



Marshall Lions Club

January 2019 Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 6

Diabetes in Wisconsin

Club Meetings are usually held the second Wednesday and last Thursday of every Month:

At the Marshall Community Center, 226 Madison Street, Marshall, WI (Fall, Winter & Spring)

At Lions Park in the Summer months

Please visit us at www.sightfirst.com

Follow us on Facebook: [facebook.com/MarshallLionsClub](https://www.facebook.com/MarshallLionsClub) (currently over 280 followers!)

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In Wisconsin, more than six and one-half percent - *more than 330,000 people* - have diabetes and that number continues to grow at an epidemic rate. There are estimates that as many cases of diabetes have yet to be diagnosed. The direct and indirect cost of diabetes in Wisconsin are counted in billions of dollars.

Building awareness and education among the public, patients with diabetes, families of those with diabetes, and health professionals can encourage early detection, improve control of diabetes and reduce potential complications.

The primary objective of the Lions involvement with diabetes awareness is to reduce diabetic retinopathy (blindness caused by a complication of uncontrolled diabetes) through diabetes education, early detection and treatment, and research support.

Diabetes is the leading cause of new cases of blindness in people ages 20-74. Other complications include much higher incidences of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney problems, and amputations.

During November and in recognition of World Diabetes Day, the Marshall Lions Club staffed an information table at the Marshall

Community Library. Marshall Lions and volunteers also distributed informational door hangers throughout Marshall. Also during November, the Marshall Lions, in partnership with Columbus Hospital and Marshall EMS, conducted awareness and screening events.

Additional information is available at <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-global-causes/diabetes>



Adopt-a-Highway

The Marshall Lions Club and Marshall Emergency Medical Services (EMS) have partnered to sponsor road clean-up on Highway 19 between Sun Prairie and Marshall. Lions have adopted the section from County Highway TT to Prospector Lane, west of Marshall.

On Saturday, April 7 and Saturday, October 13, the Marshall Lions Club, Marshall EMS, and other volunteers helped beautify



our neighborhoods by picking up trash and collected almost 20 bags of garbage.

Our goal is to collaborate together three times a year to improve our community and environment.

You don't have to be a member of the Marshall EMS or Lions Club to help out! Please contact us if this activity interests you!

Lions Riverfest/Steak & Lobster Event Fun for the whole family on Saturday Aug 10, 2019

August 2018, while a tad hot, was perfect for the 26th Annual Riverfest and made for a successful event at Firemen's Park. Over 970 tenderloin and lobster tickets were sold for the featured dinner.

The annual event will be held August 10, 2019, and a meal ticket will be required prior to the event so we can coordinate food ordering. There will also be burgers and other food available for purchase the day of the event.



The Riverfest has grown to include adventures for the whole family.

The cardboard boat races are certainly the highlight of the day and last year there were approximately a dozen entries, and most were sea-worthy! The Craft Fair has been a well-received addition and other events include a car show, euchre and bags tournaments, and music to dance the night away. The toughest challenge will be testing your willpower at the dessert table!!



In addition, attendees brought over 350 pairs of eyeglasses to be refurbished and donated to those in need! Let's beat this record in 2019!

Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin

The Marshall and Deerfield Lion's Clubs work together twice a year to transport eye tissue from donors throughout Wisconsin to the Lions Eye Bank in Madison. There are 45 members who volunteer for this service. Deerfield and Marshall Lions Clubs combined cover approximately 650 miles each rotation. In 2017, the Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin placed over 1,800 tissues through the world. We serve 100% of Wisconsin's corneal surgery needs first, so no eye tissue leaves the state until every Wisconsin patient's needs are fulfilled. What does it mean to be a driver? What does it mean to part of this? I was unprepared for the answers.

Recently I headed off to work and went about my daily routine. The call came when I was sitting in my cubicle staring at a computer screen. The President of the Deerfield Lions asked if I was available to make an eye/tissue transport run. Sure, I said. I had no meetings, the boss was out of the office, not a big deal.

Arrangements were made and directions given. While hanging up the phone I glanced at the photos on my desk: my grown children and their partners, my granddaughter in ponytails, landscape photos that leave me breathless. And then it hit me - I was going to participate in something which was going to change someone's life the very next day. A local family was suffering unimaginable pain at the passing of a loved one and yet that tragedy was going to provide immeasura-

ble joy for a different family. I was involved in an organization that was helping to forever change someone's life. I was both humbled and privileged.

Sunrise. A hawk in flight. Frost on the window panes. My granddaughter's face. Freshly fallen snow. Horses running in an open field. Lovers holding hands. Things I get to see every day but won't take for granted again. The blessed gift of sight. –

Contributed by Marshall Lion D'Ann Zickert

Note: Contact us if you'd like to help! Lion Membership is not required



Sienna Crest Cookie Spectacular

Sprinkles, frosting, sticky fingers, and smiles. All were in abundant supply at the recent cookie decorating event held at the Sienna Crest facility in Marshall. Recently members of the Marshall Lion's club worked side by side with the residents to create some amazing culinary creations.

The annual cookie decorating day was December 1 and Lion members brought sprinkles of all colors, shapes, and sizes, frosting (both regular and diabetic), and 24 dozen cookies. Nine residents and family members helped create cookie masterpieces to rival any seen on the cooking channels. There were a few cookie casualties along the way so a few hatless snowmen or trunkless trees never quite made it to the drying racks but were used for "quality-control purposes" ... *all the cookies passed, by the way.*

There were snowmen, stars, and trees covering every surface in the Sienna Crest kitchen.



It was heart-warming and mouth-watering event. Next year we hope to have even more participation and the expectation of greater bakery creations!



Stuff the Bus!

The Marshall Parent Teacher's Association sponsors the annual "Stuff the Bus" program which provides children with necessary supplies for the school year. Annual drives are held in July in order to collect needed back packs, pencils, notebooks, erasers, glue sticks, pocket folders, scissors and pencil cases. School children today even need sleeves to protect their laptops and tablets.

Individual Lions, like many Marshall residents, donated money and school supplies. The Marshall Lions Club is proud to have donated \$1,500 to the cause in July 2018.



Riverfest Car Show

One of the many events which take place during the annual Riverfest is a car show. In 2018 we had another great year with 59 registered cars. People brought their interesting vehicles from all over Wisconsin and even out of state. The farthest was Mark Orr from Kewanee, IL with his 1967 Chevrolet Chevelle.

Entry for all vehicles was the purchase of a Riverfest cash raffle ticket. Each registered vehicle received a



dash plaque and over 40 door prizes donated by area businesses were given away and included a Best of Show trophy.

Thank you to all who donated and

came out to support the annual event and the Marshall Lions Club.

Add the event to your calendar to attend the Riverfest car show on Saturday morning August 10, 2019.

Meet Lion Lee!

Lion Lee Hellenbrand needs no introduction to most Marshall area residents, but did you know about his dedication and community service? August 2019 will mark his 25th year as a Marshall Lion. He has received the 100% attendance award every year but one! Not only has he received a President's award, the Secretary award, and several growth builder awards, he is also a rare Melvin Jones winner which recognizes an individual who embodies humanitarian ideas and those who have gone above and beyond serving both the club and community. Lion Lee has served as Lions Club President, First Vice President for approximately 6 years, Second Vice President for 2 years, and Secretary for two years and is currently serving as a board member.

Lion Lee has served on the Scholarship Committee, chaired the Arbor Day Committee, Raffle Committee, and chaired past MABA events. He continues to contribute to the eyeglass donation effort and participates in

youth eye screenings.

Lion Lee is probably most known for not only being on the original committee to establish Lion's Park in Marshall, but also leading the Lion's Park Committee while also chairing the annual Fisheree Festival (over 18 years!).



Lions Club members greatly look forward to his detailed briefings and updates in the months leading up to

the Fisheree event and through his leadership, the annual Fisheree event has become a 'must see and participate' event for many festival participants, who travel from all over Wisconsin and even from out of state to participate.

Lion Lee appreciates his family's support and understanding that results in his fatherly absenteeism during his service with the Marshall Lions. What he enjoys "most about being in the Marshall Lions is the fact I serve with other very creative and very dedicated Lions members, making Marshall and surrounding communities a better place to live for all."

Make-A-Wish

On February 5, 2018, Mikey Kowski, one of our neighbors, was diagnosed with Childhood Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. Childhood Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL) is a type of cancer in which the bone marrow makes too many immature lymphocytes (a type of white blood cell). Treating ALL usually requires 3-4 - months of intense chemotherapy and two years of follow-on maintenance treatments. Some children with ALL need extended hospital stays while undergoing treatment. Mikey spent his recent birthday and more than two weeks around Thanksgiving in the hospital due to significant side effects from the chemotherapy treatments.

Mikey has made a Make-a-Wish request to go to Alaska with his family. The Marshall Leos Club and Marshall High School's Athletes for Excellence are Mikey's Make-a-Wish sponsors and have

been holding fundraisers during Marshall boys' basketball games at Marshall High School.

The Marshall Leos and Marshall High School's Athletes for Excellence held basket raffles and sold t-shirts, sandwiches, chips, beverages, and desserts at the December 20 fundraiser. In addition, the Marshall Lions sponsored a Sharp 55" 4K Ultra HD HDR Smart LED TV and a Fisher Price Mustang Boss 302 12 -Volt Battery Powered Car raffle. All proceeds from the event and raffles went toward making Mikey's wish come true.

The Marshall Leos Club is sponsored by the Marshall Lions Club and is made up of area youth between the ages of 12-18. Leo clubs are self-governed and work on identified community projects. The Marshall Lions provide the Leos with mentors to give the Leos guidance and support.

The Marshall's Athletic Excellence group is comprised of a high school student-athletes committed to the non-use of alcohol and drugs. Students pledge to work on

academic, promoting healthy lifestyles, being positive role models and have agreed to participate in volunteer efforts and service events that support the school and/or community.



The Make-a-Wish Program helps children battling life-threatening medical conditions and creates an unforgettable experience driven by the child's creativity. They strive to personalize each wish and to make it match the child's idea of a perfect day!

A wish come true can help children feel stronger, better emotionally, more energetic, more willing, and able to battle their critical illnesses.

Additional information on the Mikey's Make-a-Wish fundraisers can be found on the Marshall Lions Web site <http://www.sightfirst.com> and the Marshall High School Web site <https://www.marshallschools.org/mhs>.

You or somebody you know need help? Contact the Marshall Lion's Club

You can request help, either with service projects or possible monetary assistance by contacting Civic Affairs Committee Chairman Kevin Moreland at kmoreland@bachmannconstruction.net. The committee will review the request and may ask the person or group to speak at a club meeting so all the club members can learn more about the request. If the request is for a student organization, the students can gain valuable experience by making the request themselves.

We request the following information when making a request for a donation:

- Introductions and a brief explanation of the group, project or need.
- What other funding sources or fundraising efforts have been tried or will be?
- How much money is being requested?
- How close is the person or group to their goal?
- Can the Lions help by providing services in lieu of money?
- Why is this a good cause for the Lions to support?

Note: While we wish them the utmost success, the Marshall Lions do not support elite traveling sports teams or similar groups where there is not equal opportunity for others to play.

Maunasha Fish Stocking and a New Pier in Firemen's Park!



Did you know that the Marshall Lions Club has been stocking the Maunasha River for 18 years! On November 2, 2018, 475 crappies and 450 walleye were 'planted.' Numerous fundraisers support the recurring event and include the annual Lions Club Fisheree in January. Members of the public can earmark donations to support this specific cause. One of the recently stocked fish was tagged and if that fish is caught during the Fisheree, the lucky fisherman will win the \$1,000 prize! Another new addition to the park is a pier donated with funds from the Marshall Lions Club and the Friends of the Maunasha River. Come on down and enjoy the scenery or do some fishing!

Scholarships!

The Marshall Lions Club has been a part of the Marshall community since 1979 and we've been supporting MHS grads for nearly as long with continuing education scholarships. This past year we awarded \$5,250 in the form of seven scholarships to Marshall High School graduating seniors.

The annual Marshall Lions Club Scholarship invites all graduating Seniors of Marshall High School to submit an application. The scholarships are awarded to students who plan on attending a four-year, vocational or technical college, who understand the importance of helping others, and are actively involved in community service activities. Financial need, grade point, educational field and class rank are not considered.

Scholarship recipients are selected by the club's internal Scholarship Committee and recipients are chosen based largely upon demonstrated acts of community service and leadership. Extreme care is taken to insure scholarship recipients are chosen on a fair and impartial basis. Application materials, as well as selection procedures, are designed to insure anonymity of the applicant until all applications are reviewed, scored, and the awards announced.

The Marshall Lions Club is proud to be a major sponsor of scholarships at Marshall High School each year. We plan on continuing to support our scholarship program in the future, as we look at continuing higher education costs and greater needs for civic minded leadership, locally as well as world-wide.



We Serve

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Email:
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The Marshall Lions are celebrating 40 years of service to the Marshall community!

Since 1979 the Marshall Lions have offered people the opportunity to give something back to the community and those in need. From involving members in projects as local as improving Lions Park or as far-reaching as bringing sight to the world's blind, the Marshall Lions have always embraced those committed to building a better, brighter future for our community.

Marshall Lions Club is an extension of Lions Club International, the largest community organization in the world with over 1.7 million members in 46,000 clubs in 190 countries.

Upcoming Events

Fisheree
19-20 January

Brat Frys in Lions Park
beginning with village wide garage sale

Riverfest
Steak & Lobster
August 10, 2019
Firemen's Park,
Marshall

Main Street Mania
Saturday,
September 28, 2019

**Halloween Trick or
Treat & Coat Drive**
October 31, 2019

Giving Tree
December 9, 2019
Marshall

For More Information Please Visit:

www.sightfirst.com

Follow us on Facebook: [facebook.com/Marshall Lions Club](https://facebook.com/MarshallLionsClub)