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Visit your Foundation online at lionsofillinoisfoundation.org
Or on Facebook @Lionsofillinoisfoundation
for information on programs and services, to download forms, review the Lions Share Newsletter, & get ideas for success in all your Club’s LIF functions.

LIF THOUGHTS
By LIF Executive Director Lion Mario Gumino, PDG

Who is the Lions Of Illinois Foundation?

That is a question that I have asked at every jamboree, and the answer was all ways the Lions of Illinois, and as I stated to each of you at your jamborees you’re correct. Without you the Lions of Illinois Foundation does not exist. Without you the more than 18,000 individuals we help do not get that needed assistance. Without you the 200 plus campers we help to send to camp would not have that special experience of being with their own piers for a week, and without you the 300 Low Vision children we send through our program would not get the necessary aids they would need to lead a normal life. So as we move forward just think about all those individuals we have helped and all the lives we will change in the future.

Candy Day 2014 is history. We need to count our loose change, our greenbacks, tie up this year’s campaign, and send in your final reports. The deadline is December 1st but if you can get those reports in sooner that would help your Foundations cash flow.

In conclusion as you go through this year, just think back on the day that you joined and were inducted and think of all the great things that you have accomplished by changing someone’s life. I am sure we all have that special story. That is why we became lions to help in any way we can, to make our communities, and our Foundation much better and much stronger.

Please remember this - when we all work together as Lions great things happen.

From your staff at your Lions of Illinois Foundation,
We would like to wish you a Happy, Safe, and Healthy Holiday Season.

Lion Mario J. Gumino, PDG

M ay the holidays bring you peace and strength for the new year

The Lions Share Newsletter is a publication of the Lions of Illinois Foundation written for our membership and those in the public who support our cause. Membership in the LIF is limited to the Lions, Lioness, and Leo Clubs of Illinois. We invite persons and/or parties with inquiries, or who have material to submit, to please contact Alan Wilson at adw@LIFnd.org or by phone at 1-815-756-5633 ext 231. All material in this publication is pre-approved by the LIF Executive Director in accordance with the operating procedures of the Lions of Illinois Foundation. The LIF is a 501 c (3) charitable non-profit organization.

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9am to 5pm, Monday through Friday, except holidays.
Visit the LIF at:
www.lionsofillinoisfoundation.org & www.facebook.com/Lionsofillinoisfoundation
For program & service descriptions, forms, & latest news!
Our Lions of Illinois Foundation office address is:
2254 Oakland Drive, Sycamore, IL 60178

LIF STAFF: - Please note our new E-mails -
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Joe Krenkel & Richard Liby, Mobile Hearing Screening Unit Driver/Tech - Ext. 240
William Weybright, Mobile Diabetic Screening Unit Driver/Tech. - Ext. 240
Fellow Lions,

It is amazing how quickly time goes by. It seems like we just began this Lion’s year and we are nearly half way through. I hope you all had GREAT Candy Day’s. Candy Day is not only your Foundation's largest fund raiser, but it is a catalyst to a successful year. Please process your reports on a timely basis and forward the Foundation’s portion as soon as possible. I hope you had such a good collection that you consider sending above the sixty percent. Please extend my thanks to every Lion who participated. Without their help, we could not provide the services so many of our residents depend upon.

As we go into the holiday season, I know many of you have special events and are providing service in a variety of ways to your communities. Through all the hustle and bustle that the holidays bring, I hope each of you will take a few minutes to reflect on the many blessings you have received. We, as Lions and individuals, have so much to be thankful for. Yes, I know we can all find things to complain about or material things to wish for. As we gather with family, friends, and fellow Lions to celebrate the season, let’s be thankful for the love and support that we receive. We must also remember those in our communities who do not have that circle of friends and family. They need our support as well. Let’s reach out and let them know that Lions care.

As you see the bright and twinkling lights, the colorful packages, and all the beauty that comes with the Christmas season, count your blessings that you have your sight. As we hear the bells, carolers, the laughter of friends, and the excitement of children, count your blessings that you can hear. As we enjoy this time of year, we should also remember that there is much work ahead of us. There are so many residents of our state that are not able to enjoy the sights and sounds of the holidays. As the Knights of the blind and the deaf, it is our job to provide the services that will make their holidays brighter.

May God bless you for your efforts! I want to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Great 2015.

Lion Steve Ferguson, PCC/PDG
President, Lions of Illinois Foundation

Mark Your Calendars...

December 1, 2014 - Deadline to submit Candy Day proceeds and reports
January 4, 2015 - Coordinators Meeting, Park Regency Hotel, Bloomington, IL
February 13, 2015 - Candidates Orientation, Park Regency Hotel, Bloomington, IL
February 14-15, 2015 - Board of Trustees Meeting, Park Regency Hotel, Bloomington, IL
March 1 - May 1, 2015 - Diabetes Awareness Campaign
April 2015 - “Birdies for Charity” Pledge forms available from Birdies website
May 1, 2015 - Tootsie Pop Day
May 15-17, 2015 - State Convention/Board meeting, Marriott Bloomington, IL
July 6-12, 2015 - John Deere Classic/“Birdies for Charity”, Moline, IL
July 17, 2015 - Incoming Board of Trustees Training, Park Regency Hotel, Bloomington, IL
July 18-19, 2015 - Board of Trustees Meeting, Park Regency Hotel, Bloomington, IL

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The amount we can earn is limitless!

Go to Goodsearch.com today, choose the Lions of Illinois Foundation as your charity, and search like normal.

Now that is easy money!
NEW BIRDIES PROCEDURE
By Lion Van C. Stone, LIEF Managing Director

Starting immediately, ALL birdies pledges or contributions need to be sent to the Lions of Illinois Foundation attn.: Sherry Radek. This procedure will allow us to more accurately track all pledges/donations and provide backup documentation to Birdies for Charity. Again, effective immediately, please send all birdies pledges and/or donations to the Foundation office attn.: Sherry Radek.

As we end last year’s campaign and begin next year’s it is important to point out that our Foundation have received well over $1,000,000 through this great charitable program. Last year our bonus check was 10% of the amount paid by the Lions on their pledges. Accordingly, we would like all donations for Foundation Fellows, Leaves and Rocks to be sent through the Birdies program. We are proud that two of the last three years, the Lions of Illinois were number 1 in the John Deere/PGA Birdies program. After all, every Lion is a part owner of our Foundation and what we do to support it will be a measurement of our commitment to serving the needs of the visually and hearing impaired in our communities. Let’s make this year the best ever. Just remember, if every Lion would pledge a penny, we would receive over $300,000. If we send our donations for Foundation Fellows, Leaves and Rocks on top of our pledges, the sky is the limit. May we remember why we support our Foundation—to help change the lives of those who are vulnerable to the ravages of visual and hearing impairments.

Sight & Sound Sweepstakes
Lions and Lioness of MD-1 ... I hope that your Candy Day fund raiser went well. Now it is time to start our plans for the 2nd largest fund raiser for our Lions of Illinois Foundation. Last year we had a great response to our new Sight and Sound Sweepstakes books. All of us thinking positively lead to great returns to our foundation.

If all of us start planning now as to how we can do even better ... again we will succeed! Why don’t we set goals? Each club could set their own goal. When, we plan, set our goals and then put on plans into action ... then we succeed!

Presidents ask a member in your club to be the Chair for this fund raiser. That person could have a committee to help with the goal and plans for the club. Ask your District Coordinator for help! That is part of their job to get the word out to the clubs and assist where needed.

I don’t know of any Lions or Lioness who don’t succeed when they have goals and plans. Try to get all members to buy one book and sell at least one book. Some will do even more.

Remember as a LION if you don’t do your part ... who gets hurt? Not You or Me ... and not so much OUR Foundation ... as the CHILDREN and ADULTS that we have to say NO to because you failed to do your part.

I know that your District Sight and Sound Sweepstakes Coordinator and I can count on the LIONS and LIONESS of MD-1 to have a great Sight and Sound Sweepstakes fund raiser. The Sight and Sound Sweepstakes District Coordinators and I will be hoping that their District will be the one to shine the brightest!

Look for the booklets that will be sent to your club in December.

Lion Priscilla M. Hedrick, PDG
LIF State Coordinator Sight and Sound Sweepstakes

Camp Season Begins Now!
Yes, now in mid-winter we are making plans for Camp Lions and loads of fun and friends!

Our schedule is as follows:

June 14 - 20, 2015 - LIF’s Helen Keller Camp for Blind and Deaf Adults, at Camp Henry Horner, Ingleside, IL
June 21 - 27, 2015 - Camp Lions for Blind and Deaf Youth, at Camp Henry Horner, Ingleside, IL
July 5 - 11, 2015 - Camp Lions for Deaf/Hard of Hearing Youth, DEAF WEEK at East Bay Campsite, Hudson, IL
July 12 - 18, 2015 - Camp Lions for Blind/Partially Sighted Youth, VISION WEEK at East Bay Campsite, Hudson, IL
July 26 - August 1, 2015 - Camp Lions for Blind and Deaf Youth, at Camp Manitowa, Benton, IL

Applications are sent to past campers in November. Info will be available on Website and Facebook pages at that time.
THE NEW HOME FOR OUR LIF OFFICES, located at 2254 Oakland Drive, Sycamore, Illinois is a perfect fit. With office space for all staff and equipment for daily operations. Finally a large conference room for meetings and a volunteer work area. A spacious central reception room will display some of the honors bestowed the Foundation and our Tree of Service. Storage, a major problem of the last location, is solved here. Now there is ample room for office supplies, donations of eyeglasses, hearing aids, recyclable goods, and all three mobile screening units. Seasonal goods for Camp Lions, Candy Day, Golf Outing, and more also have adequate homes not stacked in rented units, attics, or corners. Thank you Lions for making this move possible!

Chili’s Give-Back Fundraiser

Chili’s Restaurants are a great place to enjoy good food and friends. Now supporters of the Lions can add another reason to enjoy this tasty stop - a give back fundraiser to the LIF for humanitarian services. In December & January Chili’s and the LIF will be joining to raise funds with the use of “give-back vouchers”. Every Chili’s location in the State of Illinois will be working with us to raise funds for one of our core missions, Low Vision Screenings.

With each voucher submitted 15% of the receipt total (excluding taxes) will be donated to the LIF to fund Low Vision Screenings.

Vouchers are not a discount to the customer. But the reality is with every voucher used, a donation from Chili’s is made to enable LIF services to the visually and hearing impaired.

“Pepperation” packets with intro letters, sample ads, even how to steps and vouchers will be sent to every Club with a Chili’s in their service area. The workload is similar to Sight and Sound Sweepstakes, just nothing to sell. Give away these vouchers to any and everyone you know. Hand vouchers out to your social clubs, churches, sport teams, & local businesses. We even have material ready for e-mail! You just need to type in the address. When handing out vouchers explain this simple truth “Please use this voucher at Chili’s to help us bring hope and better vision to people in Illinois, perhaps preventing a child from blindness.” It is an appeal to the heart knowing you can make a difference in a person’s life just by relaxing over a snack or meal, even a dessert. The LIF Chili’s Give-back Fundraiser will run from December 1, 2014 to January 31, 2015. For more information contact Nancy Wisniewski at NCW@LIFnd.org or Alan Wilson at ADW@LIFnd.org or by phoning 1-815-756-5633.

This will be our first year, so naturally we can’t expect miracles, but tis the season and if we work together it will be a success.

Important Reprint •

New Law on Batteries

Submitted by Nicole Suss, U of I Chicago Audiology Department

In Illinois, as of July of 2013, no one can sell OR dispense batteries that are not mercury-free. I must use only mercury-free batteries, even donated ones. So, I am asking Lions to only send on the battery packs that say “mercury-free” from now on.

No battery with mercury content will be accepted at the LIF from this date forward.

LIF collects hearing aid batteries for use with the Hearing Aid Bank. Every recipient of a re habbed hearing aid also receives a small supply of batteries to help ease the initial cost.

If you have mercury batteries, don’t toss them in your trash! Please contact your local County Waste Services for proper disposal.
We are glad to say we were bombarded with some great photos of Lions, Lioness, and volunteers out for Candy Day. Here is a small sampling for your enjoyment. For more photos, LIF & Club news check out the LIF Facebook page at facebook.com/LionsoIllinoisfoundation. Please keep the photos of all your LIF and Club events coming in!!

Congratulations On a Great Candy Day!
Remember to submit your Candy Day form and funds by December 1st.

Celebrate your good labor and success by assuring these funds may be put to use for those we have pledged to serve.

Thank You!

Lions of Illinois Foundation
2254 Oakland Drive, Sycamore, IL  60178
1-815-756-5633 V/tty relay   1-815-748-9087 fax
DOrtega@LIFnd.org
Lions of Illinois Foundation Recycling Program Donation Card

Please complete ALL the information below to receive a thank you letter which can be used for tax purposes.

Date: _______________{

Lions Club Name____________________________________________________________
District_______

Please clearly print the name of whom you want thank you letter to go:

Donor Name_______________________________________________________________________
Address___________________________________________________________________________
City______________________________________________ State__________ Zip_____________

# of Used Eyeglasses_________    # of Hearing Aids________    # of Ink Cartridge_______
# of Cell Phones_______     Lbs. of Metal Keys________     Lbs. of Tabs_______
Other _________________________________________________________________________

Please enclose this card with your donation and send to:
Lions of Illinois Foundation, 2254 Oakland Drive, Sycamore, IL 60178

Questions? Please call 815-756-5633

Thank you for your donation.

Your donation helps bring hope to someone in need.

It is a non-profit charitable organization. Please note that the LIF does NOT count eyeglasses, so please fill out this form to the best of your knowledge.

The LIF is a non-profit charitable organization. Please note that the LIF does NOT count eyeglasses.

Please complete ALL the information below to receive a thank you letter which can be used for tax purposes.

Please use this card with all your donations to the LIF of used eyeglasses, hearing aids, and recyclable items.

Also complete and submit for other used equipment such as computers, enlargement scanners, canes, and daily living devices for the visually & hearing impaired.

Your donation helps bring hope to someone in need.

Thank you for caring.