



Crystal Lake Lions Club-Serving In Its **88th** Year

# Pride

December, 2019



Part of the scene at Hickory Hall on Friday, November 22. The Crystal Lake Lions Club's Annual Fall Raffle was held that evening. A great time was had by all. The Club netted \$5,638.00. A full detailed report is being sent to all CL Lions Club members.

## Shop With A Cop

Shop With A Cop, the more familiar term used by CL Lions for the McHenry County Police Charities Event will be on Sunday, December 8, 2019.,

Volunteers will be needed at Wal-Mart in Crystal Lake beginning at 6:30 am and at D'Andrea's Banquets at 7:30am.

Needy children are picked up and accompanied for a shopping trip at WalMart by a local policeman or policewoman. They are then taken to D'Andrea's for a breakfast while the gifts from WalMart are wrapped while they eat. Santa is available too.

For those who do not know, this event was originally begun by the Crystal Lake Lions Club but because it grew to nearby communities McHenry County Police Charities took it over several years ago. :Lion Ranch Boyd and his wife, Kit, both deceased, are credited with originating this event.

## Christmas Party

The Club's Christmas Party this year will be on Monday, December 9, 2019 at 6:30pm at Hickory Hall (the former American Legion Hall) in Crystal Lake.

Lions Anita Wingfield and Ashley Funk are hard at work preparing a festive and tasty evening for the Crystal Lake Lions and their guests.

Club members meals are paid through dues, the charge for spouses, significant others or guests is \$25.

If you haven't already passed on your intention to attend and whether or not you will bring a guest, please contact Lions Anita or Ashely to reserve your place.

### Upcoming Events - Mark Your Calendars

Sunday, Dec 8 Shop With a Cop 6:30am,7:30am

**Monday, Dec 9 Christmas/Holiday Party**

**Hickory Hall 6:30pm**

Monday, January 13 Board Meeting Cottage 6:30

Monday, January 27 Program Meeting Village Squire 6:30

**Saturday, Feb 1 WINTER STEAK FRY**



# President's Letter

Dear Crystal Lake Lions Club Members,

Well here we are with December at the door.

I want to thank Lion Jim Zambon for the great job he did with the Fall Raffle. I would like to also thank all club members that were in attendance and assisted in selling squares or covering numbers and keeping track of numbers drawn. I heard from people in attendance that have been there in the past and they complimented on the food upgrade this year.

So we now prepare for the Holidays. Remember our only meeting in December is the Holiday/Christmas party at Hickory Hall not at the Cottage.

I hope each one of you will have a safe and enjoyable Holiday season.

In closing, I am writing this on my phone on the way back from O'Hare. Grace and I just got back from Arizona where we closed on our new house. It is with hard feelings that it looks like January 13 will be my last meeting as a member and President of the Crystal Lake Lions. I know Lion Bill Davies will be a great President to guide you all through the remainder of the year. My last day before retirement is January 17 and we will start the move the 30th. I will be part of the Maricopa Lions club once we get settled in down there.

I would like to thank so many of you for getting me through all these years as a Lion. I hope that I was able to also pass that knowledge and experience on to some of our newer members.

So as Grace and I prepare for our next chapter in our life, thanks for all the friendships that were built because of the Lions club and spouses.

***Lion Nick***

Lion President Nick Parashis

## Meeting Schedule

**Sunday, Dec 8 Shop With A Cop Walmart & D'Andrea's**

**Monday, Dec 9 Christmas/Holiday Party  
Hickory Hall 6:30pm**

**Monday, Jan 13 Board Meeting The Cottage 6:30pm**

**Saturday, Feb 1 WINTER STEAK FRY**

The Crystal Lake Lions Club meets the second and fourth Monday. There are no club meetings in July and August. However, the Board meets in July/August to plan for the upcoming Lions year.

**(Regular Board & Program Meetings begin at 6:30pm. Lionization at 6:00pm)**

## 2019-2020 Club Officers

*President* Nick Parashis

*1st Vice President* Bill Davies

*2nd Vice President* Anita Wingfield

*3rd Vice President* Peter Collins

*Secretary* John Landon

*Asst Secretary* Norm Vinton

*Treasurer* John Dewey

*Asst Treas* Bill Limbach

*Tail Twister* Brennan Markee

*Asst Tail Twister* Rob Parrish

*Lion Tamer* Meghan Davies

*Asst Lion Tamer* Dave Moore

*Asst Lion Tamer* Ashley Funk

*Director* Doug Lomen

*Director* Rob Wood

*Director* Rick Miller

*Director* Jeff Thorsen

*Director* Randy Funk



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# ***Lions Fight Against River Blindness...***

## **Onchocerciasis.**

Commonly known as river blindness, onchocerciasis is an agonizing disease caused by bites from infected blackflies that make their home near rapidly coursing waters. Intense itching, rashes, skin discoloration and eye disease that can lead to permanent blindness are the more overt manifestations of the disease. But the devastation goes far beyond the individual.

Many people abandon their river valley homes, land and livelihood simply to avoid disease, damaging economic productivity for many villages in some of the world's poorest areas.

The [World Health Organization](#) provides these sobering estimates:

At least 25 million people are infected with river blindness, while 123 million people live in areas that put them at risk of infection.

About 300,000 people are blind, and another 800,000 have visual impairment, because of the parasite transmitted through the blackfly bite.

Nearly 99 percent of those infected live in Africa.

Since 1993, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) has awarded US\$44.8 million to support the distribution of approximately 293 million treatments of Mectizan<sup>®</sup>, a river blindness medicine in 15 African and Latin American countries. SightFirst facilitated the training of more than one million community volunteers to distribute the medication. Working with the African Program for Onchocerciasis Control and the Onchocerciasis Elimination Program of the Americas initiatives, LCIF's partnerships are critical to these efforts to ensure that river blindness is no longer a public health problem.

LCIF began approving funds for onchocerciasis control in 1996 for Cameroon, which US\$2,063,400 was approved for a grant that was split between The Carter Center, Sightsavers, Helen Keller International and International Eye Foundation. SightFirst has worked in close partnership since 1999 with The Carter Center (TCC)—a leader in the fight to end river blindness.

The effective collaboration of NGOs, ministries of health, governments, private sector companies, UN agencies and others is showing success. Colombia and Ecuador were two of the first nations in the world to have halted river blindness entirely through prevention, treatment and health education. In Africa, recent studies have shown the first evidence of feasibility of elimination in some areas. These steps toward halting onchocerciasis are not only preventing blindness, but also enabling people to return to their land and revive their local economies.

Transmission of onchocerciasis has been interrupted in the Nigerian states of Plateau and Nasarawa, ushering in a brighter future in the world's most river blindness-endemic country. In addition, with LCIF support, the World Health Organization verified Colombia to be free of onchocerciasis in 2013, followed by Ecuador, Mexico and Guatemala in 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively.

To date, LCIF has provided nearly US\$45 million in grants to combat onchocerciasis worldwide, including US\$28 million through a partnership with TCC.

TCC, founded by former U.S. President (and Lion) Jimmy Carter and former First Lady Rosalynn Carter, centers on waging peace, fighting disease and building hope. LCIF has given out **293 million Mectizan<sup>®</sup> treatments with our grants** (of which 218 million are through our partnership with TCC).

Pain, disfigurement and vision loss caused by river blindness are preventable. Thanks to LCIF's partnership with TCC, and generous donations by leading drug companies such as Merck, global elimination of river blindness may just be in sight.

Nearly 75 percent of vision impairments are preventable or curable, often for mere dollars. LCIF will continue our foundation's more than a quarter-century commitment to eliminating avoidable blindness worldwide including:

Helping 30 million people improve or restore their vision.

Investing US\$415 million to extend services to even more people throughout the world

## Want to Learn More About Lionism?

Check Out These Websites:

Lions Clubs International  
Multiple District 1(Illinois)  
Lions District 1-J  
Lions of Illinois Foundation  
Crystal Lake Lions Club

[www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org)  
[www.illinoislionsmd1.org](http://www.illinoislionsmd1.org)  
[www.district1jlions.org](http://www.district1jlions.org)  
[www.lionsofillinoisfoundation.org](http://www.lionsofillinoisfoundation.org)  
[www.crystallakelions.org](http://www.crystallakelions.org)

We Serve  
Through  
Diversity



**Dr Jung-yul Choi**

International President

Editor

Lion John Landon, PDG, PCC

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Did You Know.....

As of 10/31/19.....

Multiple District -1(Illinois) 10 Districts	13,743
District 1-J(Largest in Illinois) 58 Clubs	2,144
Crystal Lake Lions are	50 Strong



Just imagine if every Lion,  
**1.4 million**, asked one  
person to join their club...

**CHRISTMAS/HOLIDAY  
PARTY HICKORY HALL  
DECEMBER 9**



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