



Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund, Inc.

Winter 2022 Edition

## Presidents Message



Fellow Lions,

Winter is the peculiar season. It is the dormant time between the waning and harvest of autumn and the rejuvenation of spring. Yet, it is also the time when the longest nights give way to the lengthening days, when light shortens darkness. It is the season of reflection, of new beginnings and of hope that spring will follow.

This year, the winter has been all those things, even with the challenges and uncertainties of the continuing pandemic. In this time, there remain resilience and optimism with the work that we do and the mission that we support. 2022 marks the seventieth anniversary of the creation of MLERF by the Lions of Massachusetts. MLERF has been a gift to the world from the Lions of Massachusetts and has helped to profoundly change people's lives everywhere.

In recognition of this anniversary, MLERF and the Lions of Massachusetts were recognized with the illumination of the Boston skyline in Lions' purple during the 31 Nights of Lights event at the Prudential Center. MLERF directors and Lions celebrated with the public and supporters. The theme of the MLERF lighting event was *Welcome to the Miracle Zone: Great Things Happen When People Care*. MLERF has been supporting miracles for seventy years.

Over those seven decades, MLERF funding has led to breakthroughs in the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of retinopathy of prematurity, diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, macular degeneration, retinal separation, uveitis, amblyopia, strabismus, and other eye diseases. The grant funded work has also led to greater understanding of the eye and human physiology. Many may consider these breakthroughs and advancements the miracles of MLERF. However, those achievements are not miracles; they are the products of innovative and dedicated scientific work. The miracle be-

neath those achievements is the creation of the scientific and support community that generates the environment for those achievements. MLERF has been a consistent supporter of the work done at the finest research institutions in the world. MLERF is privileged to be part of a unique community in Massachusetts, unequaled anywhere else, for eye research.

As we come through the winter of 2022, let us embrace the hope for spring, and dedicate ourselves to our continued mission. Let us celebrate the MLERF legacy of seventy years of service, seventy years of HOPE [Helping Other People Everywhere] as we continue our support for further achievements in the elimination of preventable eye disease and blindness. The story of MLERF exemplifies the story of the Lions of Massachusetts and can be told as a beacon of service, inspiration, and purpose.

As we reflect on the past and look to the future, it is appropriate to reflect upon those who have helped create our legacy. This winter has marked the passing of three MLERF past presidents: PP William Jones [1992-93], PP John MacGilvray [2000-2001], and PP Walter Fernandez [2005-2006]. We are grateful for their service and for their part in sustaining the MLERF miracle.

In our dedication to our Lions' mission, we can embrace the optimism of the coming spring as we support each other and our communities to make this a better world.

Thank you.

President Matthew Richardson

### **MLERF REVISED SCHEDULE**

Friday-Sunday, February 18-20, 2022 – District 33A Mid-Winter – Southbridge, MA

Thursday, February 24, 2022 – Board Meeting – Zoom

Friday-Saturday, February 25-26, 2022 – District 33Y – Mid-Winter – Virtual

Saturday, March 5, 2022, 6:30 PM -Lions Virtual Family Feud Fundraiser - Virtual

Thursday, March 24, 2022 – Board Meeting – Zoom

Saturday, April 2, 2022 – Polar Plunge – Lake Pearl, Wrentham

Thursday, April 14, 2022 – Tufts Visitation - Zoom

Thursday, April 21, 2022 – Board Meeting – Zoom - Grant recommendations vote

Friday, April 29 – May 1, 2022 – MD33 State Convention – North Falmouth

Thursday, May 26, 2022 – Board Meeting – Zoom - Nominations recommendations

Thursday, June 16, 2022 – Board Meeting – Zoom - Nominations vote

Friday, June 24 – June 28 – LCI International Convention – Montreal, Quebec, Canada

MLERF Annual Meeting – July - date and location TBD

Institutional visitations – TBD

Boston University – Children's – Joslin – Schepens – MEEI

## NEWS FROM DISTRICT 33Y



James A. Gracia, PDG, Past President MLERF

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Hello Fellow Lions,

News of my demise has been greatly exaggerated. After 20+ years in the chairs of Lionism, starting with being a zone chair and ending with the title Immediate Past President of Mass Lions Eye Research Fund, a Lion sometimes needs a break. Don't tell that to Super Lion Jean Wilder (alias Jean Martin, alias Alice Kramden to my Ralph). She will be our president of MLERF next year and I couldn't be more proud to have worked with her over the years. We all

know she will work tirelessly for the cause, but we will need to give her all the support we can. It has been a few years since our state has been able to fully fund MLERF as we had been accustomed to when the world was in a more stable place, both health-wise, financially, and politically. But I don't want to get into that painful subject right now. Let's talk about eye sight and how we can help prevent eye sight problems.

Several years ago, when I was the EyeCatcher reporter for District 33Y, I wrote an article which talked about why some animals can see better at night than us humans can. It may be old news for some of you, who have kept up with the science behind eye sight problems, but until I can get back into the swing of things with the current science and research that we are funding, I will present that subject matter again.

As some of you may know, I spend a lot of time in the woods during the fall whitetail deer hunting season. Don't worry, based on my past record, Bambi and his relatives are not in any danger of becoming extinct. I always knew their eyesight was better than ours, but, until I did some research, I didn't realize how they were different. They can see very well at night and they can detect the slightest movements from very long distances, much to my dismay. These traits are very important for a deer's survival. Predators, like coyotes, are active during the night, so detecting them moving in the night is important. Believe me, they can detect movement in the daylight very well. However, they do not have good visual acuity, that is, being able to focus their eyes on a stationary object and recognize what it is. They are also color blind, except for a few colors. So if a predator or hunter is smart, he/she will move slowly and stand perfectly still if he/she sees a deer. The deer may see the predator, but if it doesn't move, the deer may not recognize the danger and give the predator a chance to succeed. In regard to colors, a deer can only see greens, yellows, and blues, but it can see blue the best. So hunters wearing blue jeans in the woods should probably just stay home. Blaze orange, so clearly visible in the woods to the human eye, is just another shade of grey to a deer.

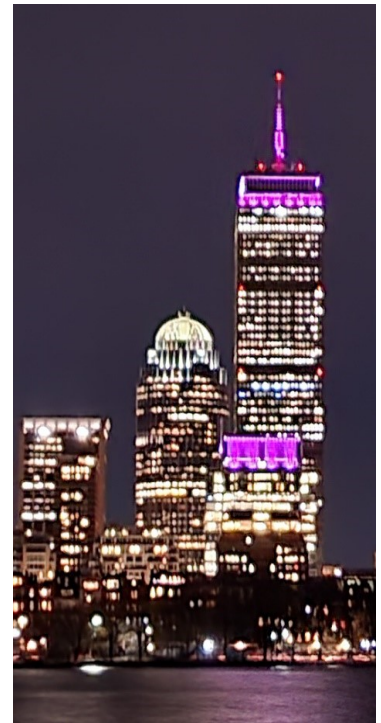
Now what does this have to do with the subject of eye research? As you probably already know, our eyes contain specialized nerves, called rods and cones. Animal eyes contain these same





## Welcome to the Miracle Zone –

Our Lions Mascot, Lions of Massachusetts, and directors of MLERF greet the public under the purple lights at the 31 Nights of Light recognition of MLERF and the Lions of Massachusetts on December 17, 2021.





nerves, but in different concentrations and configurations. Cones give us, and animals, the ability to see color, but our eyes have a much larger number of cones than a deer and our cones are able to differentiate all three wavelengths of light (short, medium, and long) and therefore, all the colors. The cones in a deer eye are only able to detect short and medium wavelengths. They still see the long wavelength colors (reds), but perceive them as shades of grey, just like those of us who may have varying degrees of color blindness due to missing cones for a particular wavelength. On the other side of the coin, the cones in a deer eye can detect ultraviolet light, which we cannot. That gives them excellent night vision. We have about 6 or 7 million cones in our eyes, but deer have many times less cones than humans. Their ability to detect ultraviolet light, in the cones they do have, gives them the advantage of better night vision. They can see approximately 50 times better in the dark than humans.

Score tied: human vision vs deer vision

Now let's talk about rods. Rods pick up light signals and differentiate between shades of light and dark, but they don't perceive color. Cones provide that information to the brain. Rods and cones can detect motion and are spread out on the rear curvature of our eyes, which gives us our peripheral vision, in addition to straight ahead vision. By working together, the rods and cones give us our visual acuity. Our rods work much better in low light than cones, but neither work good in regard to color recognition in low light. We do not consciously detect ultraviolet light at all, unlike a deer whose cones can detect ultraviolet light in the dark. A deer has a disadvantage in regard visual acuity due to the way its eyes are oriented on their heads. Our eyes can focus on things while we move our heads, but a deer must hold its head steady to focus on something. Meanwhile, everything else in their peripheral vision is out of focus, but they can detect the slightest movement even though not in full focus. Score still tied.

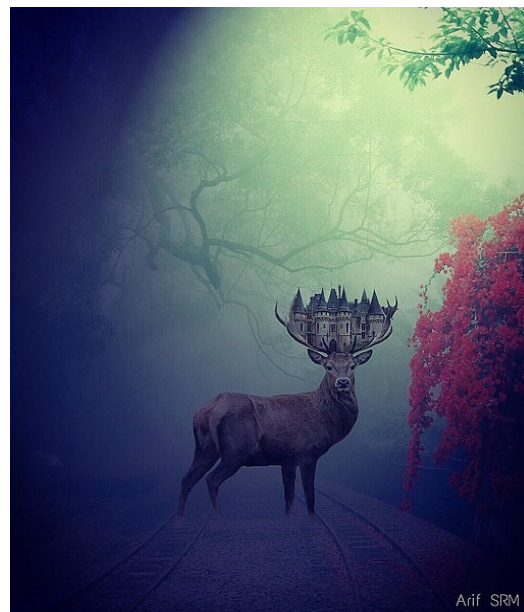
I hope this wasn't too boring of a discussion, but I wanted to illustrate how eye sight can differ depending on the rods and cones in humans versus animals. The night vision aspects are the most obvious differences in our two species, but it has always intrigued me about the similarities in the mechanisms of vision between humans and animals of all types. In my years of attending MLERF meetings and visitations to the research institutions, I learned a lot about eye sight and the medical advances that our research money has helped achieve. My time on the Board is over, however, I would encourage any Lion, who wants to help our organization and to learn more about vision problems, to volunteer to be on the MLERF Board of Directors. Your time on the Board, whether you decide to proceed up the chairs or not, will be very fulfilling. Please speak to our District Governor about your desire to be on the Board. You may not be appointed right away, but don't give up. It will be worth your time and energy.

Stay healthy everyone.

PDG Jim Gracia

Image Courtesy of Geyick

[Wikimedia Commons](#)



## District 33A NEWS



IPDG Denise Andrews

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Hello Awesome Lions of 33-A,

Happy New Year!! It's unbelievable how quickly the years go by. Let's all hope and pray that 2022 will be less challenging and will bring the world more hope, peace and joy. Despite the conditions of our world, the Lions of our District and of the world continued to serve those in need. An example of this was shown at our MLERF Awards Banquet held in September at the Holiday Inn in Mansfield. This is where Lions and Clubs in all five districts were awarded for their generosity and commitment to MLERF for the years 2019-20 and 2020-21. I am so proud of our District and would like to congratulate and thank the following Lions and Clubs:

First of all, two of our Lions received the President's Appreciation Award – Lion Bill Johnson, a new Board member and a Harvard Lion and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of MLERF, Lion John Riemer, a Grafton Lion. In 2019-20 Club Awards went to Mendon, Milford and Millbury Lions with Millbury being the Top Club (\$18,900). In 2020-21 Club Awards went to Lunenburg Turkey Hill Family, Mendon and Milford with Milford being the Top Club (\$15,869). Special Awards, which are given to Clubs reaching historical donation levels of hundreds of thousands for the first time, were given for the year 2019-20 to the Boylston Lions (\$101,632) and in 2020-21 to the Leicester Lions (\$100,669). Also, District Governor Awards were given to PDG Colleen Oncay (2019-20) for a total donation that year of \$80,015 and to PDG Denise Andrews (2020-21) for a total donation that year of \$60,975. Awesome job Lions, keep up the great work that you do!!

Some of you may ask, why should we donate to MLERF, what does it do and where does the money go? Well, first of all let me tell you of a recent story that would answer those questions. MLERF has a program to seek 2<sup>nd</sup> Medical Opinions through MLERF Institutional Partners. Each District has a Representative that a club member can contact if they have a Lion or someone in the community that is in need of a second opinion or in need of an immediate appointment to see a specialist in one of our Boston Hospitals. Our Representative is PDG Dick Ferrucci. He received an email on December 8th asking for assistance from a Lion and sent the request immediately to our contact at MEEI (Mass. Eye & Ear Institute). By the afternoon on December 9th the person needing attention had already received an appointment date. The message received from MEEI Patient Access was this, "I spoke with client you requested needing assistance, our neuro ophthalmology department will be contacting her directly to schedule an appointment". That's all due to the relationship we Lions have with the most remarkable institutions in Boston. Each year these institutions will apply for grants for a research project that they are working on and through the funds that we raise we are able to award them monies towards that research. So, please continue to support YOUR fund MLERF. There are many stories like this of what this Fund does and where the money goes that can be found on their website: [www.mlerfi.com](http://www.mlerfi.com). Please take a moment to check it out; it will truly make you feel proud to be a Lion. Remember, as it states on their website – "We're helping researchers transform today's ideas into tomorrow's cures".

Each District also has Directors that you may contact that will happily come to visit your Club and talk more about MLERF and the benefits of donating to this Fund. Our Directors are: PCST Lionel Carbonneau, PCST Edward “Eddie” Lambert, PCST2 Teri LaCoy and Lion Bill Johnson. Contact them and invite them to a meeting, you will not regret it. Their contact information can be found in our District Directory or on our website at: [www.lionsdist33a.org](http://www.lionsdist33a.org)

Thank you for all that you do in service to others, and always be PROUD to say that you’re a Lion. Stay safe, healthy and strong, and never forget: “Where There’s A Need, There’s A Lion”.

Happy 2022!!

In service and friendship,

IPDG Denise Andrews  
District 33-A

## SUCCESS STORY

### **Therapy, Jack Sees a Little Brighter, More Clearly**

On March 18, 2018 a 13-year old boy with retinitis pigmentosa becomes the first patient in the United States to receive an FDA approved gene therapy drug for any inherited disease; treatment successfully improves his vision acuity and night vision

You can learn more about Retinitis Pignmentosa by reviewing information on the National Institutes of Health Website. They have a [great writeup that explains this horrible disease](#) and the toll it takes on those who have it and their families.



## District 33N News



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### **Newburyport Lions Club is number one in the State and District 33N with total donations of \$773,411.26 supporting Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund (MLERF)**

The Newburyport Lions Club held its 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Yankee Homecoming Road Race on Tuesday, August 3, 2021.



The Newburyport Lions Club was able to hold its 5K Road Race this year; unfortunately, ongoing challenges presented by the pandemic halted the running of the 10 Mile. Nevertheless, the Institution for Savings remained the Race's presenting sponsor and the community rose to the occasion in support of its beloved Lions. More than 1,500 runners participated in this year's 5K allowing families and spectators alike to enjoy at least some form of return to normal in 2021.

The Road Race has grown to draw more than 2,300 runners, not to mention the thousands of spectators, on a non-pandemic year and is an ideal opportunity for runners to challenge themselves while enjoying the historic neighborhoods and scenery of Newburyport. In fact, many runners return year after year and have made participation in the Road Race their own family tradition.

The Road Race, which began in 1960, has grown in popularity, runners and spectators over the years to become one of the main focuses of Yankee Homecoming Week in Newburyport along with the Newburyport Lions Bed Race.

Proceeds from the Road Race enables the Newburyport Lions to support the vital research efforts of MLERF. To date, the Newburyport Lions Club has donated **\$773,411.26 to MLERF making the Newburyport Lions Club #1 in the State and in District 33N.**

MLERF has helped establish three major research centers in Boston; Howe Laboratory of Ophthalmology at Massachusetts Eye and Ear, Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Laboratory at Boston University Medical Center, and Lions Laboratory for Genetic Research at Schepens Eye Research Institute. In addition, MLERF has partnered with many of the leading Eye Research Centers in the World as well as awarded research grants of more than \$39 million to countless institutions.

As Knights of the Blind, Lions everywhere serve to eradicate preventable blindness. Some of the success stories of those efforts funded through MLERF can be found on [www.MLERFI.com](http://www.MLERFI.com) and include Gene Therapy, Statin Treatment for High Risk Macular Degeneration, and Injection-based Therapies.

The Newburyport Lions Club is proud to be able to contribute to such life-improving efforts and thanks all of its fellow Lions and Lions family members who volunteer at, participate in and support its annual Yankee Homecoming Road Race. We look forward to a full program of a 10 Mile and 5K 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Newburyport Lions Club Yankee Homecoming Road Race in 2022!

Yours in Lionsim,

IPDG Marcel



## District 33K News



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Fellow Lions,

We have been forced to rethink everything we do and how we support our favorite community and Lions events and charities. Nonetheless, we have continued to move forward and make the most of the hand we have been dealt.

This year, DG Peg has been able to visit more of our Clubs in person, and yet, we are planning our mid-winter conference as a virtual event. Thankfully, as always, the Lions of District 33K come out in force and have stepped up to the table and have eagerly embraced change and have displayed their usual willingness to adapt to changes on the fly.

While we all understand that fundraising during these times has been challenging, we are very proud to report that the Clubs in District 33K have continued many of their fundraising events that they held prior to COVID. This was done primarily through the Lions of "Special K" having the vision and willingness to adapt some of their most successful events into virtual or hybrid events. It is amazing to watch what our Clubs have managed to accomplish!

Wrentham is looking forward to hosting the Polar Plunge again in April (you will find the flyer later in this bulletin). While that water will be cold (polar after all) you can rest assured there will be plenty of fun and fellowship at this event, there always is.

Our Lions have always stepped up to assist our District Governor in meeting their MLERF fundraising goals, and we know this year, you will work doubly hard because our own PDG Matthew is serving as President. While we all understand that COVID has had an impact on many Club's ability to raise funds, we hope that when you are considering where your money has the most impact that you will remember MLERF and all the good they do.

Each Lions Club is strongly encouraged to reach out to Treasurer PDG Jim Roth and find out if your club is eligible to give a Sight Award this year. This is a great way to recognize a Lion in your club who has worked hard to promote the ideals of Lionism, with a focus on saving eyesight.

Some of the things that a Lion could be recognized for include raising money for Pennies for Sight, hosting a White Cane Drive multiple times, spreading information inside and outside your club about the good that MLERF does not only across Massachusetts, but across the world as our researchers are among the best in the world.



Let's not forget, the more research that is done in learning more about eye diseases like glaucoma, macular degeneration, and retinitis pigmentosa, the fewer people who are likely to lose their vision completely in the years to come. Imagine the pride our families will feel for generations knowing that we helped eradicate or better treat a form of blindness.

Lions in our Clubs are getting older. Let's never forget that when we need help with a vision-related issue that MLERF can help with a referral to an eye specialist. If you are in need of a referral, please make sure you follow the proper procedures. Eye doctors from our research institutes are happy to offer second opinions, and in emergency cases, we are more likely to have the ability to see someone on an urgent basis for those cases which may need immediate care. Simply reach out to one of the Directors from our District if you need help.

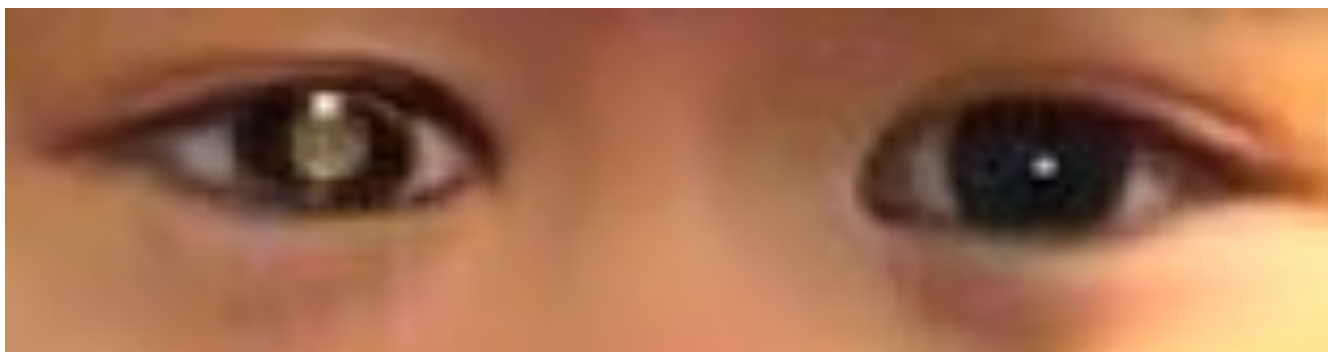
Let's not overlook the obvious. The Lions in your Club need to be made aware of what good these dollars are doing. Make sure you talk about MLERF at your Club meeting. You can refer Lions to the MLERF website, you can invite a speaker from MLERF to talk, or you can ask a member of your club who is familiar with the work that is done by MLERF to talk for a few minutes. This will help every member understand what it is the money they work so hard to raise is used for.

We also encourage Lions who are interested to attend one or more of the visitations to the research facilities during an annual visit. These visitations are eye—opening (pun intended) and will help your Lions see firsthand just what our donations accomplish!

As always, I applaud you for your continued support of MLERF and I'm asking you to show DG Peg and President Matthew your support by raising even \$100 more than last year! Imagine if every club in 33K could accomplish that! Stay safe and please do not hesitate to reach out to any MLERF director if you have questions or would like a speaker to attend your meeting.

Yours in Lionism,

Doreen



## NEWS FROM DISTRICT 33S



PDG Wayne Smith  
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Fellow Lions,

Something struck me right between my eyes. It was not the first time in my life as a Lion. On a day trip with a cousin we stopped for lunch at a restaurant. She had trouble reading the menu, so much so that I read it for her. She had never had this experience before.

She saw her doctor the next week and was diagnosed with Age-related Dry Macular Degeneration (AMD) in one eye and Wet Macular Degeneration in the other. She is being treated for the Wet AMD.

I responded, "I get a little proud when I hear of someone having treatment for AMD. A disease that had no treatment in the 1990's until Doctor Joan Miller at Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary (MEEI) received a grant from the Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund (MLERF) to investigate a cure. At the time Dr. Miller was told by the profession, why do this because no researcher has ever found anything that works and you are wasting your time. Dr. Miller proved them wrong.

Today we have treatment for wet AMD and we are funding promising research on dry AMD. I went on to tell my cousin of Abington Lion Paul Schlub a wonderful friend of mine. One day he told me that he would not be able to drive his car as he had been diagnosed with wet AMD. Very shortly after he was able to be treated with a new therapy. A thank you to Doctor Miller and Lion funding. He continued to be able to drive. Paul was always ready to raise funds for MLERF. I think of him now as we spent many a day serving food from the Abington Lion's food trailer. And just about any other fund raiser. Paul passed away a few years ago but enjoyed having his sight. He joined Lions to help others. Little did he realize Lion's would help him.

It is always nice when something, "hits home". Think of the people and families Lions (you) have touched through eye research is incredible. When you see it reach your relatives and close friends you realize how important our efforts are for so many. Families all over the world.

MLERF 69th Annual Lions Appreciation and Awards Banquet took place in September. It was a festive night. Especially to get together with our Lion friends and guests to celebrate two years of giving. Past President Jeanne Farrow and Immediate Past President Roland Grenier, Jr. were thanked for their leadership during this difficult experience with covid. President Matthew Richardson arranged connections for us with the medical institutions we support. Matthew encouraged us to continue our support of these dedicated researchers and explained the goals for this year.

Lion Avery Lee Williams passed away the week of our meeting and a moment of silence was held for him and Lions that have passed away over the past two years. Lee had received the Global Membership Award from Lions International bringing in over 250 new members. But if the truth

were known, it was probably over 500 since he very often gave credit to other Lion members. Think of the impact Lee has had on our donations to MLERF as well as all the good Lions do in so many ways. Membership makes everything happen.

Total donations from our multiple district was \$649,459 and \$618,361 for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021. 33S led the multiple district donations with \$229,152 and \$228,904. PDG John Babb and PDG Sandy Fife presented the awards to the clubs for their years as governor.

PDG John Babb presented Clubs with donations over \$5,000 to Bridgewater \$6,066, Lakeville \$5,000, Seekonk \$9,000, Somerset \$7,982, South Attleboro Village \$5,734, and West Bridgewater \$6,833. Over \$10,000 were Abington \$10,378, Acushnet \$14,115, Dighton \$11,129, Fairhaven \$10,760, Mattapoisett \$14,372, Plymouth \$10,475, Provincetown \$15,326, Rehoboth \$11,800 and Rehoboth Anawan \$13,171. Over \$20,000 was Easton with the largest donation of \$25,576.

PDG Sandy Fife presented Clubs with donations over \$5,000 to Abington \$8,991, Bridgewater \$7,066, Bridgewater Academy \$5,800, Lakeville \$5,000, Mattapoisett \$7,700, Raynham \$5,565, Rochester \$6,415, South Attleboro \$5,136 and West Bridgewater \$5,448. Over \$10,000 were Acushnet \$14,214, Plymouth \$10,719, Rehoboth Anawan \$10,348 and Seekonk \$15,000. Over \$20,000 was Easton \$40,677 and Somerset \$20,805. Easton was the largest donation.

Special awards with clubs reaching historical donation levels of hundreds of thousands for the first time were Abington \$301,209, Easton \$614,772, Provincetown \$400,254 and South Attleboro Village \$203,910. Most importantly it took all of our clubs to contribute no matter the amount. Without every single Lion member helping we would not have this donation to our research facilities. Thank you all. Lions Paula Doherty and Gladys Hall from Bridgewater Academy Lions were presented the William T. "Bill" Murphy Sight Award. Well deserved. You could easily tell by the applause.

Doctor Mohamed Elmasry a new staff member at Beetham Eye Institute and Joslin Diabetes Center as a retinal specialist was our guest speaker. He is an instructor at Harvard University and has had over thirty peer reviewed manuscripts published in many top journals in the field of ophthalmology. As a Retinal Fellow at Joslin Diabetes Center for three years he trained under Doctors Lloyd P. Aiello and Jennifer Sun, world renowned in Diabetic Retinopathy. His PhD in advanced retinal imaging and thesis was about quantitative metrics in ultra-wide field imaging. He thanked MLERF for the Presidential Grant that Joslin recently received and the impact it has on Joslin patient care and eye research. The grant was for the purchase of the Optos Ultra-wide Camera and Optical Coherence Tomography (OTC).

Now patients are diagnosed and treated in less time, more accurately and with less stress. No dilation is needed and it is better tolerated by the patient. Instead of many images taken, only one is needed. Instead of taking five to ten minutes with many images it takes less than a second for one image. This image takes 200 degrees or 80% image of the retina that can be viewed easily. This rather than many images that captured only 45 degrees or 15% with each image.

Without this new technology 40 to 59% diagnoses could be missed diagnosed or in some cases missed completely. This will also allow researchers to see more and discover more in Diabetic Retinopathy studies. We look forward to getting covid behind us. Having the opportunity to again raise over one million dollars for MLERF is possible. Past President and District Governor Martin Middleton looks forward to that accomplishment.

Thank you Lions for all of your efforts, PDG Wayne





**Saturday, March 5, 2022 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm**

***MLERF Charity FUNdraising Event!***

***Play From Home***



***Live Host***

***Have Some Fun***

***Win a Prize***

**\$60 to register any size team**

**Teams up to 6 members qualify to win prizes**

**Game is played virtually via Zoom**

**You will be emailed a Zoom link ahead of time**

**Team members don't have to be  
in the same location or on the same device.**

**Sign Up Now: [FamilyFeud.HarvardLions.org](http://FamilyFeud.HarvardLions.org)**



## 4th Annual Lion's Polar Plunge Saturday, April 2, 2022

11:30 am - 2:00 pm  
Lake Pearl, Wrentham, MA



Calling all strong, brave, and kind people to take the **PLUNGE** or **SPONSOR** one of these courageous plungers at the 4th Annual Polar Plunge at Lake Pearl in Wrentham. The Norfolk, Wrentham, and Plainville Lions co-sponsor this event to **benefit eye research for MLERF**. Plungers will endure the frigid waters of Lake Pearl.

**Come join the fun and support our purpose  
in being "Knights of the Blind".**

**REGISTER TO PLUNGE or SPONSOR A PLUNGER  
online at  
[www.lionspolarplunge.org](http://www.lionspolarplunge.org)**

# Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund, Inc.

## DISTRICT "Y"

7/1/2021 ---> 1/5/2022

Club Name	Previous Year	Pennies	Journey for Sight	Memorial	Grant	T&E	Total Grant	Total Donation
Adams	1,605.00						0.00	0.00
Agawam	5,833.00						0.00	0.00
Agawam Lioness	0.00						0.00	0.00
Amherst	0.00						0.00	0.00
Amherst Leo	0.00						0.00	0.00
Ashfield	0.00						0.00	0.00
Belchertown	3,500.00						0.00	0.00
Charlemont	443.00	66.00					66.00	66.00
Cheshire	0.00						0.00	0.00
Chicopee Centennial	0.00						0.00	0.00
Cummington	120.00	186.00					186.00	186.00
Dalton	1,000.00						0.00	0.00
Deerfield	252.00						0.00	0.00
East Longmeadow	6,000.00						0.00	0.00
Easthampton	100.00						0.00	0.00
Granby	510.00						0.00	0.00
Granville-Tolland	0.00						0.00	0.00
Great Barrington	0.00						0.00	0.00
Greenfield	0.00						0.00	0.00
Hadley	0.00						0.00	0.00
Hampden	0.00						0.00	0.00
Hatfield	1,000.00						0.00	0.00
Hinsdale	1,000.00						0.00	0.00
Holyoke	2,000.00						0.00	0.00
Hoosac Valley Leo	0.00						0.00	0.00
Huntington	0.00						0.00	0.00
Lee	773.00						0.00	0.00
Ludlow	235.00						0.00	0.00
North Adams	0.00						0.00	0.00
Northampton	8,264.47						0.00	0.00
Pelham	120.00						0.00	0.00
Pittsfield	4,517.00				2,000.00		2,000.00	2,000.00
South Hadley	25.00						0.00	0.00
South Hadley Leos	0.00						0.00	0.00
Southampton	1,500.00						0.00	0.00
Southwick	11,198.08	83.50					83.50	83.50





# Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund, Inc.

## DISTRICT "A"

**7/1/2021 ---> 1/5/2022**

Club Name	Previous Year	Pennies	Journey for Sight	Memorial	Grant	T&E	Total Grant	Total Donation
Ashburnham	0.00				500.00		500.00	500.00
Athol	25.00	365.23			500.00		865.23	865.23
Auburn	20.00						0.00	0.00
Barre	610.00						0.00	0.00
Berlin	0.00						0.00	0.00
Blackstone Valley Leo	1,000.00						0.00	0.00
Bolton	162.00						0.00	0.00
Boylston	3,000.00						0.00	0.00
Brookfields	3,350.00						0.00	0.00
Charlton	25.00						0.00	0.00
Clinton	20.00						0.00	0.00
Dudley	500.00						0.00	0.00
Dudley Leo	0.00						0.00	0.00
Fitchburg Community	50.00					50.00	0.00	50.00
Gardner	1,000.00						0.00	0.00
Gardner Leo	0.00						0.00	0.00
Grafton	1,600.00		15.00				15.00	15.00
Grafton Leo	0.00						0.00	0.00
Harvard	3,645.86	385.00					385.00	385.00
Holden	100.00						0.00	0.00
Hopedale	20.00						0.00	0.00
Hubbardston	20.00						0.00	0.00
Leicester	2,311.81		20.00				20.00	20.00
Leicester Leo	0.00						0.00	0.00
Leominster	999.20	24.00		50.00			74.00	74.00
Lunenburg Turkey Hill	5,000.00						0.00	0.00
Mendon	8,037.33		50.00	50.00			100.00	100.00
Milford	15,869.00			400.00		100.00	400.00	500.00
Millbury	1,600.00						0.00	0.00
Monson	330.00						0.00	0.00
Montachusett Reg Leos	0.00						0.00	0.00
Northboro	20.00						0.00	0.00
Orange	91.00						0.00	0.00
Oxford	1,000.00				750.00		750.00	750.00
Palmer	150.00						0.00	0.00
Paxton	86.79						0.00	0.00



# Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund, Inc.

## DISTRICT "N"

7/1/2021 ---> 1/5/2022

Club Name	Previous Year	Pennies	Jouney for Sight	Memorial	Grant	T&E	Total Grant	Total Donation
Acton	4,250.00			1,250.00			1,250.00	1,250.00
Amesbury	4,482.50			200.00			200.00	200.00
Ayer/Shirley	100.00						0.00	0.00
Billerica	4,175.00			20.00			20.00	20.00
Billerica Leo	100.00						0.00	0.00
Chelmsford	100.00						0.00	0.00
Concord	7,082.50				3,000.00		3,000.00	3,000.00
Danvers	100.00						0.00	0.00
Dracut	133.00					50.00	0.00	50.00
Dracut Leo	600.00						0.00	0.00
Dunstable/Tyngsboro	500.00						0.00	0.00
Essex	100.00						0.00	0.00
Essex County Reg.	100.00						0.00	0.00
Haverhill	3,705.00			625.00			625.00	625.00
Ipswich	4,130.00						0.00	0.00
Lawrence	100.00						0.00	0.00
Lawrence Latin	100.00						0.00	0.00
Lexington	17,500.00						0.00	0.00
Lowell	2,600.00						0.00	0.00
Lynn	100.00						0.00	0.00
Magnolia	100.00						0.00	0.00
Melrose	100.00						0.00	0.00
Merrimac	100.00						0.00	0.00
Methuen	225.00						0.00	0.00
Nahant	100.00						0.00	0.00
Newburyport	15,000.00						0.00	0.00
North Andover	100.00						0.00	0.00
Peabody	100.00						0.00	0.00
Pepperell	2,676.00	448.00					448.00	448.00
Reading	7,793.19				12,000.00		12,000.00	12,000.00
Salem	850.00						0.00	0.00
Salisbury	100.00						0.00	0.00
Saugus	750.00				5,000.00		5,000.00	5,000.00
Shoe City (Lynn)	2,080.00		275.00	270.00			545.00	545.00
Tewksbury	100.00			150.00			150.00	150.00
Townsend	2,775.00						0.00	0.00
Wakefield	2,090.00	255.00					255.00	255.00





# Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund, Inc.

## DISTRICT "K"

7/1/2021 ---> 1/5/2022

Club Name	Previous Year	Pennies	Jouney for Sight	Memorial	Grant	T&E	Total Grant	Total Donation
Arlington	150.00					100.00	0.00	100.00
Ashland	10,210.00					150.00	0.00	150.00
Ashland Leo	0.00						0.00	0.00
Bellingham	500.00			325.00			325.00	325.00
Belmont	41,188.52						0.00	0.00
Blackstone	1,936.00						0.00	0.00
Boston Chinatown	535.00						0.00	0.00
Boston Host	285.00						0.00	0.00
BU Eye Assoc	1,790.00						0.00	0.00
Cambridge	500.00		300.00		25.00		325.00	325.00
Canton	100.00						0.00	0.00
Charlestown	150.00					50.00	0.00	50.00
Foxboro	0.00						0.00	0.00
Framingham	120.00						0.00	0.00
Franklin	350.00						0.00	0.00
Greater Ashland	620.00						0.00	0.00
Himalayan NE	100.00						0.00	0.00
Hingham	100.00						0.00	0.00
Holliston	10,922.00					250.00	0.00	250.00
Holliston Leo	0.00						0.00	0.00
Hopkinton	15.00						0.00	0.00
Hull	100.00						0.00	0.00
Hyde Park	175.00						0.00	0.00
King Philip Leos	0.00						0.00	0.00
Malden	4,486.00					1,805.00	0.00	1,805.00
Marlboro	650.00			20.00			20.00	20.00
Medfield	5,005.00						0.00	0.00
Medford	150.00						0.00	0.00
Medway	11,223.00						0.00	0.00
Millis	2,090.00						0.00	0.00
Natick	1,542.39						0.00	0.00
NE College of Optometr	100.00						0.00	0.00
Newton	2,500.00						0.00	0.00
Norfolk	3,370.00						0.00	0.00
Norwood	2,330.00						0.00	0.00
Plainville	2,000.00						0.00	0.00



# Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund, Inc.

## DISTRICT "S"

**7/1/2021 ---> 1/5/2022**

Club Name	Previous Year	Pennies	Journey for Sight	Memorial	Grant	T&E	Total Grant	Total Donation
Abington	8,991.07		600.00				600.00	600.00
Acushnet	14,213.71			500.00			500.00	500.00
Attleboro Tri Boro Com	0.00						0.00	0.00
Barnstable Yarmouth	2,500.00						0.00	0.00
Barnstable High Leo	0.00						0.00	0.00
Bridgewater	7,066.00		1,571.68	950.00			2,521.68	2,521.68
Bridgewater Academy	5,800.00		960.00	1,070.00			2,030.00	2,030.00
Bridgewater Community	907.00						0.00	0.00
Bridge/Raynham Leo	0.00						0.00	0.00
Brockton	50.00						0.00	0.00
Dartmouth	625.00						0.00	0.00
Dennis/Harwich	2,365.76		365.00	150.00			515.00	515.00
Dennis Yarmouth Leo	0.00						0.00	0.00
Dighton	375.00						0.00	0.00
Dighton Rehoboth Leo	0.00						0.00	0.00
Duxbury	166.00						0.00	0.00
East Bridgewater	395.00	302.00			5,000.00		5,302.00	5,302.00
Easton	40,676.51		175.00			5,000.00	175.00	5,175.00
Easton Oliver Ames Leo	100.00						0.00	0.00
Fairhaven	4,050.00						0.00	0.00
Fall River	200.00						0.00	0.00
Fall River Carousel	883.75						0.00	0.00
Falmouth	200.00		200.00				200.00	200.00
Freetown	1,000.00						0.00	0.00
Greater Attleboro Leo	0.00						0.00	0.00
Greater Taunton Leo	0.00						0.00	0.00
Halifax-Pembroke	600.00						0.00	0.00
Hanover	300.00						0.00	0.00
Kingston	600.00						0.00	0.00
Lakeville	5,000.00						0.00	0.00
Lakeville OCA	200.00						0.00	0.00
Lower Cape Cod Light	255.06						0.00	0.00
Mattapoisett	7,700.00			200.00			200.00	200.00
Middleboro	3,500.00		137.00	3,641.39			3,778.39	3,778.39
Nauset	20.00						0.00	0.00
New Bedford Host	338.00						0.00	0.00





# Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund, Inc.

Treasurers Report : 2021-2022

7/1/2021 ---> 1/5/2022

Balance Forward:		\$772,806.50
Current Income		
Grant Contributions		
District Y	\$3,315.50	
District A	\$5,321.23	
District N	\$50,808.00	
District K	\$3,637.50	
District S	\$24,031.07	
Total Grant Contributions		\$87,113.30
Interest		
CD's	\$0.00	
Annuities	\$0.00	
Total Interest Income		\$0.00
Other Income		
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	
T&E Donations this year	\$7,997.34	
T&E Withdrawal 2021-2022	\$70,520.00	
Total Income 01July - date		\$165,630.64
Committed Donations		
Grant Donations this year 2021-2022	\$87,113.30	
Grant Donations last year 2020-2021	\$590,660.90	
Presidential Grant 2021-2022 (BU)	\$0.00	
T&E Donations this year	\$7,997.34	
T&E Interest Committed to Pres. Grant	\$70,520.00	
Total Committed		\$756,291.54
Current Expenses		
Approved Grants		
BU School of Medicine	\$0.00	
Joslin Diabetes Center	\$0.00	
Mass Eye & Ear	\$0.00	
Schepens Eye Research Center	\$0.00	
New England Eye Center (Tufts)	\$0.00	
Childrens Hospital	\$0.00	
Presidential Grant 2019-2020 (Tuft's)	\$0.00	
Presidential Grant 2020-2021 (Joslin)	\$0.00	
T&E Donations	\$0.00	
Total Grants and T&E		\$0.00

# Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund, Inc.

Treasurers Report : 2021-2022

7/1/2021 ---> 1/5/2022

## Administration expenses:

Auditor	\$0.00
BOD Meetings	\$2,548.27
Bond	\$0.00
Conferences	\$0.00
Directories	\$0.00
General Admin	\$19.00
Plaques and Adwards	\$913.60
Fees & Charges	\$20.00

## Committee expenses

C&BL	\$0.00
Canisters & Pennies	\$0.00
Eye Catcher	\$0.00
Grants	\$0.00
Installation & Awards Night (Net)	\$16,419.60
Jouney For Sight	\$0.00
LRP	\$0.00
Memorials	\$0.00
Public Relations	\$2,499.00
Sight Awards	\$456.50
T&E	\$0.00
Special Project	\$0.00

Administrative & Committee Expenses	\$22,875.97
Total Expenses & Committed Donations	\$779,167.51

Uncommitted Funds	\$159,269.63
Ending Balance	\$915,561.17