# WOODBURY LIONS CLUB NEWSLETTER

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Editor-In-Chief:

Lion Russ Domareck

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# Woodbury Lions Hold 8th Annual Duck Race

Since its inaugural in 2010, the Woodbury Lions Duck Race continues to be the primary source of funding for the Club's Sight and Hearing related donations to such foundations as Fidelco, CLERF, the Lions Low Vision Center and the American School for the Deaf. This year's event was held on September 8th at Three Rivers Park where approximately 4000 little yellow ducks were dropped into the Weekeepeemee River from Jack's Bridge at 12 noon sharp. It was a great day for a race with mild, overcast skies and no rain. The race took 10 to 15 minutes for the ducks to cross the finish line over a nicely flowing current of water that was aided by recent area rainfalls.

Approximately 17 Lions participated in the event with 35 to 40 community patrons, comprised of a large number of families with small children in attendance. The majority of the patrons congregated at the finish line to see the winning ducks come in. Lions Chet Gage, Jim

Trompeter, Jeff Bassett, Joe Mylie and Dave Ahouse released the ducks from the bridge and Lions Billy Hubert, George Lundgren and Lion President, Cliff Ritter were on hand to collect them at the finish line.

A total of 12 prizes were awarded with a total donated value of \$13,900! The top prize of \$1000 went to Joe Dichillo and 2<sup>nd</sup> place prize of \$500 was awarded to Joe Mahoney. The Club's top ticket seller was Lion Billy B with 35 complete books and 5 partial books. Gross proceeds totaled \$14,639, a number that was about \$5000 less than last year due to lower ticket sales.

Congratulations to Sight and Hearing Co-Chairmen, Lion Billy B and Billy Hubert and Lion committee members: Joe Mylie, Ken Deschino, Peter Perkinson and George Assenza. A special thank you to all the Lions who sold tickets and participated in the event for another job well done! Photos



Lions drop duckies off Jacks Bridge.

courtesy of Lion Rowland Travis with more photos also from Lion Dave Ahouse on pages 8 and 9.



Lions Billy Hubert and George Lundgren at finish line.

## **Woodbury Lions Present Award at ASD**



Lion Joe Mylie presenting check.

The American School for the Deaf (ASD) is an annual award recipient of the Club's Sight and Hearing Foundation. This year's "Annual Lions Club Dinner" for District 23B was held on November 19<sup>th</sup> at the American School for the Deaf facility in West Hartford. 28 of the District's 53 clubs were represented with an approximate total Lion attendance of 148. Representing the Woodbury Lions Club were Lions: Jim Trompeter, Frank Longo, Russ Domareck and Joe Mylie who

presented the award check for \$1000 to ASD Executive
Director, Jeff Bravin. The
Executive Director expressed
his gratitude (in sign language)
to all District 23B Lions
present for their "generous
support of his school, students
and programs throughout the
year". District Governor,
Harry Schuh from the
Harwinton Lions Club and
wife, Carol were also present.
Photo by Lion Frank Longo.

#### **New Member Inducted**

Bob Wilson became the Woodbury Lion Club's newest member at the Club dinner meeting November 6<sup>th</sup> at Constantine's. Lion Jim Trompeter officiated the induction ceremony which also included Membership Chairman, Debbie Deschino and Bob's sponsor, Lion President, Cliff Ritter. Sticking closely to tradition, Bob was welcomed into the Club by a hearty rendition of "For He's A Jolly Good Fellow" sung in multiple keys by attending Lions.

Bob recently moved to the Woodbury area after spending the last 27 years in the service of the United States Army. In his

last assignment, he served as the White House's Director for Counterterrorism on



Lion President Cliff Ritter with Lions Debbie Deschino, Bob Wilson and Jim Trompeter from left to right.

the National Security Council. Bob and his wife, Lisa, and four children live in Hotchkissville where they recently established an organic farm called the Acre of Independence. He is proud to announce that his produce and maple syrup will be available for sale at the Litchfield Hill farmers market next summer. In his free time, Bob enjoys fishing, home brewing and gardening. He is also a freelance writer as well.

The Woodbury Lions welcome Lion Bob Wilson to their Club.

Photo courtesy of Lion Rowland Travis.

# **Lions Appreciate Their Volunteers**

It is our community volunteers and the generous giving of their time, working side by side with the Lions that continually contribute to the successful outcomes of our major fundraisers. In appreciation for their valued efforts, the Woodbury Lions host an annual Appreciation Picnic. This year's event was held at Hollow Park under partly sunny, hot and humid evening skies on July 24<sup>th</sup>. The turn-out was really good with approximately 65 guests and 30

Lions. Incoming Lion President, Cliff Ritter, "thanked all for coming and to dig in!" Uncle Willies Barbeque, once again, provided fine and delicious fare of fried chicken, pulled pork, spare ribs, baked beans, mac & cheese and corn bread. A special thanks goes out to Lion President, Cliff Ritter and Lions: Frank Talarico, Jim Trompeter, Jeff Bassett and Rick Kalnins for organizing this truly worthwhile event. Photo courtesy of Lion Russ Domareck.



Lion President Cliff Ritter basking in delight.

#### **Memorial Benches Refurbished**

Memorial Bench Committee Chairman, Lion Ed Grudzian and crew were busy this past July doing some much needed bench refurbishment around town.

On a sunny and pleasant day, July 11<sup>th</sup>, Lion Ed Grudzian disassembled and reassembled the benches at the Emergency Services Building to repaint the black lettering. Sanding labor was provided by Lion Tony Fattibene of Woodbury Supply. The Memorial benches were in honor of



deceased Lions and Fire Marshals Bruce Reichenbach and Rick Rooney.



On July 14<sup>th</sup>, a cloudy and overcast day, the Memorial bench for Lion Jim Trompeter's Father-In-Law, Mel Snyder was refurbished. Lion Ed Grudzian disassembled the bench boards and gave them to Lion Tony Fattibene for sanding. Lion Ed then repainted the black lettering and reassembled the bench with the assistance of fellow Lions: Gary Greenstein, Jim Trompeter, Joe Mylie and Dave Ahouse. Great job everyone!

All photos courtesy of Lion Ed Grudzien.





Lion Jim Trompeter wih before (top photo) and after shots of deceased Lion Mel Snyder's bench.

# Haunted Hay Ride and Barn in 28th Year

The Woodbury Lions Club held their 28th annual Haunted Hay Ride and Barn on October 19th, 20th and 26th (Saturday, the 27th was cancelled due to rain). The weather was mild and comfortable for the 1st weekend but a good 10 degrees cooler on the following Friday, the last day of the event. Despite losing a day to inclement weather, the event grossed a respectable total of \$23,424 for the three days collected from 1848 stouthearted community and neighboring patrons of young and old. First time Event Chairman, Lion Rick Kalnins led a team of Lions (representing an over-all inconsistent 60 percent participation including new Lion Bob Wilson and his family) and over 100 community volunteers to make this event another success. The Haunted Hay Ride and Barn is traditionally the Club's largest fund raiser event and netted an approximate \$18,500 for this year.

Beginning at the Mitchell School and lasting an approximate 40 minutes, tractor-towed wagons were loaded with stalwart community thrill-seekers and taken through creepy fields to meet the likes of Van Wagner's howling werewolves (Grayson and Austin are the sons of deceased Lion Jerry Van Wagner), the dead bandits: Lions, Dave and Pricilla Ahouse and Lion Ray Manzi and his scary army truck before a stop at the dreaded haunted barn.

Not for the faint of heart, patrons courageous enough to leave the security

of their wagons were greeted by master ring leader, Lion Wayne Mattox and enticed to check their fears at the door and enter into the "Circus of Horrors", this year's haunted barn theme. Once inside, they were greeted by barker, Lion Frank Longo and directed into a maze of twists and turns, pop-out startles and creepy dark areas to be greeted by terrifying clowns and other fiendish denizens of the venue. As always, the blood-curdling screams of the young girls (and some adults I might add) provided much personal satisfaction!

This year's barn theme was originated by artistic co-directors, Geri Travis and Lion Heather Valentine and reflected their combined creative talents. An all-new 3D maze layout with additional drop doors was designed and pulled together under the direction of Lions Russ Domareck and Rowland Travis under the watchful eyes of Barn Chairman, Lion Gary Greenstein. A special thanks to all of the Lions and community volunteers (notably, Ernie Smith) who helped with the barn construction / preparation and barn de-construction, a project that typically takes six to seven weeks when all is said and done.

But the thrills did not end there. After leaving the haunted barn, unsuspecting patrons than continued their journey to be greeted by Lion Ken Deschino's flesheating zombies and Lion Kit Roger's ghoulish cemetery creatures before finally returning to Mitchell School.



Co-Artistic Director, Geri Travis busy applying her artistic skills at the haunted barn.

A special thanks to all of the support functions integral in making an event of this size a reality. Lions George Assenza and Stan Love in concessions, Lions Billy B and Lou Deluca in ticket sales, Lion Roger Bjornberg for providing the music at the school, Lion Chet Gage and all the hay bale movers, tractor drivers, riders, loaders and unloaders, a few but not all of the Lions and community volunteers who contributed in making this fund raiser the success that it was.

Proceeds from this event will be used in support of the Woodbury Lions Club Scholarship Foundation. Great job, everyone! Photo courtesy of Lion Gary Greenstein. More photos from Lion Gary can be found on page 9.

# **Lions Donate To Regional Hospice**

The Woodbury Lions Club has received a Platinum Sponsor designation for its annual foundation donation to the Regional Hospice and Palliative Care Center, a community based, non-profit organization. At the Southbury/ Woodbury annual harvest luncheon held October 25<sup>th</sup> at the Waterview in Monroe, Lion Gary Greenstein presented a check for \$2000 to Ellie Crystal, fund raising chairperson for Regional Hospice. The majority of the Lions donation goes directly to support the organization's Pediatric Services which, in turn, provides physical, emotional and spiritual care for babies and children facing end of

life situations. Also provided in these services, is care and support to the



Lions Gary Greenstein, Joe Mylie and wife, Suzy, Russ Domareck and wife, Judy at Regional Hospice luncheon.

families of the loved ones. Present at this

year's event were Lions Gary Greenstein, Russ Domareck and Joe Mylie. Lion Rowland Travis and his wife, Geri who is currently the community liaison for the Southbury/Woodbury chapter, were not in attendance this year due to a death in the family.

As an aside worthy of mention, this is the third year of a five-year academic scholarship through the Woodbury Lions Foundation sponsored by Ellie Crystal who is also co-chair of the Southbury/Woodbury Giving Circle.

Photo courtesy of Lion Russ Domareck.

# **Academic Scholarships Awarded**

The annual presentation of scholarship award checks took place August 7<sup>th</sup> at the Club's banquet dinner at Curtis Inn. This year's award total of \$20,000 was presented to eleven graduating seniors from NHS in individual denominations ranging from \$1000 to \$5000. The awarding of academic scholarships is the

Club's primary foundation account expenditure each year and is made possible through moneys raised from our major fund raisers; the antique car show and haunted hay ride and haunted barn.

On hand to present the scholarship award checks to the 10 students and 16 parents/guests in attendance were Immediate Past President, Lion Frank Talarico and Scholarship Committee Chairman, Lion Joe Mylie. Recipients were as follows: Jennifer Charette (Quinnipiac Univ.), Mary Morgan Bibbey (Brown Univ.), Isabe

Bibbey (Brown Univ.), Isabella Mancini (UCONN), Ashley Cole (Keene State College), Dean Jones (Univ. of Pennsylvania), Dylan McGovern (Emmanuel College), Jack Salerno (Florida State Univ.), Madison Ryanne Burns (Loyola Univ.), Matthew Pape (Springfield College), Wyatt Brennan (Endicott College) and Laura Contento who did not attend the dinner and whose plans are unknown.

The Woodbury Lions are proud supporters of our community's high school graduates and welcomes the following feedback from them:

Madison Ryanne Burns wrote:

"Dear Woodbury Lions Club Scholarship Committee,

I am writing to thank you for your generous \$1000 Woodbury Lions Club

scholarship. I am honored to be one of the recipients. I will be attending Loyola Maryland in the fall and will be majoring in International Business with a minor in Spanish. I look forward to seeing you on August 7<sup>th</sup> at the Curtis House. My education would not be possible without your generous support."



Scholarship Committee Chairman, Lion Joe Mylie, Immediate Past President, Frank Talarico, Lion President Cliff Ritter, Committee Lions Peter Perkinson and Jeff Bassett with graduating award recipients.

Jack Salerno wrote:

"Dear members of the Lions Club,

I am so honored that you have chosen me to receive your scholarship which will go towards continuing my education. I have committed to Florida State University where your generous donation will be put towards my tuition. I hope to one day be able to pay this gift forward as you have done for me. Thank you so much, not only for this scholarship, but for everything you do for this community."

Mary Morgan Bibbey wrote:

"Dear Messrs. Mylie, Perkinson, Longo, Hubert and Bassett.

I am writing to thank you for the very generous \$4000 Woodbury Lions Club Foundation scholarship grant for my 2018/2019 university studies as well as the tremendous work you each personally do with the Woodbury Lions Club. Not only do your Woodbury events bring joy to our community, the work of your foundation and contribution to area students is inspiring. I am both humbled and grateful for the acknowledgement

and support that you have extended to me.

I would also like to formally accept your invitation to attend the Tuesday, August 7th event at the Curtis House. My parents will join me; therefore three will be attending including me.

I will either be attending Connecticut College or Brown University in the fall. I think I shared with you at my interview that I am confirmed at Connecticut College

and am waitlisted at Brown. The final decision will come over the next 3-4 weeks. The Lions Club scholarship will make a profound difference to my studies. Please know that I do not take this award lightly and will honor your investment in me with hard work and results.

Thank you again for your generous support of me and so many other students in our community."

And thank you Scholarship Committee Chairman, Lion Joe Mylie and committee Lion members: Peter Perkinson, Frank Longo, Billy Hubert and Jeff Bassett for another job well done! The Woodbury Lions congratulate all of this year's award recipients and wish them great success in their future.

Photo courtesy of Lion Frank Longo.

# **Woodbury Lions Support Community Food Bank**



Bob Taylor and Lion President, Cliff Ritter.

The Woodbury Lions Club awards an

annual foundation gift to the Woodbury Community Services Council (CSC) in support of their food bank, energy and crisis assistance programs. This year's donation was made during the Club's Thanksgiving dinner meeting at Curtis House on November 20<sup>th</sup>.

On hand to receive the check that evening was the ever gracious and humble, Bob Taylor, President of CSC in his eleventh year. Bob thanked all of us for "all that we do for the community and that four out of every ten community seniors use the CSC in some manner or other". He went on to express that "we could not do what we do without each of you stepping

up and helping out and because of the Lions, we are a community of passion".

Pictured is Bob Taylor receiving a check for \$2000 from Lion President, Cliff Ritter. The food bank also receives contributions of non-perishable items from the Club members a couple of times during the year.

Photo courtesy of Lion Frank Longo.

#### **Watertown Lions Host Tri-town Picnic**

The Sunset Grill in Watertown was the setting for this year's annual Tri-town picnic held August 14<sup>th</sup> on a hot and humid evening with scattered thunder storms. This year's host, the Watertown Lions Club and Lion President, Melita Harris led her 32 fellow members in a two part opening to the meeting. Also in attendance were Bethlehem Lion President, Tony Soca with 9 members and Woodbury Lion President, Cliff Ritter with 16 members. The food was

exceptionally good consisting of BBQ ribs and chicken, potato and macaroni salad, coleslaw and baked beans. Above all, was the good Lion fellowship, amongst the three clubs, that was felt by all! Of no great surprise, the Watertown gavel and prized lion went missing that evening. Next year's Tri-town event will be hosted by the Woodbury Lions Club.

Photo courtesy of Lion Russ Domareck.



Lion President Cliff Ritter with Bethlehem Lion President, Tony Soca and Watertown Lion President Melita Harris.

# **Woodbury Lions Adopt New Community Service Project**

With the encouragement of LCI President, Gudrun Yngradottier, all clubs

have been requested to undertake service minded projects with the goal of raising visibility and awareness of the Lions in our community. At our September 4<sup>th</sup> Club meeting at Curtis House, Lions President, Cliff Ritter acted upon this request by creating the new Board position; Service Committee Chairperson whose responsibility will be to structure and lead a series of new community service projects. Lion Skip Jaret agreed to assume this position that evening.

To get things rolling, Lion Skip Jaret came up with the idea of having the

Event Chairman Lion Skip Jaret

and Lion Heather Ferrecchia

Woodbury Lions help out with serving a Thanksgiving Day dinner for the community homeless and anyone else with nowhere to dine on that day. On November 22<sup>nd</sup> at First Congregational Church's annual holiday dinner (see photo at right), volunteers from all over town including North Church, First Church, the Unitarians and eight members of the Woodbury Lions Club were on hand to serve a traditional Thanksgiving fare of turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, vegetables and



assorted pies. In all, 65 meals were served! A special thanks to Lion Chairman, Skip Jaret for organizing this very charitable event and to all that participated. Great job, everyone! Photos courtesy of Lions Skip Jaret and Frank Longo.

# **Woodbury Leos on the Move**

The Woodbury Lions take great pride in sponsoring their Woodbury Middle School (WMS) and Nonnewaug High School (NHS) Leo Clubs. The Leos contribute to the betterment of our community through their charitable actions and deserve our utmost support. Let us take a brief look at their activities these past six months.

On June 10<sup>th</sup>, the WMS Leos helped out at the Woodbury Lions Antique Car Show at Hollow Park by selling popcorn, cotton candy and Italian ices.

In September, both the WMS and NHS Leos raised monies and paid for their annual sponsorship of their adopted children's mission. The annual fee of



\$420 covers both educational and medical supplies.

On October 6<sup>th</sup>, members of both Leo Clubs volunteered for Woodbury's Adopt -a-Road Project. Meeting at 8:00 am on Saturday morning at Hollow Park, Leos, under the guidance of NHS advisor, Kate Peterson, were dispatched to various community roads to bag trash and recyclables.

On October 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, WMS Leo members baked goods and operated the concessions stand at the Haunted Hay Ride and Barn. The NHS Leo Club had planned a skit for the Saturday evening that was, unfortunately, rained out.

On Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, the WMS Leos (pictured at left with advisor, Mike Hadoulis) served meals at the St. Vincent DePaul soup kitchen under the guidance of WMS school advisors Caroline South (who will be taking maternity leave at the end of the month) and new advisor, Mike Hadoulis. Also during the month of December, both the WMS and NHS Leos will be sponsoring a food drive for the Woodbury Community Services food bank and a winter clothing drive for the Waterbury Youth Services. Both events

are being conducted at the school and scheduled for completion by month end. Below, current NHS Leo President, Steve LeCerc and fellow Leos are shown making collection boxes needed for the clothing drive. Finally, both Leo Clubs will participate in the Luminaria display on Christmas Eve.

This coming year will mark 22 years that Lion Ken Deschino has served as the Club's mentor for the WMS and NHS Leos! A huge thanks to Lion Ken and NHS Leo advisors; Kate Peterson and Sandy Snabaitis and WMS Leo advisors; Caroline South and Mike Hadoulis for their superb guidance of our community youth.

All photos courtesy of Lion Ken Deschino.



#### President's Corner

My Shift at the Helm

Halfway through my term as President of our club, I can say that it is much akin to living on a cruise ship in which the passengers all take turns steering. The ship is moving forward on its journey at a steady pace, and the captain has the power to make the adjustments as needed. Sometimes, the adjustments required are obvious, other times, holding the wheel straight sets the best course.

I find that I have plenty of support in our club. We are fortunate to have so many members that are true and dedicated Lions with the experience of so many years. Our program is solid, built on top of many years of service and, while we don't always agree on every detail, we all follow the same guiding principles and strive to continue our mission.

As I consider that I have been elected as the figurative head of an already smoothly operating piece of machinery, I believe that my job is to keep the circus running as well as I can and to make improvements as possible. Times change, as must our club (and Lions International as a whole), if we are to maximize our potential. Our new international President has handed down a list of priorities and objectives which we are to work into our mission. Included in this is a push to increase both the quantity and scope of service related projects and to work synergistically with other groups outside of our clubs. As a strategy for effectuating change within our club, I find that large adjustments are difficult to accomplish while small, incremental changes are more successful overall.

I choose to focus on recruitment, retaining new members' interest by getting them involved immediately, and streamlining the activities we currently have by making an event easier to pass from hand to hand (and easier to get new hands involved).

The aging demographic of our club makes recruitment and new members vitally important. As our projects grow, so does our need for volunteers. Often, when we recruit a new member, not only are we gaining a new member, but we are also gaining a new member's family and friends. Many times, however, new members are brought in and then forgotten. (continued on page 7)

I think it is important to make new Lions feel needed right away by securing their help assisting and/or organizing new events immediately. Our club's unofficial policy has been to leave a new member's initiation to their sponsor, but it is my belief this should be taken on by the club as whole to ensure success. In my early days, I remember Lion Chet calling me before a meeting to remind/invite me. Lion Tom brought me under his wing and trained me for Luminary duty. These Lions, and many others, made me feel welcome and needed, both inside and outside of the club. I worry that a lot of new members may slip through the cracks and that we should work more to encourage them to participate. I know from experience – a personal invitation truly goes a long way. I highly encourage an "old" Lion to approach a "young" Lion and host an informal "mentoring session" (over breakfast one weekend morning or over beers any evening) in which Lion "knowledge" is passed on. Each of us "old" Lions has some good Lion advice or story to pass on, and a personal touch makes people feel welcomed. It's these little bonds amongst ourselves that makes our volunteer system work, and in this, allows us to carry out our mission.

My time as Woodbury Lion Club's President has been immensely enjoyable. I acknowledge the honor entrusted to me, and I am appreciative of all the support shown to me by our members. We each have our own strengths and all do what we can to advance our cause. I believe in our mission, and endeavor to use my strengths to benefit of the club. Once my shift is over, I will happily pass the captain's hat - and bell - to the next watch that they may bring their new strengths to bear.

Respectfully yours in Lionism,

Lion Cliff Ritter

# **Annual Traditions Visible In Community**

Lion Jim Conway is event leader for the annual Christmas decorating of the band stand at Main Street North's green. On the mid-morning of November 25<sup>th</sup>, under chilly and cloudy skies, Lion Jim along with Lions Frank Longo and wife, Cheryl, Dave Mechler and Heather Ferrecchia decorated the band stand with fine greenery and LED icicle lights in about an hour and a half. Lion Frank



Lion Jim Conway with his band stand decorating and sign installation crew. Lion Frank Longo was behind the camera.

Longo also provided festive music to put everyone in the Christmas spirit.

At the same time that the band stand decoration was going on, Lions Ed Grudzien, Gary Greenstein, Jim Trompeter and Joe Mylie retrieved the Woodbury Lions Christmas sign that invokes "Seasons Greetings from the



Woodbury Lions Club" to all that pass by the North Green on Main Street and installed it on the corner of the green. For all you new comers, the two-sided sign, complete with overhead lighting, was conceived and constructed by Lions Karl Lindahl and Jim Conway back in 2013. The sign's artistry was provided by Joann Barthelmess, wife of deceased Lion member, Kent Barthelmess.

Each year, the arduous but very fulfilling task of installing flags on Main Street is undertaken just in time for Election Day and Veteran's Day and kept up throughout the summer season whereupon they are taken down on Thanksgiving Day weekend. Starting just south of San Remo's and extending south on Main Street to the old Dottie's Dinner,

120 flags were installed this year in an effort headed, with great patriotic pride, by Lion Chet Gage. On a very chilly and sunny morning, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, Lion Chet with fellow Lions: Dave Ahouse, Russ Domareck, Joe Mylie, Jim Trompeter, Dave Mechler and Ed Grudzien met at the Post Office and braved six degree wind chill temperatures to remove the flags on Main Street for the year. Old lead foot, Lion Ed Grudzien, who drove the recovery truck, kept it under 50 mph on the way back to the Post Office. Thank you, Lion Ed.

Photos courtesy of Lions Frank Longo and Ed Grudzien.



Lion Chet Gage with his flag removal crew. Lion Ed Grudzian was behind the camera.

### **Lions Conduct Preschooler Eye Examinations**

The Lions eye health program known as "Kid Sight" was again administered to area preschools on December 11<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> by members of the Woodbury Lions Club. The Kid Sight USA Foundation program is a nationwide public service offered free of charge for young children ages one through six for the express purpose of detecting sight deficiencies that can occur early in a person's life and be resolved in their early stage of growth.

Co-chair, Lion Billy B (in his seventh year of running this event) and Co-chair Lion Joe Mylie performed these examinations at two preschools this year; Mitchell Elementary School and the



Lion Joe Mylie, wife, Suzy, Lion Dan Uitti and Lion Billy B.

Early Learning Center. Other participants in this two day event were Suzy Mylie and Lion Dan Uitti of the Watertown Lions Club. The Watertown Lions Club provided the vision screening equipment and Lion Dan trained the event participants in its use. The eye screening is done through use of a camera like device, which Lion Joe is holding, that takes digital photos of the children's eyes. A total of 14 children were screened resulting in 13 passes and one referral. The one referral means that the test results along with a special form are passed on to the parents who can follow-up with the child's eye doctor about the examination findings. This

is a truly worthwhile program conducted by the Woodbury Lions. Great job everyone!

Photo courtesy of Lion Joe Mylie.

# **Lions Christmas Party**

The Woodbury Lions Club annual Christmas party was held again at the beautiful home of Lion Peter Perkinson and his wife, Barbara on a somewhat mild and cloudy Saturday afternoon, December 15<sup>th</sup>. The overall turnout was good with over 50 guests attending, which included Lions, wives and significant others. This is the second year in a row that the Perkinson's have graciously opened their home for the Lions Christmas party and we are truly grateful for their generosity.

Also returning for a second year was the fine food provided by Lion Stephanie Papa's Main Street Deli. The gournet fare included such food items as: fried

chicken, ham, chicken and roast beef wraps, deviled eggs and a variety of salads. Gracious host, Barbara Perkinson even provided a home cooking touch with her Swedish meatballs, hors d'oeuvres and baked goods especially the cheese cakes with strawberry and blue berry sauces. As a show of appreciation, Barbara was presented with a gift card for John's Café by Lion President, Cliff Ritter. Unfortunately, Lion Peter was not in attendance due to an unexpected visit to the hospital.

The party was a grand time for all who attended and a great opportunity for camaraderie amongst Lions and guests. Additional photos, compliments of Lions



Barbara and Lion Peter Perkinson photo from Christmas 2012, and they haven't aged a bit!

Russ Domareck and Ed Grudzien, can be found on page 9.

#### PHOTO GALLERY



#### **PHOTO GALLERY**

