



# The Grand Island Lion

## March 2025

[www.gilions.com](http://www.gilions.com)



March 12th

GI Lions Regular and BOD Meeting  
Details to follow

April 28th:

GI Lions Spaghetti Dinner  
Elldens Grill and Banquet  
201 Whitehaven Rd  
Grand Island NY  
**(See the Flyer on P3)**

March means welcome to spring. Looking out the window at the snow may not get you to that thought. Looking forward should, because this month Lions celebrate Lions Day at the United Nations. Our organization had a profound and direct impact on the UN Charter in 1945 and 1946. We were the only non-government organization (NGO) involved in writing the UN Charter for Human Rights and Dignity. And we remain a consultant NGO.



PDG George Casey attended the event for several years and always came back refreshed with new energy and ideas to serve. This year's meeting will be held on March 21<sup>st</sup> in NYC and satellite events in Nairobi, Kenya on February 13<sup>th</sup> and Geneva, Switzerland on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Any Lion can go, so look for details for next year's event.

Lions Day at the UN is a testament to the power of unity and the remarkable achievements that arise when compassionate individuals come together. It is a day to honor our shared vision of a better world, where kindness, generosity, and service to others know no bounds.

We also are starting to get ready for our Spaghetti Dinner and the Kids Picnic. Lion Anne Fahning will be contacting everyone to help with getting donation baskets for our silent auction at the Spaghetti Dinner Lions Anne, Tom Rusert, and Dick Crawford have volunteered to lead the Kids Picnic. More information will be coming out soon about the help they need. Spring is about new life, Let us also look forward with renewed determination. The challenges we face are significant, but so too is our resolve. Each act of service, no matter how small, brings us closer to the world we envision—a world where every individual has the opportunity to thrive.

Today, let us reaffirm our commitment to the Lions' motto, "We Serve." Let us draw inspiration from the stories of those we have helped and those who continue to inspire us. Let us remember that in unity, we find strength, and in service, we find purpose.

Thank you for your dedication, your passion, and your unwavering belief in the power of good. Together, we can and will continue to make a difference.

**Lion President Jim Ryan**



# We Serve



## WNY Lions Spring Food Drive

To benefit FeedMore WNY

940 Union Rd (Southgate Plaza), West Seneca, NY  
 535 Division St (Budwey's Plaza), North Tonawanda, NY

**April 5<sup>th</sup>, 8am – 2pm**

**Questions?**

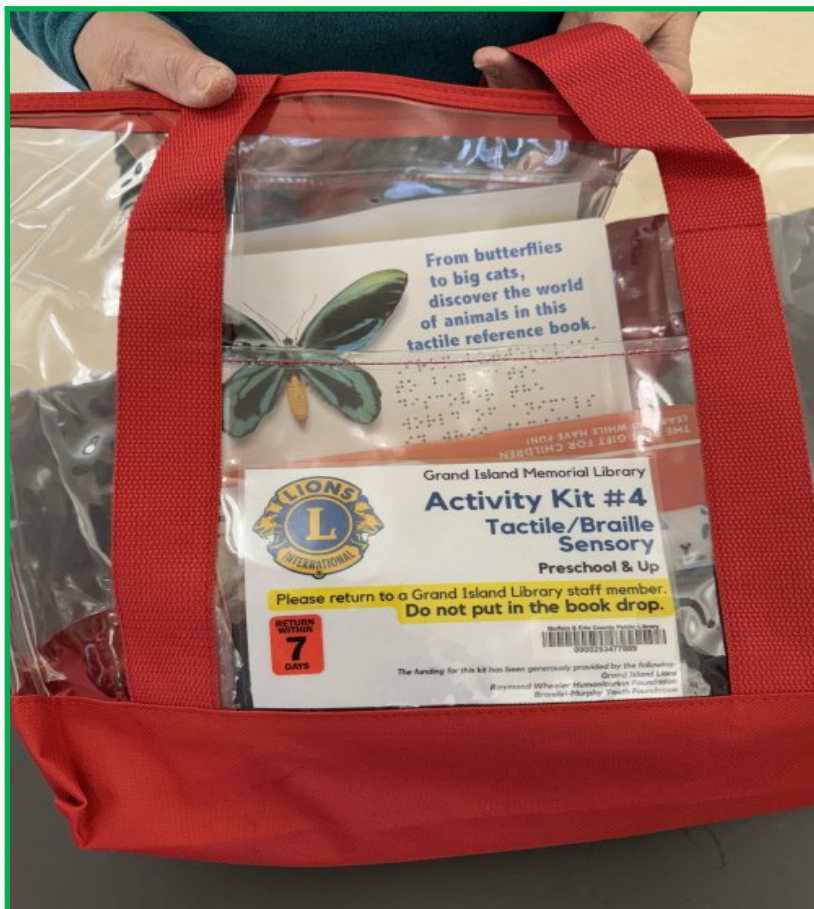
North Tonawanda location: 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Paul Smith, [paulsmith.md20@gmail.com](mailto:paulsmith.md20@gmail.com), (716) 698-1024  
 West Seneca location: PDG Dan Dunn, [liondan20n@roadrunner.com](mailto:liondan20n@roadrunner.com), (716) 771-9828



**Lions International**

Can you help? Of course you can! Every race, education level, and community is affected by food insecurity, and Western New York is no different. Over 425,000 people live below the poverty line in Buffalo and Erie County, with over 113,000 considered food insecure. 1 in every 5 children face hunger daily. We Grand Island Lions do actively support our Neighbors Foundation but we can do more for the hungry neighbors surrounding us. The WNY Lions are conducting a food drive to benefit FeedMore of WNY. Please see the poster announcing this event. Please participate.

This is a sneak peek at one of the kits that have been put together from our funding to our library. With the help of grants from Ray Wheeler and Brandel-Murphy, there are more to come. These kits are now part of the Erie County library system. Not only will they benefit children on Grand Island, they will be benefiting children throughout Erie County.



## 55th ANNUAL GRAND ISLAND LIONS CLUB



**MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2025 5 PM - 8 PM**

**ELLDEN'S GRILL AND BANQUET  
201 WHITEHAVEN ROAD  
GRAND ISLAND, NY**

**DINNER INCLUDES MEATBALLS, BREAD & SALAD**

**\$10.00 ADULTS \$5.00 KIDS 7 & UNDER**

**EAT IN OR TAKE OUT**

**BAKED GOODS SALE, CASH BAR**

**WE WILL HAVE OUR POPULAR 50/50**

**AND BASKET RAFFLES**

***WE ARE ACCEPTING PRE-ORDERS!***

**SEE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE TO PRE-ORDER:**

**[facebook.com/groups/GILIONSCLUB](https://www.facebook.com/groups/GILIONSCLUB)**

**or CALL LION DICK CRAWFORD AT 716-818-6992**

**Help us to help others!**

**We will be collecting non-perishable food items and diapers for  
The Neighbors Foundation.**

Spaghetti dinner artwork courtesy of Put-In-Bay (Ohio) Fire Company

Lions,  
 We have added only one new Lion so far this year. Just think how more members would help us achieve our goals and projects in fulfilling the Lions mission. Before the Lions year ends let's have each member bring in at least one new Lion to our club.  
 Sincerely,  
 Lion Tom Rusert  
 Membership Chair

Please return your empties to Bottle and Can Retrieval Center 2447 Grand Island Blvd, Grand Island, **Grand Island Can and Bottle Retrieval Center is now tracking our donations when items are left for them to credit our account.**



**Donations for the Neighbors Foundation are on the upswing so please continue to bring any of the listed items to our meetings or drop off Tops gift cards, food items and checks/cash to me and I will deliver to them. They are also in need of diapers, toiletries and personal care items.**

**Thank you, Lion Tom Rusert**

### Grand Island Lions Service Projects for January:

**Eye screening**

**Club donations**

**Newsletter preparation**

Stuart Sports has many styles and colors of polo shirts along with other apparel available. Stop in and peruse their catalogs and request that the Grand Island Lions logo be applied to your selection.



It's just a short drive to Lewiston:  
 Stuart Sports 486 Center St. Lewiston, NY (716-754-4895)  
<http://www.stuartsportsinc.com/>

Lion Tom Rusert

Thanks to Lions Tom Rusert, Jim Ryan, Tom Witkowski, and Dick Crawford for contributions to this newsletter. The deadline for the April Newsletter is Friday March 28th. If you have material for the newsletter, you can e-mail it to Lion Dave Chervinsky, the editor/publisher at:  
[grandislandliondave@gmail.com](mailto:grandislandliondave@gmail.com).

Visit us at: [www.gilions.com](http://www.gilions.com).

See our facebook page at: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/GILIONSCLUB>



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

No March birthdays for our club members.