



Cagey Comments

Coupeville Lions Club | December 2017, Vol. 9 Issue 6

December Events

- 1 - **Commodities Distr. Cam Bey Apts.** 9:30 am (POC Marilyn Pulk)
- 2 - **Greening of Coupeville Parade,** 4 pm.
- 5- **Woodcutting at the recycle center.** 9:30 am (POC Gary Youngs)
- 6 - **Board & General Dinner Meeting** Jim Shank guest speaker, annual state of the schools: "It is anticipated the school board of directors will seek to renew the 4 year M&O and Technology Levy in February and I want to make sure that club members have a chance to learn about it and ask questions. There is some good news regarding our locally determined school levy and property tax amounts going down after 2018. I would love to share that along with some other good news items such as a 100% graduation rate."
- 8 - **Barn Sort** Boyer Barn, 9 am (POC Gary Youngs)
- 13 - **Christmas Party** 6-8 pm Coupeville Rec Hall
- 15 - **Boys and Girls Club "Cocoa and Carols"** 4:30 pm Peace Poster winner will be announced
- 20 - **No meeting-** holiday
- 27 - **No meeting -** holiday

*The Coupeville Lions Club meets Wednesday Evenings
6 p.m. Fellowship-Networking/6:30 p.m. Dinner/7 p.m.-1 hour meeting & program.
We meet at the Coupeville United Methodist Church (North Main and 7th Street)*

President's Message



Dave Fish

As we move into the holiday season, it's important to look at what we have accomplished during November and what we are looking forward to during December. Some of the highlights for me were:

Great Speakers – we had the normal selection of great speakers during the month. For me, the most compelling was PDG Tom Smarsh and his presentation of Lions Diabetic Awareness. I think virtually everyone in the club is impacted somehow by diabetes, either personally, a family member, or a friend. Recognizing diabetes and treating it is critical to prevent blindness and the many other associated illnesses. Tom left a thumb drive with the presentations that he presents as well as other information. If anyone is interested in reviewing this, please let me know so I can share it.

Puerto Rico Relief – The hurricane in Puerto Rico wreaked havoc and they are far from recovery. LCIF immediately provided \$100,000 to local Lions clubs for support on the ground in the disaster area, but more is needed.

Our members donated \$4,025 towards this disaster so, with matching funds, our total contribution to LCIF Melvin Jones for Puerto Rico Disaster relief was \$8,050. Thank you to everyone that has contributed to this important project.

Shopping Spree – This is a fun annual event was very successful. The details are presented in a separate article. The shopping spree itself was a lot of fun and excitement. It's a great project to support the Gifts from the Heart foodbank. They double dipped this year since the winning ticket was one donated to GFTH.

December provides an opportunity to slow down a little to spend the Christmas and New Years holidays with family and friends. I look forward to our Christmas party on Dec 13. However, we continue to conduct our ongoing service projects such as Meals on Wheels, Commodities distribution, barn sorts, wood cutting, and eye glasses.

I will be gone to Mexico to visit Lion Karen for Christmas and New Year's. First VP Doug will be practicing being in charge while I'm gone.

So, I'll take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Remember – WE SERVE

COUPEVILLE LIONS CLUB OFFICERS:

Dave Fish, President; Sue Hartin, Secretary; Gary Youngs, Treasurer; Doug Kroon, 1st Vice President; Brian Pulk, 2nd Vice President; Rick Walti, 3rd Vice President

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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Editor—Megan Hansen; Photos by Marsha Phay and various helpers.

Happenings

Hats and Scarves

As Lions, the “we serve” does not stop at our door. Many of us volunteer in the community for non Lions projects such as Gifts for the Heart, the Water Festival, WAIF, the Coupeville Arts Festival, and Ebey’s Reserve. The service to others doesn’t stop when we leave the country. Last year, Lion Karen Fletcher connected with a group in San Miguel de Allende called the Happy Hookers. This group crochets and knits hats and scarves for the kids in the indigenous schools outside of the city. They do this in conjunction with a group that provides healthy food to the families and teaches the families how to prepare healthy meals.

Several of our members have created colorful hats and scarves, which I will deliver to Mexico over Christmas. Thanks to Ricardo and Vicky Reyes, Joan Chochon and her friend Jean for helping with this project.

I’ve included a couple of pictures of the kids trying out their hats and scarves on a recent visit to the school.

— Lion Dave Fish



Another successful blood drive

On November 9 we held another successful blood drive at the Coupeville United Methodist Church. Eighty two donors were registered, including 11 first time donors and 77 pints of whole blood were collected.

Bloodworks Northwest can also do apheresis donations at our blood drives. This drive we had four platelet donors. Donors say they come to our blood drives for the wonderful, homemade cookies made by our Lion members.

Lions also call former donors, that don’t have email, to remind them of the drive & ask them to donate this time. We have three shifts of two greeters that meet donors at the

door, keep track of scheduled donors & walk-ins & usher them through the process.

We also have three shifts of two canteen workers who serve cookies & water or juice after the donation & keep watch for any donor having problems after donating.

It doesn’t happen often but we’ve had donors start bleeding or feel woozy, canteen workers immediately alert the tech staff. Lion Doug Kroon of Knead & Feed delivers wonderful sandwiches & fruit for both the Lions working & the blood techs. Our next blood drive is January 25, 2018.

— Lion Sue Hartin

January Events

3 - Board & Business Dinner Meeting

5 - Commodities Distr. Cam Bey Apts. 9:30 am (POC Marilyn Pulk)

9 - Woodcutting at the recycle center. 9:30 am (POC Gary Youngs)

10 - General Dinner Meeting:
Student of the Quarter Potluck designation is as follows:
A-F Salad/ G-O Entrée/ P-Z Dessert

12- Barn Sort Boyer Barn, 9 am (POC Gary Youngs)

17- Board & Business Dinner Meeting

24- General Dinner Meeting.
Program: Ebey’s Reserve Preservation School Over view and history.

25 - Blood Drive, United Methodist Church

31- Bingo

Lions raise \$1,900 in shopping spree

Gifts From The Heart (Coupeville's local food bank) was the lucky winner of our Shopping Spree fundraiser this year. A total of \$1,971 was raised from selling tickets at Prairie Center Red Apple Market, Whidbey Island Bank, Careage of Whidbey and during Harvestfest.

At 10 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 11, the whistle blew and with the cheering crowd of many Coupeville Lions, IR Lion and other patrons in the store, Mitch Incarnato, GFTH volunteer, raced down the aisles of Red Apple for three minutes gathering as much food off of the grocery shelves as fast as he could. He collected \$523.58 worth of food.

Thank you to all the wonderful Coupeville Lion volunteers who helped make this year's Shopping Spree so successful.

— Lion Co-Chairs
Diana Swisher & Sandy Leake



Food bank volunteer Mitch Incarnato tallies up his shopping spree total.

A thank you note...

Dear Coupeville Lions,

When I checked Craigslist last Friday night, I found a listing for a mobility scooter lift being sold to benefit your organization. That night was almost sleepless for me, because my wife and I had been looking for just such a lift for quite a while, and never able to find one we could afford.

I suffer from something called Sarcoidosis, which has extensively scarred my lungs, requiring me to be on oxygen 24/7. A real bummer for someone who has always led an active, productive life. Another find on Craigslist, an older mobility scooter, now lets me get around the yard, but is difficult to transport.

When I got Mel out of bed early

on Saturday, it was with baited breath that I asked the question: "Is it still available?," and got the reply: "Yes." My wife and I live in Cle Elum, but were ready to make the long drive to Coupeville to seal the deal. Mel said not to worry, the Lions could be trusted not to sell it to someone else. I knew he was right, because my parents had been active Lions in Issaquah most of my life before their passing, and that's what I told Mel. Then the incredible happened. Mel said he could save us most of the drive, because on Sunday he and his family would be in Issaquah with his RV to stay the week while his son is being seen by doctors at the hospital.

We met on Sunday, and he and

his wife and mine loaded the lift into our trailer. My wife got back into our Blazer in tears. Our daughter passed away on January 12th, a victim of colon cancer, the problem for which Mel's son is now at the hospital.

In each step of this journey through life, one can rarely see the hand of God more clearly than this. The timing of my call for the perfect answer to my problem, the kindness of Mel, and now this opportunity to tell all of you brother Lions how grateful we are for this mobility device, and to ask you to pray, as we are praying, for Mels' family in their time of trial.

God bless you all,
Steve and Sherry Pepke