2016 Dec Lions Den column

Well, December already, and even though the Lions’ year end is June 30, this is also a time of reflection as we join in on the celebrations that happen during the dark days of the calendar.

We enjoyed helping out with the MIALS very successful fashion show on November 5th and congratulate all of the contributors, organizers and participants for giving Mayne Island an entertaining evening and a chance to help the assisted living group provide valuable services for our neighbours.

On November 12, the Lions celebrated 45 years as a club on the island. Liz and Neil Howard were the recipients of the “Islanders of the Year” award. As they become more involved in their new community of Sidney, we thank them both for their countless hours of service in many capacities during their time here! Also, we were able to present our contribution to the MIALS coffers, a cheque representing the proceeds from our 222 draw at the end of summer. The evening meal and speeches were followed by music and dancing and we look forward to our 46th Charter night next November!

On Tuesday, Dec. 6, we (along with other volunteers) will be putting up the Christmas lights at the Japanese Gardens at Dinner Bay from 9 am until noon. Tall ladders and long poles with hooks will be used to elevate the stringers. If you would like to help out, please feel welcome to join in. Rumour has it there will be coffee and munchies to reward the workers.

The deer Lions members are now scurrying to find our fuzzy antlers to be ready to pull the fire truck with Santa on board up Fernhill Road from Miners Bay to the Ag Hall. Mrs. Claus and a colourful contingent of crew will be with the jolly old man as the Christmas ship arrives at about 2 pm. on Saturday, December 10th. The children will have a chance to talk with Santa and receive a gift in the Ag Hall.

December 10 is also the sneak preview time for the Dinner Bay lights, from 5 pm to 7 pm, and as usual, back at the Ag Hall again, there will be a Bingo Night!

The Japanese garden lights will be powered nightly, 5 - 7 pm, Saturday, Dec 17 to December 23, then December 25 through Sunday, January 1.

December 14 is Single Seniors Night, with a fine turkey dinner, a repeat performance by Santa, and other surprises for our older single community members. If you know of anyone who might be interested and who fits the description, contact any Lions member to let them know. Transportation can easily be arranged for anyone who might require it.

We are busy with the phone book preparations and remind folks that if you have new information, changes to be made, or know of someone who has left the island this year, one of the ways to make these changes is to use the form on our web page, sooner than later.

Finally, we wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

David Chase

www.mayneislandlions.org