

# Lions' Gazette

2023-2024 Issue 9

March 2024



**Grafton Lions Club**  
P.O. Box 0211  
Grafton, WI 53024  
<https://www.graftonlions.com>

**Rose Sauers** – Past President

**Tim Kohlwey** – President

**Carrie Buri** – Membership and 1<sup>st</sup> VP

**Dennis Pampel** – Programs and 2<sup>nd</sup> VP

**Mike Hennig** – Secretary

**John Krueger** – Treasurer

**Darrel Blank** - LCIF Coordinator

**Rusty Meyer** – Leos Liaison

**Dave Antoine** - Marketing

**John Gassert** – Newsletter

**Lions International**  
[www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org)

**Wisconsin Lions**  
[www.wisconsinlions.org](http://www.wisconsinlions.org)

**District 27-A2**  
[www.lionsdistrict27a2.org](http://www.lionsdistrict27a2.org)

**WI Lions Foundation**  
[www.wlf.info](http://www.wlf.info)

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## Prez Sez

Hello Grafton Lions.

This month we have one of our own Grafton Lions speaking to us Lion Jeff Nelson Superintendent of the Grafton school district will enlighten us on what's going on in the district. Please support Family Sharing by bringing some food to the meeting they have a need all year long. We will be having our 9 pin tap bowling fundraiser Saturday May 11, 2024, at Harbor Hills. Please help Lion Lois by forming a team, spreading the word about what a fun event it is and donating items for gift baskets. Lion Darrel is looking for ideas for service projects. Let's all be awesome Lions. We serve.

Lion Tim Kohlwey

# Grafton Lions Treasurer's Report

## February 27, 2024

Administrative Account: \$3,861

- We deposited \$540 from payment for meals, 50/50 raffle, and general raffle at meeting on 2/20/2024
- We paid \$478.50 to Prime Minister for meals at meeting on 2/20/2024
- We paid \$30.60 to John Gassert to reimburse for printing for District Convention

Grafton Lions Club Foundation Savings: \$6,097

- No change

Grafton Lions Foundation: \$7,247

- We deposited \$230 from sale of raffle tickets from chicken roast
- We deposited \$19 from donation from 50/50 winner toward Grafton Lions Park
- We donated \$100 to Grafton Auto department at Grafton High School in recognition of the making a star for our Nativity Scene.

Leos Account: \$1,256

- We deposited \$10 in dues from a Leo member
- We deposited \$120 in cash donations to the Leo's Club

## **Grafton Lions Park – Changing of the Guard**

At the February 6 Grafton Lions Board Meeting, I tendered my resignation as Lions Park Chairman. It was accepted with regret. At the same time, I nominated my replacement, Lion Jim Brown. The Board accepted the nomination and unanimously approved Lion Jim as the next Grafton Lions Park Chairman. Lion Jim was a past president of our Club along with the other offices leading to the President position. Lion Jim is very familiar with our Park having been among the 38 Lions helping build the Pavilion in 2011.

I decided to retire from serving as Park Chair for the past 20 plus years for a number of reasons. I have accomplished what I set out to do. The park, as we know it today, was a farm field of 16 acres bordered by Cedar Creek and Kuep Road. The Village bought the property around 2003 for the express purpose of it being used as a park for the west side of the Village. The Village offered "naming rights" for \$75,000 to our Club which we raised in 18 months. Shortly after, we raised \$50,000.00 for playground equipment for the children. In 2010, we raised another \$20,000.00 towards assisting the Village in building the Pavilion. Thirty-eight Lions volunteered their time and talent in building a roof over the stone building. We also completed the plumbing, staining, and painting.

To date, we have planted over 50 hardwood trees to help make the 16 acres look like a park. In 2018 and 2019 our Lions Club had a lot of discussion around more park enhancements. We put together a Memorandum of Understanding with the Village in March 2020. We agreed to raised \$50,000.00 over a ten year period for Park improvements. Lion Dan Montaine was our President at the time.

We agreed to add a canoe/kayak launch on Cedar Creek. This has been completed. Next on the schedule is an Exercise/fitness station. We hope to add a cement or stone patio next to the Pavilion suitable to put a large tent on it for larger groups. Any money left over will be used for additional picnic tables and park benches.

This is a great time for Lion Jim to take over as Park Chair and see these projects to finish. He will bring new ideas and energy to Lions Park, a gem of the Grafton Park system. Welcome Grafton Lions Park Chair, Lion Jim Brown.

Outgoing Park Chair  
Dave Mauer

## **Lions 2024 Citizenship Awards**

Congratulations to four Outstanding Grafton High School Seniors who were presented with the Grafton Lions Outstanding Citizenship Awards at its February 6, 2024 membership meeting held at the Rose-Harms Legion in Grafton. Lions Citizenship Award Plaques were presented to Grafton High School Students Trevor Nauta, Pyper Flaig, Juhi Jha, and Brogan Ringgold. These students are involved in many activities such as Grafton Leo's Club, Best Buddies, Sports, Student Council, Class Offices, Every 15 minutes, Kapco Toy Drive and Church Activities to name a few. The awards are given for advancing the community through the highest standard of character, integrity and community service, The students are nominated from letters of recommendation from Grafton High School Teaching Staff or other students.



Pictured from left to right are Trevor Nauta, Grafton Lions President, Tim Kohlwey, Brogan Ringgold, Juhi Jha, Pyper Flaig, School Superintendent, Jeff Nelson

## 2024 LEO District Convention

On Saturday February 17th, there were 38 LEO's from Grafton High School and John Long Middle School that attended the Lions District Convention in Port Washington. Over 100 service hours were performed that morning by these LEO's as they spent time volunteering at Family Promise of Ozaukee County, Ozaukee Food Alliance, Port Washington Food Pantry and supporting a food drive at the Piggly Wiggly in Saukville and Port Washington. Also, a number of LEO's served up a pancake breakfast for the residents at Providence Place in Grafton. One of the highlights of the convention was when the LEO's were able to present a \$3600.00 check to Lion's Camp from money the LEO's raised in advance of the convention. Thank you to the LEO Convention Committee: Trevor Nauta - President, Keegan Vaculik - Vice President, Braden Meyer - Secretary, Colin Garvey - Treasurer, and Liza Krol for all your hard work in preparing for the convention. Also thank you to all our sponsors, the Grafton Lions and Grafton School District for supporting our LEO Club.



## February 2024 Vision Screenings

- 9 Milwaukee Public Schools & 1 Day Care
- 1,249 Students/429 Referred
- 67 Service Hours
- 29 Grafton Lions Participated

The following Lions Clubs also participated in the screenings: Cedarburg, Thiensville/Mequon & Port Washington. Many thanks to all the Lions who helped with screenings in February. We can't do this service project without you.

We already have 4 schools scheduled for March in Grafton and Milwaukee

Thanks,  
Lion Dennis  
Vision Screening Co-Chair

## Centennial Park Softball

The Centennial Park Softball Committee is looking to add an additional Lion to help support the upcoming softball season in running the concession stand. Besides the Senior League on Thursday nights, there will be a new Senior League (65+) starting which will play 2 games on Tuesday mornings. The main responsibilities would be to help with the opening/closing of the stand so Lions can work their shift, along with some clean up, restocking and assisting with our cookouts.

Please contact us if you are interested in learning more or wanting to join this committee.

Co-Chair Lion Mark Koehler (262) 957-7594

Co-Chair Lion Steve Nauta (414) 791-7748

## New Service Projects

Back in November at one of our meetings the club was polled on a list of new service projects to consider. There were four categories, and the club was told to choose one from each category. In each category the choice selected by the club was fairly overwhelming.

Here is the list of choices:

- **Youth (Middle or High School)** - Collect and donate clothing for youth in need.
- **Health Nutrition** - Collect food to replenish a local food pantry.
- **Children (Elementary School)** - Donate toys to a local children's hospital (or shelter).
- **Environment** - Clean the yards of elderly community residents.

The next step is to find a chairperson or persons and committee for each new project. It will then be up to the committee to determine what the project will involve. Some of the things to consider are, how many times a year do we do the project, will we involve the community or just the club in the project, which organization will we support, etc.

If anyone is interested in working with these projects, please let any board member know of your interest.

Lion Darrel Blank

## March Birthdays

Rusty Meyer 5  
 Peter Trimberger 15  
 Dennis Johnson 16  
 Ken George 29



Mike Karrels 11  
 Eric Wall 15  
 David Liss 20

## LOOKING AHEAD



March 5	Board of Directors Meeting and Membership Meeting – Guest Speaker Lion Jeff Nelson Superintendent/Grafton Public School District.
March 19	Membership Meeting – Guest Speaker Barb Fischer Executive Director Advocates of Ozaukee, Inc..
April 2	Board of Directors Meeting and Membership Meeting: Guest speaker John Rakowski Executive Director - Riveredge Nature Center
April 16	Membership Meeting – Guest Speakers Elizabeth Mueller Executive Director & Mary Karnitz President Grafton Area Chamber of Commerce.
May 7	Board of Directors Meeting and Membership Meeting.
May 21	Membership Meeting – Scholarship Awards at Bunkers Restaurant at Edgewater Golf Club
June 4	Board of Directors Meeting and Membership Meeting. - Guest Speaker TBD
June 18	Spouses Dinner/Annual Awards Banquet

If you have questions or would like to add to the calendar, contact Lion John Gassert