

LIONS VISION

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

Spring 2024 Edition

MD-22 Lions Have Rizz!

What is “Rizz?” I assure you it is not a variant of Covid-19! It’s not something you can buy or put in a box. Everybody wants it, but not everyone has it. You can’t touch it, but you can feel it. People want to be around people who have it. No, it is not priceless gems money, or gold. “Rizz” is something intangible.



If you are a senior Lion like me, perhaps you have not been exposed to the word “rizz”. “Rizz” is a new word crafted in the social media world of the younger generations. “Rizz” stands for the concept of “having charisma”. Can you now see where the sound in the word ‘charisma’ leads to simply “rizz” as in the expressions “He or she has “rizz”. New words enter our language as they become everyday expressions. Young people are using the word rizz to describe people with whom they want to be associated. In many cases, couples who find rizz in each other find romance leading to lasting relationships.

I believe our MD-22 Lions have “rizz”. Our Lions have “rizz” because they help people in so many ways. They purchase eye exams and glasses, grant scholarships, donate to youth programs, provide Leader Dogs for the blind, support eye banks, and eye research centers such as our partnership with the Wilmer Eye Institute and the Lions Low Vision Center. “Rizz” is reflected in the smiles on the faces of those donors who drop a donation into a Lions Vision Days collection canister. Donors willingly speak to our Lions about how the Lions helped their family members. Now, with the successful completion of Campaign 100 Lions International is expanding our global reach through new initiatives.

MD-22 Lions can be really proud of the millions of dollars they have raised to support our research team at the Lions Low Vision Center. The Lions Vision Center offers a unique program of eye care service for those impacted by low vision. Patients served by the LVC will certainly boast that they see ‘rizz’ in the Lions for giving them the opportunity to receive treatment and rehabilitative practices and equipment which improves their quality of life.

We Lions are inching closer to completion of our share of the \$2 million fund to endow the annual training fellowship at the Lions Low Vision Center. Graduates of this program will disseminate their low vision knowledge in eye care practices worldwide. Recipients of their care will undoubtedly see “rizz” in those doctors. And Lions, you can be proud of your role in making that service available. In the meantime, please keep those donations to LVRF coming so we can wrap up this current capital campaign soon!

John J. Shwed, PDG

LVRF Development Chair

Lions Vision Research Foundation Chairman's Message

Thank you! Thank you to each and every Lions Club and each and every Lion in Multiple District 22. It is because of you that we continue to be strong partners with the Wilmer Eye Institute in providing research and clinical services to the low vision community, many of whom we don't know, but many of whom are our family, friends and neighbors.



In November we were able to hold the first in-person Rally since 2019. I want to especially thank the Wilmer Team for the time, effort and talent they put into planning and executing the day's program. It not only re-energized Lions who are long time supporters of this partnership with Wilmer, but Lions who had never been to a Rally or to the Low Vision Center had their eyes opened as to just what is being accomplished at Wilmer. They say a picture is worth a thousand words and an in-person visit conveys more than all the reports and articles we read. I am reminded of the story of a Lion, whose Club has been an annual supporter of LVRF and who had an opportunity to visit the Lions Low Vision Center. His very simple comment was "I never knew". I encourage you and your Clubs to "get to know" the impact you have, making people's lives better.

I am pleased to share with you that, as Lions through LVRF, you have contributed \$115,000 to the Fellowship Endowment to date this year. The goal is to ensure that this unique Low Vision Fellowship, which is recognized around the globe, continues, so that low vision patients, an ever growing population, can be helped to lead independent and productive lives.

I began this message with a thank you and I want to end with a thank you. It has been an honor to serve as Chair of this Foundation for the last two years. I want to thank those who had faith in me, all those who supported me in the work we have done, and especially the Lions for their unwavering support of our Foundation and our partnership with Wilmer.

PCC Dee Hawkins, LVRF Chair

In Like Lions!

They say March comes “in like a Lion,” and we at Wilmer are also “in like Lions” — in it with all our heart! Finding new ways to improve our contribution, to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others, is a shared bond between LVRF and the Wilmer Eye Institute. Every day at the Lions Vision Research and Rehabilitation Center (LVRRC), we renew our commitment to improving the quality of low vision care, teaching and research.



Dr. Judith Goldstein

As part of National Low Vision Awareness Month in February, we recently held our Low Vision Grand Rounds and Didactic teaching session with the residents. This was the first year since 2019 that we were able to return to in-person teaching sessions.

Teaching and advancing the knowledge and skills of others is core to our mission — and I can assure you, being in person makes all the difference! With three different stations focusing on hands-on teaching, the residents improved their skills in assessing visual field and visual acuity while using visual simulators to understand how patients see and function with different types of vision loss.

It’s one thing to be told that everyday activities may be hard when vision is lost, but to experience it creates an awareness, a level of empathy — that makes for better physicians, better quality of care and better outcomes.

One of the biggest barriers to getting patients to a clinic for low vision care or research visits remains transportation. Considering that nearly two-thirds of patients with vision loss don’t drive (and those that do often limit their it to local and familiar areas), we expanded low vision clinical services to two satellite locations (Bel Air and Greenspring Station) several years ago. Even so, an appointment may not be possible without transportation support from family, friends or volunteers.

We are so grateful when generous Lions “step up and take the wheel,” making it possible for more people to access needed care. More drivers are always welcome!

This year’s Multiple District 22 101st upcoming annual convention’s theme is dedicated to “Changing the World,” and I can’t think of more appropriate representatives from Wilmer to attend and share their latest work than our newest faculty. Colette Houssan, MPH, OD, and Yingzi Xiong, PhD, will discuss their research on real-world challenges for people who have low vision. I encourage Lions at the convention to attend this exciting session and become informed so you may in turn help your club and community.

Like the month of March and the Lions, we at the Lions Vision Research and Rehabilitation Center are “in with all our heart” — all ready, all committed to advancing the field. Thank you, Lions, for your ongoing support and inspiring example of generosity — you make this important work possible.

Dr. Judith Goldstein

Director, Lions Vision Research & Rehabilitation Center

My name is Heather Connors, and I am an ophthalmic technician and one of the rehab clinicians at the Lions Vision Research and Rehabilitation Center.

I was born and raised here in Maryland. I received my bachelor's degree at Salisbury University. My background in eye clinics reaches back to my youth, when I would work at my father's clinic, who was an optometrist. I have grown in the optical field getting my certification as an Optician and Ophthalmic Technician.

For 7 years, I have been part of the Lions Vision Research and Rehabilitation clinical team and have learned so much during my amazing time here. During that time, I've continued my training and education. In 2019, Jim Deremeik kindly dedicated extra time mentoring me. He educated me on clinical skills, systems of rehab and ensured I received experiences both in and out of the clinic. He encouraged me to become certified in the field and in 2020, I received my CLVT certification and now provide direct rehabilitation care to patients in the Lions Vision clinic.



Since Jim's recent retirement, I have increased my time spent providing rehab care and have taken on new projects. My unique background as an ophthalmic technician, optician, and vision rehabilitation therapist has enabled me to lead in a teaching session during our winter low vision didactic session and improve coordination with outside agencies. My favorite part is working directly with the patient. Making sure they are getting the most out of the tools they already have, and exploring new devices or skills to meet their needs makes all the difference. It makes my heart smile when a patient can go home and use their own device with more ease or begin to complete tasks independently again.

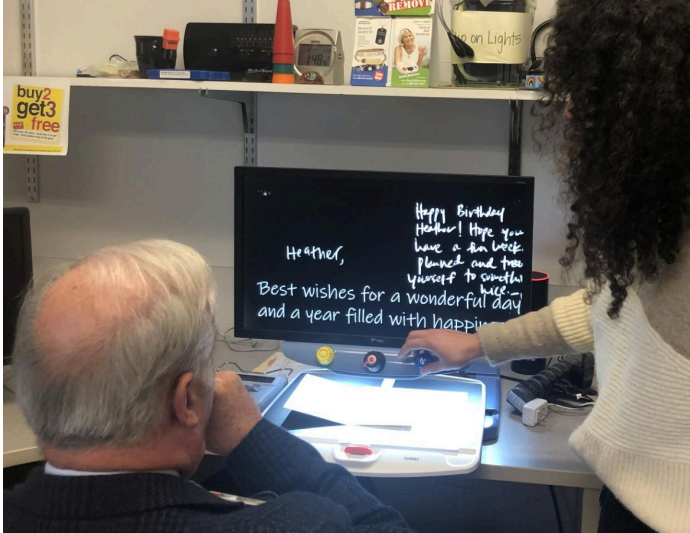
I hope to continue in the Vision Rehabilitation field for years to come. I want to continue to help patients and families with training and education. I also want to continue teaching those outside of the field, to expand their understanding on the needs of patients with vision impairment. I am grateful to the Lions of MD-22 for their support of the work we do.

Drivers NEEDED!!

We need volunteers to drive patients to Wilmer for their low vision appointments. Patients voiced concern about using taxis and Uber/Lyfts for safety and not all transportation options travel between counties. Please consider volunteering your time to help our patients get the care they need and deserve! Contact Kyoko Fujiwara @ 410 502-6432 for more information.



International Director Jay Moughon III visits Wilmer during his Maryland Visit
 International Director Jay Moughon III was given a tour of the Lions Low Vision Center at the Wilmer Eye Institute in November prior to visiting other parts of the Greater Baltimore Area before the 22A Social. He was accompanied by District Governor John Mosier.



DONATION FORM

THE MULTIPLE DISTRICT 22 LIONS VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION, INC
at the Wilmer Eye Institute of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions
P. O Box 1714, Baltimore, MD 21203-1714

Enclosed is my/our contribution(s) of \$ _____ to support the Lions Vision Research Foundation.

I(We) desire our contribution to support:

- _____ Annual Operating Budget. (Please indicate Classification) _____ Annual _____ Vision Days
- _____ Lions Vision Fellowship Endowment (supports a Lions Fellow into perpetuity)

I(We) request the following Recognition(s):

120 Pin _____ Knights of the Blind Pyramid _____ Arnall Patz _____ Progressive Patz _____

Name(s) _____ Member Number _____

Club Name _____ Club Number _____

Receipt Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please complete below if this is a tribute or a memorial gift. In Honor Of _____ In Memory Of _____

Name(s) _____

Send acknowledgement to: _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please make checks payable to: MD 22 LVRF at address above
 Donations are deductible in accordance with applicable tax laws.

Live at the Multiple District 22 Convention in Ocean City! Please join us!

"What's up, Doc? Research on Real World Challenges with Low Vision"

Come join Colette Houssan, MPH, OD and Yingzi Xiong, PhD as they discuss the ongoing research projects at the Lions Vision Research and Rehabilitation Center at Wilmer Eye Institute. You will also learn exciting updates and expansions in the fellowship and research programs and how YOU and YOUR Club can play a vital role in their work and serve the low vision community.

23rd Annual Lions Golf Tournament In Honor of Richard Liebno



Date: May 24, 2024
Time: 6:30 a.m. Registration and
 Breakfast with Coffee & Donuts
 7:30 a.m. SHOTGUN START
Place: OAKMONT GREEN GOLF COURSE
 2290 Golfview Lane,
 Hampstead, MD 21074
Price: \$90 each golfer
 \$360 per foursome
Format: CAPTAIN'S CHOICE

**HURRY! LIMITED TO 128 PLAYERS
 SO REGISTER TODAY!**

GOLF PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Breakfast Coffee & Donuts
- Green fees & cart (18 holes)
- Gift bag for every golfer
- 1st, 2nd, 3rd Place Team Prizes
- Water, beer & soda provided on the course
- Fried chicken and pulled pork on brioche bun for lunch served and prizes awarded in the clubhouse following the tournament

MORE PRIZES

Closest to the Pin and Longest Drive

Special Hole-in-One Contest with a
 \$5,000 Cash Prize

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Your participation in past tournaments has enabled us to donate over **\$154,000** to Lions Vision Programs, American Diabetes Association® and other Lion causes.

PLEASE LIST GOLFER INFO BELOW:

GOLFER #1: _____
 Address: _____

 E-mail: _____
GOLFER #2: _____
 Address: _____

 E-mail: _____
GOLFER #3: _____
 Address: _____

 E-mail: _____
GOLFER #4: _____
 Address: _____

 E-mail: _____

**PLEASE MAIL COMPLETED ENTRY FORM
 (with check made payable to)**

LIONS CLUBS ZONE III FUNDRAISER
 c/o Tournament Treasurer Lion Martin Bonura
 1743 Deer Park Rd, Finksburg, MD 21048

*If you have any question or for more information,
 call Lion Martin Bonura 443-472-5456
 or e-mail: lionsbonura@gmail.com*

*A portion of your contribution may be considered a donation
 to the American Diabetes Association®, the
 Lions Vision Research Foundation, Inc. and Abby's Carts of
 Courage (Pediatric Cancer)*

Please consult your tax advisor for specific tax advice.

SPONSORSHIP

A tournament sponsorship is a great way to support your community and local Lions Clubs' efforts to prevent diabetes, low vision and pediatric cancer.

PLEASE INDICATE LEVEL OF SPONSORSHIP

All Sponsorships & Donations include a listing in our event program.

- **\$ 1,000 LION PRIDE SPONSORSHIP**
 (Includes company name prominently displayed on banner, Sponsorship plaque, signage at one tee and one foursome of players)
- **\$ 500 CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP**
 (Includes company name prominently displayed on banner, signage at one tee, & two players)
- **\$ 300 EXECUTIVE SPONSORSHIP**
 (Includes company name prominently displayed on banner and signage at one tee)
- **\$ 200 BEVERAGE CART SPONSOR**
 (Includes sign at Beverage cart)
- **\$ 100 TEE SPONSORSHIP**
 (Includes signage at one tee or other prominent location)
- **\$ 50 PROGRAM SPONSORSHIP**
- **\$ OTHER DONATION**

Sponsorship checks can be made payable to the
DEER PARK LIONS CLUB FOUNDATION or
LIONS CLUBS ZONE III FUNDRAISER

**PLEASE list SPONSOR NAME & ADDRESS
 as it should appear in our Event Program:**

Sponsor name: _____
 Sponsor address: _____

 Sponsor phone: _____
 Sponsor e-mail: _____
 Website or Social Media links:

Support LVRF

One way to support LVRF is to provide funds to support the training of specialists in low vision rehabilitation. The fellowship training program provides education in advanced clinical care, specific to low vision rehabilitation and vision rehabilitation research.

Another way to support LVRF is through the Donor Recognition Program. Recognition is available for donations of \$120.00 – 120 Club Lapel Pin; \$1,000.00 – Knights of the Blind Pyramid; \$2,500.00 – Arnall Patz Fellowship pin and plaque. If your club holds a Vision Days event, your club will receive a special Vision Days banner patch.

Still another way to support LVRF is to sponsor the District 22W Region IV Zone 3 Golf Tournament on Friday, May 24. Lions Pride sponsorships are \$ 1,000 and include company name prominently displayed on banner, sponsorship plaque, signage at one tee and one foursome of players. Corporate sponsorships are \$ 500 and include company name prominently displayed on banner, signage at one tee, & two players. Executive sponsorships are \$300 and include company name prominently displayed on banner and signage at one tee. Beverage cart sponsorships are \$200 and include signage at the beverage cart. Tee sponsorships are \$100 and include signage at one tee or other prominent location. Program sponsorships are \$50. Other donations of any amount are accepted including \$5 Patron ads.

Donations of any amount to LVRF can be made at any time by sending a check to the Lions Vision Research Foundation, PO Box 1714, Baltimore, MD 21203. Donations can be made on-line through the LVRF website (<http://www.lionsvision.org/>) by clicking on the "donate" tab.



Lions Vision Research Foundation Member Recognition in Lions Multiple District 22



Lions Recently Receiving Recognition with a Knights of the Blind Pyramid



Lion Carl Belt, Lion Susan Coursey, Past District Governor Andy DeMario Sr., Lion Emerson Bair, Lion Tom Houck Jr., Lion John Arber

Lions Recently Receiving Recognition as an Arnall Patz Fellow



DG Hseuh-Ming Tommy Lu, Lion Brooks Parker, Lion Walter Ramstedt, Lion Bob Garber, Lion Tom Harney **(Progressive Patz Fellows)** Past Cabinet Treasurer Ann Reiver, Past International Director Ted Reiver

2023-2024 Officers		Chair -PCC Dee Hawkins		Vice Chair - PDG Evan Gillett	
Newsletter Editor - DG Jeremy Bair		Secretary - PDG Barbara Brimigion		Treasurer - SVDG Martin Bonura	
Immediate Past Chair - CC Wayne Cole		Administrative Manager - IPDG Sue Parks			
Board Advisors - PIP Clement F. Kusiak, PID Richard Liebno, PID Ted Reiver, PID Joseph Gaffigan, ID John Lawrence					
Trustees	District 22A	District 22B	District 22C	District 22D	District 22W
	DG John Mosier	DG Kathy Crockett	DG Chris Wooters	DG Tommy Lu	DG Jeremy Bair
Year 1 / 3	IPDG Sue Parks	PDG Bijoy Mahanti	IPDG Maxine Hooker	PDG David Mitchell	Lion Leon Cardiff
Year 2 / 3	PDG Owen Landis	Michelle Holland	PDG Rich Barb	Lion Paul Settelmeyer	PDG Susan Bonura
Year 3 / 3	Lion Dr. Bob Massof	Melanie Donophan	PCC Dee Hawkins	PDG John Shwed	PDG Evan Gillett
Wilmer Faculty and Staff		Judith E. Goldstein, O.D.	Gislin Dagnelie, Ph.D.	Kyoko Fujiwara	Daniela Fried



**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**



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