

FLORENCE-SIUSLAW LIONS NEWSLETTER SENT

March 2025 – PROUD TO BE A LION



GREETINGS FELLOW LIONS: Hard to believe it is March of 2025, and just past time for the quarterly newsletter. The last newsletter I sent out was this past November 2024. Thankful that the days are providing more daylight, and Spring is fast approaching.

Again, the BOTTLEDROP REMINDER: for those wanting the **Green Bags** for our fundraising, you may request them from Mark. However, if you only have a few bottles or cans they can just be brought in a regular bag to the Lions meeting and we can add to other green bags that Mark has.

Food Handler Permits: I noticed today that Mike and my Food Handler Permits expire in May. So, we will need to renew prior to that. **You might also check your expiration dates.** So, great to have the Food Handler Permit when working at the Free Lunch Program at the church on our assigned dates, and also when working at our Food Cart at various times of the year. To study and take the test visit: <https://www.orfoodhandlers.com/eMain.aspx>.

ACTIVITIES: All Lions in our Club are encouraged to bring ideas forward. Because of our members sharing their ideas, we have tried some new service outreach activities and community donations.

In **November** we served from our food cart at the staging area of the Veterans Day Parade. We donated several new sleeping bags to Siuslaw Outreach Services to help those in need keep folks warm in cold weather. In **December** we helped with wrapping presents for the Teen Giving Tree Project sponsored by the Twin Lakes Store. We also have worked at the 5th Tuesday Free Lunch Programs. The Club also agreed to make a donation to Western Lane Crisis Response for the great work that they do! The months of **January and February** saw the raffle basket committee at work making two baskets for convention. Thanks also to a community member named Tarno Greene who visited our Club and donated some nice handmade items for our raffle baskets. The book donation committee meeting and selecting books for the youth section of our library. In February two of our members attended District 36R convention in Corvallis. We also started a sock and glove member drive for Siuslaw Outreach Services at our meetings. We also donated some emergency go-kit items for the Florence OSU/4H leaders for their upcoming Emergency Preparedness Event for youth. And, work continues on our own Starter Emergency Preparedness Backpack project. **PROUD TO BE A LION!!!**

It seems we are collecting LOTS of eyeglasses, and processing vision and hearing applications too. And, after a request and review, we recently helped a woman with medical issues with the purchase of a much-needed wig.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH: Again, a reminder: We are looking for new members, and a word-of-mouth invitation is very important. We were pleased to have two new members join us. Brenda Gilmer and Linda Stent. Most recently we also received an application for membership from Tiffany Chambers, and next week will be her orientation with her induction soon after. WELCOME ALL! Jan also did two radio interviews locally recently about our Lions Club. We also were invited to speak about Lions at the Florence Area Community Coalition, and soon thereafter decided to join their volunteer organization.

We are seeing increasing interest on our Facebook page. Again, all of you who are on Facebook are encouraged to follow it. It is Florence Siuslaw Lions. The old one was Florence Siuslaw Lions Club.

Thank you to our Secretary Kay for all of the updates to it! Thanks also to our Membership Chair Lion Jo who distributes flyers and bulletins around Florence to help our community know more about us.

LIONS SOCIAL TIME: In December we enjoyed a Lions potluck social at Coffindaffers. Being a Lion offers an opportunity to serve, and to also build friendships. Our first month to have Lions Coffee Huddle was in December. We've had one each month since then at the Driftwood Shores Deli towards the end of each month at 9:30 a.m. It has been an opportunity to get together to just visit and get to know each other on a more personal level, and to invite friends. **The next one is scheduled for Monday, March 31st at 9:30 a.m.**

SERVICE HOURS: It is important that we report our service hours. Kay has created a SERVICE HOUR tracking sheet. She will also bring the tracking sheet to business meetings, and will ask for your service hours for the previous month. If you not able to attend a meeting, please let her know your hours.

CARPENTRY/SUPPLIES: The past few months we have used a large canvas cover over our food cart to keep it dry and out of the weather when not in use. In February other options were discussed and explored, and a canopy was agreed upon for the future winter season.

SPEAKERS: If you have ideas for a speaker that you think the Club would enjoy hearing, please let Jan know. Having speakers come in each month also builds community connection!

BUDGET and EXPENSES: Should you have any questions, please let Lion Lori know. A shout out to Lion Lori for all the budget and financial work she does for us. Also, if you haven't yet paid your dues for this fiscal year, please do so soon.

AGENDAS: A reminder to the Club. Should you have a request for an agenda item to be discussed at an upcoming business meeting, please email Lion Jan.

SIGHT & HEARING: A shout-out to Lion Lydia for all she does collecting and packaging eye glasses and hearing aids in our community, and to Lion Mark who processes many requests for sight & hearing assistance!

PHOTOGRAPY: If you take pictures at events, please forward them to Lion Dale (our Marketing Chair). AND to our Secretary Kay. These photos are used to promote our Lions Club on Facebook and on our e-clubhouse site, on bulletins, etc.

TAIL TWISTING: Be prepared to bring some quarters to our meetings in case you get 'fined.' **It's a quarter if, for example:** your phone rings at a meeting, if you aren't wearing either a vest or Lions shirt **and** a name tag to a **GENERAL MEETING**, Mike is the Tail Twister and remember EVERYONE this is meant to be FUN!! Also, Happy Bucks helps us to learn more about each other and share.

LIONS APPAREL: If you do not have a Lions Name Tag or Lions Shirt or Vest, please contact Lori.

HEALTH & WELLNESS: So happy that Audrey is healing after her knee surgery. Thankfully, Mark is doing well now, and I heard that Lion Dale is doing some improving in his condition. Looking forward to our LION SNOW BIRDS RETURNING to us.

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