

# Lake of the Woods Lioness Lions LOWDOWN

Volume 41 | Number 4 | October 2025



www.lowlioness.org

## President's Corner

By Heidi Brown, LOW Lioness Lions President

Another month has flown by, and you all have served our community very well. Thank you for all that you continue to do.

Rosemary Butcher and her committee put on a first-class event with our card party and fashion show. It was a wonderful way to close out September.

October will be another busy month for us. We will participate in the Fall Festival at Sweetbriar Park on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October. I think this will be a fun and popular event for the community. Thank you for those volunteering to assist that day.

Right on the heels of this event will be our Christmas Treasures sale—set-up on Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> and sales on the 18<sup>th</sup> at the Community Center. Carol Greeney and her committee have this well in hand. It's a wonderful opportunity to donate your gently used Christmas/Holiday items and make some money for our club.

We were invited to participate with LOWLINC and the Lions in a clean-out event. We need volunteers at the lower level of the parking lot on October 17<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 AM-1:30 PM to help load paint, aerosols, and other hazardous materials onto trucks that will deliver these items to the Landfill on Route 20. This is a great opportunity for our Lionesses to get rid of a lot of items and at the same time help the community.

The month ends with our Treats on the Point. Thank you to Arlene Rich and her committee for managing this event.

We have some great guest speakers lined up the next two months. October's guest speaker is

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## What Shall I Bring to this Month's Meeting?

1. Bring puzzles to donate to Christmas Treasures. If not coming to the meeting, please drop puzzles at Kathy Phillip's house, 503 Stratford Circle. 240-346-1427
2. Wear **Pink** to the meeting to celebrate Breast Cancer Awareness. If you can make it **Halloween Pink**, all the better.
3. Bring candy for **Treats on the Point** on Halloween, October 31.



Teresa and Gloria working with Orange County Schools to provide hearing tests to students!

## What will I find inside this LOWDOWN?

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## The Insider's View

Highlights from the Board of Director's (BOD) Meeting Thursday, September 25, 2025

**To read the full meeting minutes, please go to the LOW Lioness website BOD Meeting Minutes Tab**

### Secretary's Report: G Bishop Oliveri

- **Membership: Moira Ricketts**, sponsored by Anne LeHuray, to be inducted at our November dinner meeting.
  - Carol Lee:** Sadly, we need to end Carol's membership due to information the BOD received that she has been moved to an assisted living facility in Fredericksburg. Carol became a Lioness in February 2000 and held many offices, including President in 2012-2013.
- **Visitation Committee:**
  - Donalda Lovelace, Emily Florence, Gloria Bishop Oliveri, Mary Lou Ambrose and Ann Walker attended the **Greater Falls Run Lions Club** on Tuesday, **September 23, 2025 at 12 noon.**
  - **District 24L Fall Conference** was an all-day event on **Saturday, September 27, 2025** in Stafford, VA. Heidi Brown, Gloria Bishop Oliveri, and Beth Newton attended.
- **Old Business:**
  - BOD decided via email to provide flowers for Ray Greeney's Celebration of Life.

### Treasurer's Reports: Loretta Lafley and Beth Newton

- Loretta requested approval to move \$30,000 into a 6-month CD as suggested by auditor.
- Beth reported we successfully completed and passed the Administrative financial audit.
- Beth requested approval to move \$10,000 into a 3-month CD as suggested by auditor.
- Account details were shared by both Treasurers.

### President's Report: Heidi Brown

- The Bylaws and Constitution – still working on a few changes.
- We need help with:
  - October 4th Fall Festival
  - Hazardous materials clean out Friday, October 17. Bring items to LL parking lot between 11am-1:30pm. We recommend drivers be at the landfill and in line by 7am on Saturday, October 18.
  - Christmas Treasures Bazaar is Saturday, October 18 from 9am to 3pm. Please bring your items to the Community Center the night before: Friday, October 17, from 4:30-7:30pm.
  - Storage Space: We are consolidating Lioness stuff. If you are storing items, please create an inventory list and bring list and items to Sharla Bailey.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's Report: Mary Lou Ambrose

- Baskets for Oct 4 Fall Festival should be delivered to Heidi.
- Mary Lou proposed the Lionesses present Kley Parkhurst, a speaker and pilot helping people in need with a \$500 check to help him continue his good works. Motion passed.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Report: Teresa Wisniewski

Vision and Hearing Testing in Orange County Schools went great – 5 Lionesses volunteered and had fun!!

Kids were great and happy to have us there.

**Directors Report:** Caroline Collantes, and Emily Florence; Nicki Buell and Claire Donohoe

Next outing is Dec 4 at Gobler Farms – will create our own Christmas Wreath. Fun!

**Past President Report:** Darcy Jennings

Please wear pink in recognition of Breast Cancer at our October dinner meeting.

## The President's Corner, continued

Jennifer Jenkins from Childhelp. And in December we'll have the owner of Sweet Vines Farm Winery. In addition, Jill Francis will provide holiday music at the December dinner. She is a harpist and has agreed to play for us that night. What a treat!

Like I said, lots of things happening in October. Thank you for choosing to be a Lioness and serving this community.

Heidi

### Facebook Request

Nancy King is our new LOW Lioness Facebook page coordinator. She asks that everyone who takes pictures at any of our events send them to her at nanjking@aol.com. She'll post as many as possible on our Facebook page. Be sure to visit and follow Lake of the Woods Lioness on Facebook to see the fun pictures of all our many activities.

### A Note from the Tamers

The Lioness Club has a contract with the Clubhouse that requires we give an exact number of people attending prior to the dinner. Please notify all three Tamers to make as sure as possible that your response does not get lost in cyberspace by NOON the MONDAY before the dinner. October notifications should be in before Noon on Monday October 6.

Your friendly Tamers, Ann and Sharon, and their Advisor, Emily.

Ann Turner [anntturner@gmail.com](mailto:anntturner@gmail.com)

Sharon Corner [andiprayed@gmail.com](mailto:andiprayed@gmail.com)

Emily Florence [emilyjflorence@aol.com](mailto:emilyjflorence@aol.com)

### 2025-2026 Board of Directors

**President** – Heidi Brown

**Secretary** – Gloria Bishop Oliveri

**Foundation Treasurer** – Loretta Lafley

**Administrative Treasurer** – Beth Newton

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President** – Mary Lou Ambrose

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President** – Teresa Wisniewski

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President** – Arlene Rich

**Immediate Past President** – Darcy Jennings

**Membership** – Pat Licata, Barbara Tomayko

**Tail Twister** – Nicole Pappas

#### Lioness Tamers:

- Nicki Buell
- Sharon Corner
- Ann Turner

#### Directors:

- Nicki Buell
- Caroline Collantes
- Claire Donohoe
- Emily Florence

#### Have a Question, Suggestion or Concern?

[lionessclub@lowlioness.org](mailto:lionessclub@lowlioness.org)

Reach out via the email above or contact our president or secretary directly via phone, email or direct mail.

#### Heidi Brown

208 Limestone Ln  
Locust Grove, VA 22508  
(703) 402-8773  
[hvbrown59@gmail.com](mailto:hvbrown59@gmail.com)

#### Gloria Bishop Oliveri

14612 Junction Court  
Fredericksburg, VA 22407  
(909) 772-2716  
[gloria@cubicles-and-more.com](mailto:gloria@cubicles-and-more.com)

 **We Missed YOU! And here is what you missed...**

Quick High-Level Recap of the September 11 Meeting

**Program**

**Red Cross Blood Donation**

Mary Damone, a former Lioness and a current Lion, coordinates Red Cross Blood Drives for the Lake of the Woods and was our special guest along with Terry Atwater, the Red Cross Representative in charge of blood donation services for our area and many areas surrounding us. Terry spoke to us about the importance of blood donation in advance of the blood drive in our community.



**Awards**

**Congratulations to Gloria Bishop Oliveri**, the VERY deserving recipient of the 100% Secretary award! We are so proud of you and couldn't agree more – except we know you give MORE than 100% to your role as Secretary of our club. THANK YOU!!!

Donalda presented Heidi with a patch for our club banner for completing **11 visitations in the 2024-2025 year**. Yay, us!



**Visitors**

**Deborah Baird brought Lara Berry**

for her second visit this month... we look forward to calling her a fellow Lioness. <3



**Julie Phend brought Susan Haynes** - Susan has lived in Lake of the Woods since 2010. She's a retired academic librarian and software designer. She's active in Bocce Club and LOW Church Flower Guild, and travels frequently with her husband, Kingsley.

# ♥ We Missed YOU! And here is what you missed... (continued)

Quick High-Level Recap of the August 14 Meeting

## Visitors, continued

**Kathy Merritt brought Charlene Fines** - Charlene and Kathy met at the Clubhouse Tea event. Charlene and her husband Ken moved to the lake in 2018 when their first grandchild was born. She retired from Northrop Grumman in 2023 and is looking forward to serving our community with the Lioness Club.



## September Birthdays!!!



## Mighty Lionesses Recognized at our September Meeting

### **ANN WOOD You Mighty Lioness!**

*You make us proud! Not only have you been a Lioness for 20 years, you gave your time for the benefit of the Club by serving on the Board for five years. You volunteered as Treasurer and as a Tamer, notably taking the Club through Covid by creatively orchestrating meals.*

### **ANN WALKER, You Mighty Lioness!**

*You make us proud! Not only have you been a Lioness for 28 years, you gave your time for the benefit of the Club by serving on the Board for six years. You have also been committed to the success of the Book collection and sales.*

### **ELLEN BEARDEN, You Mighty Lioness!**

*You make us proud! Not only have you been a Lioness for almost 20 years, you gave your time for the benefit of the Club by serving on the Board for seven years as 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, Secretary, a Tamer and a Director. Your dedication to our Club and community is greatly appreciated.*

Even the smallest acts of kindness and caring make a difference. May we continue to make a difference in the world around us.

To nominate a Mighty Lioness, contact Nicole Pappas at 619-709-5163 or pappasnm@gmail.com

## How Can I Serve?

What Fundraising Events or Service Activities are Coming Up? How Can I Engage?

### The Book Store

The Book Store is an ongoing project of the LOW Lioness Club. We sell used books at bargain prices and have a variety of children's books for sale. We are open from 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM on the last Saturday of each month, except in December and January. The Book Room is in the Ferris building, also referred to as the Tom Walker eyeglass recycling center, near the compactor site.



The next book sales will be held October 25 and November 29. The November sale will be the last until February as the Book Store is closed in December and January.

Now is the time to stock up for those cozy winter months when you want to curl up with a good book. Stock up, too, for grandchild visits – kids are always looking for a new book!

Please contact Ann Walker, Sherri Lasover or Helene Burns if you have questions or need help when the Book Store is closed.

### Food Pantry | Fridays 9:30 AM

**The pantry will be open five Fridays in October**

October 10 and 31 will be overstock days with October 3, 17, and 24 as regular USDA days.

Thank you all!

**For info:** Nicki Buell 703-217-5615

### Eyeglass Recycling | Mondays 9:30 AM

**We meet from 9:30 – 11:00 AM Mondays** at the Ferris Building. We wash, dry, and have good conversations. It's a great way to start the week, and we usually finish the morning with a trip to Fareways for lunch. Please join us when you can. Thanks!

**For info:** Marian Rood 540-412-0214

### Christmas Treasures and Much More!



The Lake of the Woods Lioness Club will get a jump on the holidays this year by holding its Christmas Treasures Bazaar **on Saturday, October 18 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM** at the Community Center. Items for sale will include new and nearly new holiday items and a variety of jewelry and the ever-popular jigsaw puzzles.

**We are also having a Bake Sale. Will you help bake some items? Please contact Carol and let her know what wonderful goodies you can contribute!**

So, Lioness members, now is the time to collect those gently used Christmas treasures, jewelry, and puzzles to donate for this sale. Or plan what you will bake for the Bake Sale portion of the event. **Bring your items to the Community Center the night before: Friday, October 17 from 5:00-7:00 PM.**

If you can't be there that evening, please contact Carol Greeney at [rcgreeney@comcast.net](mailto:rcgreeney@comcast.net) to make an alternate arrangement. **Collect your treasures – Let the holidays begin!**

## How Can I Serve?

What Fundraising Events or Service Activities are Coming Up? How Can I Engage?

### Winter Clothing Drive



Comb through your closets and donate extra coats, boots, and sweaters to the Winter Coat and Clothing Drive. Bins are located strategically around Lake of the Woods. Collection begins October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

If you are interested in helping with this worthwhile project, please contact Lynne Kovach at 540-920-8528 or [lynnebkovach@gmail.com](mailto:lynnebkovach@gmail.com)

### Hazardous Waste Collection Event

Clean out your garage and collect used paint, aerosols, and hazardous cleaning products. Bring these to the lower-level Clubhouse Parking lot Friday, October 17 from 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM. We need volunteers to help load the vehicles. Below is a link to learn what is acceptable and what is not:

<https://orangecountyva.gov/1095/Hazardous-Waste-Collection-Event>

# Calendar of Events

What Fundraising Events or Service Activities are Coming Up? How Can I Engage?

<b>October</b>							<b>2025</b>
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
		1	2	3 <b>Food Pantry 9:30</b> <b>Winter Clothing Drive Starts</b>	4 <b>Fall Festival</b>	5	
6 <b>Eyeglass recycling 9:30-11am</b> <b>NLT No RSVP to Tamers for Dinner Mtg</b>	7	8	9 <b>Dinner Meeting 5:15 – 8:00pm</b> <b>Culpeper Mid-day Lions Club</b>	10 <b>Food Pantry 9:30</b>	11	12	
13 <b>Eyeglass recycling 9:30-11am</b>	14	15	16	17 <b>Food Pantry 9:30</b> <b>Drop off for Christmas Treasures Hazardous Waste</b>	18 <b>Christmas Treasures</b>	19	
20 <b>Eyeglass recycling 9:30-11am</b>	21	22	23 <b>Board of Director's Meeting 5:30pm</b> <b>Community Center</b>	24 <b>Food Pantry 9:30</b>	25 <b>Book Sale 8:30am – 1pm</b>	26	
27 <b>Eyeglass recycling 9:30-11am</b>	28	29	30	31 <b>Food Pantry 9:30</b>			

<b>November</b>							<b>2025</b>
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
					1	2	
3 <b>Eyeglass recycling 9:30-11am</b>	4	5	6	7 <b>Food Pantry 9:30</b>	8	9	
10 <b>Eyeglass recycling 9:30-11am</b> <b>NLT No RSVP to Tamers for Dinner Mtg</b>	11	12	13 <b>Dinner Meeting 5:15-8:00pm</b>	14 <b>Food Pantry 9:30</b>	15	16	
17 <b>Eyeglass recycling 9:30-11am</b>	18	19	20	21 <b>Food Pantry 9:30</b>	22	23	
24 <b>Eyeglass recycling 9:30-11am</b>	25	26	27 <b>Thanksgiving</b>	28 <b>Food Pantry 9:30</b>	29 <b>Book Sale 8:30am – 1pm</b>	30	

## Did You Know?

Miscellaneous Club News & Information

### October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month – Wear Pink!

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the month when everyone, including athletes, politicians, actors, even the White House and the Eiffel Tower, is decked out in Pink. Everyone has been touched by breast cancer, a parent, a friend, or even oneself.

For the second year, every Lioness is encouraged to wear pink for the October dinner. Once again, there will be a raffle for a handmade pink lap blanket, and the proceeds will go to the UVA Breast Cancer Center. There, the money will be used for the Sunshine Cart, which is wheeled room to room every Thursday, filled with lotions, books, puzzles, candy, little treats to cheer the patients.

One in eight women in the USA is diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime. Early detection is vital for survival, and women are encouraged to check their breasts every month. Any changes should be reported to their doctor immediately. While the average age is 62, it is no longer considered a cancer for the elderly; even teenagers and women in their 20's have been diagnosed with breast cancer.

Please, check your boobies.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon-Kathleen Corner

A graphic for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. It features a large, stylized pink ribbon on the left side, set against a background of a pink-to-red gradient. The text "Breast Cancer Awareness Month" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font on the right side of the graphic.

**Breast Cancer**  
Awareness Month

## Did You Know?

Miscellaneous Club News & Information

### White House Ornaments

2025 White House Ornaments will be available for sale and pickup on October 1st. This year's ornament focuses on the White House Dinners – the ornament is of the China Plate and Seal.

Ornaments cost \$25.00 each (same as last year), Cash or Check. For orders, text Kathy Merritt at 540/538-6605 or Jan Stockman at 703/943-9314.



## Monthly Stuff (not service related...)

Menu, Birthdays, etc.

### From the Tamers

The LOW Lioness Lions Club dinner meeting will be held at the clubhouse with a 5:15 PM social gathering followed by dinner at 6:00 PM on the second Thursday of each month except January.

If you cannot attend the meeting, you **MUST** contact all three of us, the Tamers, by noon on the Monday before the meeting or you will be billed \$30.

Also, please contact us about **guests or alternate meal requests** by that Monday.

**Notice:** We reply to emails and phone calls. Contact Tamers only. **Please DO NOT contact the clubhouse.**

Ann Turner [anntturner@gmail.com](mailto:anntturner@gmail.com)

Sharon Corner [andiprayed@gmail.com](mailto:andiprayed@gmail.com)

Emily Florence [emilyflorence@aol.com](mailto:emilyflorence@aol.com) (Tamer advisor)

### Dinner for October Meeting

- Garden salad with Ranch and Balsamic Vinaigrette
- Grilled Chicken Souvlaki
- Fresh Pita Bread
- Olive Oil Cake with Whipped Cream



### October Birthdays!!

Michele McKeown	Oct 4
Joyce Morlan	Oct 5
Bev Kuhn	Oct 9
Kathi O'Brien	Oct 17
Kathy Merritt	Oct 23
Suzanne Herr	Oct 31



### Share and Care!

**Share and Care** is a way for us to let members know when someone is ill, in the hospital or has had a death in the family. Please call or email me so I can get a message out to let our members know right away. I will send a card signed from The Lioness Lions Club.

**Thank you for your help with this!**

Shellee Williams 571-277-8618

[bufsof@msn.com](mailto:bufsof@msn.com)

### From the Editors

**Editors:** Sharla Bailey 703-989-5519 [skbailey1429@gmail.com](mailto:skbailey1429@gmail.com)  
 Julie Phend 630-854-4126 [julie.phend@gmail.com](mailto:julie.phend@gmail.com)

Please submit information, articles and photos for the LOWDOWN to Julie Phend via email no later than the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month before the first of the month when the newsletter comes out. Call Julie if you don't have access to email.

### Lake of the Woods Lioness Lions Club

PO Box 811  
 Locust Grove, VA 22508

[lionessclub@lowlioness.org](mailto:lionessclub@lowlioness.org)

[www.lowlioness.org](http://www.lowlioness.org)

[LOW Lioness Lions Club](https://www.facebook.com/LOWLionessLionsClub)

**DON'T FORGET!**



*Lake of the Woods*

*Lioness Lions Club*

# **CHRISTMAS TREASURES**

## **And Much More**

**Saturday, October 18th**  
**from 9:00am - 3:00pm**

**At the LOW Community Center**

- \* **Unique Costume Jewelry**
- \* **New & Nearly New Christmas Ornaments & Decorations**
- \* **Jigsaw puzzles and more...**

All proceeds support the Lioness Lions Foundation which serves our community



2025 Annual Card Party, Fashion Show and Luncheon

## **THANK YOU**

Barbara Tomakyo – Registrations

Kathy Phillips – Clubhouse

**Kathy Merritt and Nancy King  
for a wonderful fashion show**

**Models:**

Claire Donohoe, Teresa Wisnieski,  
Emily Florence, Donalda Lovelace  
Janet Stockman, Colleen Cameron  
Ellen Bearden

**Raffles**

Linda Corsones, Nan Lamb, Sharon Corner, Joan Litschert,  
Barbara Lattore

**Lake Currents and Lioness Newsletter**

Lynne Kovach, Julie Phend, Sharla Bailey

Lorretta Lafley for finances

Heidi Brown – for stepping up the day of the event where needed