

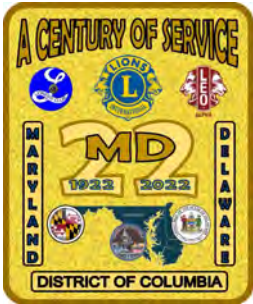


**Lions District 22-A**

# InSights



Volume 83, Issue 1.5 September 2022



## *Special Edition*

### *MD 22 100th Anniversary Retrospective*

Fellow Lions, this issue of InSights provides an overview of the MD 22 100th Anniversary. First I'd like to share Lion Dr. Don Newbury's column describing his time with us. He writes a weekly column which appears in a number of newspapers. - Lion Sue Parks, Editor

#### THE IDLE AMERICAN

On the Road Again...

Commentary by Dr. Don Newbury

Column #1004 for Release Saturday, August 20, 2022, or Later



**We laughed** intermittently for weeks about our decision to embark on a 3,000-mile road trip because we didn't have time to fly. As the date neared and mass media folks conveyed horror tales of passengers stranded in airports or delayed, our decision to take to the highways seemed well-founded.

Our ultimate destination was Hunt Valley, MD, where Lions Clubs from Maryland, Delaware and the District of Columbia were meeting - more than 200 strong - to observe their 100th anniversary of Lions International.

Best "bibs and tuckers" were pretty much left behind, even though the "Grand Poobah" of Lionism - International President Brian Sheehan and wife Lion Lori - would be honored guests for the two-day conference. He heads this world-wide organization of more than 1.4 million members. However, he may have overslept the day formalities were handed out. (For folks who can't remember "Grand Poobah" in popular culture, this was the name heard regularly on TV's Flintstones to describe a high-ranking elected position in a secret society called, uh, the "Loyal Order of Water Buffaloes.")

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**We stood** several times in honor of the Minnesota couple who quickly put people at ease, urging them to give their best to the world's largest civic organization that is ever seeking ways to serve humanity. He established himself as an "ordinary Joe" from Bird Island, MN, where they don't lock their doors and welcome "virtual" ways to boost Lionism when pandemics persist and the place freezes over.

Lion Lori is passionate about the Lions' multifaceted work in Europe, and the former health club owner has been largely homebound since COVID reared its ugly head. She raises huge sums for

*Continued next page*

Reminder - next regular issue of InSights is October 1 - please email me your input no later than September 20. Thanks. Lion Sue Parks



Lions' projects by accepting challenges of long treadmill walks. She is "fiddle-fit," even though her husband is hesitant to take up serious exercising. He says she can use him for one of those "before" pictures in "before and after" ads....

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**President Sheehan** likewise has immense energy for Lionism, probably knowing many airport personnel around the world on a first-name basis. (Only hours before reaching this community adjoining Baltimore, he and Lori visited a Texas Lions camp event in Kerrville.) His energy is exceeded only by his passionate devotion - as well as admirable vision - for Lions International and its clubs in more than 200 countries of the world.

The Sheehans - from a community of 936 people - have come far, and in these days, rarely are at home. There, they raise exotic animals, with a few birds thrown in. He favors penguins, and hands out miniature pliable penguins he calls "relaxers." He maintains that squeezing the tennis-ball size objects are "go to" aids in a world growing ever more stressful....

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**So far** in our trip, ironies have abounded. When we left the Metroplex, there had been no rain in many areas for more than 40 days. On our trip, however, it rained daily for an entire week, including our two-day stop in Charlotte to visit in-laws Ken and Rita McDaniel and an unsuccessful attempt to tour the Billy Graham Library. It is under extensive renovation, closed until next year.

Soon after arriving in Hunt Valley, the tap-tap-tapping we heard in the hotel lobby resonated from canes carried by five dozen college student members of the National Federation of the Blind. They were convening at the same time as the Lions. Past International President Clem Kusiak, Council Chair Wayne Cole and Convention Chair John Lawrence took oaths that neither organization knew the other was meeting, but the students were constant reminders for the Lions of their work in helping the blind....

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**My assignment** was to keep Lions awake for a breakfast speech. Let's don't vote on it! However, I am now a Lion again, after a 55-year hiatus, and sworn in by the "Grand Poohbah" himself. Ray Hildebrand, our friend from college days, sang The National Anthem and his 1963 hit, "Hey, Paula." He was accompanied by The Fabulous Hubcaps, whose musical beginnings began soon after Ray's.

Now, it's off to Kentucky, where heavy rains have shaken The Ark. We're counting on our friend John Duke Smith (our "Gober-Uber driver") to deliver us there safely....

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*IP Brian inducted Dr. Newbury as a new Lion after Friday's dinner. He had previously been a Lion 55 years ago!*



### **About the 100th from 22-B District Governor Carol Schoonover**



What a great weekend with IP Brian and Lion Lori. What an inspiration to Lions they are. They both really captured everyone's attention. Then we had Don Newbury, and his wife Brenda. As the song says, then along came Bocce Ball with the Special Olympians. I have volunteered off and on with Special Olympics when my foster brother was involved and then in Chestertown for Kayak races. It was so gratifying and a learning experience to be around the Courageous Special Olympians because they are special. The exhibit rooms were great. The parade of service posters showing what we did then and now was educational. I heard some Lions discussing about doing some fundraises and projects from years ago.

Saturday night with The Fabulous Hubcaps was what everyone needed to relax, let their hair down, and enjoy each other. Ray Hildebrand and I had several talks about him singing years ago. It was an honor to hear him sing. It brought tears to my eyes when I saw his tears. Ray had said he was nervous about singing again. He told me later he felt alive again like it was years ago by the applause he got. It is the little things in life that can make someone's day. The service projects from Lion Susan Cox and her committee were great.

One of the things that made it even more special was meeting and making friends with the ones from the Federation of Blind. How ironic it was having them there while we were celebrating MD 22's 100 years of Lions service. Lion's top mission is vision. I was invited and popped into one of their workshops and the instructor said it was a shame the Lions weren't able to attend some of them.

Clem, thank you for your ideas, the shirts, and for suggesting this celebration. Thank you to John Lawrence, Wayne Cole, Sandi Halterman, Kenny Vincent, Barbara Brimigian, Evan Gillett, Susan Cox, Sonia Wiggins, and the Special Olympics. Sue Parks, thank you for the great program book that you put together. Thank you to the PID's for your input. David Mitchell, thank you for doing the registration. Thank you to whoever I forgot. It was the most enjoyable Lions event I have attended. The event was Inspirational, Educational, and Fun all wrapped into one event. Lions that didn't attend missed a once-in-a-lifetime event.

Side by side, Service Hand N Hand Together, We Can Together, We Will Together Create A Better World For Others, This is what Lions do.

Lion Carol Schoonover







## Tours

### Hampton National Historic Site

Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup> & Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup>

Groups toured the Hampton Mansion to see the largest private home in America when it was completed in 1790 on this plantation. It is one of the finest examples of Georgian architecture in the USA.

We explored the gardens and Ridgely Family Cemetery. We toured farm landscape and farm buildings, original slave quarters, and saw several trees that are more than 200 years old.



Modern day photo of the Hampton mansion at night.  
NPS/Tim Ervin







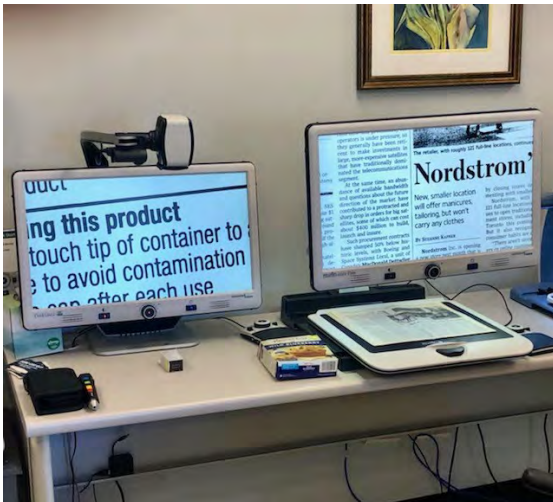
## Tours



### Wilmer Eye Institute Lions Low Vision Center at Johns Hopkins Hospital

Saturday, August 13, 2022

PCC Bob Eisenberg led Lions and guests on this bus trip to the Lions Low Vision Center. We learned how the facility conducts low vision research and rehabilitation through its partnership with the Lions Vision Research Foundation. We saw equipment used in the assessment process, saw how they habilitate patients and learned about the history of the Wilmer Eye Institute and John Hopkins and their relationship with the Lions Vision Research Foundation.







## Unified Bocce Event Lions/Leos/Special Olympians



The Special Olympics Mission is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. This gives them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community. The Special Olympics Purpose through sport, is creating a world where opportunity is not limited by disability.

**Bocce** is an Italian game. The basic principle of the sport is to roll a bocce ball closest to the target ball, which is called a palina. Bocce as a Special Olympics sport provides people with special needs the opportunity to have social contact, develop physically and to gain self-confidence. Next to soccer and golf, bocce is the third most participated sport in the world.



*International President Brian Sheehan (right) and Past International President Clem Kusiak honor Jim Schmutz, President and CEO of Special Olympics Maryland, with a Melvin Jones Fellowship*



## Friday Dinner - Honoring the Past

After a wonderful dinner, Master of Ceremonies, Dr. Don Newbury, introduced PID Ted Reiver and FVDG Jeremy Bair, who read off the roll of MD 22 past international officers. This was followed by a moving performance by PDG Cheryl Jones of Helen Keller's story. After that IP Brian made a presentation. Some of his slides:

### Successful?

What characteristics are you looking for in a leader?



International President  
Lion Brian Sheehan

- Teamwork – "Together We Can"
- Trust
- Communication
- Courage to Try – Believing – Confidence
- Honesty
- Be Positive – Have a Great Attitude
- Think out of the Box – Creativity
- Ability to Adapt and Change
- Tenacious – Don't Give Up – Continue Trying
- Fun!!!!

### Key to Survival and Longevity

- Asking and seeking quality new members
- Listening to all your members
  - Try something different by listening to new members
- Enthusiasm as to why we are Lions
- Being Positive – Attitude
- Change and evolution
- Being able to overcome problems and continue on
- We're not saying it's easy
- Care about each other and help each other out

### Each of us must believe in this organization

- What does believing mean?
  - Thinking IS Believing
  - Courage to Try
  - Commitment to succeed
  - Action that inspires others
- If you don't believe you won't even try

### Why Do You Remain a Lion?

IT'S NOT FOR MONEY, IT'S NOT FOR FAME  
IT'S NOT FOR ANY PERSONAL GAIN  
IT'S JUST FOR LOVE OF FELLOW MAN  
IT'S JUST TO LEND A HELPING HAND  
THAT'S SOMETHING YOU CAN'T BUY WITH WEALTH  
IT'S NOT MEDALS WORN WITH PRIDE  
IT'S FOR THE FEELING DEEP INSIDE  
IT'S THAT REWARD DOWN IN YOUR HEART  
IT'S FEELING THAT YOU'VE BEEN A PART  
OF HELPING OTHERS,  
IT'S A SIGN THAT MAKES YOU AN EFFECTIVE LION.





## Friday Dinner - Honoring the Past *continued*

*IP Brian visited our tables and requested a 'normal' shot and then an 'action' shot.*



*IP Brian Sheehan, PIP Clem Kusiak, and IPDG Bijoy present Severn River Lion Jackie Hetrick with International President's Certificate of Appreciation with Lion Don Newbury looking on.*





## History Room

In an effort to reclaim 100 years of history, all subdistricts displayed local Lions memorabilia and old photos they had collected. Additionally, PIP Clem Kusiak and the Past International Directors each had displays. Below is PIP Clem's map of his travels as an international officer - incredible! - and his corner of the History Room.



### Lions Clem & Jeanne official visits as Executive Officer of Lions Clubs International 6 out of 7 Continents

#### NORTH AMERICA

Alaska, Delaware, District of Columbia, Illinois, Maryland, Nevada, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Nova Scotia, Belize, Trinidad and Tobago, Mexico, Panama

#### SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Columbia, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay,

#### EUROPE

Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Vatican City and Yugoslavia

#### ASIA

Bangladesh, China, Cyprus, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Jordan, North Korea, South Korea, Lebanon, Macau, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Turkey and Vietnam.

#### AFRICA

Algeria, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, Sudan, Tanzania and Tunisia

#### AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND

Australia, New Zealand



Overlea Lions Club contributed this picture of Christmas party at Maryland School for the Blind in 1985 and also the throw rug seen to the right. Major thanks to PDG Jay Toslosky for displaying the history of Arbutus Lions Club.

IP Brian visits the History Room and poses for action shot with Severn River Lion Ryan Shupp.





## Last but not Least - The Fabulous Hupcaps!



Ray Hildebrand sang his #1 hit from the sixties - Hey Paula.



Don't recognize her? Lion Suzette Kettenhofen dancing with IPDG Bijoy and below with IP Brian.





