

Greetings Fellow Lions,

This has been both a trying and rewarding year for Hearing & Speech.

As of today, 4/21/2014, we have processed and approved 9 applications for hearing assistance for this fiscal year (July 2013 – June 2014) and paid remuneration for 10 people who have received hearing aids (1 client was approved last May but did not get her hearing aids until August – invoiced in September).

Currently there are 3 applications in house for approval, another outstanding and a 5th for partial (1 refurbished hearing aid, \$250). The word the Lions have assistance available has gotten out... there have been requests from several new sources this year.

We would like to approve at funding for all 5 - \$2850. I believe there is approximately \$7,000 left in the Treasury marked for H&S.

Collectively - we have collected approx. 40 sets of hearing aids.
As to fund raising, it has not gone well this year. We (Phyllis and I) have had too many unexpected irons in the fire to deal with, split pretty evenly between personal, professional and charity work. Much of the charity time available has been given to the Multi District which is undergoing what we hope will have significant positive results for the CT Lions and help, among other things, to alleviate monetary issues.

As you may be aware, the Multi-District is working on procuring funding through grants but that is still in process and no firm date can be determined for that to begin. It is hoped that this source will greatly reduce the need for individual Lion Clubs to raise funding but, as of now, the District still relies 100% on Club funding. So far this year, probably mostly due to my not having the time to visit Clubs, funds have been low.

To that end I suggest the following:

We need to focus on District 23-C more.

We need help in raising funds thru the District and are very much willing to have anyone who would like to become part of this Committee.

Spread the word thru the District to keep us in mind for fund raising activities.

While we have only the best of intentions, sometimes that is not enough. Without warning, things can swallow up the time which was scheduled to be used elsewhere and preclude meeting obligations we originally thought we could handle. Such is our (Phyllis and my) situation. I am optimistic that we will do better at fund raising next year but know now there are no guarantees and will accept any decisions the Cabinet suggests to keep this very necessary community Committee vibrant and healthy.

We would like to Thank all the District for their support of this Committee and would be very open for ideas on how to improve what we do.

Cordually submitted by:

