



SLEEPING LADY MT. LIONS CLUB HISTORY:

**PRESENTED BY: LION TERRI SHANLEY
LION KRIS JEZ**

CLUB NAMES & CHARTER YEAR PROGRESSIONS:



▶ EAGLE RIVER AUXILIARY:

PRIOR TO 1982 (Charter date unknown)
(Purple emblem)



▶ EAGLE RIVER LIONESS CLUB:

4/24/82 - 7/18/92



▶ SLEEPING LADY MT. LIONS CLUB:

Chartered 7-18-92 to Current
(Changed to Blue Emblem)

Presenter Backgrounds:

Kris Jez

- ▶ Joined Eagle River Lioness club 7/1/85
- ▶ ER Lioness Club past president, Secretary & Treasurer
- ▶ Charter member of Sleeping Lady Mt. Lions
- ▶ SLMLC Past President, Secretary, Treasurer and currently Co-Treasurer.

Terri Shanley

- ▶ Joined Eagle River Lioness club 11/1/87
- ▶ ER Lioness Club past Secretary and Treasurer
- ▶ Charter member, Charter Treasurer of SLMLC
- ▶ SLMLC Past President, secretary, treasurer & Current Marketing & Communication Chair.



EAGLE RIVER AUXILARY:

- Charter Date unknown ~ Disbanded 4/24/82
- Women's Auxiliary Club to Men's Eagle River Lions Club. Lions Clubs were for men only.
- Auxiliary club met in the home of Mary Lou Briggs then eventually moved to the Men's Eagle River Clubhouse.
- The original clubhouse was a small building located behind Slanker's Gas station on the corner of Eagle River Rd and Old Glenn (Where Jack White building is now).
- The clubhouse was moved to the Lions Park once the Eagle River Lions secured a lease for the park for \$1.00 from the State of Alaska. The original clubhouse is now the current downstairs Kitchen, Bathrooms and Storage area.
- The Auxiliary bought and installed the first playground equipment. The Sleeping Lady Mt. Lions later replaced it with all new equipment.



Eagle River Lioness Club:

- ▶ Chartered 4/24/1982 and disbanded 7/18/92 when Sleeping Lady Mt. Lions club was formed.
- ▶ Charter President was Peggy Nickens.
- ▶ Women were not allowed to join a Lions club so, Lions International formed the “Lioness Club” for women.
- ▶ We had our own club, district and multi district officers. We had our own meetings and awards at conventions.
- ▶ New members being initiated in the ER Lioness club had to wear “mop” wigs until they chaired a project.



- ▶ Received the International award of achievement for the top 10 clubs in world for Lionism.

THE ALASKA LEGISLATURE



*** HONORING *
* EAGLE RIVER LIONESSES *
* INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT ***

The members of the Seventeenth Alaska State Legislature take great pride in honoring the Eagle River Lionesses on the occasion of being recognized by the International Association of Lions Clubs as one of the top ten clubs in the world. The Eagle River Lionesses were selected from among 15,000 clubs worldwide.

The international organization honored the Lionesses for their outstanding work on behalf of the National Bone Marrow Donor Program. Local donor recruitment efforts were conducted jointly between the Eagle River Lions and Lioness Clubs. The international award given to the Eagle River Lionesses cited them for "Outstanding Dedication to Humanitarian Service."

The Lionesses, who recently celebrated their tenth anniversary, have been involved with or spearheaded numerous community service projects over the past decade. Sponsoring the "Tree of Giving" through which Christmas presents are directed to needy children, providing holiday dinners and food baskets, raising funds for diabetes and cancer, sponsoring White Cane Day, and working on behalf of the Bone Marrow Donor Program are just a few of the worthy projects the Eagle River Lionesses have accomplished over the past decade.

The members of the Alaska Legislature congratulate the Eagle River Lionesses for their ten years of dedicated community service and for the international recognition that their tireless efforts brought them. We join the people of the community of Chugiak-Eagle River, whom the Lionesses have served so well, in thanking them for their hard work, from which so many have benefitted.



Barbara Swanson
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

Richard Nelson
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

Date: April 22, 1992

Requested by: Senators Cotten, Halford, Pourchot, Pearce, Uehling,
Sturgulewski, Menard, Kerttula, Rodey and Collins; Representatives R. Phillips, M.A. Miller, Baker, Bruckman, Choquette, C. Davis,
Navarre and Parnell



Eagle River Lioness Cont.

Project Highlights:

Diabetes Screening:

- Help American Diabetes assoc. with Diabetes screening in ER by setting up a table at Carr's and community health fairs to draw blood and screen blood sugars.

Bone Marrow Drive:

- ER Lions and Lioness initiated *first ever bone marrow registry within State of Alaska* to help a community member find a donor.
- Held Registries in multiple communities around the state and at the blood bank of Alaska.
- Helped fund and fundraise for Alaska first "Platelet" machine for the blood bank.
- Our Lions Logo is shown on a plaque at the blood bank and on the blood mobile.

Big Lake Lions Club
Big Lake, AK

2/86

Because I'm not a natural speaker who's words flow poetically when I'm speaking, which is an understatement at times, we've written this up because we would like to you know how much we truly appreciate your kindness and support.

We've lived for the last few months since my diagnosis with a whole new perspective on life in general. I haven't become a wonderful philosopher or anything, but one very important thing I have learned and can't express enough, is that so many of us take so much, including our lives, for granted. After all, things always happen to other people, never to you. Well, I have always felt that way, and that was my first reaction when I was told. This can't be happening to me. But I have found out first hand, as you know, that this is not necessarily true.

When the phrase "stop and smell the roses" comes across your mind, please remember it, and live it. It's so important. Take each day as it comes, make the very best of it you can, and live it to the fullest.

When my husband, John and I found out about this problem of mine, this slight interruption in our otherwise "perfect" life together with our beautiful new son, we felt so helpless and frustrated. We felt we had lost control of our lives.

We did a lot of soul searching and a lot of praying and came to the conclusion, that we are fighters; and fight this we will, with everything we've got.

I don't know how we could even fathom handling all of this, but with God's help and your help, we've been given a chance. You've helped give us the strength we need at this difficult time.

We appreciate your love, your prayers, and your thoughtfulness.

We will be thinking of you all and remembering what you've done for us. We will finally beat this thing.

Thank you for all you've done. Thank you for being there.

With our warmest regards,

Stacey Grohol

John, Stacey and John Christopher Grohol

John V. Grohol
& Johnny Grohol

Auxiliary and Lioness Projects carried over to Sleeping lady Mt. lions:

▶ Walk for Hope: Eagle River Walk.

- ▶ Registered walkers & collect monies
- ▶ 500-600 walker - walking 16 miles from Nature center to Chugiak High. Route shortened in later years.
- ▶ Set up checkpoints with supplies
- ▶ Hand out balloons and t-shirts.
- ▶ Cook hotdogs and give prizes at end of walk
- ▶ Handing out band aids for blistered feet!

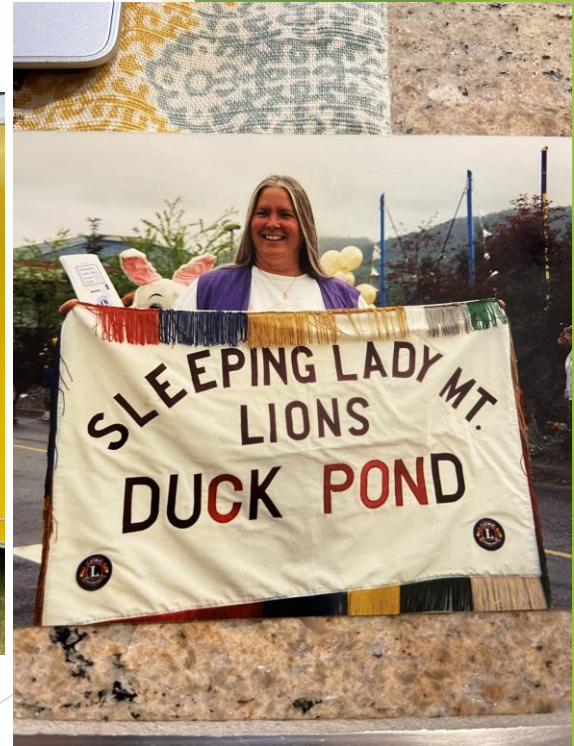


Bob Shute checks in a pair of walkers at Station 2 in Eagle River Valley Saturday. Local Rotary club was one of many organizations who assisted at checkpoints and in other capacities in the first Walk for Hope held here.



▶ 3rd July - Independence Day Celebrations:

- ▶ Food Booth and Cotton Candy
- ▶ Coordinated and Ran Kids Games
- ▶ Face Painting
- ▶ Lionesses and SLML took on many roles for this events including vendor coordination.



▶ Bear Paw Festival:

- ▶ Sponsored Bear Paw Pageant contestants
- ▶ Eventually became the sole sponsor of the pageant. During this time, we did not sponsor a contestants due to conflict.
- ▶ Provide scholarships for pageant winners and winning escort.
- ▶ We also participated in the parade, slippery salmon derby and other area's of Bear Paw.



▶ Tree of giving:

- ▶ This project carries on in much the same way as it always has except we use to sort and wrap every gift the day before gift distribution. Many years we were there until Mid-night.
- ▶ It was not unusual to have up 200+ kids on the tree's.
- ▶ Names use to come from Parks and Recreation who would Vet the family and distribute names to the various organization for gifting.



Lioness Claudia, Loretta, Glenna and Gloria



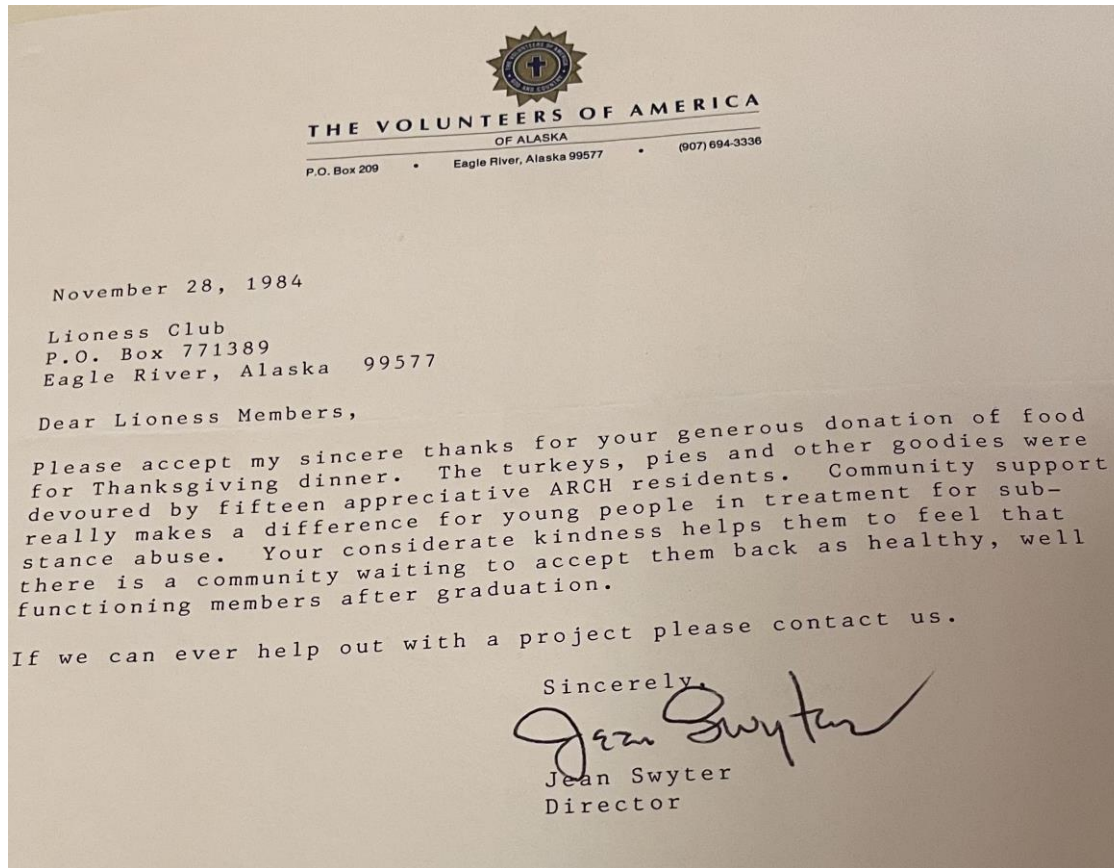
▶ Senior Bingo

- ▶ The ER Lions and Lionesses hosted Bingo at the Lions clubhouse.
- ▶ Bingo was moved to the Chugiak Senior Center once the center was built.
- ▶ Throughout the years, this became strictly a SLML project and we also provide gifts for seniors for different annual holidays.



► ARCH Home:

- Lionesses started assisting with ARCH in 1984 by providing Thanksgiving Dinners.
- Christmas Dinner, presents for clients, award closet goodies, backpacks for graduates and State fair tickets were added throughout the years.
- We also provide other assistance upon their request.



► Community Easter Egg Hunt:

- Previously known as the “VFW” Easter Egg Hunt and was held on the VFW grounds.
- Due to growing event size and expense, the VFW asked for other community organizations to co-sponsor the event with them and was moved to the Lions Park.
- Due to lack of VFW volunteers, the SLMLC and ER Lions starting coordinating the event and the VFW faded out. The SLMLC eventually became the head coordinators.
- We used to have big “Golden Eggs” for each age group and the winners got bikes.





Sleeping Lady Mt. Lions Club:

- ▶ Charter Date 7/18/92 ~ Current
- ▶ SLMLC Chartered with 52 members.
- ▶ Charter members still current SLMLC members (*Terri S, Kris J, Mary P, Barb H, Lynett Olson and Pat Wallace (Nealeigh)*)
- ▶ Since Women could now be “Lions”, Lions International asked all Lionesses to join their existing lions club (ours was ER Lions) or form our own Lions club.
- ▶ Since our Lioness club was independent with our own projects, we chose to form our own lions club and became the SLMLC.
- ▶ Some Lionesses joined the ER Lions club instead of SLMLC but both clubs continued to work together and still do today.
- ▶ Even though Lions clubs now accept men and women, the SLMLC was all women for many years before we let a “Token” male join us.
- ▶ The SLMLC was up for a major community service award (1 of 3 clubs) at the Lions International convention in Hong Kong. We were very proud of our 2nd place finish.
- ▶ We quickly became one of the strongest lions club in District 49A and still maintain our strong presence in Lionism today.

SLEEPING LADY



LIONS CLUB

**Charter Night
July 18, 1992
Eagle River, Alaska**

**Raffle - Door Prizes
Fun, Fun, Fun**

**Date: Saturday, July 18, 1992
Place: Eagle River Lions Den**

**Cocktails: 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Dinner: 5:00 p.m.**

Entertainment to follow

**Dress: Casual (picnic)
Cost: \$12.50**

Please R.S.V.P. to Susan Wilson, 696-6060

Sleeping Lady Mt. Lions Charter:



SLMLC Charter President Jane Jones accepting our new SLMLC Bell and Gavel.
Inscription reads *“IN MEMORY OF EAGLE RIVER LIONESS CLUB 1992”*



MELVIN JONES:

The Original Lion

Before there were over 1.4. million Lions around the world, there was one man with a vision. He was a salesman from Chicago, Illinois, USA, named Melvin Jones. Driven by a dynamic personality and a heart filled with kindness, he helped create a service movement over 100 years ago that's still thriving today.



Melvin Jones Fellowship Award:

The Melvin Jones Fellowship (MJF) is the backbone of our foundation. The fellowship is named as a tribute to the founder of Lions Clubs International, Melvin Jones.

Designated as Lions Clubs International Foundation's highest honor, the fellowship symbolizes the characteristics of individuals who are dedicated to humanitarian service. Those attributes are generosity, compassion and concern for others.

▶ **The Fellowship of Lions**

- ▶ There are more than 476,000 MJF recipients worldwide
- ▶ There are more than 100,000 PMJF recipients worldwide

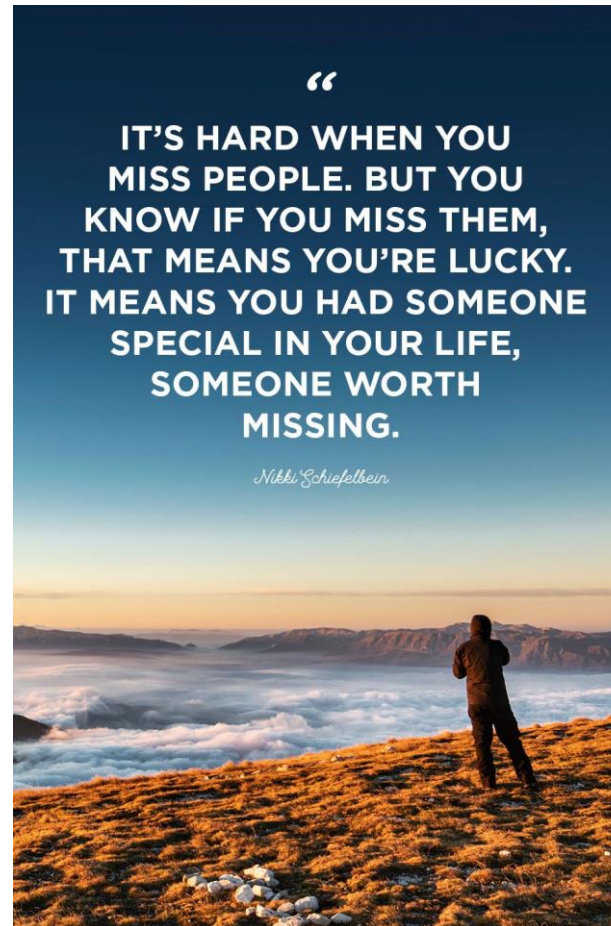
▶ **Melvin Jones Fellowships (MJF)**

- ▶ \$1,000 MJF contributions by either club or individual.
- ▶ Funds donated to Lions foundation for long term reconstruction and relief projects from Earthquakes and other natural disasters along with other assistance programs.
- ▶ Can be given to a Lions member or community member. Generally, this is given to a recipient whom has given much of themselves to their club and/or community over a significant period of time.
- ▶ This differs from the “Lion of the year” award which is given to a lions members for their contributions to the club during that particular year.
- ▶ All Melvin Jones Recipients have their name on a plaque in the Melvin Jones room at Lions International in Chicago.

▶ **Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowships (PMJF)**

- ▶ The Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship (PMJF) program is a way for donors to extend their commitment to LCIF. There are 54 recognition levels beyond the initial US\$1,000 MJF contribution with a unique pin for each giving level. After contributing US\$100,000, donors become Humanitarian Partners.

The following Slides are ***IN MEMORY*** of the past Lionesses/Lions who were mentors, family, friends and instrumental in both Kris and my Lion's Journey.



▶ **Lion Jane Jones: Born Sept. 10th - 3/10/2000**

- ▶ Past Eagle River Lioness President.
- ▶ SLMLC Charter President
- ▶ Melvin Jones Award Recipient
- ▶ Great Golfer and Mentor



▶ *Lion Heidi Wallace - 9/3/33 to 11/28/02*

- ▶ Past Eagle River Lioness
- ▶ SLMLC Charter member
- ▶ Past SLML President & Board of Director
- ▶ Melvin Jones Award Recipient
- ▶ Could work Yarn Needles with her eyes closed.
- ▶ Owner of the Heidi's yarn shop in Eagle River.



▶ **Lion Elaine Jez - 3/13/1952 to 3/17/2003**

- ▶ Past Eagle River Lioness
- ▶ Past SLMLC Charter member
- ▶ PAST SLMLC President and board of Director.
- ▶ Melvin Jones award Recipient
- ▶ Known as the “Polish Princess”.



▶ **Lion Vi Thomson - 12/2/1943 - 2/29/2004**

- ▶ Past Eagle River Lioness President
- ▶ Past Eagle River Lion.
- ▶ Past Lioness District 49A cabinet member.
- ▶ SLMLC Memorial Scholarship
- ▶ 3rd of July Cotton Candy Queen and “Sheck” (check) Writer.



▶ **Lion Shirley Littleton - 6/27/39 - 10/24/18**

- ▶ Past Big Lake Lioness
- ▶ Past Big Lake Lion member & President
- ▶ Past SLML Lion member & President
- ▶ Past District 49A Governor
- ▶ SLML Annual Memorial Scholarship
- ▶ SLMLC bookkeeping & tax guru.
- ▶ Always had the coffee pot on.



***THANK YOU TO ALL CURRENT AND PAST
SLEEPING LADY MT. LIONS MEMBERS***

***FOR CONTINUING TO MAKE OUR CLUB
ONE OF THE STRONGEST IN OUR DISTRICT AND CARRY
ON THE GREAT LEGACY OF CARING FOR OUR
COMMUNITY.***

