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**BOARD AND COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE  
Lions Year 2016-2017**

- Thursday July 28, 2016
- Thursday October 27, 2016
- Thursday January 26, 2017
- Thursday April 27, 2017
- Thursday July 27, 2017

Meeting Times: Board 6:00 pm Council 7:00 pm

## HEARING PROGRAM

By Lion Mary Frances Gosnell

The Hearing Program thru LCOF is alive and making progress.

Hearing Aid collections are increasing. I would encourage clubs to make a sign for their eye glass collection boxes that indicate we collect hearing aids as well. Should you like to receive that signage, Lion Gary Burdette would be glad to send it to you. The signage looks very professional on the sides of a plastic tub with a slot in the top with signage that says, "Thank you!" The tub also has more capacity than the traditional box and does not take up that much more room. Consider upgrading your collection boxes!

Requests have been received for hearing aids with the Hearing and Speech Clinic at University of Maryland. We have one happy hearing person fitted, one in the process and three working applications yet to be sent in. I would remind the clubs as they prepare their budget for 2016-17 to include monies to be of assistance with the hearing aid program. \$750 is the maximum cost for two refurbished hearing aids with the evaluation and fitting. This process is for low income applicants. Should a club get a request for assistance, consider asking for a matching grant from the Garner Fund at LCOF. Lion Maye Haddad is your contact for the Garner Fund.

Upon clubs sending in donations to LCOF, you may earmark them for the Hearing Program as well as eye related programs.

Remember to email or call Yilia Jackson at LCOF with the number of hearing aids that you turn in. Your club will not get credit for them otherwise. You may turn in your used hearing aids along with the used eye glasses to Lion Susan Matthews at the LCOF office or give them to Lion Gary Burdette or Lion Mary Frances Gosnell.

*College Park, Mt. Rainier-Brentwood, and University Park Lions participated in a health fair at the Fairland Aquatic Center on Saturday, May 14*





District 22-C Eyeglass Recycling Center  
 5606 Dower House Road  
 Upper Marlboro, MD 20772  
 Building 5610

**2015-16 3rd Quarter Report**

CENTER OPEN EVERY TUESDAY & THURSDAY FROM 10:30 AM TO 2:30 PM  
 (By appointment only)

**EYE GLASSES PROCESSED (Calibrated)**

1 <sup>st</sup> Q JULY / AUGUST / SEPTEMBER (2015)	1543
2 <sup>nd</sup> Q OCTOBER / NOVEMBER / DECEMBER (2015)	2023
3 <sup>rd</sup> Q JANUARY / FEBRUARY / MARCH (2016)	1737
4 <sup>th</sup> Q APRIL / MAY / JUNE (2016)	

**TOTAL FOR THE YEAR: 5303**

**HOURS WORKED**

	<u>1<sup>st</sup> Q</u>	<u>2<sup>ND</sup> Q</u>	<u>3<sup>RD</sup> Q</u>	<u>4<sup>TH</sup> Q</u>
LIONS & NON LIONS	112	162	119.25	
MELWOOD	18.50	22	15.00	
TOTAL:	130.50	184	<u>134.25</u>	

**TOTAL FOR THE YEAR: 314.50**

**USABLE EYE GLASSES COLLECTED FROM DISTRICT 22-C**

JULY / AUGUST / SEPTEMBER (2015)	4150
OCTOBER / NOVEMBER / DECEMBER (2015)	5148
JANUARY / FEBRUARY / MARCH (2016)	2700
APRIL / MAY / JUNE	

**TOTAL FOR THE YEAR: 11998**

Lions Mary DeHart and Waneda Cornett (South Gate-Clinton LC) sort newly received eyeglasses while Lion Lee Wilson (Palisades-Georgetown LC) calibrates glasses that have been cleaned. Team leader, Lion Susan Matthews, (Silver Hill LC, not pictured) labels the finished boxes and packs them in her car for delivery to Northern Virginia Eyeglass Recycling Center in Arlington, Va. In sixty to ninety days the completed eyeglasses will be in a developing country helping someone in need.



## Why Do Vision Screenings for Preschool Children?

By PDG Don Beeson

The Lions of District 22C have been doing vision screenings for preschool children for more than 15 years. As many of our newer Lions may not be familiar with this program, this may be a good time to review the reasons why we do these screenings.

Amblyopia is a Greek word simply translated as “dull vision”. It is commonly referred to as “lazy eye”. It can develop when a childhood eye disorder is present, causing the brain to receive unequal or abnormal visual input from the eyes. Amblyopia develops most rapidly in the early years of a child’s life and affects up to 4% of all American children. The need for early detection of amblyopia and factors that cause amblyopia is widely recognized.

Amblyopia is most easily treatable if addressed at an early age. Unfortunately the majority of children do not receive proper eye exams until they enter school. The time lost from lack of early detection could result in a reading or learning problem. In many cases it is a condition that cannot be easily detected by a parent or guardian. Most preschool children have their eyes checked by general health practitioners and pediatricians who may not have the equipment to perform an eye exam.

According to the University of Michigan, Kellogg Eye Center, “Amblyopia, affecting up to 4 percent of all children, must be diagnosed and treated as early as possible during infancy or early childhood to prevent permanent vision loss and to allow for development of optimal stereo or 3-dimensional vision.” Vision screening can have a significant impact on children’s educational outcome. A recent university study, conducted over one year, concluded that children’s academic test scores improved approximately one (1) year of extra schooling after they had been identified with vision impairment and received eyeglasses. (Lions Kidsight USA)

In 2012 the American Academy of Pediatrics issued the following statement, which was cosponsored by the American Academy of Ophthalmology, the American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus, and the American Association of Certified Orthoptists:

“The goal of vision screening is to detect subnormal vision or risk factors that threaten visual development, preferably at a time when treatment can be initiated to yield the highest benefit. A primary goal of vision screening in young children is the detection of amblyopia or the risk factors for development of amblyopia, a neural deficit in vision that is estimated to be present in 1% to 4% of children.

Amblyopia can be caused by obscured images (e.g., from infantile cataracts), misaligned images (e.g., from constant strabismus), or defocused images (e.g., from different refractive errors between the eyes, termed anisometropia). The hallmark of amblyopia is decreased visual acuity, typically monocular, for which no ocular structural disorder fully accounts. However, successful visual acuity testing by using a vision chart is highly dependent on patient age and screener experience. In children younger than 3 years, few professionals can reliably determine acuity in each eye by using a vision chart.

Therefore, for younger children, the preferred methodology is instrument-based detection of risk factors for amblyopia—primarily photoscreening and autorefraction.”

The instrument we currently use in District 22C is the Plusoptix S12 Mobile Screener. Plusoptix is the world leader in objective vision screening devices. Their all new 4th generation screener, pictured below, offers the following features and advantages:

- Validated measurement technology
- Immediate and reliable pass/refer screening results
- Binocular testing of both eyes within 1 second
- Non-invasive operation from 39 inches away
- Print full-page screening report and/or a self-adhesive label
- Calibration and maintenance free



**WHY SCREEN**  
continues on page 6

**WHY SCREEN**

continued from page 5

Two of the major service objectives of Lions Clubs International are Saving Sight and Services to Children & Youth. Our preschool vision screening program addresses both of these objectives. Since its inception it has identified correctable vision problems in thousands of children in Maryland, Delaware, and the District of Columbia.

The Lions Community Outreach Foundation sponsors the preschool vision screening program in District 22C. They have screening instruments, training and support available for clubs or individual Lions who wish to serve the children of their communities by assuring they will be able to see clearly into the future. For more information about the program, contact PDG Don Beeson, [donb798@gmail.com](mailto:donb798@gmail.com) or (301) 774-5448.





*The Beltsville Lions provided vision, glaucoma and hearing screenings on Beltsville Day, May 15th. That tall lady had a difficult time entering the Mobile Health unit.*