

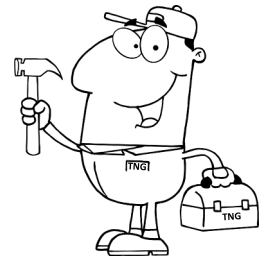
- Darkness falls -



Webster Groves LIONS

SQUEAL

With the "promotion" of Lion Fred, up and away from the grueling task of creating, writing, editing, and distributing this newsletter, the care and feeding of it falls to me. For better or worse. So, let it be known far and wide that this is a living product and will evolve, or possibly devolve, over time. Fingers crossed, and please bear with me during this process. Thank you. —the new guy.



That was then...

Well my Lion friends, my ship has sailed. It is pretty amazing how fast a year can go by. It was a good voyage with some added fun (like bubbles and paper airplanes) but hopefully, with a little less stress. We helped a lot of people and causes this year, some our normal projects, but some such as Soles for Souls, Hats for Men with Cancer, and School Backpacks, were new.

I am very thankful to every member who attended meetings, BBQs, Carnival, or any of our events to give even a few hours to help make our club strong.

Whenever we needed something or someone to fill in, there was always a hand raised in answer. It truly is a case of "the more the merrier". And the more we work together, the more we get done.

Sadly, we said good-bye to Lions Dennis Williams and John Rabbitt. But, we did say HELLO, and WELCOME, to four new Lions; Kenny, Craig, Rebecca, and Kelly. Their enthusiasm for the club will be contagious!

Now I am excited to see what President Lion Becky has in store for us. Her mantra is "Change", and I am ready to support her. I hope you are too!

Lastly, I am honored to be chosen as a Melvin Jones Fellow. To receive

this award at the end of my Presidency tells me I must have done something right. I intend to continue in my Past President capacity to live up to the honor. And a big "Congratulations!" to my fellow new MJF, Lion John Gregory!!

To quote a favorite Lion, and his friends: Hakuna Matata!

Immediate Past President Lion Sandy



.....This is now.

The sun is shining and the weather is warming up and with that brings the change of seasons and gets us to Spring! Flowers are changing from the winter blues to the bright and vibrant colors and just like the seasons change the Webster Groves Lions are changing officers. I'd like to take the time to thank all of my board members for agreeing to serve on my team this year, I couldn't be more ecstatic about what we're going to accomplish.

Our club is going to focus on change this year, not the idea of change but the act of change. I want to increase the community's awareness of the Webster Groves Lions by opening up our Special Meeting for family nights allowing the community to fellowship with the Lions. We will share a meal with these individuals and share our passion for Webster Groves and allow them to interact with us on a personal level. We will be having theme nights at our Special Meeting as well as some fun guest speakers. I want us to use the year to try new things and for us to take risks. As the youngest President the club has had, I want to focus on the younger demographic, trying a pub crawl and a trivia night with the Maplewood Lions. I am looking forward to leading the club this year and I look forward to seeing you all at the April 12th/13th BBQ and Fish Fry and don't forget we can ALWAYS use volunteers for our events. Maybe this year is the year you change and become more involved in your club. So let's make the choice, to take a chance and change this year for the betterment of the Webster Groves LIONS.

Resectfully,

President Lion Becky Speeler

Featured Lion

Each issue, Lion Fred has had a "Featured Lion", sometimes two, on whom he shines a light to help us see the dirty underbelly of his victim. Uh. I mean to help us get a better glimpse in to our Lions. Yeah. That's it.

Forget that "dirty underbelly stuff".

This month, we put **him** under that light, where we will ask **him** the tough questions, like "What is your name?"

You know probing stuff like that.

With that in mind, I give you Lion Fred.....

- *Name: (See? I told you. Right to the heart.) Lion Fred Yoder
- *Married to: (Future Lion) Wendy Yoder
- *Children: Teresa, Bruce, Paul (all getting old)
6 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren
- *Resides in: Affton (Johann Aff would be proud. Go look him up.)
- *Pets: None at the moment (Wonder if Wendy lists Fred as a pet.)
- *Church: Kirkwood UMC, sometimes
- *Born and Raised: Born in 2-room farm house and raised in central Ohio, left home at 17
- *Childhood dream career: Nuclear engineer, came close
- *Something we don't know about you: Shared an office with the original 7 astronauts
(Oh yeah. The monkeys. That does explain a few things.)
- *Talents: Pissing off people (And he has the skills of a Master)
- *Free time: You gotta be kiddin'
- *Hobbies: Anything involving "bits and bytes"
- *Proud Accomplishment: Productive kids, MJF
- *Favorite Holiday: Christmas
- *Favorite Food: Hamburgers
- *Favorite Movie: 2001
- *Favorite TV show: Big Bang Theory, God Friended Me
- *Favorite Music: Light classical
- *What you like about your job?: Being retired
- *Why do you like being a Lion?: Socialization with good people, thinking that I contribute to society.
- *Why did you become a Lion?: Honestly, something to do after retirement. Had no idea what the LIONS did except BBQ at the end of my street.



- Quin M. Swederska -Apr 4 Scott Young -Apr 6
- Maria Suiter -May 7 Jerry Clubbs -May 21
- Jim Greenlaw -May 25 Larry M. Schumaier -May 26
- Randy Belcher -May 26
- Ryan Whittington -Jun 1
- Mike Swederska -Jun 25 Sharon Christ -Jun 28

Anniversaries

LION	MO	Years
Pam Rosen	Apr	11
Fred Yoder	Apr	11
Leo Christ	Apr	40
Lou Schopper	Apr	58
Randy Belcher	May	14
Barbara Schopper	May	24
Bob Buerk	May	27
Craig Krabbe	May	30
Matthew Roark	Jun	1
John Rabbitt	Jun	11
Becky Speeler	Jun	12
Teddi Speeler	Jun	14
Jerry Clubbs	Jun	21
Scott Young	Jun	30
Bill Belcher	Jun	34
Don Gerber	Jun	60

Where stuff is -

- 1 - Presidents' messages (but you already know that)
- 2 - Table of contents - Really? You gotta have me list that one? Fine. Also Featured Lion, Birthdays, & Anniversaries (just look up)
- 3 - Breakfast with Becky
- 4 - 2019 Easter Egg Hunt - Upcoming Events - Final Word

Bountiful Breaking of Bread and Best Buddies aBound at "Breakfast with Becky"

For her installation this year, incoming president, Lion Becky followed a bit of a different path. Her thoughts are on the front page of this publication.

In lieu of dinner, we were treated to some delicious breakfast fare, which did include representatives from the 3 major LIONS food groups.....the Mimosa, the Bloody Mary, and the Screwdriver.

And, all of your elected board members were duly sworn in by Lion Devon. As you can see in the photo below, it wasn't long before he wasn't playing with a full deck.

In addition, as has been know to occur, some awards were....well, they were awarded. (It's kinda in the name.)

All Board members were given a personal LIONS cooler as a "Thank you" from outgoing president Lion Sandy.

Lion Mike received a Distinguished Service Award for his dedicated work with welfare, not only for the Club, but for the District, and for the tender loving care he has paid to the chickens at every Friday BBQ.

Lion Leo also received a Distinguished Service Award, for his years of service and contribution as (and I quote) "the Godfather, the Patriarch, the Historian, and the Advisor" to the club.



Lion Sandy's Geese, Duck, Turtle, and Rock - That Fearsome Five-some Found some Fellowship

A special touch was that Lion Leo, as our awards maker, did *not* have to make his own award.

Lion Vicky received the Lion of the Year, not only for taking on the difficult job of Treasurer, but by sussing out an irregularity with our account at the bank, which led to discovery of an overcharge, and subsequent refund of \$20K.

Lion Sandy brought her own special set of awards for some folks.

The first was "The Duck". The duck is a busy bird, with feet going 90 miles an hour **below** the surface, but always appearing calm **above** the water. Lion Fred is her duck. From doing the Squeal to working our social media, he was busy.

The second award was "The Turtle". The Turtle is quiet and steady, but **always** sure-footed and reliable, sticking his neck out, even **outside** his comfort zone. Lion Jerry, her Turtle, has taken on any task when asked, from filling in as Santa, to a last-minute stand-in for jokes, and for agreeing to be, for the very first time, a Director on her Board.



You may not recognize him, but that is Lion Greg trying to pop Lion Sandy's head off!

Next we have "The Geese". The Geese fly in formation. They stick together, work together, and help each other. They get **more** accomplished together than they could apart. The Geese are Lions Teddi and Becky. Lion Sandy's Geese have made sure we were fed at our meetings, put together a festive Christmas party, a successful hospitality booth at convention, among many other things.

Lastly, "The Rock". The Rock is the one who is always there to help when needed, serves as a sounding board, and always remains grounded. The Rock is Lion Greg. He was always there for her when she had a question, played devil's advocate, and there with advice to keep her from heading down the wrong path. He does all of this with the club's best interest at heart.

After Lion Sandy presented her awards, it was time for the Melvin Jones Award. This year, two LIONS were deemed worthy. Past President **Lion John**, and at the time, soon-to-be Immediate Past President **Lion Sandy**.

Congratulations one and all!



Lion Devon doing magic. He tried to guess the card he himself picked. He was wrong.



Lions Sandy and John realize that there is no hiding now that they have their Melvins!



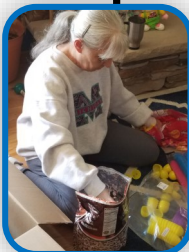
Lion Becky, coming to the slow realization the her mom may have stolen her goose!



They came. They hunted. They went home. And the crowd seems to get bigger each year.

2019 Easter Egg Hunt

Hours to plan. Days to assemble. Each hunt over in about 10 minutes. If not for the few minutes we allotted for the parents to move to the next group to be with their older kids, you could almost have missed it.



According to the check-in table numbers, we had about 224 hunters check in (I refuse to say *kiddos*), grab some of the 2355 eggs, then check out, with 8 lucky participants snagging the *big* prizes.



It all went well though. No major hiccups. AND everyone seemed to have a great time meeting and greeting the Easter Bunny AND our own Lion.

Many, many pictures were taken.



The Golden Ticket and the Blue Ribbon prizes were fully loaded Easter



Great THANKS! go out to all those who put in the hours to help get this show on the road. It could not have been pulled off without everyone being there to help.



But, you know what? It was a lot of fun and we will do it all again next year!

Baskets just waiting for the scavengers, er, I mean *hunters* (yeah, that's it, *hunters*) to discover those little gems, hiding within 8 innocuous looking eggs.



Especially want to thank all of the "Egg Stuffers" that were able to stuff and fill all (and close most), of the eggs.

What to do, and when to do it...

- April 12/13 - BBQ & Fish Fry at 8400 Watson
- April 25 - General Meeting
- April 27 - Baseball/Softball Opening Day Hotdog Giveaway
- May 2 - LIONS State Convention
- May 2 - Board Meeting

One Final word—

***"Leaders think and talk about solutions.
Followers think and talk about problems."***

- Brian Tracy

LIONS BBQ

2nd full weekend of the month - April thru October - (except July & August)
10am to 7pm - Friday & Saturday - General Grant Center - 8400 Watson Road



In April, our Friday BBQ will be "FISH FRY-DAY!"
It's Gluten Free, Peanut Free, and Tasty Too!



2019 Dates
April 12/13
May 10/11
September 13/14
June 14/15
October 11/12

Webster Groves LIONS BBQ Fundraiser

Come enjoy our award winning BBQ:

Ribs, Rib Tips, Pork Steaks, Chicken, Brats, Burgers, and Hot Dogs

Complete dinners include sides of Baked Beans and Potato Salad

Soda, water and condiments available

Carry out or "Dine in" under cover