



LIONS TALE

Happy New Year!

Monthly Bulletin of Venice Lions Club Inc. Venice, Florida

January 2019

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President's Message — Lion Bob Hoesly

January 12th will be our *first* community health screening conducted jointly with the Englewood Lions Club. It will be held from 9 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in the Lions Community Room at the Venice Health park. We continue our community service and outreach by providing free vision and hearing tests along with blood sugar and blood pressure tests. The screening is open to everyone in the Venice/Englewood area and we hope we will have many volunteers helping to provide this valuable screening service.



This month we will also begin exploring Wordpress which could be a valuable communication tool and electronic diary of our club.

We have also developed a committee sign-up sheet along with descriptions of all of our activities. We hope it will help everyone evaluate their volunteerism and consider involvement in additional areas.

2019 is also a year in which we will need a strong push on developing new members. This is very important to continue to grow our ability to SERVE our community. We have recently lost members due to relocations and health challenges and need new members to step up and contribute where our former members are no long able to.

I fully expect 2019 to be a very successful year and I look forward to serving our community with each and every one of you!!

President Lion Bob Hoesly

Upcoming Events

January 2019

- 3 Vision and Hearing Clinic (Canceled)
- 3 Club Meeting 6 pm
- Waterway Clean Up 8:30 am (Behind the Venice Island Publix)
- 5
- 10 Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- 17 Club Meeting 6 pm
- 26 District Meeting (Gulfport)

February 2019

- 7 Vision and Hearing Clinic 7:00 am
- 7 Club Meeting 6 pm
- Waterway Clean Up 8:30 am (Behind the Venice Island Publix)
- 9
- 9 Winter Social - Luau! (Bird Bay Clubhouse 6 pm)
- 14 Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- 21 Club Meeting 6 pm

Holiday Tree Lighting at West Blalock Park

The 12th annual "Holiday Tree Lighting" celebration hosted by Venice Area Beautification, Inc (VABI) takes places during the month of December. Trees in West Blalock Park on the Island of Venice behind the Community Center are decorated by the tree donors or guest decorators. At night, the trees come to life with an array of lights and ornaments. The Venice Lions Club participated as a guest decorator for a Chinese Palm.

(Photo by Shelley Devine)



RSVP for the Meeting!

(941) 493-4472

guest speaker

January 3rd - John Scalzi, WWSB ABC7 Meteorologist.

January 17th - Amy Moring, Florida School for the Deaf and Blind.



Reminder: Meeting Dinner Price Increased to \$12

Exact change is greatly appreciated!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 2nd - Barbara McGillicuddy
- 5th - Bob Hoesly
- 8th - Bob Wagner
- 13th - Hugh Oswald
- 14th - Dot Winther
- 18th - Annette Goodsen
- 24th - Keith Backhaus
- 30th - Jeff Sterne
- 31st - John Bohan

Welcoming a Lion to the Pride



Left: Lynn Thierry prepares to place the Lions Club pin on Helen Nester's vest.
Below: President Bob Hoesly hands Helen the certificate and welcomes her to the Club.
(Photos by Lion Ric Namikas)



Speaker Round Up



President Bob Hoesly presents Cathy Duff, Law Enforcement Deputy with the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Unit, a friendship banner. She spoke about identity theft and how we can take steps to protect ourselves, especially during the busiest shopping time of the year.
(Photo by Lion Ric Namikas)

Happy Anniversary

- 12th - Paul Carlson (Roseann)
- 26th - Doug & Carol Stares

Welcome our Featured Members:



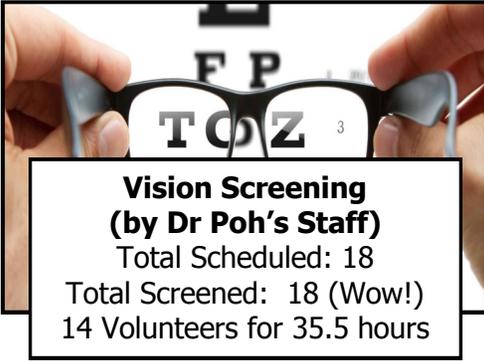
- Agnes Woros
- Paul Waggoner
- Jude Waggoner



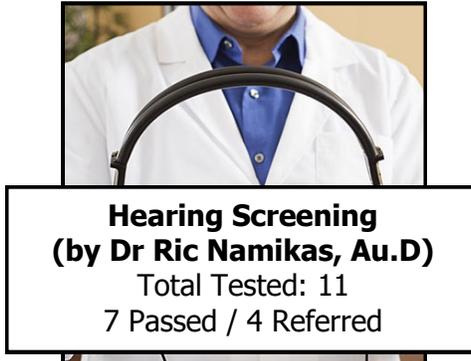
Holiday Social

A festive evening with fellow Lions sharing food, fellowship and a little competitive fun.
(Photos by Lion Ric Namikas)

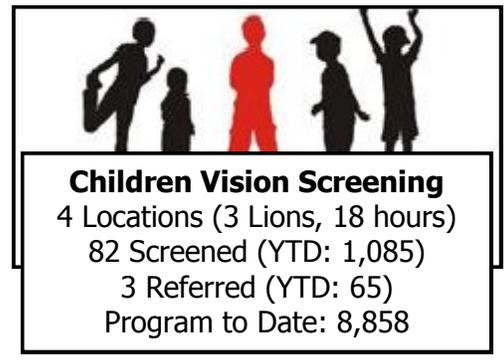


Vision Screening
(by Dr Poh's Staff)
Total Scheduled: 18
Total Screened: 18 (Wow!)
14 Volunteers for 35.5 hours



Hearing Screening
(by Dr Ric Namikas, Au.D)
Total Tested: 11
7 Passed / 4 Referred



Children Vision Screening
4 Locations (3 Lions, 18 hours)
82 Screened (YTD: 1,085)
3 Referred (YTD: 65)
Program to Date: 8,858

Venice Lions Club Sponsors "Career in a Year" Bus Tour



The Lions sponsored 43 students on a trip to Suncoast Technical College on November 6, 2018. The "Career in a Year" Tour allows students from Venice High School a chance to visit Suncoast Technical College (STC) in Sarasota to explore various certifications and programs which are usually obtained within a year.

These students were identified by their guidance counselors and teachers as students who might benefit from seeing the amazing career programs offered at STC. They were mainly juniors and seniors who did not have a plan for after high school.

The students chose two pathways to tour, and they chose from the following: Business & IT, Health & Public Services, Human Services, and Industrial Technologies (which included a visit to the Criminal Justice Academy.) Each pathway includes several programs. For example, the Industrial Technologies pathway includes A/C Technology, Automotive Technologies, Marine Services Technologies, Electrical, and Plumbing.

Kim Kindell remarked that the students were fantastic and were very interested in learning about the programs and asked good questions. Several said they thought STC could be the right college for them.

Students also learn about job opportunities in the area and how to prepare for entering the job force. This is the fourth year the Venice Lions have sponsored this worthwhile experience which covers the transportation, chaperones and lunch for the students.

Two students wrote about their experience and wanted to share with the Club.

"Thanks to Rotary Futures and the Venice Lions Club. Me and my friend had a great trip to Suncoast Technical College few weeks ago. The tour was amazing and the program manager was very funny. He showed us a lot of details like what programs they had and asked the instructors of that program to tell us some information about it. I learned a lot of information and details about STC from the field trip. I believe that this program great and meaning full to the student at Venice High School because it gives them an idea of what STC is like instead of listening rumors from others about the school. We should definitely keep this program going on. It helps students make plans for after high school graduation."

Sincerely, Daven Wang

"Rotary Futures College Resource Center took students from Venice High School on an amazing bus trip to Suncoast Technical College. It was an amazing experience for everyone involved and it was eye opening for anyone who wanted to know what life after high school is like. The teachers and staff were friendly, and they explained their programs in detail. Everyone was impressed and we all enjoyed the great experience. The fact that it was free made it available to anyone at the school and was appreciated even more. The many fields available for study are interactive and challenging for all the students. The professional and skilled teachers showed us all around the different departments, and they were happy to answer any questions we had. I really appreciate the opportunity I had to look around and I appreciate the investment the school made to make this possible. One of the great facts about STC is the affordability of the programs that offer hands on experience at a relatively cheap price so anyone can attend. Medical, Mechanical, Engineering, Culinary are just some of the amazing programs offered at the school, which we got to see during our trip. It is obviously a nice option to consider when looking at future colleges and plans, so I am glad I got a chance to look at this in advance. We should definitely keep this program going each year. Thank you, Venice Lions Club, for making this field trip possible."

Sincerely, Leonardo Faro

Venice Library Opening!



Top: Lions Tom and Carol Regan man a tent on opening day; Middle: Dave Mattson assists at a tent on opening day; Bottom: Confetti flies everywhere as the official ribbon is cut and opening is declared. (Photos by Lion Ric Namikas)



Gold
 Cordelia-Lee Beattie Foundation
 Frances T. Bourne
 Marshall and Marjory Engstrom
 Mary York
In memory of Sewell McKeough
 Venice Lions Club Foundation
 Elliott & Norma Leuallen
 John E. Galvin Charitable Trust
 Sarasota County Foundation

Many places where the Venice Lions Club is mentioned for our generosity:

Top: Fountain donation sign.
 Bottom: Lions Ric Namikas, Ann and Ray Faverau, and Bob Hoesly pose next to another donor wall.

(Photos by Lion Ric Namikas)



SAYING GOODBYE TO GREAT LIONS

Lion Ann Favreau

It was with deep regret that the Board accepted the resignation of Lions Joe and Jane O'Brien. Lion Joe indicated that they would not be continuing their membership beginning in January due to Lion Jane's medical challenges.

Lion Joe joined the Shelter Island, NY Lions Club in 2004; Jane, in 2007.

In 2012 both Joe and Jane transferred into our Venice Lions Club. They became good friends to many of our members.

Joe served as our President in 2013-2014 when the Venice Lions started our partnership with the Community Outreach Program at Trinity Presbyterian Church. Working with other Lions he recognized the need for reading glasses and the specific needs of the homeless in our area for eyecare that led to the distribution of reading glasses and a voucher program for prescription glasses. For his President's project, Joe purchased ponchos that were distributed to the homeless through Trinity.

Jane worked as an office volunteer. She and Joe served as our Sunshine Committee for several years. Joe became a Melvin Jones Fellow in 2016. He chaired the Shark's Tooth committee and worked on many other service projects.

We will miss these GREAT Lions!

Inspirations? New Ideas? See a Need?

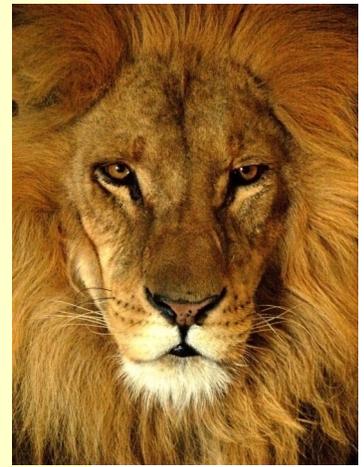
Is there a service project you think our Club could participate in?

Do you have an idea for a fundraiser which could benefit our club?

Please share your ideas with a Board Member and see where we can make an impact!

What do you like about being a Lion?

Share your story! Please send to Shelley at shell-bell@earthlink.net



PENNY WISE **Lion Ann Favreau**

Pennies clutter up our pockets, our handbags and the top of our bureaus. It seems you never have enough when you pay in cash and then end up getting a lot more in change. You used to be able to buy something with a penny like candy or a stick of gum. Now, most of us consider these coins a nuisance. The Venice Lions Club and those in Lions District 35-I are putting those bothersome pennies to good use in the **Pennies for Pooches Program**.



At each Lions meeting, canisters are circulated and members and guests drop in their pennies, change and more importantly, dollar bills, which help to support the **Florida Guide Dogs for the Deaf**. This statewide non-profit program was begun in 1984 by the deaf community in Manatee County. The Dog Training school located in Bradenton has expanded its goals. Their updated mission is to rescue, place and train shelter dogs to become the working counterparts for their adopted owners to include but not limited to service for hearing impaired, mobility, PTSD, special needs and therapy. They train their clients to train their own dog in their home with assistance of a certified program instructor. The "Home Training Concept" has been internationally recognized and is a model for other programs.

Some family dogs are qualified for training but 92% of all the animals used are rescued from shelters and provided to the Florida Dog Guides free of charge. A dog must be in excellent health, be no older than two years and weigh at least 12 pounds. All dogs selected must pass a temperament test. There is a substantial fee for the program that may be covered by full or partial grants. No application is refused based on an inability to pay. The training time from application to certification takes less than a year. Upon completion, a national and internationally recognized identification card is issued which allows the team public access guaranteed by federal and state laws. The dog is provided with an orange cape, collar and leash.

The Florida Dog Guides program accepts tax deductible donations and depends on public funding. **Pennies for Pooches** is just one program that provides financial support. Remember it takes 200,000 pennies for each person served. So save those pesky pennies, add some dollars and help those in need of a specially trained dog.

SAVE THE DATE!

Find the grass skirt and dust off the coconut bras! It's time to enjoy the cool weather and celebrate with a Luau!

Saturday, February 9, 2019 at the Bird Bay Clubhouse starting at 6 pm.

Open to Lions and friends! More Details to Follow!



Venice Lions Club Inc.
Venice HealthPark
1289 Jacaranda Blvd
Venice, FL 34292-4522
Tel: (941) 412-5288
Fax: (941) 486-6019



Club Meetings
1st & 3rd Thursdays
Lions Community Room
at the Venice HealthPark
Dinner served at 6 pm
Meeting begins at 6:30 pm

RSVP - (941) 493-4472

www.venicelionsclub.com
secretary@venicelionsclub.com



Our Venice club is part of the largest international service organization in the world. We support international efforts to save the sight of millions, provide measles vaccinations and disaster relief.

At the local community level, Lions provide free vision and hearing services to those in need, screen the vision of preschool children and collect used eyeglasses.

Every dollar donated goes back to the community in the form of grants, scholarships, and educational and fun activities for children.

Our members like serving in a club with a purpose. It makes us feel good to give back to our community.



Do you shop on Amazon?

Shop at Amazon at:
smile.amazon.com

and Amazon donates to the Venice Lions Club!

Just select "**Venice Lions Club Foundation, Inc**" as the Charity.

As of December 2018, the Venice Lions Club has received **\$888.42** through AmazonSmile!



Venice Lions Club 2018-2019	
President	Bob Hoesly
1st Vice President	Bill Davis
2nd Vice President	Richard Namikas
Secretary	Beverly Flynn
Assistant Secretary	TBD
Treasurer (Admin.)	Dave Mattson
Treasurer (Found.)	Barbara McGillicuddy
Tail Twister	Jeannette Davis
Lion Tamer	Jeff Myles
IPP	Gary Beck
Two Year Director	Bill Loso
Two Year Director	Annette Goodsen
One Year Director	Jill Hoesly
One Year Director	Paddy Padmanabhan
Membership Chair	Robert Spong
Bulletin Editor	Ann Favreau
Publisher	Shelley Devine
Photographers	Richard & Dusty Namikas, Doug Stares

Lions Club International	
300 22nd Street, Oak Brook IL, 60521	
Website	www.lcif.org
President	Gudrun Yngvadottir
IPP	Dr Naresh Aggarwal
District 35-I	
Website	www.lions35i.org
District Governor	Ken Engstrom
1st Vice District Governor	Claudette Henry
2nd Vice District Governor	Blair "Chip" Kunka
Cabinet Secretary	Penny Gregrich
Treasurer	Paul Nash, PDG
Bulletin	Norma Jean Andrews
MD Executive Secretary / Treasurer	Neil Spencer, PID
Zone 3 Chair	Erick Rumold



Have a story, photo or good news to share? Please send to Lion Shelley at shell-bell@earthlink.net to be included in the next newsletter!