

LAKE OF THE WOODS LIONESS LIONS LOW DOWN



Volume 40 Number 7 - January 2025

President's Corner

By Lioness Darcy Jennings LOW Lioness Lions President

www.lowlioness.org

There is nothing like a good snow day (for those who love snow like me) to encourage me to write my overdue president's letter. It is overdue because I was waiting for a few bits of information to pass on to you all.

First, we DID get the extension to reach our required 1,000 pounds of plastic to qualify for a TREX bench. Word of our extension (now **March 1st**) came through late last week. We are close to our goal, and we are still collecting plastic bags and other plastic that stretches. If it doesn't stretch, it doesn't qualify, according to TREX. We will also be having a third collection box near the back gate at **Billie Cooke's** house (127 Harrison Circle).

What is needed: We need a few extra people to help with our plastic collection. PLEASE contact me if you can do any of the following jobs for at least **two** months. Very specific instructions will be provided for each job.

1. Bringing bags from Darcy's house (419 Wilderness Drive), and Billie's house to Anne LeHuray's front porch (319 Liberty Blvd.). She will be putting the bags into a large bag and weighing each bag. The weight of the bag will be written on the outside of each bag.
2. Two people are needed to pick up one or two weighed bags from Anne's front porch and turn them into one of the TREX designated stores. The bags are turned in and a picture is taken. The picture is then sent back to Anne so she can record it in our TREX account.
3. One person to contact Anne once a week to find out EXACTLY how many pounds of plastic were turned in that week. Turn that number into Darcy Jennings and Emily Florence so a weekly email blast can be sent out so we all will know our progress and how much more we will need to reach our goal.

We believe we will reach our goal much sooner than March 1st. We are also hoping to continue to get a second bench with a new contract with TREX. So please keep those plastic bags coming into any of the three receptacle boxes.

The second bit of news concerns our February dinner meeting location. The three tamers have been working diligently to find an affordable place for our meetings (see special announcement in this edition of the Lowdown). We have not yet gotten any information about the room rental fees at the Clubhouse. Also remember that our February meeting will be our annual fun **S-I-N-G-O** meeting.

Thanks to all who responded and are attending the Fredericksburg Lions meeting. Attending other group meetings gives us new ideas for our own club. It also helps our Lioness group be more visible in our district (24L).

If you are aware of any Lioness in need of support, please contact **Shellee Williams**, 540-412-9894, so she can pass on the information through Share and Care.

Please mark your calendars for the wonderful off-site event that the directors have planned on **January 16** at the MinuteMan MiniMall in Culpeper. Hope to see many of you at this fun lunch event.

**THERE IS
NO
DINNER
MEETING
IN
JANUARY**

THE INSIDER'S VIEW

Minutes from the
December 19, 2024
BOD Meeting

Lake of the Woods Lioness
Lions Club
Post Office Box 811
Locust Grove, VA 22508
Email: lionessclub@lowlioness.org

Meetings are held at the LOW
Club House on the 2nd Thursday
of each month.
Social hour begins at 5:15 p.m.

2024 - 2025 Board of Directors

President

Darcy Jennings
419 Wilderness Dr.
Locust Grove, VA 22508
(703) 772-2080

Secretary

Gloria Bishop Oliveri
14612 Junction Court
Fredericksburg, VA 22407
(909) 772-2716

Treasurers

Loretta Lafley-Foundation
Beth Newton-Administrative

1st Vice President

Heidi Brown

2nd Vice President

Teresa Wisniewski

3rd Vice President

Brigitte Still

Lioness TAMERS

Mary Lou Ambrose
Linda Corsones
Emily Florence

Tail Twister

Nicole Pappas

Membership

Billie Cooke
Cindy Coover

Directors

Mary Lou Ambrose
Ellen Bearden
Nicolette Buell
Claire Donohoe

Past President

Barbara Tomayko

BOD Meeting call to Order by President, Darcy Jennings at 7:04 PM

Present:

President: Darcy Jennings; **Secretary:** Gloria Bishop Oliveri;

Foundation Treasure: Loretta Lafley; **Administrative Treasurer:** Beth Newton; **1st Vice**

President: Heidi Brown; **2nd Vice President:** Teresa Wisniewski; **3rd Vice President:**

Arlene Rich; **Tamers:** Mary Lou

Ambrose, Emily Florence; **Tail Twister:** Nicole Pappas; **Membership:** Billie Cooke and

Cindy Coover; **Directors:** Mary Lou Ambrose, Ellen Bearden, Nicki Buell, Claire

Donohoe; **Immediate Past President:**

Barbara Tomayko

Absent:

Tamer: Linda Corsones;

Secretary's Report: Gloria Bishop Oliveri

1) Motion to approve Minutes from the November 21, 2024, which were previously submitted.

Motion by Barbara Tomayko and Seconded by Billie Cooke.

Motion moved.

2) Monthly Reports from Committee Chairs for: November 2024

PS= 5,604 L= 192 H= 799 \$= \$ 238.50

*Bookstore: \$182.50 50/50: \$56.00

No Reports from: Bridges Day Care Center; Safe House; Social Events; T-Shirt Sales; Toy Drive and White House Ornaments

3) Old Business:

Waiting to hear back from District 24L with corrected instructions to start restoring original Lionesses membership dates.

4) Welcome 3rd Vice President, Arlene Rich!

5) Notice of Madelyn Smith's passing: Beloved Mother to Donalda Lovelace. Madelyn passed on Saturday December 14, 2024. Madelyn turned 104 years on November 11. A Beautiful plant was delivered to Donalda on behalf of LOW Lionesses by our Tail Twister, Nicol Pappas.

6) Status Change Request: 0

7) New Members: Membership has 1 application, Judy Pendergrass, sponsored by Rosemary Butcher. Motion to approve made by Barbara Tomayko and seconded by Teresa Wisniewski. Motion moved. Judy will be inducted at our March 2025 dinner.

THE INSIDER'S VIEW (Continued)

Foundation Treasurer's Report for November 2024: Loretta Lafley

- 1) **Total Receipts:** \$847,00
- 2) **Total Expenses:** \$2,707.50
- 3) **Bank Balance:** \$80,354.99
- 4) **CD Balance:** \$10,215.81

Administrative Treasurer's Report for November 2024: Beth Newton

- 1) **Total Income:** \$2,140.00
- 2) **Total Expenses:** \$3,586.97 (1,568.00 paid for VA Lions dues – previously collected)
- 3) **Account Balance:** \$19,826.46
- 4) **Year to date net income:** \$1,371.28
- 5) Beth suggested Darcy bring a basket, already made, to our dinner meetings to raffle and all proceeds go to our Administrative Fund. Motion made by Mary Lou Ambrose and seconded by Ellen Bearden. Motion passed
- 6) Beth has finally received **Tax Exempt Letter for Administration Fund.**

President's Report: Darcy Jennings

- 1) **Miss Orange Pageant Fund:** After years of trying to properly disburse this fund, Darcy suggested that we move the funds over to OC High Schools Scholarship Fund. Motion made by Barbara Tomayko and seconded by Heidi Brown. Motion moved.
- 2) Janice Johnston, recently inducted, fell and broke her right hip and required surgery. Her husband, Steve has requested that a few meals be delivered to their home. Darcy will contact Care Share and email will be sent to all membership.
- 3) **TREX Plastic Bag Project:** We still need about 100 lbs. to complete our goal.
- 4) **UPDATE:** Saturday, December 21st, Darcy and Barbara discovered that we were still 140 lbs. short from our goal. Very difficult to make up the difference in just a few days. We will apply again January 2nd.

1st Vice President: Heidi Brown

- 1) Discuss how we might handle a \$1,000 increase to our monthly dinner invoice.
- 2) Heidi reviewed the breakdown of what we are currently being charged by the LOW Clubhouse. We discussed the following:
 - a.) Suggestions made to only use 2 rooms, currently using 3.
 - b.) Discontinue using private bar and go to main bar instead.No decisions made, but will continue discussion.
- 3) **Tamers** to look into us being able to use the Community Center for our February 13th dinner meeting.

2nd Vice President: Teresa Wisniewski

- 1) We only have 11 weeks left before Mardi Gras. We are still in need of table sponsors. It's \$100.00 to sponsor a table.
- 2) Heidi still has a few spots open for volunteers, but has it under control.

Membership: Billie Cooke & Cindy Coover

- 1) Membership has 1 application, Judy Pendergrass, sponsored by Rosemary Butcher. Motion to approve made by Barbara Tomayko and seconded by Teresa Wisniewski. Motion moved. Judy will be inducted at our March 2025 dinner.

Directors: Mary Lou Ambrose; Ellen Bearden, Nicki Buell and Claire Donohoe

So far we have 23 Lionesses signed up for the Shopping at the Minute Man Antique Mall on Thursday, January 16th from 11am-2pm. A boxed Homemade Lunch will be provided by the Directors. Address: 746 Germanna Hwy, Culpeper. We will meet in the lower parking lot for those who need carpool. The \$10.00 cost will be collected on day of outing. Thank you Directors for setting this up!

There being no further business to come before the LOW Lioness Lions Board of Directors at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Bishop Oliveri, LOW Lioness Lions Secretary

Next BOD Meeting: Thursday, January 23, 2025

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



February Lioness Dinner Meeting

The February 13th, Lioness Dinner Meeting will be held at **Fareways Café**. The Lioness BOD made the decision to change venues until further information can be obtained from the Club House management about fees and charges.

The price for our February dinner will be **\$25**. The menu has not been finalized but will be ready for the February Low Down.

We hope all of our members are safe and warm and enjoying the first snowfall of winter.



Lioness Club Bylaws and Constitution

Please remember to review the Lioness Club ByLaws and Constitution which were sent to you again today via email.

Upcoming Events



**On behalf of the Lioness Directors
You are invited for an afternoon of**

BROWSING, SHOPPING AND FRIENDSHIP

at the Minuteman Mall in Culpeper

Thursday, January 16th, 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

\$10.00 per person includes a bag lunch and transportation if desired.

All proceeds will benefit the Lioness Administrative Fund.

Meet in the clubhouse lower lot at 10:30 AM.

RSVP to one of the following by Friday, January 10th

Nbuell113@comcast.net

bebearden@verizon.net

cfdonohoe@hotmail.com

ambrosemarylou@gmail.com

Let us know if you have any dietary restrictions.

Upcoming Events - MARDI GRAS



Mardi Gras Dinner Dance Update

The Mardi Gras Dinner Dance is only two months away on Saturday, March 8! Yay!

Your GREAT IDEAS in ACTION!! Let's have the Best Auction EVER!!

Thank you so much for all your great ideas at our December meeting. Our committee is already working to get as many of the services and experiences on the list available for auction as we can – but we are going to need YOUR help! If you can provide any of them, or know someone who can, please let Sharla Bailey or Teresa Wisniewski know as soon as possible **and no later than February 14** and we will come to you to pick them up!

See the list below:

Still need TABLE SPONSORS, please

We are looking for people to sign up as table sponsors for the dance. We have 19 tables but as of right now we have four table sponsors. ☺ If you sponsor a table by yourself, it is \$100, but you can share a table with some friends and split the sponsorship and have all your names on the table. Please consider this option as a way of showing your support for this fundraiser, if you can. Please let Sharla Bailey or Teresa Wisniewski know if you will sponsor a table this year.

Table Captains

We are so fortunate to have so many of you sign up to be Table Captains. Thank You!! Nicki Buell and Ellen Bearden are working with the Table Captains to secure all the seats so we can maximize our revenue for this event. Please reach out to Nicki or Ellen if you have questions about tickets.

Day of Event Support

We also want to thank all of you who stepped up to serve on the day of the event! Heidi Brown, the volunteer coordinator on the night of the dance, was able to secure almost all the people she will need at our dinner meeting in December! She has a few more places to fill and will be reaching out – or please contact her directly if you will be able to serve in that capacity!

Items and/or Services ideas we gathered at the last meeting:

Topic 1 - How might we generate more revenue during the Mardi Gras dance?

- Sell shots while walking around during the dance like in NOLA
- Sketch artist/caricaturist (two votes for this)
- Palm reader
- Have a 50/50 for cash
- Sell fire extinguishers
- I am saving \$500 by using last year's decorations
- Kissing Booth

Upcoming Events - MARDI GRAS

Topic 2 - How might we ensure we “sellout”

- Put person in Mardi Gras attire in club house/lounge
- We sell out every year – don’t advertise if no tables are available
- Ask other lake organizations to buy a table
- Set up Lioness booth at Food Lion and Walmart
- Talk to friends (Two votes for this)
- Talk it up at cards, Pickleball and Clubhouse
- See if Clubhouse will allow an ad on the table
- Ads on Fareways tables
- Have a sign at Fareways (Two votes for this)
- Place signs all around LOW – i.e., mailstops, LOW office building, Firehouse digital sign (Two votes for this)
- Posters in three places – Pro Shop, Fareways, & Clubhouse
- E-Blast
- Each person hands out flyers in their neighborhood

Topic 3 - What type of auctions items would you and your friends buy?

- Rather than things, I would bid on events, tickets to the Kennedy Center, Wolf Trap, and a BnB.
- Arts Supplies
- Art (Two votes for this)
- Wine
- Baskets for Men
- Jewelry
- Clubhouse Gift Certificate
- Water Fitness Season Pass
- Gift Cards
- Lottery Ticket Basket

Topic 4 - What type of services or experiences would you or your friends buy?

- Golf Lessons
- Dancing lessons (ballroom, or other)
- Art Classes
- Cooking classes
- Weekend Away (Two votes for this)
- Vacations
- Photography (pictures of the family)
- Lunch at a Family Restaurant
- Dinner for Four cooked by a Lioness or two (Two votes for this)
- Dinner at clubhouse
- Food
- Offer a Meal/Bid a Meal
- Catered food for a cocktail party
- Pies each month
- Bartender for a cocktail party
- Winery tours
- A wine a cheese sunset pontoon cruise
- Pontoon ride on big lake
- A horse back trail ride
- Escape room
- Cover the Cost of:
 - Horse Camp
 - Other Lake Events
 - Sailing Camp
- A scavenger hunt by boat
- Luck Stone Dinosaur Walk Tour
- Airshow at Bealeton Airport
- Spa and/or hair and nail services (Nine votes for this)
- Massage (Four votes for this)
- A fairy hair party
- Organize closet, pantry, etc.
- Wrap Christmas presents
- Transportation to airport
- House cleaning
- Lawn services
- Lawn scaping services
- Gardening advice (native plants, etc.)
- Helper for yard work
- Help with moving boxes
- Help with hanging things up
- Handyman services
- Technical Assistance

Plastic Recycling



NEXTREX RECYCLING CHALLENGE PROGRAM

Plastic bag recycling program extended to March 1

NexTrex, the company that sponsors the plastic bag recycling program, has extended the time for us to reach 1,000 pounds for the reward of an outdoor bench made of recycled plastic. **The new target date is March 1.** We should be able to meet that deadline if everyone continues to drop off their clean plastic grocery bags, plastic film, shrink wrap and other light, thin plastic to our collection boxes.

Currently we have 2 collection boxes: (1) **319 Liberty Boulevard** (Anne's house) and (2) **419 Wilderness Drive** (Darcy's house).

The reason we didn't make the original deadline of Dec. 31, is because of a snafu involving over 100 pounds of bags. We found that grocery stores are unequipped to handle such a large amount at once. NexTrex informed us there are bulk recycling centers that will accept large drop-offs in **Warrenton** and **Charlottesville**. If someone has a high-capacity vehicle and would like to take a road trip to Warrenton (closer than Charlottesville), we currently have a lot of bags to drop off.

Please text Anne LeHuray at (703) 300-8744 or email to alehuray@comcast.net for more information.

Reminder of what can be recycled:

- * Bread bags
- * Produce bags
- * Newspaper sleeves
- * Pallet wrap & stretch film
- * Salt & Ice bags
- * Case overwrap
- * Bubble wrap
- * Wood pallet bags
- * Plastic shipping envelopes
- * Dry Cleaning bags
- * Ziploc & other closable food storage bags



Successful Christmas Projects



Christmas Wrapping "Elves" at ChildHelp.
We wrapped \$20,000+ worth of gifts in
under two hours!



Another successful
Toy Drive Collection.

Christmas Treasures & Bake Sale

In spite of 14° F weather forecast, which again forced us to change venues to the Lower Level of the Clubhouse, we had a VERY successful and fun Christmas Treasures Sale! The combined total sales of vintage White House Ornaments, Christmas Treasures and Bake Sale was \$2,093.80! Well done everyone and thank you for your flexibility with the many last minute changes!

Another HUGE thanks to the Ladies who baked, donated jewelry, Christmas decorations and puzzles (we sold out of puzzles almost immediately), and to those who volunteered to sell all our treasures!



Announcements

LOW Lioness Lions Book Sale

The next book sale will be held on
Saturday, February 22, 2025

We are

There are NO BOOKSALES in JANUARY.

located in the Ferris Building
across from the Lions Yard Sale and are
open from 8:30 AM to 1:00PM

We look forward to seeing you. Please contact Ann Walker at (540) 972-4338,



Eyeglass Recycling

We meet from 9:30 to 11:00 every Monday morning at The Ferris Building (the same building as the Book Sale). We wash, dry, and have good conversations. It is a great way to start the week and we usually finish the morning with a trip to Fareways for lunch! You are not committed to come every Monday, just when it is convenient! Thank you.



SHARE AND CARE is a way for our Lioness Club to let the members know when someone is ill, in the hospital or has had a death in the family.

The only way to let our members know is if you let me know by phone or email. I would appreciate your call or email so that I can get a message out right away. I will then send a card to them that is signed from The Lioness Lions Club.

Thank you so much for your help with this.

Shellee Williams

Phone: (540) 412-9894 or cell (571) 277-8618

Email: bufsof@msn.com



Bench Dedication

On a chilly but gloriously sunny December 19th, family, friends, golf partners and Lioness Club members gathered together on the 4th hole of the LOW Golf Course to dedicate a bench in honor of Karen Cakouros.



Madelyn Smith

We are very sad to share the news that Donaldal Lovelace's mother, Madelyn Smith, passed away on December 14, 2024, at Mary Washington Hospital. She fell and hit her head and passed shortly after her arrival at the hospital. Madelyn was cremated with no service. Madelyn was our eldest Lioness Lion and often attended meetings with Donaldal and shared her humor and infectious smile with all of us.

Born Madelyn Stewart on November 28, 1920, Madelyn grew up in Roselle, New Jersey, the only child of Frances and David Stewart. After graduating from high school in 1940, she earned a scholarship to attend Virginia State College (now Virginia State University), the state's first institution of higher learning for Black Americans, where she studied sociology. "I worked as a secretary while attending college, but I did plenty of partying, too," Madelyn admits with a grin.

Madelyn became a Lion/Lioness when she joined the Lake of the Woods Lioness Lions Club in 2021, did support work with the Lioness monthly book sale and visited over 50 clubs in District 24L. She attended State Conventions and Fall Conferences of the three Districts in Virginia.



December Guests



Betsy Burgett
Guest of Darcy Jennings



Judy Pendegrass
Guest of Rosemary Butcher

Mighty Lioness

We are fortunate and honored to have individuals who, in just being themselves, bring joy and happiness to others. Please join me in congratulating the Mighty Lionesses recognized at our December meeting.

Loretta Lafley: You made me proud when you are the best Treasurer and my BFF friend. Shellee Williams

Claire Donohoe: You made me proud because you are always nice and helpful. Teresa Wisniewski

Lynne Kovach: You made me proud when you made Rice Crispy Treats for, and attend Christmas Treasures less than a week after knee replacement surgery. Carol Greeney

At each meeting we recognize three Mighty Lioness who through acts of kindness, generosity and selflessness, show the world the heart of a Lioness! The first three members to fill out a yellow Mighty Lioness form will recognize their Mighty Lioness after we sing the birthday song. There are also yellow forms for members to privately recognize their Mighty Lioness.

With sincere thanks – Nicole Pappas



January 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1 KWANZA ENDS	2 HANUKKAH ENDS	3 Food Pantry 9:00-10:30 AM	4	5
Clubhouse is closed						
6 Eyeglass Recycle 9:30-11:00 AM	7	8	9 NO DINNER MEETING	10 Food Pantry OVERSTOCK 9:00-GONE	11	12
Clubhouse is closed						
13 Eyeglass Recycle 9:30-11:00 AM	14	15	16 Minute Man Mini Mall Outing! 11:00 AM-2:00 PM	17 Food Pantry 9:00-10:30 AM	18	19
Clubhouse is closed						
20 Eyeglass Recycle 9:30-11:00 AM	21	22	23 BOARD MEETING	24 Food Pantry 9:00-10:30 AM	25	26
27 Eyeglass Recycle 9:30-11:00 AM	28	29	30	31 Food Pantry OVERSTOCK 9:00-GONE		

February 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1	2
3 Eyeglass Recycle 9:30-11:00 AM	4	5	6	7 Food Pantry 9:00-10:30 AM	8	9
10 Eyeglass Recycle 9:30-11:00 AM	11	12	13 DINNER MEETING at Fareways!	14  Food Pantry OVERSTOCK 9:00-GONE	15	16
17 Eyeglass Recycle 9:30-11:00 AM	18	19	20	21 Food Pantry 9:00-10:30 AM	22	23
24 Eyeglass Recycle 9:30-11:00 AM	25	26	27 BOARD MEETING	28 Food Pantry 9:00-10:30 AM		

No January Dinner Meeting

There are TWO little snakes hidden in this issue. 'Tis the Year of the Snake. Find them!

January Birthdays

Toni Keating	1/5
Loretta Lafley	1/5
Mary Lou Ambrose	1/10
Maggie Broadwater	1/11
Jan Stockman	1/16
Cindy Coover	1/21
Penny Schultz	1/23
Shellee Williams	1/25

FROM THE EDITOR

Lynne Kovach
Editor, Lioness Lions LOW DOWN
Phone: (540) 920-8528
Email: lynnebkovach@gmail.com

Please submit information, articles and photographs for the LOW DOWN to **EMILY FLORENCE** **no later than the Friday before the newsletter comes out.** The newsletter will be distributed on or about the first of the month.

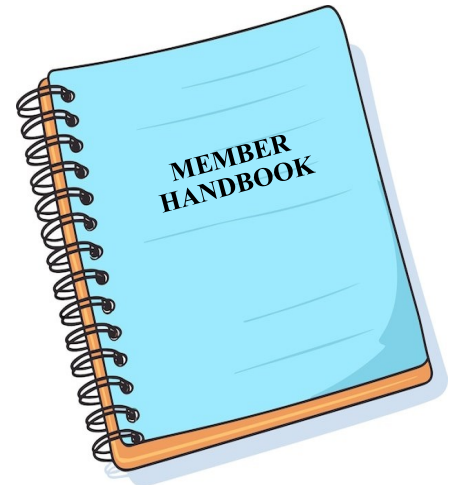
Forward your articles or information by email at the address below, or call Emily if you don't have access to email.

Email: emilyjflorence@aol.com
Phone: (571) 239-0591

HANDBOOK CORRECTIONS

Please forward any additions, changes, or corrections to your Handbook/Directory to

to
Sharla Bailey
skbailey1429@gmail.com



The LOW DOWN is published monthly by the
Lake of the Woods Lioness Lions Club
Editors: Lynne Kovach & Emily Florence



[Click HERE to find us on Facebook](#)

Lake of the Woods Lioness Lions Club

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