

# EASTON LIONS CLUB



Easton Lions Club, P.O. Box 1032, Easton, MA 02334-1032

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## President Elect's Message

By Matthew Cioffi



*Where there's a need,  
There's a Lion!*

About 7 years ago, Jon Morgan introduced me to the Easton Lions. At that time, I was coaching his son on the FIRST Lego Robotics team. Not long after meeting Jon I was down at the Holiday Festival with my kids. We were walking around, enjoying the live music and getting some fried dough. While at the dough booth I asked the cooks

"So, what's up?"

*One Lion said; "I'm just rolling out the dough."*

*While his buddy happily chimed and said; "Heh, We're building a community!"*

It was at that point the seed was set. That comment, "**We're building a community!**", reminded me of where I grew up in Vermont and it stuck with me. Well, it took a couple of years (*and Lee to reel me in*) but since joining the Lions, I've seen many of you involved in events around town. Not just with the Lions, but in the schools, with youth clubs, sports teams, at

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church and in government. No matter what the task -- you guys are always happy to lend a hand and make a difference.

The other day I was on the Lions Centennial website. And on that page they feature our core missions of:

- "Service to others",
- "Building communities" and
- "Being a Lion"

Under "Build your Community" they write:

*"We believe that the world gets better – and problems get smaller – when people unite to serve a common cause. Lions help where help is needed – in our own communities and around the world – with unmatched integrity and energy."*

I believe that really sums up what we all do as Easton Lions today. And what we have been doing for 85 years since 1931. Today we carry on the legacy of those who came

before us. Of the women and men who have strengthened our community – through their humanitarian projects and hands-on service – they have helped to make Easton a great community to live. And we continue in that tradition today.

In closing I'd like to leave you with a quote from Mother Theresa, a women who dedicated her life to serving the poor.

*“I alone can not change the world, but I can cast a stone - across the waters - to create many ripples”.*

I look forward to seeing the ripples we can make in the year ahead as we strive to embrace change and build a community to be proud of.

Cheers to you all! – Have a great summer!

## Photos from Installation Night



**Lions of the Year: Jack Cummings & Matt Cioffi**



**Rookie of the Year: Pratima Penumarthy**



## Ann P. Lawrence Bequests \$10,000

By Matthew Cioffi

At our meeting on May 11<sup>th</sup>, the Lions Club of Easton was honored to be the recipients of a bequest from Ann P. Lawrence to be used for the advancement of eye research. Ann's generous bequest of \$10,000 will be used by the Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund (MLERF), which funds grants for Massachusetts institutions performing research related to the prevention and cure of eye-related diseases. It was through George Mussari, a long-time Easton Lion, who made the connection with Paul



Silvia and Bette Kireili. sharing with them all the good works the Easton Lions have done over the years in the Easton community and our annual donations to the MLERF.

Ann Lawrence passed away February 13, 2015 at the age of 103. She was born in her family's 3-decker on Ames St, in Brockton and died as a resident of that house. In between, she graduated from Colby College in Waterville, Maine and soon thereafter married Dr. James Lawrence, who had an extensive career as a Psychologist in the U.S. Army, as a College Professor, and as the Chief Psychologist at the 'Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington, D.C. He later became area chief for the Veterans Administration for the New England and New York regional area. Ann and Jim were married for 56 years until he died in 1995.

Ann and her family were long-time supporters of displaced World War II refugees from Lithuania. They took several friends and family members into their home and sponsored them to relieve them of the necessity of a one-year indenture program that was in place for such refugees.

She became blind in her later years. She believed strongly that improving eye sight was a noble and great cause of the Lions Club. She also supported the Perkins School for the Blind in her will.

Ann could not decide which Lions Club to leave her bequest to so she left it to "the Lions Club that my Co-Executors deem appropriate". Her Co-Personal Representatives, Paul Silvia and Bette Kireilis were both strongly impressed with the Lions Club of Easton and its International reputation for top-notch quality service to members of the community and to those people with eyesight deficits all over the world. They also took special note of Easton Lions receiving the award for Best Lions Club in the World at the international convention in China recently.

They wish to give special thanks to George Mussari for making the connection with Paul Silvia, a Back Bay Bagel friend in Brockton. Without George spreading the word about the good deeds of Easton Lions the bequest would have gone to some other area club.

# Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical High School New Release



## 2016 Easton Lions Toolship Recipient Jeff Aldridge – Easton

Though many high school students are unsure about their future even upon graduation, Jeff Aldridge isn't one of them. The Easton resident has always known what he wanted to do – work in a trade.

Now as a graduating senior, Jeff has proven to be an exemplary student in HVAC (heating, ventilation and air-conditioning). His teachers say he has done extremely well in his shop, and has also done a great job in a co-op, working as an assistant technician for ARS of Boston, a HVAC repair and plumbing service. He plans to work full-time at ARS after school ends. “I find the work interesting, and I like having the ability to do the work. My job involves some physical strength, but also a lot of technical skills,” he said.

Though his first reason for coming to Southeastern was to get trained in a trade, he has also enjoyed the social aspects of the school. He has felt right at home in both vocational and academic classes. “I like the atmosphere. Everyone gets along really well and they're really friendly,” he said.

Along with other members of his class, Jeff has already gotten several certifications and licenses, which have set the stage for his career. He has an apprentice's license, which allows him to work under supervision, and an EPA license, which allows him to handle refrigeration. He eventually wants to work as an HVAC technician, with a license to handle refrigeration, gas filters and sheet metal.

### EASTON LIONS OFFICERS 2016-17

<b>President</b>	Matthew Cioffi <i>president@eastonlions.org</i>
<b>Immediate Past Prez</b>	Nancy Sullivan
<b>Secretary</b>	Matt Soeldner <i>secretary@eastonlions.org</i>
<b>1st Vice President</b>	Patty Sommers
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</b>	Fran Clifford
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President</b>	TBD
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ken Love <i>treasurer@eastonlions.org</i>
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	TBD
<b>Dues Treasurer</b>	Mark Ingalls
<b>Membership</b>	Rob Goodrich <i>membership@eastonlions.org</i>
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Mark Vinocoor <i>info@eastonlions.org</i>
<b>Lion Tamer</b>	John Mallers
<b>Tail Twister</b>	Joyce Tardito
<b>1 Year Directors</b>	Veronica Lamb Richard Freitas Jorge Cortizo Mike Melly
<b>2 Year Directors</b>	Dottie Fulginiti Scott Kudcey Steve Hoffman Jill Hatfield

The Easton Lions Club Newsletter is published monthly and is written by members for our club members. We invite members to submit articles and news items of interest to Jim Lee, [jlee@stonehill.edu](mailto:jlee@stonehill.edu). The club reserves the right to edit submitted material and determine articles for final publication.

### CLUB WEBSITES & EMAIL:

[www.EastonLions.org](http://www.EastonLions.org)  
**Email:** [info@eastonlions.org](mailto:info@eastonlions.org)

Facebook Pages ([www.fb.com](http://www.fb.com)):

[EastonLions](#)  
[EastonThriftStore](#)  
[YardleyWoodRink](#)

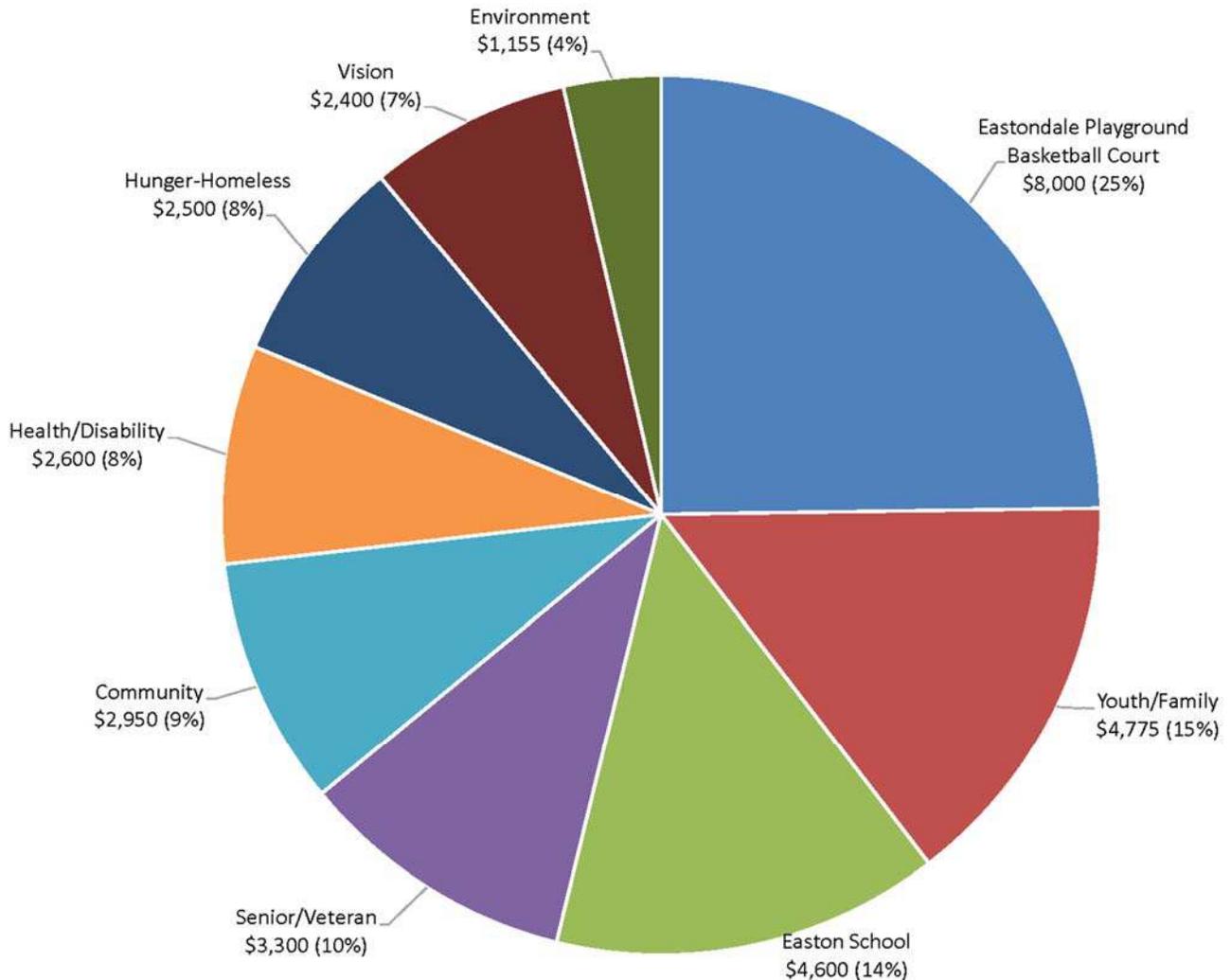
Share the links with Friends and Family! If you'd like to help out with our web pages please contact Matthew Cioffi at [president@eastonlions.org](mailto:president@eastonlions.org).

**Lions Club of Easton Foundation Fund Screening Donations  
Fiscal Year July 2015 to June 2016  
\$32,280 Allocated to Easton Causes**

Donations in this summary include money distributed by the Fund Screening Committee only. Another \$15,000+ in community donations released by other committees and the Board of Directors are NOT included in this summary. Some of the larger donations excluded are:

1. \$8,000 in scholarships to 8 Easton Students were distributed by the Scholarship Committee.
2. \$2,500 donated to F.O.R.E.
3. \$1,400 donated to Yardley Wood Rink.
4. \$790 granted to two Oliver Ames High School students to participate in the All-State Band.

The chart below summarizes the fiscal year 2015-2016 total donation amount (and percent) by major areas of giving to the Easton Community. All grants were reviewed by the Lions Club of Easton Foundation Fund Screening Committee and the Board of Directors and approved by the Easton Lions general membership. We are very fortunate to have a community that supports our many activities in Easton, the Thrift Store, and a lot of active members raising funds for the Easton community as well as eye research. Easton organizations are invited to apply for grants that align with our giving causes. Details on our Club’s Community Grant Guidelines are available online at [www.eastonlion.org/grant](http://www.eastonlion.org/grant).



## Melvin Jones Fellow Honorees

By Jon Morgan

As the Lion year comes to a close, we are able to celebrate the honoring of two members noted for their outstanding contributions to our Club and their communities. Marilyn Cyr and Ed Pires were honored this year as Melvin Jones Fellows.

As part of the induction into the Melvin Jones Fellowship, the name of the individual will be added to the official fellowship record. From the time of the presentation forward, the name of the individual will be displayed on a computerized plaque in the LCIF Recognition Room at International Headquarters.

A donation made in the name of the Easton Lions Club to the Lions Clubs International Foundation in the amount of one thousand dollars will benefit the recognition of the individual. LCIF/ Fellowship donations are largely responsible for the successful launching the Lions' aggressive global attack on preventable and curable blindness—the LCIF Sight First programs.

(Photo of Marilyn Cyr below and Ed Pires at top of next column.)



## 2016 Scholarships Announced

By Jim Lee, Scholarship Committee Chair

Eight young and talented Easton residents each received a \$1000 scholarship to support either college tuition or startup expenses for their career. The two seniors receiving awards at Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical High School are Jeffrey Aldrich and Christopher Keenan. At Oliver Ames High School the awardees are Carly Cidado, Michael Cioffi, Erin Fitzgerald, and Jared Mallers.

In addition, with the support of President Sullivan and the Board of Directors, two scholarships were given to students who did not attend schools in Easton: Collin Barker and Max Fioriti.

In addition to outstanding academic achievement, each of these young Eastonites volunteered countless hours in support of local and regional nonprofit organizations.

Thanks go to the members of the Scholarship Committee for their service in making very difficult choices among many deserving applicants: Ed Hands, Rob Goodrich, Ray Morrell Henry Narsasian, Bill Palmer, and Alan Siegel.

## 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning

By Matthew Cioffi

Our Club will celebrate 85 years of service in September 2016. To help commemorate the year I've started a History Committee made up of Ed Hands, Marion Wingfield, Matt Soeldner and myself. We've received many good ideas and will celebrate throughout the year focusing on what the Lions Club have done for Easton. We are working to write 4 articles about our history. We'd like to get these published in our Club newsletter, the Easton Journal and possibly the Enterprise over the year. Each article will focus on a different topic. If you have other suggestions, please let us know.

- One about the Gillette Bros speech, which lead to the founding of the organizations. Including a list of the founding members and the original charter, with photos. There is a photo from a 15th anniversary dinner taken in 1946.
- **WHO** the Lion's **HELP**.
- A piece about the wonderful, fun events the Lions have hosted over the years — e.g., the Rockery Holiday Festival, Yardley Wood Rink, Parades, etc.
- Who are the famous Easton Lions?
- The last article about the future of the Easton Lions Club would be written by the President and Vice Presidents.

We also want to plan a celebration dinner based on the inaugural meal they had in 1931. Ed had a copy of the menu in the Historical Society folder for the club. Some other ideas we came up with are listed below. Not all of these will come to fruition, but we hope to get a couple of these done! We'd need to get as many Lions involved as possible to help out.

- Exhibit created by Lions at the Easton Historical Society and Ames Free Library;
- Essay contest about the Lions in Easton, administered by Matt Auger, Social Studies Chair;
- High School exhibit project to be mounted at the library, historical society, or OAHS;
- Art contest, administered by Kristen Shea, on an event timeline from 1931 to 2016;
- Oral history project of Lions and community members talking about how the Easton Lions have impacted them;
- ECAT could have a filming panel of long time Lions to discuss our history.

Both Ed, with connections to the Historical Society and Easton Schools, and Marion, with her library science and museum background, will be key to getting this off the ground. But to make this a success we will need many Lions to participate. If you know past members or had older family members who grew up in Easton, pick their brains about what they remember about the Lions in Easton from year's past. We also need to document the more recent years and need many newer member's stories too!

If you'd like to be active on the committee, let me know. Please send your stories, pictures and memorabilia to [history@eastonlions.org](mailto:history@eastonlions.org) or call Ed Hands at 508-238-3159 or Marion Wingfield at 508-230-8851.



## Easton Lions Thrift Store's Successful Year

By Lynn J. Kingsbury

The Easton Lions Thrift Store is located at 192 Washington Street (Rt 138) in the historic Easton Grange building and is opened two days a week.

This last fiscal year has seen many changes and additions from updating the use of technology to good old fashion organizing and spit and polish of the building to show off the donations for sale.

Our Facebook and Easton Lions web pages have advertised our current eclectic solid wood furniture, medical devices such as a Hoveround, sport equipment, clothing (including never worn wedding dresses) and fine china.

We have built new shelving and repurposed unsellable donated furniture to display our books, music collections, brick-a-brack and pots and pans into like kind displays, polished our furniture and our customers notice and are impressed by our professional displays.

The continued increase to our fund raising coffers is truly something to be proud of from all our efforts but some of the most profound changes to the continued success is the service it provides to our community.

The gift to our customers to connect to their past by finding an object that reminds them of their grandparent's dinners, to finding high quality gently used clothing and foot wear to help stretch a family's budget or that special record or toy to add to their collection. The Thrift store is a gathering place for customers and Lions alike to talk about the news of the day and share a treat or two. The kids know there are lollipops and a free small stuffed animal after their patience and regulars bring our volunteer staff brownies and other treats throughout the year. We are able to share information with our customers of all of the other fund raising and charitable activities we support in and for our

community. The Thrift store is also a great place for us to add to our membership, you start as a customer and soon become a member and active Lion at the Thrift Store plus the numerous events throughout the year.

We survived the freezing pipes of February 2016 forcing us to close for a week due to lack of heat and some water damage, (heat in the winter is actually a new addition in the past few years) and an April closing due to movie filming at Buddy's Villa coming back with record sales in the following week, perhaps we became famous too.

We said good bye to Harry Lund last October, who kept us organized for years and provided leadership and vision. He and Debbie are settled into a happy retirement back to their home state, however, we keep track of him through Facebook and remind him often there is a train from there to here, but no call yet.

We have organized a call list and are expanding our volunteer list as the core group currently includes our Wednesday regulars of Ruth Calvagne, Jack Cummings, Gus Arns, John Mallers, Karen Castonguay, Lee Williams and myself and are joined on Saturdays by Fran Clifford, Matt Cioffi, Bob Grella, Matt Soeldner and our counsel Kevin McIntyre. We have welcomed the much appreciated new members of our crew to name a few Catherine Folan, Cathy Ferrone, Debbie Fayne, Debbie and Andrew Van Sluytman, Brian Sloane, Ed Pires, Henry Mehler, John Hayes and Paul Lemieux for all their hard work and ideas. (Sincere apologies for anyone I missed.)

We will continue to refine our organization staffing for regular store hours as well as special project as we move forward to provide continued fund raising for the club's support of our community and welcome new ideas and opportunities through the Thrift Store foundation. Come join us and help us with your special talents as WE SERVE!

SAVE THE DATE

June 22: Year-End Cook-out at Easton Rod & Gun Club - 5:30 to 7:30

*This is a BYOB event. Serving steaks, potato & garden salads, rolls, water and punch. Dessert will have a cake and please bring your favorite dessert to share! Be sure to thank Stan Borgeson for taking the lead on the food for the event!*

June 25: Lions Math Challenge at Immaculate Conception - 10:30 to 11:30

*Prat Penumarthy: 508-238-7471 or pratima.penumarthy@gmail.com*

June 27: Charity Auction 2017 Planning Committee at VFW - 7:00 to 8:30

*Dale Kerester: 617-835-3542 or dkerester@lynchbrewer.com*

August 17: First Board of Director's Meeting at VFW - 6:30 to 7:30

September 14: First General Club meeting of the year at VFW - 6:30 to 8:30

September 26: 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament at ECC - 10 am

September 28: 85<sup>th</sup> Ann. Dinner and General Club Meeting - 6:30 to 8:30

October 1: Cape Cod Canal – In the Blink of an Eye Walk - District 335

October 4: Senior Cook-out at the COA with Eye Mobile

# Queen of Hearts

By Ginny Ando and Paul Lemieux,

[The](#) - ♥ [Queen of Hearts](#) ♥ - [Raffle](#)  
[Jackpot is](#)

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