

# The Worm\*



a publication of the gig Harbor Lions early Bird Branch

\*Our Motto: "Wow it's early. What were we thinking?"

SEPTEMBER 2007

## JUST MY OPINION . . . I Could Be Wrong.

*Branch Coordinator John Kirry*

### **And now, Wayne Newton will Lead Us In Song...**

The latest Lions International Magazine had a thought-provoking article on membership by our International President, Mahendra Amarasuriya.

It seems the secret to increasing membership may be Karaoke.

Yes, Karaoke. I'm not making this up.

While your laughter subsides I will try to put it into perspective. What he was really saying was that new ideas, no matter how different they might sound, may be the key to revitalizing membership in the Lions. He used Karaoke as an example of something a club might use to make membership more fun.

In the Early Birds, we consider fun to be one of our prime missions. Laughter, good-natured fun-making, and jokes of all kinds are our stock and trade. Yet we are in the same situation as most other Lions clubs. Truth be told, our branch membership is at 13 and holding. The fact that we may get 15-20 people at our meetings is testament to our commitment to having fun while doing our Lions mission.

So what's going on here? If we're having so much fun, why isn't our membership soaring? The plain and simple answer is that we --you and I --haven't gone out to recruit new members. We don't need PowerPoint presentations, expensive consultants or pretty charts and graphs to tell us how to do it. Here's the formula:

**Use the new business cards. Get the word out, one-on-one. Invite a friend to our next meeting.**

As Wayne Newton would say: "Dankeschoen."

## Early Bird Poster

**John Kirry**  
Branch Coordinator

**Bill Panttaja**  
Vice Branch Coordinator

**Dave McKenney**  
**Bill Amesbury**  
Co-Arm Twisters

**Shelley Ryan**  
Raffle Chair

**Al Aosved**  
Branch Liaison

**Bob Wagers**  
Past-Just-About-Everything

**Bill McMonnies**  
Goodwill Ambassador

**John Barelli**  
Immediate Past BC

**Gayle Burke**  
Fox Island Navy Attaché

**Carl Sletto**  
CIA Liaison

**Bonnie Manning**  
Health Care Advisor

**Van Manning**  
Fox Island Navy Attaché #2

## Our Last Meeting...

Our new Zone Chair **Jeannie Phillips** visited the Early Birds and told us her plans for her year as ZC. Jeannie will wear many hats this year, including LERC Vice President, club secretary and Zone Chair. She has been a good friend to the Early Birds and we sent her on her journey with a check for \$50 to defray some travel expenses. In addition, we presented two nice plaques: A certificate of thanks for her presentation, and a plaque reminding her that "We're Behind You All the Way." (You had to be there to see that one!)

Past BC **John Barelli** honored his pledge to donate a video projector to the club with his donation of a very nice Toshiba. This will really enable us to "project" our sight and hearing mission throughout our community. A more formal presentation will be made at the noon club this month. Thanks again, John.

Lions Fundraising Chair **Bruce Bugbee** gave an update on our new calendar project. Called a "Photo Tribute To Gig Harbor" this calendar will be a bold departure from our old format and an exciting addition to our community. Stay tuned for more...

VIP Sighting: Lions President **Marilyn Jacobs** joined us for our meeting. We were thrilled to have her in attendance!

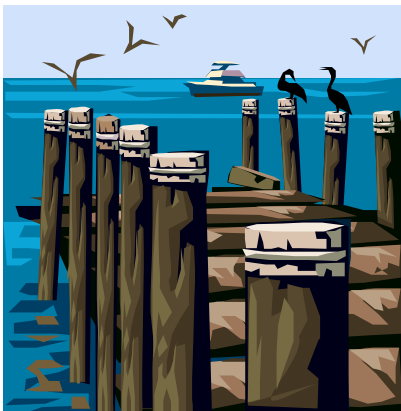


## Noon Club News

Keep in mind that we're all members of the Gig Harbor Lions and are welcome and encouraged to attend all the functions of the Noon Club.

Of particular note is the **Second Thursday Spotlight** meeting. President Marilyn Jacobs has committed to a year of important programs that will be of interest to the Gig Harbor Community.

General membership meetings are held the second and fourth Thursday of each month, 11:45, at the Inn at Gig Harbor.



## Things YOU Should know about...

At the time of our last meeting, Branch Vice-Coordinator **Bill Panttaja** was poised to undergo back surgery. Everything went as well as could be expected and Bill is now on the mend. He'll still be out of commission for a while, but we expect him "back" soon.

### This Month's "What a guy" awards.

**Shelley Ryan** won the raffle for a book by Lion Dave Pratt. Seeing how disappointed **Jeannie Phillips** was, Shelley immediately donated the book to Jeannie! What a nice thing to do!

**Bob Wagers**, repeat winner in this category, again stepped up to the plate by working tirelessly behind the scenes to get the meeting programs written and printed and the meeting room organized. Bob is always there, getting things organized and done!

We are very thankful to **John Barelli** for his video projector donation, but let's not forget the guy who made the whole thing possible, **Al Aosved**. It was Al's purchase of his new home that put the whole process in motion. Two other items about Al: 1. During Al's move, he found two copies of a game produced by the Lions Club many years ago. The game, Gig Harbor Monopoly, will be auctioned off in the future. 2. Al has been a consistently good friend to the Lions over the years, "lending" his church to us for our Second Time Around Sale and our Live Successfully With Low Vision program. A great big "Thank You Al" is most deserved!

**News of the Weird:** Nobody "won" the Dine-and-Dash trophy last time. In fact, an extra breakfast showed up that wasn't ordered. Is somebody messing with the BC?

And finally, The **Ketchup-Makes-Everything-Better Advisory Board** would like to thank **Gayle Burke** for his tireless efforts in promoting Ketchup at our Early Bird meetings.

## Dates to remember

Sept 3..Labor day, no LERC

Sept 10...Next Meeting

Sept 24...Breakfast Planning Meeting

Noon Club: 11:45 Inn at Gig Harbor

Sept 6..Board Meeting

Sept 13 Membership Meeting

Sept 21 Board meeting

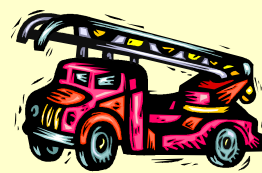
Sept 28 membership meeting

## OUR next meeting \*\* September 10

### Fire Chief Visits Early Birds.

Division Chief Penny Hulse from the Gig Harbor/Peninsula Fire Department Prevention Division will present a program on the EMT services available from her Kimball Drive station. Let's come out in force to support our local fire department!

**Bring a Friend!**



**Photo pages \*\*\*OUR last meeting**



**Dave McKenney, Pat Phillips, Gayle Burke, Bill McMonnies and Bill Amesbury enjoy breakfast.**



**Bruce Bugbee and Doug Johnson chat before the meeting.**



**PBC John Barelli presents a video projector to BC John Kirry. Silent benefactor Al Aosved sips coffee and savors the magnanimous moment.**



**Bonnie and Van Manning order something expensive to honor their anniversary and Bonnie's recent birthday.**

**“Will that be the one putt or two putt?” asks the server...**



**BC John and Zone Chair Jeannie Phillips hold the hand-made quilt that Jeannie will use this year as a fundraiser for her zone projects. The quilting detail is intricate and impressive. Tickets were sold 3 for \$5 and the drawing will be held later this year.**



**Zone Chair Jeannie Phillips along with John Kirry and Pat Phillips. Jeannie was very proud that Pat was wearing his new "Zone Chair Spouse" name tag! (Every Past Zone Chair should have one!)**



**Connoisseur Ketchup Taster Gayle Burke tries the Heinz and proves once again that “Ketchup Makes Everything Better.”**

**Gayle reports: “It pours easily for a domestic ketchup and has a pleasing nose with an earthy finish. It’s bold but not aggressive, a haunting transcendence of illusion and reality.”**

**Next month: Gayle probes the grape jelly industry with the age-old question: “What’s the deal with that Smuckers anyway?”**

