

Chilly fun at Olcott Lions 'Swim for Sight'

The 53rd annual Olcott Lions Club "Polar Bear Swim for Sight" saw a large crowd of spectators and swimmers come out to Olcott Beach on a warm, but very windy Sunday. The day started out with a variety of pre-swim activities, which included the popular Firemen's Tug Of War that was won by the Youngstown Volunteer Fire Co. Participating fire companies in the fun event included those from the Ridgeway, Holley, Shelby, Youngstown,

Wilson, Shawnee, Olcott, Frontier, Ransomville, Gratiwick Hose and Hartland firehalls.

Swim registration was busy as soon as it opened at 9 a.m., with plenty of souvenirs and T-shirts available to benefit Olcott Lions programs. Out on the hamlet's Main Street, there was food and drinks from various participating Lions Clubs in the area, and music by The Buffalo Brass Machine.

All of which led to the Polar Bear Queen contest, which was won by Kathleen Scalise of Olcott Beach, and then the "Swim for Sight."

This event raises a huge amount of money for the Lions Club, which is all turned back into the community with all the charities supported by the Lions Club.



The Firemen's Tug of War.



Members of the Niagara County Sheriff's Office doing in their part for charity at the Lions "Polar Bear Swim for Sight."



A group of happy tailgaters in the water in their zany costumes.



The Youngstown Volunteer Fire Co. with the trophy for winning the Tug of War competition.



Kathleen Scalise of Olcott Beach was named winner of the 2022 Polar Bear Queen title.



Contestants for the Polar Bear Queen contest.

(Photos by Wayne Peters)

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