

# LIONS VISION



A NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF MULTIPLE DISTRICT 22 LIONS, LIONESS AND LEO CLUBS

Fall, 2020



## Microscopic,



## But Mighty!



John Shwed

When we were little kids and got hurt, mom consoled us, put a band aid on our cuts and bruises, and sent us back out to play. As teenagers and young adults, we believed we were invincible – nothing could happen to us! However, history and experience teaches us that the human race can be brought to its knees, perhaps even close to extinction

like the prehistoric dinosaurs, by microscopic creatures and forces.

This September we marked the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the unconditional surrender of Japan aboard the battleship Missouri ending World War II in the Pacific. For the first time in history, all humanity saw the incredible destruction caused by the microscopic atomic particles in the nuclear detonations that destroyed the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. I'll let God judge President Harry Truman for the morality of that world-changing decision. I do know that in the 75 years since, one result of that decision has been that no nations at war have chosen to use them again.

In 1918, one year after the formation of Lions International, the USA and the world witnessed the impact of another microscopic force – the influenza pandemic that resulted in about 675,000 deaths in the USA and 50 million deaths worldwide. In March 2020 life changed once again with the arrival of the coronavirus which has caused 200,000 deaths in the USA and 1 million deaths worldwide. Our lifestyle was changed drastically by a microscopic creature. Businesses, schools, churches, sports - everything was shut down. Mask-wearing and Zoom video meetings became the norm. Toilet paper became a prized commodity!

Through all this, another intangible but mighty force was at work – the indomitable American spirit. All across America people adjusted. The Lions of MD-22 adjusted

and got creative with their fundraising and service projects. In spite of limits on fundraisers, the Lions came through for the annual LVRF budget ending June 30<sup>th</sup>. In August a virtual golf tournament was organized by LVRF Trustees John Feldmann and Larry Burton. Dr. Jeffrey Hilovsky, a member of the Lord Baltimore Lions Club, secured sponsors for a 350-mile bike ride along the Erie Canal Trail, raising \$4,700 for LVRF. There are many other examples of creative and virtual fundraising. And now there is the *LVRF EZ Rally*.

Instead of riding to Baltimore on November 21, 2020, you can sit back in your easy chair and watch the *EZ Rally*. Johns Hopkins Wilmer Development will be conducting a webinar capable of hosting 500 participants. There will be notable speakers presenting research highlights. Others will take Lions on a virtual tour of the Lions Low Vision Center. To control the time, we will be asking Lions Clubs who wish to announce their donations to make a 20-second video in advance of the *EZ Rally* and forward it to Wilmer. Instructions will be provided as to how to do that. Wilmer will create a montage of all the videos received and play them as part of the *EZ Rally* program. Like the power of the mighty microscopic creatures and forces, your gifts over time will result in great changes for those afflicted with low vision.

Remember, fellow Lions, we need donations for both annual operations and for the Endowment to fund the Intern at the Lions Low Vision Center in perpetuity. Relax back in your easy chair and join us at the *EZ Rally* and help us to make the *EZ Rally* a big success in these challenging times.

**REGISTER FOR THE UPCOMING**



**SEE PAGE 7 FOR DETAILS . . .**

# LVRF CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



PDG Wayne Cole

Greetings from the Board of Directors of the MD 22 Lions Vision Research Foundation! I am so proud to be serving as Board Chair for the Lions year 2020-2021 and look forward to working with the Lions of Multiple District 22 to further our work with the foundation. I first of all would like to thank Immediate Past Chair, PDG Larry Burton for his great leadership of our foundation for the past two years. Needless to say, I have big shoes to fill.

I want to first welcome you all to what should be a very relaxing LVRF Rally. I invite all the Lions and friends of MD 22 to join our annual rally from your own couch, rocking chair or recliner on Saturday, November 21 at 9:30 a.m. PDG John Shwed is putting his finishing touches on the 2020 LVRF EZ Rally which will be virtual this year on the Zoom platform. However, that doesn't mean that it will lack the excitement and luster of our past rallies. As you will see from the invitation in this newsletter, you get to be the stars of the rally, as you will be asked to send us a video of your club presenting your annual donation to LVRF. These 20-second clips will be made into a larger video that will feature all the clubs of Multiple District 22. I am quite sure that PDG John Shwed will have other surprises for us as well. The rally is a wonderful way to celebrate the great partnership we have with the Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins and what we have been able to accomplish jointly as we strive to eradicate low vision and blindness.

I want you all to know that the Board of Directors and I know the challenges that clubs are facing this year holding fundraisers and what that can mean when it comes time to budget donations. Individual club donations and personal donations from the Lions

make up the majority of our revenue budget, but please know that we are continuing to hold our annual events, albeit in very different ways to supplement the generous donations of you and your clubs. Fundraising Chair, Lion John Feldman, put together a virtual Golf Tournament and PDG Dal Mann is putting together a virtual Aim For Sight and Trunk of Treasures Raffle. We hope that we will see the same or better results from these fundraising efforts. We were able to hold our annual clay shoot in District 22W live and we await the results of that fundraiser. While we rely on the support of all of you, the Lions of MD 22, I want to assure you that the Board is doing their part as well. Your continued support of LVRF and the MD 22 Lions Low Vision Fellowship Endowment is so greatly appreciated.

Lastly, I want to touch briefly on what I believe should be a working partnership with LOVRNET. The leadership of LOVRNET is our fellow Lions who truly believe in this project and the overall mission that was the foundation of LOVRNET. I am happy to report to you that this group of dedicated Lions is working hard to evaluate what worked in the past and what can be done differently and better in the future with this project. I had the pleasure of talking at length with their consultant, Dan Gorney, who is providing his services pro bono. I am confident that with his guidance and the outstanding leadership which makes up the LOVRNET Board, this project will move forward with many accomplishments. It is my hope that this will be a true partnership between LVRF and LOVRNET that will benefit those suffering with low vision.

Please stay safe and always remember,

**"BE THE CHANGE YOU WISH TO SEE IN THE WORLD."**

*Wayne Cole, Chair, LVRF Board of Directors*

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## ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER

Lion Sue Parks

Lions Vision Research Foundation

P.O. Box 1714 Baltimore, MD 21203-1714

Bus: (410) 955-1883—Voice mail (only) to be returned.

spark@severnriverlions.org

## EDITOR

Lion Bill Strauss

(410) 756-4476

williamstrauss@msn.com



## WILMER FACULTY & STAFF

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PDG Wayne Cole (2<sup>nd</sup> of 3 years)

PDG Jeff Beever (1<sup>st</sup> of 3 years)

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PDG Paul Hawkins (2<sup>nd</sup> of 3 years)

PDG Andrea Cumberland (1<sup>st</sup> of 3 years)

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PDG John Shwed (1<sup>st</sup> of 3 years)

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Lion Jack Niemiec (2<sup>nd</sup> of 3 years)

IPDG Evan Gillett (1<sup>st</sup> of 3 years)

## MD22 COUNCIL CHAIR

CC Charles Taylor

# Introducing Lion Sue Parks, LVRF's New Administrative Manager



Lion Sue Parks

First, I would like to thank PDG Susan Timmons for her many years of service as LVRF's Administrative Manager and her ongoing service. After just a couple of months, I can attest to the fact that this isn't a job that I could have taken on without PDG Susan's continuing guidance. She's an energetic force to be reckoned with and leaving behind a pretty high bar.

On a personal basis, after 26 years in a truly great job, I retired from the National Railway Labor Conference, an Employer Association of the nation's freight railroads. We administered the benefits for 140,000 railroad employees. I had previously retired from the State of Maryland after 23 years there, my final position also being in benefits for state employees and retirees. In the 70s, I graduated from University of Maryland University College (now UMGC) with a BA in a double major of Business Management and Psychology, which served me well in the human resources field. My husband Rich passed away five years ago after 34 years together. My baby Chris (who will be turning 50 in a few months) moved with his wife Sherri to New Hampshire a few years ago. They are both Lions and serve in their little town of Antrim.

I've been a Lion with the Severn River Lions Club (22-A) for 18 years. I've served in many capacities, primarily behind the scenes, holding at one time or another most of the offices within my Club, many with 22-A, and even the Multiple District. It has been very rewarding, but with my retirement in June, I thought I would have some extra time, so I volunteered to help LVRF. I have always known of LVRF but am looking forward to learning a lot more.

That brings me to what I will be doing with LVRF. Remember that phrase in the preceding paragraph about working behind the scenes? That's where you'll find me. I will be performing such tasks as recording and reporting your donations, tracking and reporting recognitions such as Arnall Patz Fellowships and Knights of the Blind Pyramids, coordinating LVRF speakers for your meetings, and many more tasks I am still learning about.

I urge you to check out the LVRF website - [www.lionsvision.org](http://www.lionsvision.org) - for a wealth of information about the LVRF and our mission. Don't hesitate to email me with your questions at: [lvrf.info@gmail.com](mailto:lvrf.info@gmail.com) or [sparks@severnriverlions.org](mailto:sparks@severnriverlions.org).

I prefer email to phone calls since that will help me keep things straight. I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you when times permit.

Stay Safe!

Lion Sue Parks,

LVRF Administrative Manager

Ready for some holiday shopping?  
Consider an LVRF Ornament



Ornament Only	\$15.00
Ornament with Stand	\$17.00
Gift Box	FREE
Postage	\$ 4.00

Mail request and check to:  
LVRF, PO Box 1714, Baltimore, MD 21203.

Copy request to:  
Lion Sue Parks, LVRF Administrative Manager  
[lvrf.info@gmail.com](mailto:lvrf.info@gmail.com).

## You can do this too!

Cooler temperatures are here which brings thoughts of falling leaves, pumpkins, Halloween and Thanksgiving.

Christmas is only a little more than two months away and your Christmas display and decorations can benefit LVRF.

For the last several years, Lions Susan and Martin Bonura have been collecting funds for LVRF Vision Days as part of their annual Christmas display in Finksburg, MD.

**You can too!** Get a sign and a collection box and put them outside your home for all to see. You will be surprised at the hundreds of dollars you will receive from the generous people who love to tour their neighborhoods seeking bright lights and festive decorations!



Editor's Note: In the past six issues we have featured articles from past Fellows of our LVRF Fellowship program. This issue features articles from our 2019 – 2020 and 2020 – 2021 Fellows, Dr. Micaela Gobeille and Dr. Hang Nguyen respectively.

## 2019-2020 Fellow



**Dr. Micaela Gobeille**

I write to you as my time as the Lions Low Vision Fellow at the Wilmer Eye Institute comes to a close. I can hardly believe this year is over. It feels like just yesterday I was meeting the low vision and rehabilitation team, feeling excited to start the final step in my education to become a low vision specialist. I'll be honest...I never imagined the last few months of my fellowship would be in the midst of a global pandemic. To say I am proud to be a part of Johns Hopkins, especially during this time, would be an understatement. I am grateful for the opportunity to learn and train under the most talented clinicians and researchers, guiding me and reminding me just why I chose to focus on the treatment and rehabilitation of low vision patients. Though that care looks a bit different now, I am constantly reminded what makes this program and its patients special.

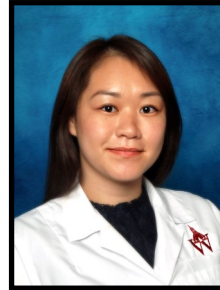
Before joining Wilmer, I completed my low vision residency at a VA hospital on Long Island. I have always known I wanted low vision to be the focus of my career. I continue to be humbled by the support of your organization for making this fellowship, and my ability to become a low vision specialist, possible. This is still the only low vision fellowship in the country and that makes what you are offering unique and special. This fellowship is a unique learning experience. We need more low vision specialists to see the aging population. This fellowship absolutely helps to meet that need. I am grateful for this time and look forward to spreading the knowledge I've gained as I continue on in my career. I've spent the last few weeks participating in telemedicine visits and focusing on my research and data collection.

For me, it is the interactions I have with the patients – in person or through video – that will be what I carry with me long after my time at Wilmer comes to a close. When I am first meeting with a patient, there is a lot of stress and anxiety on their part. The question almost always comes up; “can my vision be fixed?” I cherish being part of the journey to help the patient find the best device, the most useful services and to watch them come to terms with their vision and eventually, when they are ready to accept help, understand how much those services help them grow. I want to thank every single Lion who has made this fellowship possible. You can never understand the impact you are having on me and the patients who will be guided by the care we provide. The impact is immeasurable. I know how much work goes into raising every dollar and I hope you will share my thanks with every person who has had a part in supporting this position. I am grateful for my time at the Lions Low Vision Clinic. It has been my pleasure to serve the patients and to honor the service of the Lions. Thank you for your support.

Most Sincerely,

*Micaela Gobeille, OD*

## 2020-2021 Fellow



**Dr. Hang Nguyen**

Hello everyone! My name is Hang Nguyen, and I am the 2020-2021 Lion's Low Vision Fellow. It is an absolute honor to be a part of this family and I am humbled to be in this Lions Vision edition.

I grew up in South Florida and obtained my Doctor of Optometry degree in 2018 at Nova Southeastern University. After I graduated, I moved to Philadelphia and pursued a primary care and ocular disease residency at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University. I stayed in Philadelphia to work for one year before moving to Baltimore to start the Lion's Low Vision Rehabilitation Fellowship at Wilmer Eye Institute of Johns Hopkins Hospital.

My interest in low vision rehabilitation peaked during my last year of graduate school. I was fortunate to observe the positive impact low vision rehabilitation had on quality of life for the patients who were seen at our school clinic and the local Lighthouse for the Blind. I knew it was something that I had to pursue because every day spent with the patients was memorable and enriching.

Although it has only been a couple of months since starting the fellowship, I have already learned a tremendous amount. I feel very fortunate to be able to learn from and work alongside esteemed clinicians and clinician-researchers. I look forward to growing as a low vision clinician-researcher as I navigate the rest of this fellowship. Thank you for allowing me to experience a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO WILMER FAMILY MEMBERS**

As part of the Lions mission and after 5 wonderful years of serving patients at Wilmer with vision loss, **Dr. Ashley Deemer** returns to her home in California to take a position teaching optometry students.

**Dr. Rath Ittipattipong**, our prior fellow, and his wife had their first child – a baby boy.

**Kristen Shifflet**, OT (previously Lindeman) is expecting her first child – right around Thanksgiving time.

**Gislin Dagnelie**, PhD is having lots of fun with his first grandchild – Adrian! He also welcomes his new research assistant, **Soo Hyun Lee**.

**GoFundMe**



Keep **LOVRNET** growing!  
Share the link with your friends.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/Lions-LOVRNET>

Contributions may be made directly by sending a check made out to LOVRNET to PCC Clare Newcomer, 19605 Granada Court, Hagerstown, MD 21742.

**The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization!**

# Lion Dr. Arnall Patz LCI Humanitarian Recipient

## Preface~

*The year is 2004. The location is Hong Kong. The occasion is the 87<sup>th</sup> Lions Clubs International Convention.*

*International President Clement Kusiak had nominated Dr. Arnall Patz for the highest recognition in Lions Clubs International, the Humanitarian Award. Plans were for Dr. Patz to receive this award at the convention. Unfortunately, Dr. Patz was unable to attend and plans were made for Dr. Peter McDonnell, director of the Wilmer Eye Institute, to accept for him.*

*In the true world, things don't always happen as planned and that certainly is true of this occasion! In addition to the fact that Dr. Patz could not attend, Dr. McDonnell was stranded in Chicago and could not get to Hong Kong to receive the honor and read the letter of acceptance prepared by Dr. Patz. Stepping in for Dr. McDonnell was PCC Robert Muchow.*



**Dr. Arnall Patz**

*Later, back home, Lion Dr. Patz finally received the plaque!*

*Below are the remarks of International President Clement Kusiak followed by Dr. Patz's words of gratitude.*

"Lions, it is now time for one of the highlights of this convention – the presentation of our association's highest recognition, the 2005 Humanitarian Award. Our recipient is a Lion whose accomplishments in the field of eye care are just remarkable.

He is, indeed, among the world's most distinguished ophthalmologists and is a former director of the Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland. There, he founded the Retinal Vascular Center and was a pioneer in the management and treatment of diabetic retinopathy.

When only 32 years of age, he made his first important scientific contribution, proving that the practice of giving high levels of oxygen to premature infants caused blindness. For this discovery, he was given the prestigious Albert Lasker Medical Research Award, which he received personally from Helen Keller. He also made important discoveries about diseases caused by abnormal growth of blood vessels in the eye and helped to develop one of the first lasers used to treat eye disease.



**Helen Keller & Dr. Arnall Patz**

Our Humanitarian Award recipient has also received the first Helen Keller Prize for Vision Research and, in 2004, received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's

highest civilian honor, from United States President George W. Bush in recognition of his lifelong contributions to ophthalmology.

Unfortunately, our recipient, Dr. Arnall Patz, is unable to be with us today. But now let us view a message from this distinguished humanitarian."

*The words of Dr. Patz's letter as read by PDG Robert Muchow follow:*

"Thank you, Mr. Kusiak. Clem, the Humanitarian Award from the Lions Clubs International Foundation is one of the most distinguished and meaningful honors during my lifetime. It is especially meaningful as today marks the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the date in 1925 when Helen Keller addressed the Lions Clubs International Convention in Cedar Point, Ohio --- challenging the Lions to become "Knights of the Blind" --- I had the privilege of meeting Miss Keller several years later when she encouraged me to work with the Lions for guidance and assistance of our program, particularly in the field of rehabilitation of the blind or visually impaired.

"I want to express my appreciation to Dr. Tae-Sup Lee, Chairperson of Lions Clubs International Foundation and its Board of Trustees, which includes Mr. Kusiak, and its other highly distinguished members for this magnificent award bestowed upon me today and I thank all of you here today for the privilege of being a part of this exciting meeting.

"I would also like to thank the leadership of the Lions Vision Research Foundation that has been a great friend of the Wilmer Eye Institute for nearly two decades. They are in the "home stretch" of fundraising with over \$3.3 million raised toward their \$4 million dollar goal.

"In honor of the wonderful partnership that Helen Keller encouraged so many years ago and in recognition of the extraordinary generosity of the Lions towards the Wilmer Eye Institute, I would like to present this plaque, a relief of Helen Keller, to Mr. Clem Kusiak. Clem, thank you so much for your leadership and enthusiastic advocacy on behalf of those suffering from low vision around the world."



**Dr. Arnall Patz receiving the 2005 Lions Clubs International Humanitarian award from Past International President Clement Kusiak**

## We Need Your Help



LOVRNET, the partnership between Lions MD 22 and The Johns Hopkins Wilmer Eye Institute, needs some new volunteers to move from a demonstration project to an expanded, full-scale GEN 2 program.

Some of you may be familiar with LOVRNET and its purpose to bring enhanced low vision services to people with low vision (acuity of less than 20/200) unable to access the best care available.

- ◇ Digital media design / content development
- ◇ Marketing
- ◇ ResearchData capture / management
- ◇ Healthcare marketing / sales / branding
- ◇ Development / Funding

For more information about these roles, please contact one of the following Lions:  
Jim Miller, [jmmil@aol.com](mailto:jmmil@aol.com), 410-458-2390;  
Paul Hawkins, [hawk22c@gmail.com](mailto:hawk22c@gmail.com), 301-919-5451

# LVRF FUNDRAISERS!

## AIM FOR SIGHT EVENTS

**MAYBERRY** Forty-one skeet shooters showed up at the Mayberry Hunt Club in Westminster, MD. on September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 for the annual Aim for Sight Shoot fundraiser. Registration started at 9 AM and wound up with a lunch at 1 PM. Proceeds from this event was \$1,549.15. The weather was threatening but the result was a sunless, cool day – perfect for this type of event. Lion Rodney Timmons brought his son and three grandchildren all of whom participated – spouse PDG Susan was an eager observer. There were even teams who traveled from the Eastern Shore to take part.



Lion Rodney Timmons in action!

Shooters enjoy their lunch

Chair, PID Dick Liebno and co-chair RC Lion Jeremy Bair

**SCHRADERS** The event scheduled at Schrader's Outdoors on October 17, 2020 was canceled. To compensate for this loss of revenue, there will be a *Sponsor Book* for both the Mayberry and Schrader events published similar to the *Program Book* of previous years. Lions, Lions clubs and the public are invited to purchase an ad or be a sponsor. Ads are \$40 for quarter page, \$60 for half-page and \$100 for full page ads. Sponsorships are available at \$100, \$250, \$500 and \$1,000 and are available for purchase before November 10, 2020.

Please send checks made payable to "LVRF Aim for Site" to:  
Lion Dal Mann, 22944 Lyn Oaks Dr., Preston, MD 21655.

For information on ad sizes or other questions contact:

Lion John Lawrence 410-725-0150 Lions@JohnLawrence.name	Lion Richard Liebno 410-848-4929 Richard.lion@comcast.net	Lion Dal Mann 410-673-9085 demannindm@gmail.com
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## TRUNK OF TREASURES

As in previous years, the Trunk of Treasures raffle is in progress and the winning ticket will be drawn at the *EZ Rally* on November 21, 2020. The trunk will contain assorted bottles of whisky including Scotch, several wines, a George Foreman grill, an Armor All Complete Car Care kit, large detail towels, camouflage shirt & pants, snow & ice tools, FrostGuard windshield & side view mirror covers and cold weather gloves plus more. Cost is \$2 per ticket and 3 for \$5. To obtain your ticket, contact PDG "Dal" Mann. Contact information is listed above. Tickets will be sold until drawing time.



## GOLF TOURNAMENT

For the 19<sup>th</sup> year, 6 local Lions Clubs of District 22W, Deer Park, Freedom District, Greater Carroll, Roaring Run, South Carroll and Taylorsville-Winfield - joined forces to raise funds for three worthy causes by hosting the Region IV Zone 3 Golf Tournament in honor of Past International Director Richard Liebno. The beneficiaries include the Lions Vision Research Foundation, Inc., the American Diabetes Association and the District 22W Hearing Preservation, Awareness and Action program. The tournament drew 61 golfers who enjoyed breakfast, gift bags, team prizes, refreshments while playing, lunch and door prizes. \$5,232 of the proceeds was allocated to the LVRF.

## ERIE CANAL BIKE RIDE

What was originally planned as a reunion of several friends for a

challenging long-distance, five-day bicycle trip through upstate New York in late July evolved into a special opportunity to support a great cause, the Lions Vision Research Foundation.

Lord Baltimore Lions Club member Dr. Jeff Hilovsky was aware that the club's usual summer fundraising opportunities were all but eliminated due to the COVID-19 virus, but the club's work to meet community needs was still very real.



Lion Jeff Hilovsky

Club members were invited to sponsor him on his planned ride, with any resulting monies donated to support the medical and research staff's low-vision work at the Johns Hopkins Hospital Wilmer Eye Institute.

Club President Jack Bauer, said, "Lions from some other clubs became involved and contributed, along with supporters from the communities they served."

Through his efforts, Hilovsky raised a total of \$4,725 for the Lions Vision Research Foundation.

During the ride, this trio of good friends logged 370 miles, starting at the Buffalo River/Lake Erie Junction, and concluded at the steps of the Capitol in Albany, N.Y.

"Learning so much about the historical significance of the Erie Canal and also passing through Seneca Falls, a landmark of the Women's Suffrage Movement and the home of the Women's Rights Convention in 1848 were among the highlights of this memorable experience," said Hilovsky. "Even in these COVID-19 times, the people we met along the way were gracious and hospitable. Hopefully, there are plans for another trip next year possibly across Ohio or Michigan."

## VIRTUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Because of the on-going coronavirus pandemic, the joint golf tournament planned by the Clarksville Lions of District 22-A and LVRF scheduled for June 5, was cancelled. However, LVRF Fundraising Committee Chairperson, Lion John Feldmann, was not deterred and conceived of the idea of having a virtual golf tournament. Instead of bringing golfers together in a single location for a tournament, the virtual format allowed individuals to play at a golf course local to them and submit their scores for consideration. A total of 27 teams paid a \$40 entry fee to be part of the virtual golf tournament and featured rounds played in six different states.

There were also sponsorship opportunities at various levels: Event (\$1000 donation), Gold Sponsor (\$500), Silver (\$200), Bronze (\$100) Sponsors and designation as a Friend of LVRF (\$50). More than 50 individuals, clubs, and businesses enlisted as sponsors. Most noteworthy was the fact that these sponsors were spread out across the United States. Thirteen (13) states were represented by sponsors, demonstrating the broad appeal of the low vision services being done at Wilmer Eye Institute that LVRF supports.

In addition to cash contributions, four gift certificates were donated by various local golf courses to use as prizes. This allowed for no out-of-pocket expenses and maximized the event proceeds. The top three scoring teams were awarded a gift certificate for a foursome of golf and the final gift card was awarded through a random draw amongst the remaining teams.

All told, more than \$8000 was raised via the virtual golf tournament which exceeded the proceeds of the prior year's actual golf tournament and provided much needed funds to LVRF to help cover the cost of the annual Lions Low Vision Fellowship.

In the words of Lion John, "Teamwork makes the dream work!!"



# ABOUT THE EZ RALLY

There are many involved in the planning of the EZ Rally! Three of the principals involved are:

- **Megan Leffner** Associate Director of Development at the Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
- **Lion Sue Parks**, LVRF Administrative Manager
- **PDG John Shwed**, LVRF Development Chair who sets the tone of the rally with a different and exciting theme each year.

They have been working together diligently to make this rally during this difficult coronavirus environment one that will provide an entertaining, educational and giving experience for all who attend. Megan has set up a **Zoom** environment that will knock your socks off! The theme for this year selected by Lion John matches how we are living today – relaxin' in an easy chair but still getting everything done that needs being done!



***So what's it gonna be? Here are some things we are promised:***

- The Lions vision center personnel will produce a virtual tour video of the center which will give you tremendous insight as to what is going on in the research side of low vision and how the clinic meets the needs of low vision patients even as we progress through this pandemic.
- A member of the Johns Hopkins University staff will discuss engagement in a virtual setting such as you will be in the EZ rally.
- Dr. Judy Goldstein, director of the eye clinic, and Lion Dr. Bob Massof, director of the LVRF and professor of ophthalmology, will update us on research at the center.
- Dr. Hang Nguyen, our current LVRF fellow, will be hosting a tour of the Lions Vision Rehabilitation Clinic. The theme for this tour is "through a patient's eyes". She will also be speaking to us about her background, her ambitions for the future and gratitude for her LVRF fellowship.

## How to Register!

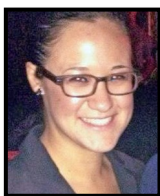
Please RSVP by emailing the LVRF administrative manager at [LVRF.rally@gmail.com](mailto:LVRF.rally@gmail.com) providing your name, club, district and phone number. You will be sent the Zoom information to use on November 21. Attendance is limited to 500 so send your RSVP now!

You are invited to participate by making a donation at the rally. To do this, please supply a short (20 seconds) video announcing the donation to LVRF and email to Megan Leffner ([mleffner@jhmi.edu](mailto:mleffner@jhmi.edu)). Include in the email who is speaking, which club and district is represented, and any other details pertaining to the donation.

The deadline for submitting videos is November 15, 2020. Mail your check to Lion Paul Leatherman, LVRF Treasurer, LVRF, PO Box 1714, Baltimore, MD 21203.

### **A TRIBUTE TO DR. DEEMER**

Last month we bade farewell to Dr. Ashley Deemer, O. D. who has accepted a position with the Southern California School of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum University in Fullerton, CA. In a venue that has become all too familiar to many of us in the past six months, we gathered to express our appreciation and wish her continued success in her future endeavors.



**Dr. Deemer**

Dr. Deemer came to Wilmer as the 2015-16 recipient of the Lions Low Vision Fellowship at our Lions Low Vision Research and Rehabilitation Center. Upon completion of her Fellowship she was snapped up by the Wilmer Eye Institute where she has been recognized by her peers and established an enviable reputation both nationally and internationally as a rising star. She was recognized recently as a top provider in a Wilmer patient satisfaction survey and is also a recipient of Wilmer's Louise Susan Award.

Dr. Deemer's clinical expertise in general optometry and low vision rehabilitation served as a natural bridge to her association with LOVRNET. For the past five years she has been a

vocal advocate travelling across our Multiple District to describe the value that Lions volunteers can provide in the rehabilitation of low vision patients. She presented a seminar at the 2019 World Congress of Optometry in Orlando that introduced LOVRNET to practitioners from around the country, resulting in attendees from Ohio and Indiana contacting LOVRNET to learn more about the program and how they could partner with local Lions.

Although we will miss Dr. Deemer, we are grateful for her enthusiastic support and anticipate new inquiries about how to implement LOVRNET from practitioners and Lions in California as the result of her continued support.

You are invited to join us in recognizing Dr. Deemer for her contributions to Lions and our LOVRNET mission through a contribution to the MD22 Lions Low Vision Rehabilitation Network Foundation, Inc. Please send checks with notation "Deemer Honorarium" payable to MD22 Lions LOVRNET Foundation Inc., to PCC Clare Newcomer, Business Manager, 19605 Granada Ct, Hagerstown, MD 21742. Donations may also be made online at [www.lovrnet.org](http://www.lovrnet.org).

*PDG Paul Hawkins, Executive Director, LOVRNET*

# LIONS VISION



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



**Welcome  
to the 2020 LVRF  
EZ Rally**

**Wow!!**  
*What a great idea!  
Finally get to go to a Rally  
at Wilmer, hear about  
great things going on there  
and to take a virtual tour!*

*To Register  
See Page 7*