

LAKE OF THE WOODS LIONESS LOW DOWN

Volume 25, Number 8—February 2010



President's Corner

By Lioness Pat See, LOW Lioness President

"Winter, a lingering season, is a time to gather golden moments, embark upon a sentimental journey, and enjoy every idle hour."
- John Boswell

Here it is the 20th of January, 2010. Seems like just yesterday we were entering the year 2000 and Y2K was the hot topic. I was working at the time and was secretly hoping the computers where I worked might somehow stop working. I didn't want them disabled for a long period of time, two weeks seemed reasonable. I didn't want them to lose any information either or that would have created a lot more work. My reasons were that of a silly eight year old's, hoping for a big snowfall so I could get out of school. Obviously I haven't grown much in some regards, or maybe I am just a dreamer. I would say a bit of both.

It was wonderful seeing all of you again at the last dinner meeting. I hope our new members were able to make some new friends as a result of the mixer. If my memory doesn't start getting any better every meeting is going to be a mixer for me. Our meetings always give me a renewed sense of

purpose and pride in our club. You have all done a wonderful job serving during 2009. I look forward to serving with you in 2010.

The Bland contest is our next scheduled event. On Sunday, February 7th, the best of our area's musically inclined students will be competing for a music scholarship award. It is unbelievable how many gifted young musicians we have living in this area. The contest is taking place at 1:30 p.m. at the LOW Church.

For those of you not familiar with the history of the Bland Contest, I found the following on the Lion's website and thought it might be of interest to you. "Carry Me Back to Ole Virginny" was written by James A. Bland. This is special music to the Lions in Virginia. The

Lions Clubs of Virginia sponsor a music contest for school students called the "Bland Contest" in honor of James Bland.

The Annual Bland Music Scholarships Program was established in 1948 to assist and promote cultural and educational opportunities for the musically talented youth of Virginia. The program consists of elimination contests starting at club level and continuing through "State Final Contest." The program is open to any boy or girl, vocalist or instrumentalist, properly sponsored by a Virginia Lions Club. Any resident of Virginia (or within the club jurisdiction) and attending elementary, junior, or senior high school is eligible to participate. Awards shall be furnished by the State Bland Committee as follows:

MORE see President Pg. 3

WHAT DO I BRING CHECKLIST?

SAFE House—See pg. 6

Wilderness Food Pantry—At least 2 food items
In a double plastic bag

Lake of the Woods Lioness Club
Post Office Box 811
Locust Grove, VA 22508

Meetings are held at the LOW Club House on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Social hour at 5:45 p.m.

2009-2010 Board of Directors

President
Pat See
103 Windy Lane
Locust Grove, VA 22508
(540) 972-5727

Secretary
Kathi Martin
101 Windy Lane
Locust Grove, VA 22508
(540) 972-5242

Treasurers
Ann Wood & Jean McLallen

1st Vice President
Marge Howard

2nd Vice President
Ann Walker

3rd Vice President
Carol Lee

Lioness TAMERS
Marue Biggs & Better Girman

Tail Twister
Laurel Buongiovanni

Membership Director
Linda Ogletree

Directors
Pat Confroy
Donna Crawley
Barbara Rakes

Past President
Carol Greeney

Lion Liaison
Tom Walker

**Highlights from the
January 28, 2010
Lioness BOD Meeting**

The Insider's View

The meeting was called to order by President Pat See, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Attending were Pat See, Donna Crawley, Betty Girman, Connie Lemay, Jean McLallen, Linda Ogletree, Ann Walker, Tom Walker and Ann Wood.

Minutes from the December meeting were approved as written, with a correction to the discussion on future contributions for Treats on the Point, which will be revisited next year.

The Treasurer's report was accepted and filed for audit. A discussion took place on the practice of how checks are to be made out for contributions to specific organizations supported by the Lioness Club, and it was decided that research will be conducted into past practice and policy before a final determination is made.

President's Report – Pat See

- With respect to correspondence, Pat shared an announcement from the Orange County Free Clinic of their February 6 dinner dance. Two form letter requests for donations were received, one from the Orange County Office on Youth on behalf of Michael's Gifts, and one from the American Cancer Society; in both cases, the board felt no action need be taken. Furthermore, Pat reported that LOW Fire and Rescue sent the club a thank you letter for our donation; and a note of appreciation for our get well wishes was received from Doris Velona. The Sight and Hearing Mobile Screening Unit Program sent a letter announcing that they are seeking a Treasurer, and a request for a donation was received from the Lions Hearing Foundation; it was noted that a \$700.00 contribution to this organization is a line item in our budget, and the request would be responded to accordingly. Zone Chairman Selven Powell wrote to inform our club that Wal-Mart and Sam's Clubs have agreed to be collection points for used eyeglasses; furthermore, Lion Powell shared with us the November Zone Meeting minutes and was most complimentary on the conduct of our new member induction ceremony.
- A letter of resignation from Karen Rush was regretfully accepted by the Board. Two letters requesting MAL status, from Connie Buttimer (February-April) and Carolyn Gordon (January-March), were accepted as well. Connie also thanked the club for the donation to the Youth Foundation.
- Pat stated that the Lions Bland Contest will be held on February 7 and that a reminder will be sent out to those who are to supply refreshments. Having been present at last year's contest, she stated that it was a most worthwhile event and urged all to attend.

MORE see Insider pg. 5

Over \$25,000 is awarded yearly in state, regional, district, and local scholarships and cash awards. The total amount awarded can vary from year to year.

A SHORT HISTORY OF JAMES A. BLAND

James A. "Jimmy" Bland, the greatest Black writer of American Folk Song composed over seven hundred songs, a number of which were outright contributions to Americana.

He was born October 12, 1854, in Flushing, Long Island, N.Y., a free American, one of eight children. His family was from Charleston, South Carolina. His father, Allan Bland, an alumnus of Wilberforce University, was one of the first College Trained Blacks. He attended night classes and received his law degree from Howard University, and was the first Black man to be appointed examiner in the United States Patent Office.

Jimmy Bland, as a boy 12 years old and living in Philadelphia, saw an old black man playing a Banjo and singing Black Spirituals. Jimmy was so elated over this that he was determined to have his own Banjo. So he built a crude imitation with old bailing wire for strings, but a larger kid picked a fight with him and tore it up. His father bought Jimmy an eight-dollar Banjo. Soon thereafter the family moved to Washington D.C. Having taught himself to play exceptionally well, Jimmy earned spending money by playing and singing in the streets. By the time he was fourteen he had become professional and was entertaining in hotels, restaurants and for private parties. At fifteen, he started composing some short pieces of his own, but did not record any of them.

He finished high school in Washington and strummed and sang his way partly through Howard University. At seventeen, he tried to put on a musical show at Howard and was banned from the University. While at Howard University, he met a girl, Mannie Friend, who was destined to help shape his future life. Then he met Professor White, an old black man with snow white hair, who recognized Bland's God Given musical talents and began teaching him how to write songs and music. One night while playing and singing in Lafayette Park to his girl friend Mannie, Mr. John Ford, owner of the Ford Theater, saw him and offered to introduce Jimmy to George Primrose, one of the great minstrel men of the time.

The introduction to Primrose was delayed by a trip to Mannie's birthplace in Tidewater, Virginia, which was on Judge White's plantation on the James River, between Charles City and Williamsburg. Here, while James Bland and Mannie Friend were sitting on the bank of the James River, Jimmy composed "Carry Me Back to Ole Virginny." Mannie wrote the words down for him as he played and sang it. On returning to Washington, Mr. John Ford introduced Jimmy Bland to George Primrose of Primrose and West. With his one song "Carry Me Back To Ole Virginny," Jimmy, now age 19 made a big hit with Primrose and Billy West and within a week they opened their new show in Baltimore.

Mr. Tom Harvey, owner of the then famous Harvey's Restaurant in Washington, D.C., had Jimmy play and sing his composition "In The Evening By The Moonlight" for the Canvas Back Club, now the Gridiron Club, that met at his restaurant. President Cleveland and General Robert E. Lee were both members and present for the affair. Bland, realizing the limitations of the four-stringed Banjo, added a fifth string to the instrument and it became known as the Bland Banjo.

In his middle twenties, Jimmy worked the minstrel shows and eventually joined Colonel Jack Harvey's minstrel troupe and toured the United States. In 1881, Bland's salary was \$10,000.00 a year; the highest ever paid a minstrel man. Then Bland and Harvey's minstrel went to Europe and became a sensation overnight. Jimmy

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President

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gave a command performance at Buckingham Palace before Queen Victoria and the Prince of Wales.

When Harvey's show came back to the States, Bland stayed in London. During the twenty years he lived abroad, he toured the continent earning \$12,000.00 a year. Up to this time, only three American composers had made a dent in the German music conscience, John Philip Sousa, James A. Bland, and Stephen Foster. In 1901, he returned from Europe, penniless and broke, and went back to Washington, D.C.

While abroad he had lived high and dressed well, probably why he and his money soon parted company. Aided by friends, he tried to compose but the old spirit was gone. Eventually, he did compose and write lyrics for a musical production called "The Sporting Girl" which had 18 songs in it. After having sold the work for only \$250.00, he gave up and returned to Philadelphia, broke and in very poor health.

Bland died of tuberculosis on May 6, 1911. He was buried in Merion Cemetery near Philadelphia, with not even a death notice in the newspaper to mark his passing. The once handsome, happy-go-lucky, good natured, slight of build black man, with wavy hair, light complexion, and who was often called, "The Worlds Greatest Minstrel Man", passed into oblivion. Bland's body remained obscure in the little Merion Cemetery covered with weeds until 1939, when the Lions of Virginia aided by Dr. J. Francis Cooke, editor of Etude Magazine, found his unmarked grave.

March 27th is the date for our annual Flea Market and Book Sale. Toni Ruther is chairing this event once again. Thank you so much, Toni. Please everyone, this is one of our biggest events. We need lots of help. Please give generously with your time. Just a reminder. Carol Lee is our Chair for the Book Sale. Carol has been undergoing a series of epidural shots for a serious back problem. She is going to need all of our support during this book sale. She will NOT be doing any lifting or standing on her feet. We must all look out for her because, as you all know, she is one determined lady. Carol has now made thousands of dollars for our club with the book sale. Let's follow her lead and not let her down!!

Connie LeMay has been working hard on preparing a very "fun" Valentines Program for our February Meeting. I am sure you will all truly enjoy it. I don't know about you, but I loved our Animal Shelter Program this past month. Thanks, Connie, for yet another great program.

There is one other event that is coming up, and boy am I looking forward to this! Carol Greeney has started a knitting group to get us jump started on the neo natal caps. The first meeting will be held at her home Friday, January 22nd. A friend of Carol's will be instructing those of us who do not know how to knit the neo natal caps. Carol says about 15 people signed up, so it should be a lot of fun. Thanks, Carol!!

Before I close I want to share some good news with you. Back around Christmas time, Lioness Fran Bloss went in for a routine gall bladder surgery. Unfortunately, there were complications and Fran ended up having to be sent to U of V Hospital to repair the damage done. She was hospitalized for about a week. Well, I just saw her at Blooms yesterday and she looks wonderful!! She hopes to be back at our next meeting. We look forward to seeing you, Fran.

That about wraps up this month's message. Remember.....We Serve!!!!!!!!!!!!!! (and serving together makes it a lot of fun.)

"Good character is more to be praised than outstanding talent. Most talents are, to some extent, a gift. Good character, by contrast, is not given to us. We have to build it piece by piece-by thought, choice, courage and determination."

- John Luther

- The Lions Mid-Winter Conference will be held February 12-13 and she and Kathi Martin will be in attendance to represent our club. If anyone else would wish to be included, Pat stated that they are more than welcome to participate in this event.

First Vice President's Report

This was not available due to the absence of the First Vice President, Marge Howard.

Second Vice President's Report – Ann Walker

- Gift wrapping at Child Help East in December was most rewarding and successful, and it is hoped that more Lionesses will be interested in participating next year.
- Community Outreach Chairman Norma Ervin is requesting that a donation of \$150.00 be sent to the Orange Free Clinic. Inasmuch as the Community Outreach line item of the budget reflects the ability to select worthy organizations in our community to receive contributions from our club, IT WAS MOVED by Ann Walker and DULY SECONDED by Jean McLallen that a gift of \$150.00 be made to the Orange Free Clinic. MOTION CARRIED.
- It was suggested that funds from the Community Outreach budget be used to support relief efforts in Haiti through Lions International; but it was the consensus of the Board that monies budgeted for this line item be restricted to assisting causes within the greater Orange County community. However, individual donations to the Lions' efforts are encouraged.

Third Vice President's Report

This was not available due to the absence of the Third Vice President, Carol Lee.

Tamer's Report – Betty Girman

- Betty was pleased to report that everyone who was expected did attend the January meeting; therefore, no letters requesting meal reimbursement needed to be mailed this month.
- With respect to buffet dinners, Betty has been presented with a concern that there are those who, due to disabilities, find this type of meal difficult, as opposed to a plated dinner. When asked how many buffets are done in a year, Betty replied that generally there are approximately four. After due consideration, it was determined that buffets will continue to be held at certain meetings, but that we be mindful of those who might need special assistance.
- On behalf of Kathy Walters, Betty presented a proposal for a spring luncheon combined with a fashion show conducted by Coldwater Creek. The emphasis would be on one's spring and summer wardrobe, and the Lionesses would not be asked to provide any gift items. After a brief discussion of this new fund-raising endeavor, IT WAS MOVED by Betty Girman and DULY SECONDED by Ann Walker that the LOW Lioness Club undertake a Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show to be held in May of this year. MOTION CARRIED.

Member Comments

Lioness Connie Lemay, Program Chairman, shared a letter from Beth Hamilton, Orange County Animal Shelter Director, thanking the club for allowing her to speak on behalf of the shelter at the January meeting. In light of the shelter's needs and its service to the community, IT WAS MOVED by Donna Crawley and DULY SECONDED by Betty Girman that the LOW Lioness Club make a donation of \$200.00 to the Orange County Animal Shelter; furthermore, future contributions to the shelter will be put into next year's budget as a line item. MOTION CARRIED.

MORE see Insider pg. 6

Unfinished Business

Pat reported that our three signs, two on Route 3 and one on Route 20, are all in very poor condition and that she has received a bid for their replacement. With this in mind, IT WAS MOVED by Donna Crawley and DULY SECONDED by Betty Girman that a bid from Michael Neely Signs and Banners of \$540.00 to generate and install new signs be accepted. MOTION CARRIED.

There being no further business to come before the LOW Lioness Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned.

Consumer Alert—Cell Phones and DO NOT CALL List**From the Lioness BOD**

Alert: Cell Phone numbers go public this month. This means all cell phone numbers are being released to telemarketing companies and you will start to receive sales calls. You will be charged for these calls. To prevent this, call the following number from your cell phone: 888-382-1222 . This is the National DO NOT CALL list. It blocks your number for five years. You must call from the cell phone number you want to have blocked. You cannot call from a different phone number.

Lioness Committees & Activities

SAFE House**By Lionesses Betsy Flanigan and Sharon Allen**

The SAFE House in Culpeper was so grateful for the generosity of the Lionesses in their November collection. Thank you, Ladies!

Requests for February donations (tax receipt available) include :

Laundry detergent, Dishwashing liquid, kitchen trash can liners (tall white), towels (terry cloth) and pillows. (When the ladies move from SAFE House to an apartment, they're allowed to take the pillows and towels they've been using.

SAFE House has received lots of clothes recently, so at this time they can only use the larger sizes: 2XX or 3XXX.

As always, they also appreciate checks (made out to SAFE House, with LOW Lioness in the memo line) or gift cards from Walmart, Target, etc.

THANKS AGAIN FOR ALL YOU DO!

Lioness Committees & Activities

Membership News

By Lioness Linda Ogletree

It's amazing but true --- we now are in the second month of 2010! While many of our members have headed south or are just "catching up", time marches on. We need to keep our membership strong and always welcome newcomers to join us. It's not just newcomers to LOW but there are ladies who have resided here for a while who have not joined but have thought about it. Let's make an extra effort to reach out and invite them to join us. I would be delighted to have an induction ceremony in March. The application needed to start the process is published monthly as part of the LOWDOWN. If you would like to find out about requirements or any other aspect of bringing in a new member, please call me.

Annual Flea Market & Craft Fair

By Lioness Jan Wright

The annual Lioness Flea Market & Craft Fair will take place at Locust Grove Middle School on Saturday, March 27th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (note the time change). Flea market and vendor spaces can be reserved by calling Jean Stutz (972-5408). The cost for a space is \$15. Spaces will be secured only upon receipt of payment.

The Fair also features a bake sale, book sale, and food concessions. Emily Slunt and Chris Wyant are in charge of the bake sale and will be collecting the goodies on Friday, March 26th, 5:00-7:00 p.m. in front of the Clubhouse main entrance. If you are unable to deliver your items at that time, bring them to the school by 8:45 a.m. on Saturday. We are asking each Lioness for a donation. Pies and oatmeal cookies are especially in demand. Don't forget to identify peanut or diabetic ingredients in your goodies.

Books will be collected at the lower level of the Clubhouse parking lot on Friday, March 26th (see separate article for more details). If this date is not convenient for you, call Carol Lee (972-8920) to arrange for a drop off.

The Lioness flea table is always a big part of the Fair. Michelle Senft and Lourdes DeSanto are collecting items prior to the event. You may reach Michelle at 972-1964 for drop off details.

The Fair is a major fund raiser for the LOW Lioness organization. Be a part of this fun and profitable event! If you would like to help, and haven't yet signed up, contact any of the committee members.

General Chairman

Toni Ruther.....972-0295

General Co-Chair

Joan Johns.....703-628-7169

Book Sale

Carol Lee.....972-8920

Marion Dumais.....972-7962

Catherine Rainey.....972-9291

MORE see pg. 8

Lioness Committees & Activities

Annual Flea Market & Craft Fair

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Food Concession

Janet Berge.....972-8112
Bonnie Foltz.....972-8698
Jean Daniels.....412-2872

Bake Sale

Emily Slunt.....972-3221
Chris Wyant.....972-5340

Registration

Jean Stutz.....972-5408
Linda Fisher Kavanagh.....972-7461

Lioness Flea Table

Michelle Senft.....972-1964
Lourdes DeSanto.....972-3088

Publicity

Jan Wright.....607-592-3125
Mary Nolan.....972-9284

Flea Market Book Sale

By Lioness Carol Lee, Chairman

OK, Ladies, it is time to clear those bookshelves and closets and get rid of all those books you have finished reading and donate them to the book sale. It's also time to donate your time, your vehicles, and your husbands. We need all of them, not necessarily in that order. It seems like we just finished doing this, doesn't it. Wow, how the time flies! It will be here before we know it. So, what you can start doing for me pretty soon is saving boxes. I will have a sample for you at the next Lioness meeting but the kind we really need are the ones at Costco that hold fruit and are heavy with short sides. We need a lot of them. We are going to do the Community Collection the day before the Flea Market so we will need a lot of help that day as we will be sorting that day as well as collecting. More on that as we get closer. Thank you in advance for all your help.

Proposal for Membership

The following individual is proposed for membership in the Lake of the Woods Lioness Club, sponsored by the Lake of the Woods Lion's Club, a part of the International Association of Lion's Clubs.



Name _____

Birthdate _____
Month Day Year

Home Address _____

Home Phone _____

Business Address _____

Work Phone _____

Email Address _____

Names of Spouse _____

Is she/he a Lion/Lioness _____

APPROVAL

This invitation has been approved by the following:

Sponsoring Lioness _____

Date _____

Membership Chairman _____

Date _____

Board of Directors _____

Date _____

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

Employment History _____

Volunteer History _____

Hobbies _____

Special Abilities (music, art, etc.) _____

From the Tamers

By Lionesses Marue Biggs and Betty Girman

The Lioness February 11 dinner meeting will be held at the Lake of the Woods Clubhouse starting with social hour at 5:45 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. If you are unable to attend this meeting, are bringing guests, or need a special meal, you must phone Betty Girman (972-2882). (Marue Biggs will out of town.) The cut-off date is February 6.

Please remember "no shows" (members who do not attend and have not called to cancel) and those calling after the February 6 deadline, will be billed for their dinner. Dinners are \$16.00.

The February dinner will be a buffet.

February Dinner

Plated Salad (Ranch &
Quatro Fromage Dressings)
Tortilla Crusted Chicken
Broccoli Spears
Potatoes Au Gratin
Rolls and Butter

Eclairs

Coffee, Hot or Iced Tea

Twister's Corner

By Lioness Laurel Buongiovanni

My Heart is like a cabbage
Divided into two
The leaves I give to others
The heart I give to you

Greeters: Elaine Sibley and Billie Patterson

The request tonight is to wear some red

The Tail is Twisting, The Twister's Listening

LOW Lioness 2010 Calendar

February 7 Bland Contest

February 25 Lioness BOD Meeting

March 27 Flea Market and Book Sale

Happy Birthday
Lionesses!

February 4 Kathy George

February 5 Betsy Flanigan

February 6 Millie Davis

February 17 Jeannie Dietz

February 25 Barbara Rakes

February 28 Penny Ostlund

From the Editor

By Lioness Gail Hardin
Editor, Lioness LOW DOWN

The deadline for submission of newsletters articles for the March LOW DOWN is February 20. Please forward them either by email, or mail to Gail Hardin, (contact information below). For more information, call Gail.

Address: 1002 Confederate Drive
Email: gail_hardin@yahoo.com
Phone: (540) 972-5698

Handbook Corrections

Please forward any additions, changes, or corrections to your Handbook to the Editor (see contact information to the left of this column.)

Resignations: Karen Rush

The Lake of the Woods Lioness LOW DOWN is published monthly by the Lake of the Woods Lioness Club, P.O. Box 811, Locust Grove, VA 22508, Gail Hardin, Editor.

Lake of the Woods Lioness

LOW DOWN

PO Box 811, Locust Grove, VA 22508