

# “LASERTOMA - JOIN THE PACK AND MAKE FRIENDS FOR LIFE”



ISSUED SIX TIMES A YEAR  
August, October, December,  
February, April & June

Editor: Sally Maple

**FEBRUARY-MARCH  
2011  
ISSUE  
VOLUME IV**

**President's Message**



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I hope all of you had a safe and enjoyable Christmas and that 2011 has been a good year for you so far. I want to thank everyone for the Christmas cards you sent me. Reading the cards is one of my favorite parts of the Christmas season!

As I sit down to compose this message, I think about all of the activities that must be going on with you and your club members. I know that many of you are currently working on Youth Service Award Applications, advertising for some or all of the scholarship grants that we offer (the Scholarship and Memorial Grant, the Rose Runzler Grant, and the Marguerite C. Leander Grant), and possibly working on some International sponsorships, such as the Nancy Pratt Literacy sponsorship, the Children's Hospital sponsorship or the Youth Campership sponsorship. All of this is probably in addition to any local awards or sponsorships you may be working on. Many of you are also planning to attend the Mid Term Board Meeting in Dayton, Ohio (which has already occurred by the time you read this), as well as making plans to attend Regional Convention and International Convention.

I find it amazing what we can fit into our busy lives, as long as we consider it important. We seem to be able to find time to do the things that we love. I want to thank you all for your love of LaSertoma and your commitment to all that LaSertoma stands for, both on your local level as well as the International level. LaSertoma would not be the strong, dynamic, amazing organization that it is without each and every one of you.

Please continue to communicate with your club President, your International Director and your International Board Members. We are all here to help make LaSertoma an organization that we can all be proud of – and that can only be done with participation and communication from all members. We are always interested in your thoughts, your ideas, your constructive criticism as well as your compliments – we can't do our job without you. Thank you for your support and assistance.

In LaSertoma Love and Service,

Jill Cruz  
International President

## Scholarship and Memorial And Endowment Funds



One of LaSertoma's most important reasons for existing is to help others. Our country is having so many problems right now with people losing their jobs and everything costing so much more than in the past. Now is when we need to step up and show our love and support for those in need. What better way than to help a deserving young person with a scholarship for their college needs. Our youth need us more now than ever. So I am asking each of you to reach deep in your **hearts** and then deep in your pockets and find at least \$25.00 to donate to the scholarship funds in honor of or in memory of someone special in your life and help us reach the goal of giving each qualified student a scholarship this year.

Thanking you in advance.

Carol Witherspoon,  
S&M and Endowment Chairman

National Trail LaSertoma has been a very busy club since the 2010-2011 LaSertoma year began.

### AIR SHOW

The club sold merchandise at booths at the Air Show that is held in Dayton, Ohio every year. The merchandise was supplied by the sponsors. Each of the members took at least one four hour shift during the two days of the show. They hope to do it again this year - July 23rd and 24th. If you want to work four hours, you can have a parking pass and a ticket to the show. The Blue Angels are spectacular and many people comment that it is the best air show they have attended. Any takers? They would have to know ahead of time, of course.

### BUILDING BRIDGES

Building Bridges is a home facility for juvenile boys who are under court supervision. The club took a full dinner to them -- roast pork, macaroni and cheese, etc. They have also supplied candy bars and snacks. The boys are allowed treats as rewards; however, the treats are kept under lock and key.

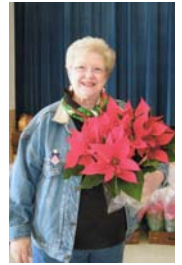
### PARTY PARCEL POST

The club has their Christmas carry-in dinner. They each bring a dish and a wrapped gift. The gifts are anonymous and are auctioned off to the highest bidder--sight unseen. Usually, the city of origin is on the package. It started as a purchase made on vacation; hence, "parcel post.": After dinner and the auction, they assemble gift bags for the YWCA Battered Women program. They include shampoo, conditioner, toothbrush, toothpaste, etc. The items are in a sturdy bag and are given to each woman as she checks into the facility.

## WINTER HAVEN LASERTOMA



The Winter Haven LaSertoma Club's fundraisers for the month of December were the sale of pecans and pointettias. Members took pre sales for the beautiful red plants in 6 inch pots with a minimum of five blooms. Each plant was delivered with a decorative pot cover. They sold them for \$7.00 each which was the same price as last year. Thelma Henry (International Director) was chairman of the event with Billy Sue Bourland (Club President) as co -chairman.



Bricks at Camp Endeavor in the Memory Garden with names of those members of the Winter Haven LaSertoma Club who have donated include Thelma Henry, Billy Sue Bourland and Rosemary Staskus.



Winter Haven Club held their White Elephant Sale where they all had lots of fun and laughter.



Marcia Sackett Florrie Ellen Hicks



Rosemary Staskus receiving her gift  
A CHICKEN!!!!



Renie Duell had to put the bow in her hair

## LANCASTER LASERTOMA Christmas, Tis The Season of Giving



Lancaster LaSertoma has a sponsorship of "Adopting a family for Christmas" every year. This year they were given a single mother and her five year old daughter. The Mom had brain surgery to remove a tumor earlier in the year and it left her disabled.

The club had such a fun time shopping for them. The little girl wanted Barbie's, a bike, dress up clothes, toys and all the things a little girl would want. Her favorite colors are pink and purple. The club was able to get everything on their list and then some.

When the Mom came to get their gifts, to the clubs surprise they learned the little girl had a tumor removed from her spine last summer. As you can see by her Santa picture you would never know anything was wrong!! The club was so blessed to get to help this little family, just goes to show every little thing we can do to help another is so worth it.

## "Helping Hands—Serving LaSertoma"



Happy New Year!! Can you believe we are half way through this year? That means we are getting closer to our International Convention. How many new members have you gained? How many guests have been invited and come to your meetings? I hope the club Presidents and Secretaries have been keeping up with this information and submitting your completed monthly reports to your International Directors. Which club will get the MAGIC award this year? Which region will get the award for the most new members gained? I am looking forward to presenting these awards at our International Convention in July this year. Please continue to work hard in trying to gain new members. Our organization's survival depends on growth.

Linda Thomas, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President LaSertoma International

## FOUR TOWN LASERTOMA

Four Town LaSertoma received a wonderful thank you letter from the Central Ohio Diabetes Association for their continued support of Camp Hamwi which is an American Camp Association accredited by the Central Ohio Diabetes Association.

Two club members attended an open house at Camp Hamwi and were overwhelmed by all that the campers are offered and educational programs that are given to children with Diabetes. They even erected a thank you banner with the clubs name on the grounds of the camp. What a great feeling!!!!



### What makes up good meeting minutes?


Many people don't have a clue! You will see all kinds of unnecessary information included in minutes and that usually is due to lack of preparation and/or adequate training by the leader. So, in a nutshell, this is an attempt to point out the most important elements of good meeting minutes.

Begin by requesting a copy of the agenda from the presiding officer **PRIOR TO THE DAY OF THE MEETING**. Prepare a skeleton framework which outlines the standard order of business. Set up the layout and format. List the meeting place, date and time. Add names of anticipated attendees if names are required (It's usually faster to delete a few than to type all of them). If the total number of attendees is all that is required, set that up with blank lines to fill in. In the reports section, include all the names of officers and committee chairs that will be expected to give a report and add a notation for those that will be attached. Follow this with a list of all the main topics which are included on the agenda (unfinished and new business) with plenty of white space in between items.

Planning is the key. There is no need to be afraid of the task if you do proper planning and arrive at the meeting prepared. Of course, the individual presiding must also plan and provide the agenda to you, so if you don't receive it, ask for it!

When you arrive at the meeting, use your framework as a guide and take enough notes to jog your memory later when you are completing the minutes. **Do not** include break times or other information that is not important to future readers. **Do not** include discussion details or rehash reports that are going to be attached. **Do** include motions and results. **Do not** include opinions, judgments, criticism or accolades unless presented and adopted by official motion. **Do** make note of any tabled items to be brought back at a future meeting. Remember the purpose of minutes is to create a permanent official, and legal, record of the business of the organization. Be concise in wording; bullet points are sometimes the best. Make the finished document as short as possible so that others reading it (members, courts, IRS and others) may understand the meeting purpose and results without having to wade through a lot of trivia. When you think you are finished, go back and **PROOFREAD** your typing. Don't be embarrassed by misspelled words, omissions, or obviously poor grammar.

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, the 4<sup>th</sup> level official guide for LaSertoma International, contains complete details for great minutes. I recommend every secretary become familiar with at least that part of the parliamentary rules. It will truly make your job easier and far less intimidating!

Happy writing  Irene Pendleton, Secretary Treasurer

PS: Does anyone know the first 3 levels of governing documents for LaSertoma International?



## Reach Out to Help Each Other

Do you want to know how you can help other LaSertoma Clubs raise money or support their local sponsorships? You can help them by collecting the items listed below! How simple is that? Let's show our support by pitching in to help each other out.

**Aluminum Can Tabs –**  
(sponsorship)

Club: Lancaster LaSertoma  
Contact Person: Kay Strawn  
3285 Lancaster-Kirksville Road  
Lancaster, Ohio 43130  
[Strawn3@yahoo.com](mailto:Strawn3@yahoo.com)

**Cell Phones –**  
(sponsorship)

Club: Bottom of the Bridge LaSertoma  
Contact Person: Jenny Murray  
8023 Eddie Lane  
Quinton, VA 23141  
[JMRYAN2@sentara.com](mailto:JMRYAN2@sentara.com)

**Shop at Bi Lo –**  
(fund raiser)

Club: South Strand LaSertoma  
Contact Person: Betty Lang  
[bblang@netzero.net](mailto:bblang@netzero.net)

(contact Betty for the form necessary to benefit the LaSertoma Club when you shop.)

**Prescription Medicine Bottles and Plastic Bottle Tops from water and soda bottles –**  
(sponsorships)

Club: James E. Shepard LaSertoma  
Contact Person: Debbie Hilliard  
1111 Raynord Court  
Durham, NC 27703  
[hilliarddebbie@yahoo.com](mailto:hilliarddebbie@yahoo.com)

**Campbell's Labels  
Box Tops for Education  
Aluminum Can Tabs  
Hotel Shampoos, Soaps, Lotions, etc.**  
(Sponsorships)  
(Contact Lynn for a list of Labels and Box Top Brands)

Club: Suburban LaSertoma  
Contact Person: Lynn Shomaker  
6545 Steitz Road  
Powell, OH 43065  
[lasertomalover@columbus.rr.com](mailto:lasertomalover@columbus.rr.com)

If your club has an item that did not get included in this article, please let Jill Cruz know, and she will update the list in the *Circles* periodically. Jill Cruz, 757-566-1739 or [ericandjill@cruzinc.us](mailto:ericandjill@cruzinc.us).

NOTE: Downtown Tulsa is no longer collecting WasMart, McDonald's and Quick Trip receipts.

## LANCASTER LASERTOMA'S 2010 GIFT WRAP FUNDRAISER



Wrapping paper and gift ribbon was flying everywhere as we kicked off our annual gift wrap fundraiser event. We have had the fundraiser for approximately 15+ years with this being the most successful year yet!

This is our largest fundraiser of the year and even with the economy we surpassed all of our goals! It was a huge success and morale booster for our club. The fundraiser is held every December at River Valley Mall, Lancaster, Ohio from mid December up through Christmas Eve. The mall is generous enough to donate the space and allow us to have our club work for our fundraising event.



With the rapid growth of our club we had several members and volunteers able to help this year to make it a lot of fun and success. Members participants included Kay Strawn, Julie Moskal, Sarah Speakman, Tony Habib, Laura Wilson, Amelia Messmore, April Starner, Davita Willis, Bonnie Pool, Melanie Gothard, Thomas Moskal and Sharon Withem. Volunteers included Barbara Nicols, Shellie Nichols, Danielle Hamilton, Ryan Fidler, Chris Habib, Paulinee Nochols, Adam Willis, Jenna Ford, Adrienne Moskal, Kenny Miller, Doug Wallace, Tracy Alspaugh, Justin Harvey and Lee Wilson.

In sharing what LaSertoma is about, it was so rewarding to talk to the shoppers and hear their stories of whom they were shopping for. There was an elderly man shopping for his wife of over 50 years who had just been diagnosed with Alzheimers disease, and the very touching story of a lady shopping for a little girl who was 9 years old diagnosed with cancer and in Nationwide Children's Hospital. There was an elderly couple shopping and getting their gifts wrapped, while helping them to their car it was discovered she had cancer and they were in town to bury their only son. They were so upbeat and full of the spirit of Christmas even in their circumstances.

No matter what the circumstances, we were all very blessed to participate. This is what the spirit of LaSertom is all about.

### Roxboro LaSertoma Club



The Roxboro LaSertoma Club has been very busy supporting their sponsorships. They just finished up their "**pecan fundraiser**", which was a big success. The sales were so good, the club had to order 4 additional cases of pecans. At the club's November meeting, members brought items to give to the residents at the Maple Heights Nursing Home. Several members delivered these bags on a Saturday morning before Christmas. The residents were so excited and happy to be receiving these gifts. The members also sang Christmas Carols to them. During the club's Christmas dinner, toys and clothes were bagged up for a family

### Marty's Corner

When your club adds, reinstates, deletes or has any changes in a club member's name or address, **PLEASE** fill out LSI Form C4 (08/2009). This will help Headquarters and the Secretary/Treasurer keep our records straight. Also when you send in your donation for S&M and Endowment to Headquarters, **PLEASE** send your donation in with LSI Form 10a (09/2008) or 10b (09/2008). Thank you for your cooperation.

If you need any supplies or want some merchandise, just let me know.

# UTICA LASERTOMA

January was birthday month for Utica LaSertoma, We celebrated with cake, ice cream and hot chocolate. Each member brought in a small gift and we had a gift exchange, presents ranging from crockpots to candles and bath lotions. It was so much fun!!



Dorie Overman and Betty Wooddell



Claudine Curtis and Tracy Ryan



Christmas Walk on Main, Pictured are LaSertoma Members Tracy Ryan, Angie Cannon, Sertoma member Bill Porterfield, LaSertoma Member Farrah Cooperider, La Sertoma Volunteer Tekela Harris and Sertoma Member Nelson Blue. In front is Trenton Rine, future LaSertoma Volunteer member.

LaSertoma, Sertoma and The LaSertoma Volunteers braved the cold on December 15<sup>th</sup> and hit the streets of Utica, Ohio. This year the Christmas Walk on Main had more meaning, as we also celebrated the 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Utica! We had handouts of each club and many giveaways, ranging from personalized pencils pads of paper, bags and Sertoma's earplugs!

## **SCHOLARSHIP AND MEMORIAL DONATIONS**

12/15/2010 thru 2/10/2011

### **DONOR**

Capitol LaSertoma  
National Trail  
Heath LaSertoma  
Lancaster LaSertoma

### **DONOR OF HONOR**

Club Donation  
Club Donation  
Club Donation  
Club Donation

### **ENDOWMENT DONATIONS**

12/15/2010 thru 2/10/2011

### **DONOR**

Heath LaSertoma  
Capitol LaSertoma

### **DONOR OF HONOR**

Club Donation  
Club Donation

### **DONOR**

Thelma Henry  
Jill & Eric Cruz  
  
Shawnee Mission LaSertoma  
Jill & Eric Cruz

### **DONOR OF MEMORY**

Bonnie Schramm  
Betty Hall, Past Governor & Past ID; Raymond Taylor, husband  
of Carolyn Taylor of Roxboro LaSertoma  
Betty Grapes & Marion Hitt – both members of Shawnee Mission  
Betty Boyd & Jon Fisher, Gale Auer's brother

**LASERTOMA INTERNATIONAL  
4095 UPHAM ROAD  
DAYTON, OHIO 45429**

**RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED**

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### **LA SERTOMA INTERNATIONAL SPONSORSHIPS**

\*\*\* Regular **SCHOLARSHIPS** for deserving student's continuing education.

\*\*\*Regular **SCHOLARSHIPS** for visually handicapped persons enrolled in graduate studies.

#### \*\*\***YOUTH CAMPERSHIP PROGRAM**

\*\*\*Special **NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS** for those enrolled in an accredited baccalaureate degree nursing program, no lower than the junior level.

\*\*\***YOUTH SERVICE AWARDS** to recognize young persons involved in community service.

\*\*\***LaSERTOMA YOUTH VOLUNTEER CLUBS** for youth age 11-19.

#### \*\*\***NANCY PRATT LITERACY PROGRAM**

\*\*\***LaSERTOMA ENDOWMENT FUND**

\*\*\***CHILDRENS HOSPITAL - LOVE FROM LaSERTOMA**