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Frostburg Lions holding membership drive

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FROSTBURG — The Lions Club of Frostburg is conducting a membership drive through May 1. Individual, as well as family memberships are available.

"We are in a position where we need to expand our membership," said Lions Susan Munck, membership chair. "We are seeking new people with new ideas, so we can expand our programs and activities."

The Frostburg Lions Club was organized in 1945, and has a proud heritage of service to the Frostburg community. From purchasing eye glasses for those in need, to granting a park to the City of Frostburg, Lions have been doing what is needed in the community. When it needs to be done, when it needs to be provided, when it needs to be given, you will find the Frostburg Lions Club.

This is the perfect time for folks who want to help make Frostburg a better place to live, work and play, to become a Lion. Munck said, "It doesn't hurt being a Lions, all you do is help people."

Frostburg Lions support a wide range of programs and projects in the area and around the world.

Diabetic children can now go to Lions Camp Merrick, in southern Maryland, using grants and special camperships through the Frostburg Lions Club.

The Vision Screening Program, for pre-school children in Frostburg, now updated, and upgraded with the latest computer technology, provides early detection of visual problems in children.

For 51 years, youngsters in the area, have heard "batter up" from the Frostburg Lions sponsorship of youth ball teams for boys and girls. More than 5,000 "Hugs," stuffed animals for children in distress, have been distributed through the region.

Frostburg Lions also help support Leader Dogs for the Blind, Rochester, Maine, the Wilmer Eye Institute in Baltimore, and other Lions International programs and projects. Charity Navigator has given the Lions Clubs International Foundation a four-star rating, the highest offered. In May 2008 LCIF was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter. The first time a service organization has been nominated.

"Membership has its rewards," said Munck, a Lion for more than 10 years. "Our reward is knowing we are helping people and making a difference."

Lions encourage the entire family to join. Family memberships provide an opportunity for

the entire family to volunteer together. "Imagine teaching the kids the values you want them to learn," said Munck, "working side by side with parents." Lions are the only service organization that offers a family membership.

Senior citizens are an organizational asset. Seniors have years of experience, and time to help out with projects. A lifetime of experience can help when considering new projects as well. Grandparents can involve their children and grandchildren in Lions projects.

Young adults bring energy, and a modern youthful philosophy to

community service. They have insight into what the youth need, in terms of Lions service projects.

Lions realize that time is a factor for many, but they have adopted a do "what you can, when you can and how you" attitude. Odd and varying work schedule and occupations are an asset to Lions.

Frostburg Lions keep in touch with the latest "happenings" through meetings, a newsletter and email updates. "Making sure the membership is aware is critical to the success of any project," said Munck.