

Lions Den: April 2024

We added 4 new members at the end of 2023 and a further 2 members in March. At this time of the year, we are looking to re-new the club executive for the 2024/25 year. As current executive members Brian and Colleen Dearden retire and move onto their new phase of Island living, their positions of President and Treasurer will need to be filled as Brian assumes the past president position.

Our members have again been invited by Saturna Lions club to join them at their Club charter night (anniversary) celebration on April 22nd and the Salt Spring Lions have also invited us to join them on April 25th. This will be the first time we have shared club activities with Salt Spring Lions who have a very impressive operation and large membership in Ganges. Brian Dearden has offered to organise boat transportation to both events and it will be interesting for our members to see how other clubs support their Island's community while sharing their ideas with us.

MAYNE ISLAND DOG SHOW. We received enquiries from several Mayne Islanders and as a result we have decided to re-introduce the Dog Show at Miners Bay Park on the Canada Day weekend. The last time it was held was pre Covid in 2019 when we were asked to take over the event from Carol and Tom Ashwell. We made a few mistakes, the most obvious one was having the event arena too close to the BBQ burger stand which proved to be rather too much of a distraction for some of the competing pooches, but all in all the event had many willing competitors and was lots of fun for the whole family. If any Island group or individuals wish to share in the organisation of the event, the Lions will be more than happy to oblige. Stay tuned to the Mayneliner for precise day, time and registration details.

MAYNE ISLAND COLLECTIVE. Lion members Angie Carson and Allen Slade sat in on the collective's round table discussions held at the Montrose Local. Each attending group gave a recap of its purpose and upcoming projects and shared ideas to see where the island groups can cooperate with each other thereby reducing volunteer fatigue that can often occur. From the Lions perspective, we invited feedback on how we might expand the usefulness of the annual M.I. Directory, which provides an information resource for individuals, volunteer groups and commercial businesses on and off Island. Importantly it provides us with a major source of our revenue that allows us to support numerous Island projects, groups and individuals throughout the course of the year and greatly benefits the Island as a whole. We also suggested that other groups might wish to follow the lead of MIALS whose members double-team the single seniors Christmas dinner with the Lions. Ideas suggested were MILT who may wish to provide Elves for the Santa Ship event and Arts Council to help upgrade the Lions welcome sign at Village Bay. By sharing ideas, our hope is to foster more cooperation and minimise duplicated efforts.

12 Lions reported 134 volunteer hours for February.

Allen Slade, Past President