I know you are familiar with the term “birds on a wire”, but you’re probably not familiar with “birds on a chicken truck”. Let me enlighten you. Sussex County, Delaware, where I live, is one of the largest chicken producing counties in the Nation. In 2016 the USDA reported that 253 million broiler chickens, valued at $881,000,000, were sent to market from farms in Sussex County. To supply feed to the farm silos, the companies use tanker trucks similar to those tankers that deliver gas to your neighborhood service station.

The birds of Sussex County have learned to identify these trucks. I have been stopped at a traffic light with a truck ahead of me or in the lane next to me when all of a sudden, out of nowhere, a flock of birds will descend upon the top of the truck. They have learned there are feed kernels that get spilled along the truck surface in the silo filling process. They quickly gather what they can and stay with the truck for a few seconds as it ramps up its speed when the light turns green. When the birds can no longer hang with the truck, it is a chaotic scene as they lift off and return to the wires and trees to wait for the next one.

I find it amazing that these little creatures have adapted to their environment in this way. Perhaps “bird brains” are not to be taken for granted. Experts tell us they navigate via the sun and stars. We humans need a GPS! As I grow older, not necessarily wiser, I have developed a deeper appreciation for how Mother Nature works!

Like the birds, we Lions continue to adapt to the changing world of service around us. Lions International has challenged us with new major service initiatives. We continue to find new creative fundraisers. We are experiencing a rapid growth in female Lion membership worldwide. New information technology platforms continue to evolve. Similarly, our research partners at the Lions Vision Center continue to find new ways to help those suffering the effects of low vision. Using the latest technology and the best rehabilitative practices they are helping thousands of people adapt to their changing situation.

To fund the Fellow* at the Lions Vision Center in perpetuity we are in the process of growing a new Endowment Fund. All Clubs and individual Lions received a letter from LVRF Chairman Karl asking for donations or pledges in support of this new objective. LVRF has received several very nice donations thus far. I encourage all Lion readers to consider a personal donation to the LVC Endowment Fund. Perhaps you could set aside $10 a month and bring the collected money to the LVRF booth at the MD-22 Convention. Another way to personally donate is through a gift of appreciated stock. With the run up of the Dow in the past few years, perhaps you can share a portion of that growth with LVRF and get a tax benefit as well. Everyone wins, even the birds!

* The LVRF initiated a Fellowship program in the Lions Vision Center in 2009 to fund a Post Doctoral physician planning to specialize in low vision and is currently the only accredited program of its kind in the United States. The Fellow not only learns the cutting edge low vision programs being developed by the Wilmer medical staff but contributes by assisting low vision studies and helping clinically.
Spring 2018 is here and my time as chairman of LVRF is almost over - where did two years go? So as I write my last article I can only say thank you to the dedicated Lions of MD 22. You are the best and because of you we have in LVRF a world leader in Low Vision research. The Doctors and Staff at Wilmer and Johns Hopkins are the best - thank you for your dedication to LVRF. The Fellows whom we have supported have demonstrated that there is no limit to what they will do to make this world a better place!

We celebrated 25 years of LVRF and are moving into our next 25 with a renewed energy as only Lions can do. We have started an Endowment campaign for the fellowships and that will allow us to have more money for research. LOVRNET is up and running and a great partner and service to the low vision for communities we all serve. The future looks bright but isn’t that what Lions are doing every day, making life better for our brothers and sisters in need? Because, where there is a need, there is a LION.

My time as your Chairman has been humbling, to be able to work with such amazing people. To witness the hours and hours of work put in by our Lions and the doctors and staff at Wilmer is a blessing to all; some have been on the job from the start. This is something I will never forget and I hope in some way to continue to serve. I wish PDG Larry the same joy and I know he has the support of all of you. Once again I have been blessed by serving you, the Lions of MD 22. We still have lots to do so let’s do what we do, roll up our sleeves and make Low Vision a thing of the past. I believe in my heart that someday we will correct low vision as easily as poor Vision.

Yours in Lionism,

PDG Karl Gude, Chairman, LVRF

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Editor’s Note: In the Spring 2017 issue of Lions Vision, we initiated a series bringing back former Fellows of the Lions Vision Center Fellowship program. By doing this, we are learning of the tremendous impact these Doctors are making as a result of their experience at the Center. This, the third in the series features Dr. Ashley Deemer. She is an Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology at the Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins. Her areas of clinical expertise include general optometry and low vision rehabilitation. Through her research, she seeks to improve the overall model of rehabilitation and understand the best methods of intervention to improve visual function and reduce depression in patients with low vision.

Dr. Ashley Deemer

Low vision patients, the group that received occupational therapy reduced symptoms worsened, while only 12% of the occupational therapy patients reported worsening symptoms. In total, these data show that while both forms of therapy decreased depression in patients, the group that received occupational therapy reduced its risk of depression by much more.

Comprehensive low vision rehabilitative services typically incorporate specialized care from an optometrist and other rehabilitation therapists, including occupational therapists. Because the VITAL study was not originally designed to distinguish the differences among these particular low vision rehabilitation services, one limitation of the findings is we were unable to measure visual function improvements from occupational therapy services alone. Rather, the effects on visual function seen here are the result of comprehensive low vision rehabilitative care, including services given by both the optometrist and the occupational therapist.

Many caregivers and patients may not realize how prevalent depression is among people with low vision, and our duty as health care providers is to raise awareness of the problem and the availability of help. It is good practice not only to refer low vision patients to a mental health expert, but to also suggest low vision rehabilitation and occupational therapy, which could have a huge impact on patients’ lives.

This work was supported by National Eye Institute grant U01EY018819.

Where Are They Now? #3

Where Are They Now? #3

Where Are They Now? #3

Where Are They Now? #3

Where Are They Now? #3

From our Administrative Assistant

Spring is the time of looking forward and gearing up on the activities that have been dormant during the winter. Some of those activities include:

- **Recognition:** Consider recognizing your Lions Club members for their contributions to your club, community, or other areas of Lionism using the LVRF Recognition Program. Special club events such as Charter Night or at the MD22 Convention, would be good places to make the presentation. Many clubs donate yearly and may have accumulated a donation balance. Please contact me to learn your club’s balance, (see last paragraph below) and plan for a presentation to a club member.

- **Publicity:** Did you know LVRF has a face book page? The name is Lions Vision and I have administrative privileges. The page is not very active! Please go to that page, read and share items to spread the word about what the LVRF is doing to address the needs of low vision patients. Things you will find on our fb page includes district fund raising activities benefitting LVRF. If you have or are aware of other events of this type, please post them, if you are unable to post them, then send them to me for posting.

- **Show and Tell:** There is a slide show of the 2017 Rendezvous Lions Day at Wilmer and pictures from the 25th Anniversary Celebration of the Lions Vision Center in November of 2016 with subtitles on the face book page. I have hopes that patients will post testimonials from their experiences. With your help, I envision the page advancing to an informative, educational, and fun page to visit.

- **MD22 Convention:** Stop by the LVRF Exhibit Booth at the Multiple District 22 Convention. Stock up on apparel, ornaments, stands, and printed information about LVRF, the Recognition Program, and the Lions Fellowship Endowment. Also available will be donation envelopes with the donation form on the inside flap. No more addressing envelopes and printing forms! Everything is in one location.

- **Contact Me:** You are always welcome to contact me by email or phone at: LVRF.info@gmail.com or (717) 597-4500 or (410) 955-1883. The 717 number guarantees a maximum of 24 hours turn-around while the 410 number could be up to 5 days turn-around.

Happily,
Your LVRF Administrative Assistant,

PDG Susan Timmons

**Lions Club Programs**

Club program chairs who would like to schedule a program about the exciting things that are going on in your Lions Vision Research Foundation, please be aware that there is an LVRF Speakers Bureau committee headed up by Lion Bob Johnson who will assist you. He, or any trustee of the LVRF Board is available to visit your club and make a well designed power point presentation. For questions or to obtain a speaker, please contact Lion Bob Johnson at:

(301) 606-5797 or rcyrilj@aol.com.
The MD22 Convention is being held at OCEAN CITY this year from May 7th through the 10th. This venue offers so very much to not only LIONS but to their family members and guests. Again this year, the Lions Vision Research Foundation and LOVRNET are offering both Seminars and Exhibits which will be most informative, interesting and beneficial to all. So make your plans to attend the Conference making room on your schedule to attend both Seminars. Also, remember to visit the exhibit booths staffed by LVRF members who will be happy to answer any question you may have.

**LVRF SEMINAR**

**Wednesday, May 9 @ 9:40 am in the Dominica Room**

The speaker this year will be Kristen S. Lindeman, M.S., O.T., who is an occupational therapist in the Lions Low Vision and Vision Rehabilitation division at the Johns Hopkins Wilmer Eye Institute. Her subject is “How current technology can improve the quality of life for the patients with low vision.”

Kristin spoke at the recent Rendezvous Lions Day at Wilmer last November and was an excellent and vivacious presenter of the low vision patients who gave testimonials of their experiences with low vision.

She specializes in visual function and rehabilitation to optimize the remaining sight of patients with chronic vision impairment, and on developing strategies that enhance participation in daily activities.

See more about Kristen on page 5.

**LVRF Exhibit Table**

Here you will find LVRF brochures and raffle tickets for the Trunk of Treasures (see page 5). Stock up on apparel such as shirts and ties, ornaments, stands, and brochures about LVRF, the LVRF Recognition Program and the Lions Fellowship Endowment. Also available will be the new donation envelopes that make the process for donating short and simple. But most of all, there will be LVRF Board members present to answer all your questions!

**LOVRNET SEMINAR**

**Tuesday, May 8 @ 2:15 pm in the Dominica Room**

Learn how the Lions Low Vision Rehabilitation Network works from the view point of Low Vision providers and Lion volunteers. The Lions Low Vision Rehabilitation Network is trying to connect the over 5,000 new low vision patients a year with a low vision doctor who would help these patients deal with their new disability.

Lions are providing these low vision specialists with comprehensive pre-interview information, helping the patients to get to their appointments, and doing follow-up in home visits to see how occupational services are helping.

Come learn how you can join this exciting low vision network.

**LOVRNET Exhibit Table**

Some of the items available on the LOVRNET web page (www.lorvnet.org) shopping cart will be on exhibit here. There will be LOVRNET brochures as well as forms for registering as Patient Interviewers and Direct Service providers.

If you have questions about LOVRNET, you will find your answers here from the Lions staffing the table.

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**PROJECT EYE DIME**

Project Eye Dime is continuing into a second year! The LVRF is grateful to all clubs and individual Lions who embraced this fundraising project last year.

The Eye Dime bottle has undergone a “facelift” and a “body makeover” from a tall, bulky, husky 2-liter size bottle to a petite, easy to hold, nicely shaped 8-oz. bottle. It is hoped that even more Lions, Lionesses and Leos will participate this year. Think about encouraging your family and friends to participate.

To get started, obtain an 8 oz. bottle and glue the wrapper around it. The wrapper is available for downloading from the LVRF web site www.lionsvision.org or can be picked up at the LVRF Exhibit Table at the MD22 Convention. Or contact Lion Sandy Parker to obtain a wrapper at (304) 788-2012 or sandyparker012@gmail.com.

Keep your eye dime bottle handy remembering to put your dimes collected daily into the bottle at the end of each day and also passing it around at your dinner table so all members of your family can participate.

(See Project on Page 5)
Meet Kristen Lindeman

Kristen S. Lindeman, M.S., O.T., is an occupational therapist in the Lions Low Vision and Vision Rehabilitation division at the Johns Hopkins Wilmer Eye Institute. She specializes in visual function and rehabilitation to optimize the remaining sight of patients with chronic vision impairment, and on developing strategies that enhance participation in daily activities.

Ms. Lindeman received her M.S. in occupational therapy from Washington University School of Medicine in 2006. She has been a member of the American Occupational Therapy Association since 2003. Ms. Lindeman joined the inpatient rehabilitation team of Johns Hopkins Bayview in 2006. While working at Bayview’s stroke certified rehabilitation unit, she developed an interest in assisting patients with visual deficits associated with brain injury. In 2012, she received a certificate in low vision from the University of Alabama, Birmingham and joined the Low Vision Rehabilitation Team at Johns Hopkins Wilmer Eye Institute in 2013.

Since joining Wilmer, Kristen has become the staff expert for learning and teaching the latest technology to patients and staff. Kristen received her certification in low vision in 2015 from the Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation and Education Professionals. In 2017, Kristen was selected to be on the Envision Conference Peer View Committee for Clinical Education.

Kristen has developed mentoring relationships with occupational therapy students and practitioners nationally to educate and promote low vision occupational therapy services. She has facilitated workshops for the Wilmer Staff where participants wear simulators and complete functional activities such as reading, operating a computer or grocery shopping. Kristen has been educating the Lions of District 22 on low vision rehabilitation services through presentations at district conferences and workshops. In 2017 at the Lions Rally, Kristen started a new program called the Lion Ambassadors. Lion Ambassadors are low vision patients who have given back to the low vision community with patient testimonials to medical students, sharing their low vision experience with other patients, or being photographed for marketing events. This program will expand each year to create a network of patients who will promote and educate the community about low vision services.

Kristen’s research currently focuses on creating a model of practice for low vision patients using the effects of low vision task group therapy and peer mentorship on rehabilitation outcomes. These programs are driven to empower patients on how to live well with low vision.

What a great feeling to know that you are helping to facilitate education and low vision care at the Wilmer Eye Institute. And your contribution helps the Multiple District sponsor the Fellowship program at the Lions Vision Center. Your Eye Dime Bottle will help sustain the mission of the Lions for years to come!

Thoughts about Low Vision
Submitted by Lion Sandy Parker
LVRF Public Relations Chair

In this day and time, everyone knows of at least one person who is living with low vision. One definition of low vision is, “A visual impairment, not corrected by standard glasses, contact lenses, medicine, or surgery, that interferes with the ability to perform everyday activities.” Vision loss makes it difficult to continue doing daily activities that each of us consider important, e.g., driving, reading, cooking, gardening, hobbies, sports etc. Think about it! When the visually impaired person realizes their life style is going to change this is a “Big Deal for them.” And each person with low vision exhibits their own emotions, whether it is anger, grief, sadness or other emotions.

A fact sheet on the National Federation of the Blind website reports that blindness is the third most feared physical condition in our nation, surpassed only the fear of cancer and AIDS.

What a shock it must be to learn that your vision loss cannot be regained. I am sure many of you have heard the truism "You don’t know what you don’t know." This truism applies to vision loss. This is where the Lions of Multiple District 22 enter the picture! As Lions, we need to support the activities of the LVRF and LOVRNET so low vision victims in our region receive the help and equipment they need to return them to a useful, happy life.

“Of all the senses, sight must be the most delightful.”
— Hose Klier

TRUNK OF TREASURES

There will be a Trunk of Treasures raffle again this year. The tickets for purchasing and the 2018 Trunk of Treasures for viewing will be at the LVRF booth at the MD22 Convention. The tickets are $2.00 each or 3 for $5.00. The drawing will be on Saturday, October 13th, 2018 at the Schrader’s Outdoors Aim for Sight fundraiser. Or contact Lion Dal Mann @ 410-673-9085 or dmann@bluecrab.org.

Submitted by Lion Sandy Parker
LVRF Public Relations Chair

(From Page 4)

Suddenly 6 months pass and your bottle is full! What do you do? You attend the LVRF Lions Day Rally at the Wilmer Eye Institute next November 17 and present it along with all the other Lions who have been collecting dimes in their bottles.

Can’t make it to the Rally? Contact Lion Sandy and she will make certain your eye dime bottle makes it to the Rally!
LOVRNET - Author and Supporter

At last count, LOVRNET had 51 active interviewers. One of them stands out, not so much as an interviewer, but as a published author of fiction. Lion Kate Roshon, a member of Smyrna Lions Club in District 22D has authored “Haven”, a science fiction novel which is now available on Amazon! MD22 convention goers are fortunate because she will be at the convention where you can meet her and buy her personally autographed book.

It is her first book and is about manned space missions headed to the stars because “the Earth is in trouble and the best of humanity are leaving to settle on new planets.” The mission to Haven will transform young Kala Melina and reveal a shocking truth about the human race. Want to know more? Visit her at the convention and buy her book!

There are 2 good reasons to do so: (1) you will enjoy a captivating sci-fi story and (2) Lion Kate is a supporter of LOVRNET and is giving some of her book royalties to LOVRNET. So far, she has donated over $1,000 in royalties.

LOVRNET - A Blessing in Disguise

Submitted by LOVRNET Interviewer Dick Autz

I joined the Lions in early 2014, and almost immediately saw an article in the LIONS VISION about LOVRNET by Ted Ladd. What really got my attention was that I could help a low vision patient from home as an Interviewer using my computer and telephone. I began to think that now was the time for me to start “paying it forward”.

When I began talking to patients, I worked hard to keep the interview as short as possible but sometimes it just ran into two hours or more. Also, I complained a lot about the questions, the method, and the software. Dr. Massof, and others of the LOVRNET staff were very patient with me and gratifyingly took notice of my thoughts.

Interviewing is an education within itself. You’ll want to bring a boatload of patience and a big bucket of empathy to your calls. Many of the patients I talked to are lonely and sad, some are angry, and some even frightened or depressed. Some patients are very suspicious of a telephone interview, which may seem an awful lot like telemarketing. Now, after 75 interviews, I have only had one enraged patient that thought I was a stalker, a fake, trying to take advantage.

I always make sure the patient has my name and number and is free to call me. I also remind patients that they can always correct an interview error when they see the Doctor. Nearly all the patients are keen to talk about their problems. They want and need somebody to notice them, hear their story and share their plight. Most have a hard time answering a yes or no question without explaining or qualifying their answer. I’m getting better at choosing the right radio button to select anyway. I’ve have four patients call me back unexpectedly just to tell me how they are doing, which makes the follow up go very well. I’ve listened to lots of praise of the rehabilitation Doctors from the patients. I’m humbled to represent them in a small way.

I don’t rush the interview any more. I try to meet the patient’s schedule and remind them that they are in control of the conver-
Set your sights on this!

The Lions Vision Research Foundation Annual

Aim for Sight Sporting Clay Shoot Events

Saturday, September 29, 2018 at
Maryland Sporting Clays, 2555 Mayberry Road, Westminster, MD 21158

&

Saturday, October 13, 2018 at
Schrader’s Outdoors, LLC, 16090 Oakland Road, Henderson, MD 21640

The **LVRF** is sponsoring **TWO** “Aim for Sight” sporting clay shoot events. Attend either or both of them and take your **shot** at making a difference for people with low vision.

Come out and test your shooting skills and sense of humor during this **fun** charity event. All proceeds will be used to support the **Lions Vision Research Foundation**.

The cost is only $65 per shooter or $240 per team at the Mayberry Sporting Clays venue where you provide the gun. The cost is $75 per shooter or $280 per team at the Schrader’s Outdoors venue where shells and gun are provided if needed.

Registration includes lunch between 11:30-1:30. Prizes will be awarded to the top teams and individual shooters and everyone has a chance to win. Yes, everyone comes away a winner! You don’t have to have a foursome to participate. If you cannot get a team, you will be teamed up with other friendly shooters.

Registration starts at 9:00 am at the Mayberry Sporting Clays venue and at 8:30 am at the Schrader’s Outdoors venue.

To register to shoot, use Table 2 and send a check made payable to “LVRF Aim For Sight” to Lion Dal Mann, 22944 Lyn Oaks Drive, Preston, MD 21655 for the Schrader’s Outdoors venue and to Lion Richard Liebno, 115 Rockland Road, Westminster, MD 21158 for the Mayberry Sporting Clays venue.

If you’re not a shooter, you can still support these events. Just sign up to become a **Sponsor** or put an ad in the **Program Book**. Entry level starts at just $40.

**Sponsor** levels and **Program Book** ad prices are listed in Table 1 below.

Checks for Sponsors and Ads in the Program Book should be made payable to “LVRF Aim For Sight” and sent to Lion Dal Mann. (See address in column 1).

Another way you or your club can show support is to **donate prizes** for presentation to the participants. Examples of prizes would be gift certificates, shot gun shells, mugs, hunting knives, etc. If you have any questions or would like a full page registration form sent to you for either event, then **please contact**:

For the **September 29 event @ Mayberry Sporting Clays**:
Lion Richard Liebno @ 410-848-4929 or richard.lion@comcast.net
Lion Gary Burdette, @ 301-916-3098 or glburd54@comcast.net

For the **October 13 event @ Schrader’s Outdoors**:
Lion Dal Mann @ 410-673-9085 or dmann@bluecrab.org
Lion John Lawrence @ 410-725-0150 or Lions@johnlawrence.name
Lion Clyde Bragg @ 302-284-8052 or cib1147@aol.com

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**Table 1**

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* Note: Enter MSC for Mayberry Sporting Clays, SO for Schrader’s Outdoors
Over the past few months, the Lovrnet Executive Committee has conducted a study to produce a logo that would be appropriate and recognizable. The Committee is excited and proud to present the design shown on the left.

It was created by Lioness Mary Ann Manganello of the Ocean City Lioness Club. Lioness Mary Ann is new to Lionism having joined just this past February. She is a professional designer and owner of The iMage Worx, Inc. She lives in Ocean City with her husband, Joe. She is Executive Director of the Ocean City Downtown Association.