

LIIONS VISION

A NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF MULTIPLE DISTRICT 22 LIIONS, LIONESS AND LEO CLUBS Spring 2016



25 YEARS - A BLINK OF AN EYE!

If you are a child, 25 years can seem like an eternity, especially when you are waiting for Christmas morning to arrive, or if you are approaching that magic driving age of 16. In star time it is an inconceivably small dot on the time line of creation. Time does change everything. As I get older I see that more clearly. There was a time when as a boy I played with my Lionel toy trains. It was a magical time. Then as my children and grandchildren arrived they played with my toy trains running around the Christmas tree. This Christmas I found myself back to where I was in my youth. I played with the trains, but this year there were no little ones to join me.

Those of you who know me well, know I am a music fan. Country star Kenny Chesney sings a great philosophical song about life called "Don't Blink." In the song, a 102-year-old man is asked "What's the secret to life?" He looked up, laughed and said "Trust me friend, a hundred years goes faster than you think - *so don't blink.*"

A few days ago PID Joe Gaffigan and I were chatting about the founding of our Lions Vision Center 25 years ago on November 25, 1991. Joe said to me "Where did the time go?" My reply was "in a blink of an eye!" That's how it feels to me and I think the old man in Chesney's song is right on about life. We need to live each moment for the moment and make the very best of it. Cherish the memories, celebrate, and then take the next adventurous step into the future.

In the case of the Lions of MD-22 I think we have done a pretty good job. In those 25 years we have partnered with the Wilmer Eye Institute, the world's premier eye research organization, to help hundreds of people. We endowed the Lions Vision Center in perpetuity with the establishment of our En-

dowment Fund. We have honored our deceased visionary leader Dr. Arnall Patz by creating the Arnall Patz Fellowship and by assisting Wilmer with the establishment of the Patz Endowed Professorship at the Lions Vision Center. We have fostered the growth of low vision education by supporting a Fellow in the Lions Vision Center each of the past few years. Some of these Fellows have moved on to other well-known institutions throughout the country and a few have remained with the Wilmer organization. Now through LOVRNET we are poised to have another major impact by offering low vision services to Lions organizations throughout America and perhaps someday internationally.

On November 19, 2016 we are planning a special day for LVRFB's Silver Anniversary. It will start with a Rally in the morning where we will review the year's past progress and then we will adjourn for a sit-down lunch and transition to a celebration of our proud past and bright future. You will hear more details about this special day in the near future. For now, mark your calendars, talk it up in your Lions, Lioness, and Leo Clubs. We would like to see representatives from all Clubs in MD-22.

PDG Susan Timmons commented at a recent LVRFB Trustees meeting that "Like a marriage, at 25 years we may need to renew our vows!" She is exactly right. Time changes everything. New Lions may not know much about what the organization does. Senior Lions may have blinked and got distracted over the 25 years with other things. We need to re-energize our Lions commitment to LVRFB. I hope to see you at the 25th Celebration!

Contributed by: John J. Shwed, PDG [LVRFB Development Chair]



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PDG Daniel Scott (2 years)
PDG Senora Haywood (3 years)*

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Lion James Pileggi (3 years)*

TRUSTEES 22-C

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PDG Rich Barb (3 years)*

TRUSTEES 22-D

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Lion Sandy Parker (2 years)
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LVRF Chairman's Message

Your Lions Vision Research Foundation is doing exciting work. LOVRNET is now in its third year of a three year Grant from LCIF SightFirst and Reader's Digest. LOVRNET will serve as a model for community based health care.

Areas where Lions have been directly involved with LOVRNET are *Low Vision Interviewing* with patients and *Direct Service* to low vision patients in their community. Another area where Lions can utilize the efforts of LOVRNET is by using the newly operational LOVRNET shopping cart for low vision products. The address for the shopping cart is www.lovrnet.org/store. Please visit the site and inform others who could benefit from using the site.

Looking into the future: **Save the Date**, Saturday, **November 19, 2016**. The 2016-year is the 25th Anniversary of the Lions Vision Research Foundation. A special event is being planned to celebrate the Foundation's Silver Anniversary and the completion of the LOVRNET SightFirst Grant. Other exciting information and activities are also being planned, so stay tuned for more information as it becomes available.

I will be making visitations to clubs to present the Vision Days Patch for their participation in that wonderful opportunity to be visible in our Communities while collecting donations for low vision.

Now is the time to plan recognition to Lions in the form of a Knights of the Blind Pyramid, an Arnall Patz Fellowship or a Progressive Arnall Patz Fellowship. There are Recognition forms available on the LVRF Website, www.lionsvision.org, to assist in the process to obtain recognition with the correct information and delivery to the correct individual for presentation. A Trustee will make the presentation to the recipient. Allow approximately 4-5 weeks to process your request prior to the event where you desire to make the presentation.

Coordination with me, your District 22W LVRF Chair, will help to ensure your desires are met.

The Multiple District's support of the Foundation is greatly appreciated because without that support, the Foundation is an empty vessel and the low vision community would have much more need.

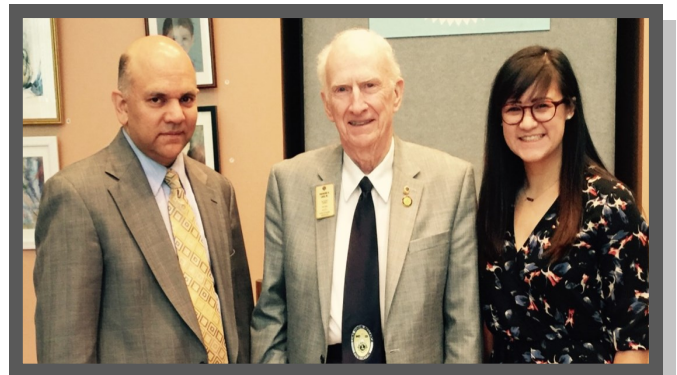


Low Vision Town Meeting Held in Friendship Heights Maryland

On Saturday, March 19, LVRF immediate past chairman Ted and Lion Ann Ladd attended a Low Vision Town Meeting in Friendship Heights, MD attended by some 70 men and women with low vision. Keynote speakers included Dr. Suleiman Alibhai, Director of the Prevention of Blindness Society of Metropolitan Washington; Dr. Ashley Deemer, LVRF intern at the Lions Low Vision Center at the Wilmer Eye Institute; and Dr. Michael Summerfield, Director, MedStar Ophthalmology Residency at Georgetown and Washington Hospital Center. The meeting was co-sponsored by the Village of Friendship Heights Prevention of Blindness Society of Metropolitan Washington and the Sibley Memorial Hospital Senior Association.

Ted was invited by Dr. Deemer to speak on the LOVRNET program. Afterwards, several attendees asked for further information on LOVRNET. Copies of the spring issue of The LOVRNET Inquirer were made available to attendees, and several asked for additional information at the conclusion of the meeting.

Dr. Alibhai and Dr. Deemer regularly receive results of LOVRNET patient interviews of their patients.



Shown above from (L to R) are: Dr. Suleiman Alibhai, PDG Ted Ladd, Dr. Ashley Deemer.

[photo by Lion Ann Ladd]

LVRF FAQ'S

Not to be outdone by modern computer techniques of helping people get answers to questions quickly, PDG John Shewd has formulated a list of "Frequently Asked Questions" about LVRF for newer Lions to learn about the history of the Lions Vision Research Foundation. It could also serve as a refresher for our more seasoned Lions. [Editor]



PDG John Shewd

How did LVRF get its start?

Dr. Arnall Patz, then Director of the Wilmer Eye Institute, went to Lions International in the 1980's to encourage Lions to partner with the Wilmer Eye Institute. LCI recommended that he recruit Lions from the Baltimore area to explore the opportunity. He did and the Lions of MD-22 responded. In 1988 the Lions of MD-22 voted to establish the Lions Vision Research Foundation. In 1991 the LVRF Trustees agreed to create the Lions Vision Center and to ensure its operation in perpetuity with a \$4 million Endowment. Lions International President Donald Banker witnessed this commitment in a special visit and ceremony at Johns Hopkins.

What is the focus of the eye research?

Initially, the proposed research focus was diabetic retinopathy. This changed over the first few years. At the recommendation of Lions Vision Center Founding Director Dr. Bob Massof and Dr. Arnall Patz, the Trustees agreed to focus on the problem of low vision for which there is no medical cure and which affects 5 million people in the USA and 25 million people world-wide.

What was Campaign Lions Vision 2000?

The capital campaign to raise the \$4 million Endowment Fund was announced in 1997, but delayed for three years because Lions International had just kicked off Campaign SightFirst, and the Trustees did not think it wise to run competing capital campaigns. The \$4 million goal was achieved and celebrated in 2007. Individual Lions, Lioness and Leo Clubs, non-Lions, businesses, and organizations contributed very generously to this campaign.

Was Lions Vision 2000 the end of fundraising for LVRF? Where is this fund now?

Like all Lions organizations, fund-raising is continuous because new opportunities to serve arise. The Trustees met their commitment and chose to release the Fund to Johns Hopkins to take advantage of the financial leverage offered by the size of the Johns Hopkins Investment Accounts. As of March 15, 2015 the principal has grown to \$4.26 million. Each quarter the Lions Vision Center receives a payout from the interest on the principal. The average payout is 3.5% and it is used at the discretion of Dr. Goldstein.

What new LVRF programs are the MD-22 Lions funding now?

In 2007, when the \$4 million Endowment Fund was completed, the LVRF Trustees evaluated several new opportunities to serve. They chose funding a fellowship for an intern at the Lions Vision Center at a cost of \$100,000 annually. Since Johns Hopkins is a medical teaching facility, the Lions, through funding and placement of this intern in the LVC, are helping to spread low vision expertise around the world.

What is the Dr. Arnall Patz Lions Endowed Fellowship at the LVC? The "Patz for Patz" Campaign?

When Dr. Arnall Patz passed away, Wilmer and the Patz Family wanted a suitable way to honor his achievements. The Patz Family was astutely aware of his life-long admiration for the work of Lions International. The Patz Family insisted that the Lions name be added to the title of the professorship. This was a special capital campaign led by the Wilmer Eye Institute, not the Lions of MD-22. The Dr. Arnall Patz Lions Endowed Professorship at the LVC has been achieved with donations totaling \$2.875 million. The majority of these donations came from former medical students and colleagues of Dr. Patz world-wide. Again, the MD-22 Lions Family generously supported this special campaign by donating a "Dr. Arnall Patz Fellowship for Patz".

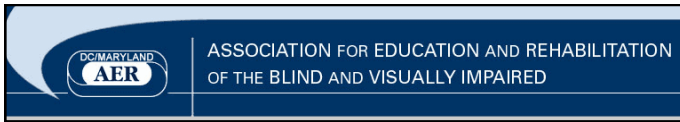
What is the hope for the Dr. Arnall Patz Fellowship going forward?

Trustees hope that members of the MD-22 Lions Family will honor the memory of this great eye-care visionary by continuing to recognize a club member or outstanding individual in their local communities with the Dr. Arnall Patz Fellowship so that we create a collegial core of "Ambassadors" for the work of the LVC/Wilmer Partnership similar to the Lions International Melvin Jones Fellowship. When clubs finish paying for any pledges to the "Patz for Patz" campaign then donations for future Arnall Patz Fellowships should be re-directed to the MD-22 Lions Vision Research Foundation to support the organization's evolving work.

How is the MD-22 Lions Family asked to support the annual budget?

Vision Days is a great way to get involved at minimum financial risk to local clubs. Don your Lions apparel and stand in front of a local store with your Vision Days collection canister. You will be amazed by the generous and very positive response from the people who put donations in your canister. Annual gifts from various unique, local club fund-raising projects are a mainstay. Participation in special projects such as the "Aim for Sight" is another great way to help. We also have Planned Giving opportunities such as annuities or estate gift bequests. Trustees continue to explore new fund-raising opportunities.

Recognized!



On April 8, 2016, the LVRF was honored by the DC/MD Chapter of the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER) at a Chapter Luncheon Meeting at Ocean City, Maryland. Brandon Cox, Chapter President, presented a Plaque recognizing LVRF for its achievements over the past twenty-five years.

Representing the LVRF and accepting the plaque was Lion Rodney Timmons. Alan Kaufman of the AER read the application letter prepared by Jim Deremiek, who was unable to attend.

The Plaque read, in part: 'Recognition of Excellence in the Field of Blindness and Visual Impairment Award', 'Presented to Lions Vision Research Foundation', 'For your many years of outstanding contributions to the Field of Blindness', 'Your dedication to research to improve eye health, your support of vision professionals, and your direct improvement and expansion of comprehensive low vision Rehabilitation Services realize the dreams of Dr. Arnall Patz and mission of the Lions Vision Center', 'April 8, 2016'.

Following the presentation, LVRF Chairman Rodney Timmons addressed those present about the features and benefits of LOVRNET, such as online shopping and accredited courses.

PDG Susan Timmons noted that there were many Lions in attendance, many of whom were familiar with LOVRNET.



Pictured above are, from L to R, Brandon Cox, Lion Rodney Timmons (holding the Plaque) and Alan Kaufman

If you are attending the Multiple District 22 convention in Hagerstown this year, be sure not to miss the LOVRNET Seminar on Tuesday, May 17th from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm and the LVRF Seminar on Wednesday, May 18th from 10:30 am to noon. Both seminars are in Room 1 Learning Center.

LOVRNET SEMINAR: Get the latest update on the biggest project yet; the Lions Low Vision Rehabilitation Network! With our partners Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), Readers Digest Foundation and Blind Industries and Services of Maryland (BISM), Lions are involved in their communities to bring new low vision services to more residents than ever. The presenter is Dr. Robert "Bob" Massof, professor of ophthalmology and neuroscience at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and Director of the Lions Vision Research and Rehabilitation Center at the Wilmer Eye Institute. He is also a Lion.

LVRF SEMINAR: Dr. Ashley Deemer will speak on "Past, Present, and Future of the Lions Low Vision Rehabilitation Fellowship Program". Lions Vision Research Foundation and Wilmer are committed to supporting low vision research and rehabilitation to minimize the disability caused by low vision and blindness. Together they have created a low vision rehabilitation program that has become a model for clinics elsewhere.

Dr. Ashley is the current Lions Low Vision Fellow, having started her one-year fellowship on July 1, 2015.

Also, remember to visit the LVRF exhibit booth staffed by LVRF members who will be happy to answer any questions you may have about the Lions Vision Research Foundation. Also available will be LVRF brochures, raffle tickets for the Trunk of Treasures (see page 5), LVRF apparel and LVRF ornaments.

Trunk of Treasures (see page 5), LVRF apparel and LVRF ornaments.

Lions Club Programs

Club program chairs who would like to schedule a program about the exciting things that are going on in your Lions Vision Research Foundation, please be aware that there is an LVRF Speakers Bureau committee headed up by Lion Bob Johnson who will assist you do this. He, or any trustee of the LVRF Board, is available to visit your club and make a well-designed power point presentation.

For questions or to obtain a speaker, contact Lion Bob Johnson at (301) 606-5797 or rcyrlj@aol.com.

The LOVRNET Inquirer

There is a new LVRF publication. The first issue, the Spring Edition of "The LOVRNET Inquirer", has been released and is available on the LVRF website, www.lionsvision.org. It provides insight into the current status of the LOVRNET low vision patient interview program and contains statistics, testimonials, and an educational stimulus for the Lions of MD22. The editor is PDG Ted Ladd.

Set your sights on this!



**The Lions Vision Research Foundation Annual
Aim for Sight Sporting Clay Shoot Events will be held on
Saturday, October 8, 2016 at the
Maryland Shooters Range, 2555 Mayberry RD, Westminster, MD 21158**



**&
Saturday, October 15, 2016 at the
Pintail Point Welcome Center, 511 Pintail Point Farm Lane, Queenstown, MD 21658**



The **LVRF** is sponsoring *two* "Aim for Sight" sporting clay shoot events. Attend either or both of them and take your **shot** at making a difference for people with low vision.

Come out and test your shooting skills and sense of humor during this *fun* charity event. All proceeds from the events will be used to support the **Lions Vision Research Foundation**.

The cost is only \$65 per shooter or \$240 per team. Registration includes lunch between 11:30-1:30. Prizes will be awarded to the top teams and individual shooters. Everyone comes away a winner! You don't have to have a foursome to participate. If you cannot get a team, you will be teamed up with other friendly shooters.

The registration table opens at 9:00 am. Start times will be staggered with the first start time at 9:30 am. To accommodate shooters traveling from distant locations, later start times will be assigned. You will be notified prior to the event as to what your start time will be.

To register to shoot, use Table 2 and send a check made payable to "LVRF Aim For Sight" to Lion Dal Mann, 22944 Lyn Oaks Drive, Preston, MD 21655 for the Pintail event and to Lion Richard Liebno, 115 Rockland Road, Westminster, MD 21158 for the Maryland Shooters event.

If you're not a shooter and wish to support these events, then sign up to become a **Sponsor** or put an ad in the **Program Book**.

Sponsor levels and **Program Book** ad prices are listed in Table 1 below.

Checks for Sponsors and Ads in the Program Book should be made payable to "LVRF Aim For Sight" and sent to Lion Dal Mann. (See address in column 1).

Another way you or your club may show your support is to donate prizes that will be presented to the participants. Examples of prizes would be gift certificates, shot gun shells, mugs, hunting knives, etc. If you have any questions or would like a full page registration form sent to you for either event, then please contact:

For the October 8 event @ Maryland Shooters:

Lion Richard Liebno @ 410-848-4929 or richard.lion@comcast.net
Lion Gary Burdette, @ 301-916-3098 or glburd54@comcast.net

For the October 15 event @ Pintail Point:

Lion Dal Mann @ 410-673-9085 or dmnn@bluecrab.org
Lion John Lawrence @ 410-725-0150 or Lions@johnlawrence.name
Lion Clyde Bragg @ 302-284-8052 or cib1147@aol.com

Table 1

Sponsor Level	Donation
Platinum Sponsor	\$1,000
Gold Sponsor	\$500
Station Sponsor	\$100
Program Book Ad:	
Full Page 7½" x 9"	\$100
Half Page 7½" x 4½"	\$60
Quarter Page 3¾" x 4½"	\$40

Table 2

Shooters Name	Phone	Team Name	Amount	Location MR/PP*
1				
2				
3				
4				
Enter Total →				

Note: * Location MR = Mayberry Road / PP = Pintail Point

LVRF Orientation

Again this year, our LVRF Chair, Lion Rodney Timmons, will be holding an LVRF Orientation at his home in Pennsylvania on Saturday, June 4, 2016 beginning at 1 p.m. A smoked pork bar-b-que will follow the training.

Those who attended last year were extremely impressed with the quality of the orientation program; they also had glowing compliments for the bar-b-que.

This orientation is a must for all new 2016-17 District Governors who will sit on the board next year as well as all new Trustees appointed to the board for the 2016-17 fiscal year.

In addition, any Lion in the Multiple District who would like to learn more about their Lions Vision Research Foundation is more than welcome to attend.

Please make reservations by contacting the LVRF Administrative Manager, Kelly Zimmerman. See Page 2 for contact information.

15th Annual Golf Tournament

The 15th Annual Lions Zone Golf Tournament to help support the American Diabetes Association and the Lions Vision Research Foundation will be held on Friday, May 27, 2016 at 1:00 pm at the Oakmont Green Golf Course, 2290 Golfview Lane, Hampstead, MD 21074. The cost per golfer is \$80

The Tournament is hosted by six Lions Clubs in District 22W, Region IV, Zone III.

For more information please call the Tournament Chair, Lion Bob Bastress, @ (443) 340-2038 or email him at rbastress@verizon.net .

Trunk of Treasures

Tickets for the Trunk of Treasures will be available for purchasing at the MD22 Convention at the LVRF booth. The raffle tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00. The drawing will be held on Saturday, October 15th, 2015 at the Pintail Point Aim for Sight fundraiser. (See Page 6)

Tickets will also be available from any LVRF Committee Member or call: (410) 310-6660

Shown below is one of the previous Trunk of Treasures



Project Eye Dime

Project Eye Dime is a fundraising project for the LVRF envisioned by Lion Sandy Parker, an LVRF trustee from District 22W.



One of those visionaries always looking for easy and painless ways to raise funds, she reasoned that if somehow every Lion would think about all those with low vision and how they are helped by the low vision programs supported by the Lions Vision Research Foundation whenever they saw a common thing such as a dime, they

might just think that it, the dime, should not be spent but should be put somewhere and saved until many, many dimes were collected and then sent to the LVRF.

There are probably many ways to do this, but Lion Sandy came up with the idea of using a wide-mouth soda bottle. Of course, the bottle needed to be noticed, so she designed a label to wrap around it. Where would the bottle be used? At home where every night, all members of the family would empty their pockets and put all the dimes in the bottle. Of course, every Lions, Lioness and Leo club should have a bottle that would be passed around at each meeting to collect all spare dimes. The bottle might look like the one shown at the top.

Note that the label on the bottle advertises our 25th anniversary. Wouldn't it be great if all the clubs in MD22 filled one of these bottles and then brought them to our 25th Lions Day at the Wilmer Eye Institute which we will be celebrating on November 19th, 2016?

Well, on second thought, maybe they should be taken to the bank and a check delivered to the LVRF!

Lion Sandy is busy working out all the details. To learn more or to learn how to obtain a label, contact her at:

sandyparker012@gmail.com

Did this happen to you?

We have learned that some donations mailed to the LVRF Post Office Box address were returned to the sender. If this has happened to you or your check has not "cleared", please send your donation or replacement check to:

PDG Mary Lee Phillips,
30206 Zachary Taylor Court,
Millsboro, DE 19966

OR
Lion Rodney Timmons
724 Pensinger Road
Greencastle, PA 17225

We regret any inconvenience this may place on you!

LIONS VISION

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
FREDERICK, MD
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The Multiple District 22
Lions Vision Research Foundation, Inc.
At the Wilmer Eye Institute, the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions
P. O. Box 1714, Baltimore, MD 21203-1714



Dr. Arnall Patz was the Wilmer visionary who desired a partnership with Lions International. Helen Keller had previously suggested to him that he work with the Lions, who were active in helping the blind. He concluded that a joint service project between the world's largest service organization and the world's leading eye institute would result in great discoveries which would help people worldwide. During the period 1978 to 1985 Dr. Patz made several overtures to Lions International, including a trip to Lions Headquarters in 1979, to encourage the Lions to collaborate with the Wilmer Eye Institute. With time, support for the partnership grew among the Lions of MD22 representing Delaware, the District of Columbia, and Maryland.

In May of 1988, delegates to the 66th MD22 Lions Convention approved the establishment of the Lions Vision Research Foundation. In March of 1991, Robert Massof, Direc-

tor of the Lions Vision Center, recommended that the Center's research be focused on the problem of low vision for which there is no cure. "Low vision" is vision loss that cannot be corrected by eyeglasses, medicines, or surgery. Major causes of low vision are macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, and inherited eye diseases. Five million people in the US suffer from low vision; twenty-five million people are impacted worldwide. Dr. Massof proposed further that the Lions create a \$4 million endowment fund to guarantee the Lions Vision Center would operate in perpetuity.

In November 1991, with then Lions International President Don Banker in attendance, the Lions and the Wilmer Eye Institute entered into a formal memo of understanding, officially creating the Lions Vision Center and committing the Lions to the raising of the endowment fund.