

# LION EYES

DISTRICT 14-P

"We Serve"

DISTRICT GOVERNOR GARY HILBERT

WWW.EDISTRICT.ORG/SITES/14P

**DS LINDA LONG** 

**EDITOR STEPHANIE GERLOTT** 

DT PDG RICHARD TAYLOR

DECEMBER 2021

#### Calendar of Events

**December 25th: Merry Christmas!** 

January 1st: **Happy New Year!** 



## Disaster Relief Grant Approved

#### & Put To Work

DG Gary applied for and was granted a \$10,000 Disaster Relief Emergency Grant from LCIF to assist the victims of Hurricane Ida in Chester County.

The disaster occurred locally on Wednesday, September 1, 2021 to Thursday, September, 2021 when Hurricane Ida slammed into Chester County affecting Avondale, Coatesville, Malvern, Modena, Oxford, Phoenixville, and Pocopson Township.

The damages from Hurricane Ida were extensive! In Coatesville, the water rose higher than the first floor of homes and businesses and residents were rescued from their roofs by boats. Avondale and Oxford were struck with an F3 category tornado created from the Hurricane and many homes throughout our District were totally destroyed. There were 739 residents impacted in 33 municipalities and 93 reported damages to structures per Chester County Emergency Operations Center. There were approximately 330 individuals from 102 households displaced and the majority of that

number are from Avondale, Coatesville, Downingtown, and Modena. There have been 4 reported injuries and unfortunately there was one death.

The Lions Clubs in Zone 4A have done several different assistance projects benefiting the affected victims. The Eagle Glenmoore Lions were informed of 17 elementary students in their school district that resided in homes that were totally destroyed, so they purchased backpacks for them and then filled them with the needed school supplies. West Goshen Lions donated monetary support to Pastor Lion Doris Haley for children within their school district that had lost everything. The Paoli-Berwyn-Malvern Lions are purchasing gift cards to give to families in need of everything. The Coatesville Lions Club



donated \$500 to The Lord's Pantry in Downingtown, a food bank supplying food to the flood victims. The Coatesville Leo Club organized a clothing drive to help those families who have lost everything in the floods and the Avon Grove Lions in Zone 4B have donated multiple containers of clothing to this effort.

The original items that we had stated were needed when we applied for the LCIF grant have changed, the immediate needs when a disaster strikes can change on a weekly, if not on a daily basis. Through information obtained by different groups within the County assisting the homeless victims we have identified items that are currently needed.

Continued on next page

On Saturday, October 30th, PDG Rich Taylor and PDG Nancy Gauthier met Lion Doris Haley at the Kennett Square Walmart and purchased about \$2400 in items for the 22 families that she has been assisting since the floods. On Wednesday, November 3rd, 10 Lions from 5 clubs went to the Hammock Inn in Exton, where the majority of the chasing some items online, approxidisplaced families have been living since the floods occurred - there are still 34 families living within the hotel. Working in conjunction with the Mission Church of Downingtown, the Lions distributed hats, gloves and scarfs to those families, along with some winter coats to those that were still in need.

The District worked with Rebound of Chester County to ascertain a list of what is most needed and they also interviewed and vetted the applicants to confirm they were actual flood victims. The District was referred to Rebound by multiple agencies working within the county to assist the flood victims.

On Friday, November 12th PDG Dave Sampson, Lion Jim Groff and PDG Nancy Gauthier shopped at the Parkesburg and Oxford Walmarts and on Satur-

day, November 13th, DG Gary, IPCC Marilyn and PDG Steve Wagner, PDG Dave and Lion Linda Sampson, Lion Jim the grant funds and the District was Groff and PDG Nancy Gauthier shopped at the Morgantown Walmart purchasing almost all the needed items on their "wish list". Between those shopping excursions and purmately \$4725 was spent. All the items were delivered to Rebound in Downingtown and Lion Lathea Moskel of Coatesville Lions assisted in the huge delivery of items as well. On November 21st, again a crew of Lions shopped at Lowe's in Downingtown to spend \$1412.12. The Lowes' management could not have been more accommodating - they gave us almost \$1100 in merchandise over and above what was purchased. Walmart in Parkesburg gave us a \$100 gift card to assist in our purchases and that gift card was used on Tuesday, November 23rd by Lion Robin McKenna and PDG Nancy at the Parkesburg Walmart to purchase the final items that were requested. All but 10 cents of the \$10,000 grant was spent.

LCIF had given us a list of allowed items that could be purchased with diligent in complying with those rules. We had 60 days from receiving the funds to spend it and that goal was met. The required detailed Grant Report and synopsis of how the grant funds were used, along with photos and testimonials are to be submitted in 45 days.

PDG Dave Sampson received a donation from his employer to allow the District to purchase a District banner to be used in promoting Lions, not only for this endeavor but for future District use. He was able to purchase 3 banners with that donation. Thank you PDG Dave.

The District would like to thank Lion Jim Groff, PA Lions Disaster Relief Coordinator and the 14-P Disaster Relief Committee for all of their assistance in this much needed project, as well as DT Rich Taylor whose assistance with the grant has been invaluable!!





^Lions that came to distribute the gloves hats and scarfs:

Lion Jim Groff - Christiana Lions (14-D), ZC Toby Gelman - West Goshen Lions, PDG Dave & Lion Linda Sampson - Avon Grove Lions & Parkesburg Lions, Lions Bob, Lathea & Mike Moskel of the Coatesville Lions, PDG Rich Taylor - Kennett Square Lions, Lion Dave and PDG Nancy Gauthier - Parkesburg Lions





Items from Lowes delivered to Rebound of Chester County - Courtney Brophy in photo



. A Message from District Governor Gary Hilbert

Seasons Greetings,

Membership is always a hot topic. So, what better time to talk about it as we enter the coldest season of the year. My membership goal is to end 2021-2022 with +5. As of this writing, our district stands at -10. This number could go even lower as clubs reset their rosters for the LCI December billing period. This is just reality. But it's not all bad news. I also want to highlight the positive. Since July 1, our District has added 26 new members. Great job!

With LCI continuing to waive the \$35 new member fee, I believe we can add even more to our pride. New members bring new ideas. New ideas rejuvenate clubs. Our communities will benefit. Thank You for continuing your membership recruitment program. Our District Membership Coordinator Lion Matthew Hensinger is willing and able to speak at your next club meeting. He will share his own club's success story. Please contact him at matthew.hensinger@yahoo.com -You will be glad you did.

The month of November led me to Topton, Spring Twp., Shillington, PBM, Kutztown, Fleetwood, Kempton, Kennett Square, Lionville, and Muhlenberg. Thank You for your gracious hospitality. Lion Paula and I have enjoyed every club visit. I also want to mention my DG project. I'm overwhelmed by the support and generosity you have given to this fundraising campaign. The monies raised will allow our District building at Beacon Lodge camp be used for the next generation of campers. This will be a gift that keeps on giving.

Christmas Blessings and a Healthy New Year,

#### WE SERVE FROM THE HEART

DG Gary







CONNECT
with as!



Multiple District 14P Lions Clubs | Facebook



glh40@comcast.net



District 14-P - Lions e-District Houses



610-468-4788





Dec 2nd: Boyertown

December 9th:
Shoemakersville



# A Message From 1st VDG Chrissy Smaltz

#### Hello Fellow Lions,

This is going to be a great Lion year, with most clubs meeting in person after the pandemic. I have been visiting clubs and enjoying learning all the different ways each club does fundraisers and also introduces new members. I have visited Shillington club, and also Avon Grove. I will be volunteering at Avon Grove to sell Christmas trees for their annual fundraiser, please come out if you are looking for a tree. I want to personally thank DG Gary for all your help and support. Also keep in mind that if you have not logged on to my Lion and seen the classes that they offer please do, they are all very interesting and informative classes. Have a great Holiday and I am looking forward to seeing everyone soon.

1st VDG Chrissy Smaltz

### MD13 OH2 Lions Support LCIF via Ornament Sale



Lions of District 130H2 sought to impact the final year of LCIF's Campaign 100, to reach the \$300 million US donations by June 30, 2022. The District project started in September, 2021 and concludes in June, 2022.

The District has partnered with Pennsylvania based Wendell August Forge. A handcrafted aluminum polished ornament, using IP Alexander's theme, "Service from the Heart", was developed for resale, with net proceeds dedicated to LCIF.

The ornaments are available for purchase through June 30, 2022 for \$19.00 US, of which the cost includes tax and direct shipping, per piece. Orders are taken through the Wendell August Forge website:

#### Lions Clubs International Foundation (wendellaugust.com)

Customers merely created a store account and ordered the number of ornaments. All net proceeds from the placed orders benefit LCIF on behalf of District 13 OH2.

District Governor Kevin Reidy commented, "We are appreciative of IP Alexander's authorizing the use of his theme for a limited edition, handcrafted Lions keepsake. The ornament is suitable for display during holidays, as a gift or to pass along the sentiment of service to others, or to use for Lions functions. Thank you to all who purchased these ornaments, which directly impacts attaining LCIF's Campaign 100 goal."

The image displayed, packaged with an insert card message, is available for a limited time while supplies last through the Wendell August Forge website



## MD-14 Global Action Team Spring Leadership Symposium

#### \*2 LOCATIONS\*

#### Saturday, February 12, 9AM-3PM

PA Lions State Office 949 East Park Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17111 Lunch available for a \$7.00 donation \*OR\*

#### Sunday, February 13, Noon-5PM

Butler County Association for the Blind 322 N. Cedar St, Butler, PA 16001 Snacks will be available

# FREE & OPEN TO ALL LIONS! ATTEND EITHER LOCATION!

Register to Attend:

Email PDG Kerry at klm52@aol.com or call (717)235-2790

Also MO-14 Lions Food Donation Competition Between Harrisburg & Butler Locations





MD-14 PENNSYLVANIA LIONS March 11-13, 2022 Red Lion Hotel, Harrisburg

#### Curriculum

- Diversity
- Lions Fundamentals
- Local Issues and Opportunities
  Motivating Club Members
- Personal Mission Statement
- Public SpeakingSetting and Reaching Club Goals
- Time Management
- Working in Teams

#### **Faculty**

**ID Larry Edwards** 

**PID Cindy Gregg** 

PID Jim Cavallaro PCC Bill Morgan

PDG Deb Burkholder

PDG Tom Gregg

PDG Kerry McKnight

\$175.00 Tuition includes meals, lodging, and classroom. Maximum 40 attendees Registration deadline January 31, 2022 / contact PDG Kerry at klm52@aol.com

# REGIONAL LIONS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA March 11-13, 2022

#### CANDIDATE'S INFORMATION FORM

Cost \$175.00 per Candidate (includes Institute, lodging and meals)
Checks should accompany this form and be made out to "PA State Council of Lions Clubs"
Mail to PDG Kerry McKnight
6 Mulberry Lane, New Freedom, PA 17349

#### Questions to PDG Kerry McKnight at klm52@aol.com or 717-235-2790

Application Submission Deadline Date: January 31, 2022- Maximum 40 attendees
Please type or print

District Number	Member Number
First Name	Last Name
Current Lion's Title	_ Highest Lions Office Held
Email**	Preferred Telephone #
**Will be used for ALL Communication regar	ding the institute – Please Type or Print
Address	
City	State Zip
Lions Club Name & Number	Month and Year Joined
Offices Held Within Lions Club	
Candidate's Signature	Date

→ DG form on next page

## District Governor Must Complete and Sign this Form

In what ways will this candidate benefit from attending the Regional Lions	l eadership
Institute?	
District Governor Member Number	_
Name of District Governor	_
Signature of District Governor	_
Email (Please <u>print)</u>	_
Date	

# KidSight News & Updates December 2021



Like most charitable organizations the **Covid-19 Pandemic** had a devastating effect on our KidSight Program. Before the pandemic, our yearly screening average was 4300 children in Berks and Chester County. In the Lions year 2019/20 at the start of the pandemic we screened 3306 children the reduction of 1000 to our yearly average and in the Lions year 2020/21 we canceled 13 trailers screening and the number of children screened drops to 677.

Adding to the **Pandemic Setback**, we need to find four (4) replacements for our Board of Directors. PDG's Marilyn and Steve Wagner are moving to Ohio and two other Trustees have resigned. The role of the Board of Trustees is vital to the success the KidSight Program by developing **Training Programs** and aiding at **Club Screening Functions**. Interested in joining the **District KidSight Team** please contact me at <a href="mailto:peshober@ptd.net">peshober@ptd.net</a>.

We are six months into the Lions year, we have conducted **16** screenings, six were which were trailer events. We have screened a total of **1238** children, with **156** referrals to eye professionals. While this is a good start over last year, we will still fall short of our yearly average at this pace. We have work ahead of us to get back to normal and we need the help of the **Clubs and Lions Members of District 14P**.

Attention Club Presidents and Secretaries now is the time to request the KidSight Trailer for your 2022 club's community function and to book us for a Club program demonstrating the Spot Vision Screening Camera.

Yours in Lionism Philip Shober, PDG KidSight 14P

Help **KidSight** Save a Childs Eyesight!



#### Dear Lion Leader,

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic continues to impact the work of Lions and communities around the world, creating challenges for our clubs and the people we care for. Throughout this global crisis, Lions have continued to safely serve because the needs have been so great.

To help ensure that clubs are able to meet the growing needs in our communities, the International Board of Directors passed another resolution to make it easier to invite new members to serve with us.

Here is an overview of the new resolution approved by the Board of Directors:

 Charter and entrance fees waiver – We have waived all charter and entrance fees from January 1 through June 30, 2022. Charter and entrance fees are also currently waived through December 31, 2021.

Please note that clubs should pay any outstanding balances right away to stay in good standing and avoid being placed on financial suspension on November 15.

We know that every member matters, to our clubs, to our communities and to the lives we touch as Lions. For more than a century, Lions have taken on the greatest challenges facing humanity, and together, we will overcome this.

Thank you for sharing the joy of being a Lion, and for your outstanding service and commitment to our communities and the world.

Yours in Service,

Douglas X. Alexander International President

#### Lions Clubs International Foundation

I am writing this on Thanksgiving Day. I hope you are having a good holiday.

I am thankful for the support of LCIF that our District 14p Lions and Lions Clubs have given so far during our capital campaign. Our Campaign 100 Chairperson, PIP Jitsuhiro Yamada reports that as of November 15h, we have raised \$236,994,418 toward our \$300,000,000 goal worldwide. We have until June 30th to raise the balance.

Our District 14p has donated \$6,106 so far this Lions year. I believe about \$1800 of this is from donations of individual Lions club members. This amount donated is ahead of where we were last year at this time.

PIP Yamada also reports that as of November 15th, LCIF has awarded 359 grants totaling \$15,662,418. You should be aware that our District 14p has received a \$10,000 emergency grant to help Hurricane Ida flood victims. A committee led by our district disaster chairperson, PDG Nancy Gauthier is giving needed supplies with the help of other organizations such as a local church. We have the possibility of getting an additional grant of \$6400 through the District Club and Community Grant. You remember that the DCCG grant is based on 15% cash back from donations over \$10,000 from our district to LCIF.

By the time you receive this, Giving Tuesday will be past, but I need to ask you to continue to donate to LCIF during this last year of our capital campaign. The last I saw, our District 14p was in second place among the 17 districts in PA in percent of our goal donated. Let's try harder and reach toward number one. I ask both individual Lions and Lions Clubs to consider donating during this holiday season when many people donate. LCIF is our foundation and deserves our support. We consistently receive the highest rating from charity navigator.

A couple days ago, I received an email saying that I will be receiving a "Lion of Commitment" rocker for my pin. This means that I have donated over \$5000 to LCIF during the capital campaign. Please join me in donating to LCIF.

Thank you again.

PDG David Hunsberger

District 14p LCIF Coordinator







#### Welcome New Members!

Karen Wellin, Sponsored by Jimmy Hopper to Amity Township

Dennis Rooney, Sponsored by Frederick Kroncke to Bally

Janet Schaeffer, Sponsored by Frederick Kroncke to Bally

June Moyer, Sponsored by Anthony Spero to Blandon

Ken Steward, Sponsored by George Heffner to Blandon

Sharon Gudgell, Sponsored by William Stulken to Kennet Square

Change of date! Charter & entrance fees for new members

are waived until June 30th, 2022!













## December Club

## Anniversaries

Coatesville

December 19th, 1924

West Goshen

December 16th, 1971

Hamburg

December 9th, 1970





Shillington



Following our District Governor visit, Shillington Lions Club proudly made a \$500 donation to the Beacon Lodge Roof Fund in support of DG Hilbert's District Governor project!



## Avon Grove

The Avon Grove Lions Peace Poster Winner for 2021-2022 is Maximilian McGrath. The Lions presented a check to Maximilian at their meeting on November 16th. Maximilian is from Avon Grove Middle School.





Zone 4a's new project is "Coats for the Homeless". Lion Barbara Smith & I had fun shopping for coats at Costco sales. We have donated 14 children's, men's & women's coats so far. We want to thank PBM, West Goshen Lions Club & members & State Representative Dan Williams for their generous contributions. We are also working with the Chester County Dept of Community Development.

We serve from the heart,

Zone 4a Chair Toby





uhlenberg

Coatesville



Coatesville Area Lions Club Presented a check for \$500. to "Lords Pantry" in Downingtown

for "Disaster Relief Fund"

Pictured: Pres. Lion Lathea Moskel, Sec. Lion Bob Moskel, Lions Penny & Paul Swank

## Topton



Lion Edward Fritch receiving his MJF at the Topton LC meeting on November 2. His name was drawn in the "shave the stash" LCIF fundraiser.



Avon Grove



Holly Mahala is an 18 year old Senior Avon Grove Charter School and the November winner for the Avon Grove Lions Club Student of the Month. She has attended Avon Grove Charter School since kindergarten. At school, Holly is involved in the National Honor Society and Tri-M Music Honor Society. Outside of school, she is involved in the 4-H Club. Through 4-H, Holly shows dairy cattle, boer goats, and other livestock, as well as shotgun shooting sports. She does the majority of her community service through National Honor Society, Tri-M Music Honor Society, and the 4-H Club. The community service projects that Holly takes part in are Project

Cure where we sort, package, and organize needed medical supplies, Cecil County 4-H Camp Counselor where she guides campers for a week in the summer, as well as other community service projects. In the future, Holly is planning on attending West Virginia University and majoring in Animal and Nutritional Sciences. After completing her degree, she plans on being a livestock animal nutritionist or a livestock veterinarian.



Elizabeth Landon has been named the Avon Grove Lions Club Student of the Month for November from Avon Grove High School. She is the daughter of Linda Landon of West Grove. Elizabeth is active in school with Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), Field Hockey (9th, 10th, 11th & 12th), Field Hockey Captain (12th) and Wrestling Manager. Elizabeth has been active in the community by volunteering at Unionville Plantation Horse event, Fair Hill 5 Star Horse event, travel baseball concession stand volunteer and working with the Wildcats youth Field Hockey Day Camp. Elizabeth's list of awards include P.E. Award, Science Award, Stall Award, Hockey Rookie of the Year Award and throughout High School she has achieved High & Distinguished Honors. Elizabeth plans to attend Wilson College playing Field Hockey there and majoring in Veterinary Nursing, Pre-Vet. Teachers she has been

Veterinary Nursing, Pre-Vet. Teachers she has been influenced by are Ms. Antignani, Ms. Landon, Mr. McCloskey, Mr. Pizzini and Mrs. Rurode.



Did your club do a service project? Don't forget to report it on MyLion! Need help reporting? IPDG Art is ready to help you! Contact: artpecht413@gmail.com or 484.680.4315



# Avon Grove

Wilson High School Leo club made 72 cards for Mission BBQ to hand out to the veterans today.



The Avon Grove Lions held a Kids Sight Eye
Screening at the Avon Grove Charter Early Learning
Center. The Lions along with help from 7 Leos from
the Avon Grove Charter School screened over 150
Kindergarten students. The students received a
sticker and a free book from the Avon Grove Lions
Book Barn

Picture 2) LtoR seated Lions Linda Sampson, Dr. Eric Miller, Eileen Priebe, standing LtoR Barry Marteny, Dave Priebe and George Steele. >







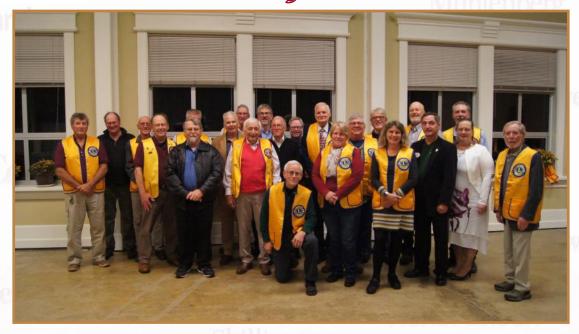
Want to see your club featured here?

Send your pictures to Lion Eyes Editor Stephanie Gerlott at: sgerlott@comcast.net

Send it to me by the 26th and you will see it in next month's Lion Eyes!



# Kempton



Kempton Lions held their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on Saturday, November 13 at the Kempton Community Center.

The entire meal was prepared by Lions – see 'chefs" picture, L to R Jeremy Synnestvedt, Roger Schrock, Steve Hendricks. Lion Doug provided musical entertainment.

Photo with DG includes L to R: Kempton Lions President Frank Lyter and Secretary Curtis McQueen





Happy 50th Anniversary, Kempton!



## Avon Grove & Oxford





The Avon Grove Lions along with three Lions from the Oxford Lions Club held a Kids Sight Eye Screening at Jordan Bank School in Oxford Pa. The Lions screened over 220 students. The results will be sent to the School Nurse for further consideration.

Pictured LtoR From the Avon Grove Lions (Dr Eric Miller, Lions Denny Byrne, Eric Miller, Jack Weber, Linda Sampson, Barry Marteny) and from the Oxford Lions (Lions Carol Day, John Day and Mike Baker)



## Exeter Township



The Exeter Township Lions participated in the Exeter Township Fall Festival by having an information booth, bean bag games and a blind walk. Pictured: 1) Lion Chris Gatto 2) Lion Greg Eberle 3) Lion Don Mohr



# "Service from the Hear Exeter Township







The Exeter Township Lions held their Charter Night on Oct. 6th. That night awards were given out to Lion Nelson Moeller - A Bing Miller Fellow. (pic 1); Lion Ginny Meyer -Lion of Penna. Fellow (pic 2) and a Melvin Jones Fellow to Lion Treasurer Don Mohr. (pic 3)





The Exeter Township Lions participated in the township's drive through. Picture #1 shows Lion Greg Eberle and Leo the Lion and an Exeter Twp. Police Officer. Picture #2 shows Lion Greg, Leo and Lion Cheryl Klinesmith. The township and the fire company were handing out candy to the cars that drove through the maintenance garage at the township building.







Last Weekend the Exeter Twp Lions club collected for White Cane.

Pic. #1- Lion Gary DeAcosta, Pic #2 - Lion Brad Kissam, Pic #3 - Lion Melissa Schneider





# Avon Grove

Thanks to Leos Maddie Boulware and Capria Kempista from the Avon Grove High School who helped setting up the Christmas tree lot. They saved a lot of Lion's shoulders. They pounded in about half the tree stake. They were a great help pounding stakes, securing signs and getting ropes ready to tie the trees to.





a good homeli

Vintage Lions pins and license plate available free to a good home! Some are membership pins from the 1950s and others across the decades up until now. Please contact Central Berks Lion President Anne at anne15@frontiernet.net if you would like them!



#### **50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**



Apríl 27th, 2022 at 6:30 pm

Janelle Hall

360 Fleetwood Road

Bowers, Pa

COST: \$25.00 PER PERSON

BUFFET STYLE:

ROAST BEEF AU JUS • BAKED HADDOCK, CHICKEN PICCATA • ROASTED RED POTATOES • CORN CASSEROLE • GREEN BEANS • TOSSED SALAD • ROLL

SODA • ICED TEA • COFFEE • HOT TEA • DESSERT

SEND RESERVATION BY APRIL 13TH, 2022

TO: LION DON MOHR

25 ROCK HAVEN COURT

READING, PA 19606

CHECK PAYABLE TO: EXETER TOWNSHIP LIONS CLUB



### PENNSYLVANIA LIONS ADOPT A SOLDIER PROJECT



The Pennsylvania Lions are hosting collections for soldiers. The boxes will go to service men and women currently deployed overseas. Each box is medium flat rate box from the post office that cost \$16.25 per box to ship.

Listed below are some of the items we are specifically requesting:

Food/Snacks

Hard Candy (no chocolate)

Gum such as Eclipse or Chiclets

Tic Tacs/Mints

Beef Jerky

Slim Jims

Peanuts, Cashews, etc (travel size)

Trail Mix

Sunflower Seeds

Ramen Noodles

Individual packets of condiments

Packs of Crackers

Address for 154 PA soldiers in Kuwait:

Commander 448 EN BN, 228 EVCC

APO, AE 09366

Toiletries/Hygiene

Baby Wipes - wash clothes

Deodorant (travel size, liquid roll- on)

Hand Lotion (travel size)

Hand Sanitizer (travel size)

Q-Tips (travel size)

Disposable Razors

Soap, Body Wash, Face Wash (travel size)

Shampoo (travel size)

Toothbrush/Toothpaste/Floss (travel size)

Tissues (travel size)

Tylenol/Advil (travel size)

Lip Balm

Foot Powder (travel size)

Sunscreen (travel size)

Fingernail Clippers

#### Miscellaneous Items

Any type of Puzzle Books Pencils/Pens

DVD's (new and gently used) Handheld Video Games

Board Games/Deck of Cards

Baseball Gloves/Baseballs/Frisbees

Magazines (new and gently used - fairly recent)

Socks (cushioned, white, calf-high)

Batteries (AA or AAA)

#### NO AEROSOL CANS OR SOLID STICK DEODORANTS

For more information on how to help with this project or Lions, please contact:

Please email PDG Nancy Gauthier how many boxes you are sending!

ngauthier@comcast.net

#### **ADOPT A SOLDIER BOX INFORMATION & TIPS**

SHIPPING COSTS: The charge for shipping the medium flat rate box is \$16.25 this year (military rate to an APO address - make sure to specify that it's military rate at the post office). When someone stated they wanted to Adopt A Soldier I gave them all the information and also asked them to include the cost of shipping. I told them they could give me cash or a check made out to my Lions club and then my club gave me one check in the end when we took all the boxes to the post office to be shipped. Some people even gave extra money to pay for someone else's shipping costs. \*\*\*\* Last year we saved an incredible amount on the shipping costs due to a suggestion from PDG Bob Rafail, District M. PDG Bob took several of the individual boxes and placed them in a larger box and paid much less to ship the larger box than to send them individually. They are all going to the same address anyway so why not!! In the end this highly successful and worthwhile project cost our club nothing financially but has given us so much in terms of goodwill, positive publicity and new member interest. A Win-Win!

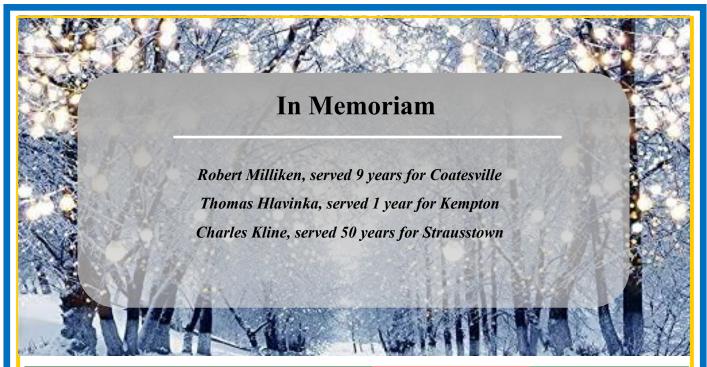
CUSTOM FORMS: Make sure to talk to your local post office and get the most up to date custom forms. Ask them how they want them filled out and they may even give you examples. Our post office was happy to work with us and help us. One post office after hearing what we were doing, even had an employee volunteer to help fill out the custom forms and they processed the boxes as well. Also see under BOXES some information on custom forms.

FOLLOWUP THANK YOU POSTS: I always made sure to post on each Facebook page that I had publicized this project on, how helpful the post office had been as well as thanking the community for their donations. I also took pictures at the post office of us bringing all the boxes in, posted those pictures and told everyone how many we were actually able to send out. It has brought us repeat donators as well as increasing the interest in our club.

CUT OFF DATE: You will each need to decide what your last date to accept donations will be but keep in mind that the post office usually wants all military mailings out by the end of the first week in December to make sure they will be delivered before Christmas. I would never turn down a box if someone needed more time. The way I looked at was even if it was late getting there, it was better late than never.

ITEMS: I will attach the flyer that was made up to give suggestions of acceptable items. Remember it could be a male or female soldier. Each year I've been amazed at the ingenuity of some people in including things I would never think of. Snacks, personal care items, crossword, find-a-word and Sudoku puzzles, playing cards, hard candy, gum, licorice, jerky, socks, bandanas, pens, writing paper, mints, nuts, crackers, trail mix, dried fruit and magazines are just some ideas. Someone even added a small football and frisbee. They will not allow any aerosol cans, solid stick deodorants, fireworks, lighters, matches or alcohol. I encouraged each contributor to add a personalized, signed note with their address in the hopes they would get a note back from "their soldier". I received lovely thank you notes 3 out of the 4 years we have done it. It also helps to include a little note from your local Lions club noting this a Lions project and since these boxes are all going to PA Soldiers who are currently overseas, they may feel inclined to search out the Lions club in their local community when they return stateside. We can always use more members, right!!







Does your club have an upcoming event that you would like to have featured in Lion Eyes?

Send your flyer or event info by December 23rd to Lion Eyes Editor

Stephanie Gerlott at: sgerlott@comcast.net

