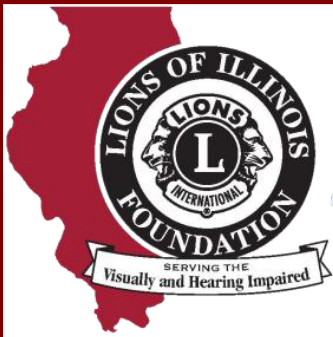


June 2018



Lions Share

The Official Newsletter of the Lions of Illinois Foundation

Annual Breakfast Review



Parade of Pledges Totals, Sight &
Sound Sweepstakes Winners,
Annual Breakfast Highlights,
and more!



A FEW WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

By Lion John Pajkos, LIF President 2017-2018

It has been a monumental year for our Lions of Illinois Foundation! It all started at a Board of Trustees Meeting. I was doodling while I was really paying attention to the meeting and the agenda, which I can't seem to remember at this moment. Oh well, someone asked if our Foundation would participate in the Centennial Convention in 2017. I looked down at my doodle and it had mystically changed into a cartoon of a camp cabin. The doodle grew into a logo for our Centennial Celebration T-shirts and then into 4,000+ sq. ft. display of The Lions of Illinois Foundation signature program, Camp Lions. We offered free vision and hearing screening for the Lions of the world at the Convention and the general public in Chicago. The world knows what the Lions of Illinois Foundation is and what we do.

I'm sure many Lions never realize just how much we do provide to the people in need—in our communities and the world. I know now. It made me proud to be a Lion after being elected the President of our Foundation. Camp Lions is going strong and getting bigger and better. Low Vision Services for adults and children are growing, as well as our other services. We are partnering with L.I.E.R.I. in a fundraising **Helen Keller Gala**, "A Knight's Quest" in the Fall of 2019. We are focusing on partnering with additional organizations and corporations to better serve the people in need in our communities and the world. Lions are beginning to see the financial benefits that the **LIF Gift Card Campaign** offer to individual clubs and the Lions of Illinois Foundation. Get on the bandwagon!

This past year was just the beginning. We're not going to stop now! That's not what Lions do. Our Lions of Illinois Foundation will continue to provide the services we do well and focus on future services where and when the need is presented. This year didn't happen because I was elected President. It happened because your Trustees and all the Lions of Illinois worked hard to make this year the success it turned out to be. We did what we say we do. "WE SERVE"! Thank you all for making my year as wonderful as it has been.

PARADE OF PLEDGES TOTALS

Program	Amount
General	\$150,00
Camp Lions	\$17,312.00
Deaf Activities	\$1,310.00
Diabetes Awareness	\$3,800.00
Foundation Fellows	\$13,600.00
Golf Classic	\$900.00
Leader Dog	\$900.00
Low Vision	\$16,330.00
Over the counter	\$250.00
Sustaining Supporters	\$2,575.00
Total	\$56,977.00

LIF THOUGHTS

by LIF Executive Director Lion Mario Gumino, PDG

What a Fantastic Lions year we have had, and it could not have happened without all the support of the Lions and Lioness throughout this state. Concluding with our 44th Annual meeting at the State Convention, and what a meeting it was.

Your Foundation has made big strides this year with your programs and services. Your mobile retinal program has added a second camera. The second camera set up is portable at this time, but we can now accommodate more screenings around the state, and also have screenings at your Foundation's Office. Your Camp Lions program has added another week for our campers. This new week is our High Adventure-High Tech Camp. These chosen campers will be doing High Adventure camping that we did in the past and adding a twist to the week of High Tech, as the campers will work on drones. They will be able to build them, fly them, and take them home. Your Low Vision program has seen over 300 students this past year. At the Foundation's last board meeting, the board approved adding adults to the Low Vision program. We will be helping those 21 and older. You will receive more information to follow as we get this new program up and running.

Our partnership with Pearle Vision is starting to take effect. We had several screenings with them and the response has been very positive. Our partnership with Leader Dogs For the Blind once again is working out very well. We look forward to a long lasting relationship with them moving forward. One of our newest partners, The Center for Sight and Hearing in Rockford, is moving along quite well. They will be helping us move forward with our Adult Low vision program. Your Foundation will work with the 22 Centers for Independent Living throughout the state with our Social Services Program, which includes our Adult Hearing and Low Vision program.

Your Lions of Illinois Endowment Fund has seen a significant increase since the first of the year. On July 1, 2017 your Endowment fund was at \$10,762,000.00. As of today, your Endowment Fund is at \$11,181,000.00. This would never have been possible without all of your generous support on the many donations of Foundation Fellows, Sustaining Supporters, Memorial Donations, Bequests, and the gifts to the Tree of Service.

In conclusion, not everything that I have mentioned could have happened without all of the support of the great Lions and Lioness throughout this state. I say **"Thank You"** for all of those special individuals you have helped, and I look forward to another great year next year.



GUEST SPEAKER

Lion Melissa Weisse, Chief Philanthropy Officer at Leader Dogs for the Blind in Rochester Michigan, made a presentation to the Lions at the 44th annual membership meeting. She spoke about her work and the impact the Lions of Illinois have on the Leader Dogs Program. Weisse mentioned the many families in Illinois that have helped and supported the puppy-raising program, and the passion the Lions of Illinois have to help grow a necessary program. Finally, Weisse highlighted the rejuvenated partnership with the Lions of Illinois Foundation. Leader Dogs for the Blind looks forward to working with the Foundation for many years to come.

ANNUAL BREAKFAST HIGHLIGHTS

Lions had a fantastic time at this year's annual breakfast and Board of Trustees meeting at The Chateau in Champaign, Illinois. Here are some highlights from the event!



Left: Raffle winner Lion Barb Lahtinen poses with Birdies for Charity Chairperson Lydia Ellis, PCC PFP.
Above: Lion Kathleen Marusich receives a Candy Day award from LIF President John Pajkos, PDG.



Above Left: Lion Charlie Siefert, PDG from the Bolingbrook Lions club in the Parade of Pledges.
Above Right: Raffle winner Lion Robin Kirar, District A Trustee Frank Kirar, and Long Range Planning Chairperson Don Borgwardt, PFP pose for a quick picture after the breakfast.

2018 SIGHT AND SOUND SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS

\$5,000.00

Brian Hargis
Seller- Same as winner belongs to
Christopher Lions 1-CS

\$1,000.00 – Mike Koeneman
Seller-Jim Beimfohr - Swansea-
Belleville Midtown Lions 1-CN

\$1,000.00

Bradley & Kathy Stephens
Seller- Same as winner belongs to
Tower Hill Lions 1-M

\$1,000.00 – Sue Costello
Seller- Same as winner belongs to
Morrison Lions 1-D

\$1,000.00 – Terry Kaminski
Seller- Same as winner belongs to Mt.
Greenwood Lions 1-A

\$1,000.00 – Nicole Hampton
Seller- Larry Jensen – Crystal Lake
Lions 1-J

\$500.00

*Robert Williams
Seller-Dan Holstlaw belongs to Olney
Lions 1-CN

*Charles Huebener
No seller listed

*Robert Jornlin
No seller listed

*Gloria Blechle
No seller listed - Highland Lions 1-G

*Justin Stevens
Seller- Dan Holstlaw belongs to Olney
Lions 1-CN

*Philippe Beauzile
Seller- Same as winner – Bellwood
Lions 1-A

*George Alajoki
Seller- Hannelore Alajoki – Bellwood
Lions 1-A

*James Alf
Seller- Same as winner – Lebanon
Lions 1-CN

*Bob DeBoe
Seller- Bart Henry- Fox River Grove
Lions 1-J

*Forreston Lions Club
No seller listed

\$250.00

* Philippe Beauzile
No seller listed

*Marty Crapnell

Seller-Same as winner Alpha-Woodhull
Alwood Lions 1-H

*Clement Urban
No seller listed

*Nick William
Seller-Same as winner German Valley
Lions 1-D

*Kim Strellis
Seller-Same as winner Waterloo Lions
1-CN

*Dale Cadwalader
No seller listed

*Dick Wilson
Seller-Dan Holstlaw belongs to Olney
Lions 1-CN

*Jeff Dowd
Seller- Alan Harbut-Rockford Noon
Lions 1-D

*Camille Traczek
Seller-Al Traczek Bolingbrook Lions 1-BK

*Shane Cultra
Seller-Same as winner Onarga Lions
1-BK

SHOP WITH SCRIP

By participating in The Lions of Illinois Foundation's Gift Card Campaign, you can earn money for your Foundation and your club without spending an extra penny.

The LIF Gift Card Campaign can work as a one time fundraising goal for our organization or it can even be conducted as a year round program. The Great Lakes Scrip Center has helped thousands of organizations meet their fundraising goals over the last twenty years. **40%** of your club's rebate earned during the year goes back to your club for sight and hearing projects!

For more information and registration, visit ShopWithScrip.com. Our enrollment code is: **CF9E81D545723**





Lions of Illinois Foundation
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Sycamore, IL 60178



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Wills, Bequests, and Trusts

*Another way to help support your Lions of Illinois Endowment Fund (LIEF) is through our **Legacy Club Program**.*

Individuals may choose to give an estate tax-deductible gift naming the Lions of Illinois Endowment Fund or the Lions of Illinois Foundation as a beneficiary of part of an estate; or an assignee of part of a pension and/or retirement fund, an IRA insurance policy, or an investment account.

Individuals who provide the appropriate documentation to the Lions of Illinois Endowment Fund will become a member of the Legacy Club.

If you need further assistance please give your Foundation a call & we will be happy to assist you.

Call us at 1-815-756-5633 and ask for Executive Director Mario Gumino