

# LIONS LOW VISION CENTERS, INC.

Volume 1 Issue 6

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33 HIGHLAND AVE., NEW BRITAIN, CT 06052  
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## Volunteer Activities Promoting Lions Low Vision Center

### Recent meeting:

On Friday, January 8, 2010, the Lions Low Vision Center was invited to participate in the semi-annual, scientific meeting of the Connecticut Society of Eye Physicians. One hundred and fifty ophthalmologists, their office staff, and forty vendors, specializing in equipment, office support systems, and pharmaceuticals attended the meeting.

The meeting provided educational programs for doctors, office managers, and technicians. The meeting also provided an informal opportunity for medical caregivers to meet vendors providing services, without interfering with the care of patients.

The meeting also provided the Lions Low Vision an opportunity to meet doctors

and their office staff. We also have an opportunity to attend their educational programs. It is an essential opportunity to network with the medical community. Most of our recent client referrals are now coming from the ophthalmologists attending these meetings.

### Transportation assistance:

Clients that avail themselves of our services are unable to drive and often find it difficult to find the transportation necessary to come to the Lions Low Vision Center. We are seeking volunteers to assist in the transportation of our clients.

### Office help:

We have many jobs for volunteers to work in our offices. There are phones to answer, files to put away, inventory to check, items to shop for and appointments to make. We also have various



miscellaneous duties that can arise on a daily basis.

### Translators:

If you are bilingual and can volunteer to assist in our expansion of services into the Hispanic community, we need your help. Please call and offer to help our clients by providing translation assistance.

### Grant Writer:

Experienced in grant writing? We could use your expertise. Please call us to find out more.

### Did you know ? :

- Mary Diskin, widow of Berlin Lion Bill Diskin, donated to the Lions Low Vision Center several select collectable state Lions pins from her husband's collection.
- The Newington Lions Club donated a sizable number of collectable state Lions pins.
- The sale of collectable state Lions pins is becoming an important source of revenue for our Lions Low Vision Center.

## ***Lions Low Vision Centers, Inc.***

### Lions Low Vision Center Funding:

Funding for the Lions Low Vision Centers, Inc. is provided by Lions Clubs of District 23B. Special fundraising events have been established by Lions Clubs in Berlin, East Windsor, Enfield, Plainville, Bristol, West Hartford, and Harwinton.

As a 501(c)3 organization, all donations are tax deductible. We are especially pleased to receive donations from individuals whose company has a matching gift program.

Please consider making a small donation to assist us in serving the visually impaired so that they can lead fuller and more productive lives.

### Lions Low Vision Centers, Inc.

33 Highland Avenue  
New Britain, CT 06052  
1-800-676-5715

Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation  
103 Old Iron Ore Road  
Bloomfield, CT 06002  
1-800-676-5715

Sullivan Senior Center  
Albert Street  
Torrington, CT 06790  
1-800-676-5715

Rehab Dynamics  
975 Farmington Ave.  
Bristol, CT 06010  
1-860-589-3587

## **Client Spotlight**

Nora and Ted, who live in Granby, have been married for 46 years. They raised three children and have been blessed with two grandsons and three granddaughters. With career and family obligations, their children cannot always be there to assist their parents.

Ted was in a serious automobile accident and lost a significant portion of his eyesight. Fortunately, Ted had Nora to help him with his needs. Unfortunately, after years of relying on his wife for everything from reading the newspaper to picking out his clothes, Ted had to become the caregiver when Nora's dry, age-related Macular Degeneration turned to wet.

Their family ophthalmologist referred Nora to a retina specialist. There was a chance for Nora to completely lose her sight. Nora and Ted felt helpless and hopeless. They

were about to lose their independent life style.

The retina specialist discussed the risks and benefits of new treatments for wet Macular Degeneration. He also referred the couple to the Lions Low Vision Center. The doctor suggested that both of them would benefit from low vision therapy.

After six months of treatments and three visits to the Lions Low Vision Center, things started to look up for the couple. Nora began talking about the vibrant colors of fall foliage. Nora also started picking out Ted clothes again. After eighteen months of treatment, Nora's vision is maintained at 20/50, gaining nearly three lines of vision back. More importantly, both Nora and Ted regained their hope, confidence, courage, and independence, through the training they received from

the Lions Low Vision Center.

Routine visits to a skilled ophthalmologist are essential for eye care. The partnership developed between the doctor and Lions Low Vision Center is an important link.

The doctor provides medical intervention. The Lions Low Vision Center provides the training and assistance to help the client optimize their remaining eyesight.

**Do you know anyone with low vision?**

**If so, what are you waiting for?**

**Call us!**

**860-832-9601**