

Huron Heights

Lion Brent Crawford of the Tiverton Lions Club's health and social services committee, centre, and Club Treasurer Rosemary Grover, right, presented \$500 to Cathy Ellis, teacher for the developmental learning class at the Huron Heights Public School. Some of the children from the school look on. The monies will be used for special outings for the class.

Submitted by Lion Brent Crawford



Main Speaker



Rhonda Workman, head trainer for Lions Foundation of Canada, was accompanied by special skills dog, Abby, when she accepted a \$300 donation from Dunnville Lioness President Nancy Southon and a \$3000 cheque from Dunnville Lion Bill Evers. Rhonda was the main speaker at a recent club meeting.

Submitted by Lion John Scholfield

Canoe - a - Thon



The Cannington Lions held their annual Canoe-A-Thon on May 4th. The event was very successful with over 30 Canoes entered, and was a great fundraiser.

Submitted by Lion Doug Fuller

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Let's Celebrate Our Miracles and Heroes

Do you believe in miracles? Do you know any heroes? Every Lion certainly can answer "yes" to both of these questions. All he or she needs to do to see the miracles is to take part in one of our service projects. The heroes are the Lions.

Maybe we've seen too many movies or read too many flattering profiles of heroes and expect a hero to be larger than life and miracles to be supernatural. But I believe heroes are part of everyday life and miracles happen in the ordinary course of a day. I learned at an early age from my parents about the importance of service and how members of a community can contribute to their community. Later, as a young Lion, I learned how a club's many acts of service, however small and seemingly commonplace and unremarkable, add up to something very significant and valuable.

During my presidential year I will salute Lions for performing miracles of service and

for being everyday heroes. I will promote some of our Lions' programs in particular and focus on membership (see pages 11) but I want to emphasize that our biggest asset is our members. It's you. It's you in California. It's you in Canada. It's you in China, France and Paraguay. It's the clubs in Germany, Russia and India. It's the Lions in Japan, South Africa and Brazil.

Lions do the heavy lifting. You decide how effective Lions are. You exemplify who Lions are. Unfortunately, probably due to a certain humility, individual Lions tend to downplay their importance. "I'm just one Lion." No, you're not. You are Lions. "I'm not a club officer." No, you're playing your part. You're doing service. "We're just a small club." No, you are the club in your community that your community can't do without. If your community were to lose you, your community would be worse off in so many ways.

All of you are miracle workers. You are a fantastic part of a worldwide organization dedicated to improving the lives of millions. There is nothing I can say to make this more of a miracle other than to thank you, to encourage you and wish you the very best this year in making more miracles.

As the Peace Poster Coordinator, I would like to thank the Districts and Clubs that supported the Peace Poster Contest for 2007-08. With your financial support we were able to provide our winner with \$1000. MD'A' covers some of the expenses for the winner and parents/guardians that were formerly the responsibility of the sponsoring Club and/or District. I would encourage the Districts and Clubs to get more involved with the contest and voluntarily continue to financially support this Contest. With your continued support we will continue to offer a cash prize to our Winner and cover some additional expenses. I would like to thank PDGs Lions John and Jean Hamilton for their continued support of the Peace Poster Program. They provide a plaque that is presented to the MDA Winner each year. The MD'A' winner for 2007-08 from District A-16 is 13 yr old Dana Halbert of Kedron Public School sponsored by the North Oshawa Lions Club. Lions John and Jean Hamilton presented Dana her plaque and the MD'A' Peace Poster Coordinator Lion Lynn Mathewson presented her the cheque for \$1000 on behalf of MD'A'. I ask that you give the new Peace Poster Coordinator, Lion Myra Kiernan of District A5 the same support you gave me during the past four years.

Reported by Lion Lynn Mathewson

Peace Poster 2008



Pictured front row left to right: Lion Jean Hamilton, Dana Halbert, Lion Lynn Mathewson and Lion President Kevin Pumphrey of the sponsoring Club. Back row left to right Lions John Hamilton and John Krasinski a member of the sponsoring Club.

You Can Call Me Al

Our New President Knows Who the Heroes Are

by Jay Copp

This verbal duet went on for a while at Lions' international headquarters: "Vice President Brandel ...," a Lions Clubs International staffer would address him. "Call me Al," Al Brandel said with a smile. The vice president from New York is now our president. Those who know him uniformly describe him as friendly, candid, street smart and steadfast.

Brandel is irrevocably down to earth. But here's the funny part: his life has been cinematic. His experiences scream out "Hollywood movie." Here he is as a police officer, rushing to help a child ruthlessly run over by a car. Years later, he plays a sad part in a devastating national tragedy: trudging to doorsteps to inform Sept. 11 families that remains of loved ones were found.

Turn the lens on Brandel's childhood and a Frank Capra movie breaks out. Here's his idyllic boyhood in a green-lawned, bursting-with-kids neighborhood with a hardworking, World War II vet father, a mother always ready with dinner and a gaggle of siblings. Young Brandel knew his place in the world and gladly embraced it. He's the dutiful altar boy trudging through a snowstorm to Midnight Mass. He's also the swinging slugger on the baseball diamond, part of a historic team remembered in the Little League Hall of Fame.

Mr. Smith Goes to Washington? How about Mr. Brandel Comes to Oak Brook? He fulfills his ultimate goal to be president of his Lions club. But opportunities keep popping up. The man who joined the Lions to rescue an ailing friend finds himself at the helm of the world's greatest service organization.

Movies are an apt reference when talking about our new president. His presidential year will contain movie-like drama. There will be heroes. There will be miracles. By the final reel, he wants Lions to understand that they are the stars of the show and what they do is more spectacular than any Hollywood flick.

Raised to Serve

Brandel's many highlights as a Lion include the time he and his wife, Maureen, also a Lion, worked on a Lions-Habitat for Humanity home. A young girl who was to live in the house in Melville, New York, said to Maureen, "I'd like to show you my room." The girl shyly took Maureen by the hand up the stairs of the home into her room.

"It was very emotional for me. It was a milestone in my life," says Al Brandel. "It's not just writing a check that really makes you a Lion or paying your dues. It's when you get out

there on a weekend and you're banging the nails and you're putting a roof or painting the walls in a house after you've just built the house. And you see the people that are walking into the house—that it will be their house."



Brandel had joined the West Hempstead Lions Club in 1975 while he was a police officer for Nassau County. A friend, Frank Anzalone, was a hemophiliac with a large blood bill. (Back then, blood was not as freely available.) Anzalone was a Lion, and the West Hempstead Lions put together a community blood drive to pay off his bill.

"So the first year Frank asked me to go down and give blood at the drive and I did," says Brandel. "The second year he asked, 'Al, I'd like you to work on the blood drive. And I did. And the third year Frank said to me, 'Al, I'd like you to work on the blood drive and I'd also like you to become a Lion.'"

So he joined the West Hempstead Lions, down to six active members, and helped revive the club as its president in 1977. His goal for the club then was to launch a signature project. So the club agreed to provide a "jaws of life" rescue tool for the community. Because of the cost, Brandel's first thought was to ask other community groups to help in the project. But Lions persuaded him to keep it in-house, and members loaned the club \$5,400 to pay for the tool. Brandel figured it would take three or four years to raise the funds to repay members. It took a year.

"My most rewarding year as a Lion was when I was club president," he says. "You can see the immediate effect of what you do. It's where the rubber meets the road," he says.

Brandel needed the Lions as much as they needed him. He drove a patrol car. "It was 90 percent boredom and 10 percent high intensity working with people that were really depending

on us to solve problems for them," he says. One of his fellow officers was shot and killed. On an August day, a car ran over a young girl. "Christine. I remember her name," says Brandel. "There was no other help around. It was just me." He rushed her to the hospital. But her injuries were fatal.

"I saw a lot of different things going on in my job and it was rather stressful. I needed something to balance out my life," says Brandel. "Within the police department I was really seeing the negative side of life. I was handling the stress in a way that wasn't healthy for me. The Lions gave me an opportunity to have a positive effect in somebody's life."

Volunteering ran in Brandel's family. Despite working two jobs, his father, Peter, served on the parish counsel at their church. He sold raffle tickets to raise money for the schools on Long Island and he was heavily involved in Little League. The elder Brandel worked his way up from a messenger for a bank to a vice president. He sold insurance on the side "to put gravy on the potatoes," Brandel recalls him saying.

His uncle, Peter Meyer, was another role model. Meyer also worked two jobs. "But yet he had a lot of time for the community," says Brandel. "This was probably built into my family. It was the way we were brought up."

Long Island may conjure up images of concrete and traffic, but that's not accurate. "It's just beaches, farmland, vineyards and homes," he says. "It's a great, great community with a lot of trees and grass." The oldest of five, young Brandel walked to grade school and high school. He played organized baseball and when Little League officially ended for his age, his father and others started a big league program for older children. They were pioneers. The team was such a novelty that it played under the lights at a Mets' minor league stadium.

In high school, Brandel wrestled and played football and baseball. While in college, a friend convinced him to take a test for the police department. "I never really wanted to become a police officer," he says. But he did well on the test and did well on the job. He put in 35 years before retiring. He learned how to handle his emotions. "I understood I had to react in a certain way to be effective," he says.

His ability to handle tough situations was tested after Sept. 11. He helped take the missing persons reports for many of the 400 people from Nassau County reported as missing that day. Later, stretching over a couple of years, he went to the doors of families after their remains were found. "Some of the people were more concerned about us—they felt our job was so difficult to have to tell people," he says. "And

for the other people it was like the first time they heard it. So the emotions you were dealing with were raw. It came right to the surface and it was rather difficult.”

By this time, Brandel had become a detective with the Nassau County Police Department Juvenile Aid Bureau. He investigated missing children, child abuse and juvenile crime. The work was often gritty but it was more rewarding than riding in a squad car. “I really understood that I could impact kids and make somebody’s life a little better,” he says. “It was just a natural transition that worked well for me. And it came from my heroes—my dad, Frank and my uncle.”

Two cases stood out. Brandel went to a home at 2 a.m. because a two-month-old was not breathing. It appeared to be SIDS. The emergency medical technicians revived the baby. Brandel talked to them and then the 14-year-old mother. He realized something was not right. After talking to the teenage mother for four hours, she confessed to trying to smother her baby. The pressure of being a young mother had overwhelmed her. The mother was sent to a family court judge and a counselor and eventually was reunited with her child. Brandel’s solid, caring work earned him a Detective of the Year honor.

The second case stemmed from working on a holiday. “It was Christmas Eve and we had a skeleton crew on. I said if I’m working Christmas Eve and cannot be with my family, I’ll try to do something for someone else,” recalls Brandel. So he picked up an old case, cold for a while, of a non-custodial father who had abducted two of his young children from their mother and disappeared. The father had been careful to use false names but Brandel, hunched over a computer for hours, discovered he had finally got sloppy and registered a car in his name in Florida. He tracked him down. After four years, the joyful mother was reunited with her children.

Off the job, Brandel was helping youths as well. He put in many hours as a Little League coach. “I guess it was just a natural transition for me after seeing how my father was working with the community groups,” he says.

Fred Avis has known Brandel for nearly 40 years; they first met in college when a teacher asked her students to introduce themselves to one another. “He told me I had on two different color socks,” recalls Avis with a chuckle. It turned out they lived not far from each other and decided to commute together to school. A year after Brandel joined the Nassau County police, Avis did as well. They worked in different precincts but the two former classmates remained close friends. Avis knew he could count on Brandel in good times and bad—such as when his wife, Terry, was fatally ill with breast cancer.

“I could talk to him about things. He and Maureen both,” says Avis. “My wife was very

private person. Even the neighbors didn’t know how bad she was. But they came over to see her and she let them in. I was like, ‘wow.’ That shows the kind of people they are.”

Avis is not surprised at Brandel’s rise to president of Lions. “Whatever he does, he excels at it. He’s very conscientious. He puts everything he has into something,” he says. “He’s just a very decent, loyal person. I can’t stress that enough.”

He’s also persistent. Five years ago Avis became a Lion. “He had been asking me to join. It only took 35 years,” says Avis.

Networks of Care

For Brandel, the aftermath of Sept. 11 demonstrated the particular strength of Lions. Immediately after Sept. 11, as a past international director, he held a meeting in his basement with Lions’ leaders from New York. Usually, disasters meant \$10,000 emergency grants from LCIF and Lions on the scene with food and blankets. This would entail something on a much larger scale.

The first priority was to meet immediate needs. Surgical masks were needed. A past district governor quickly obtained 24,000 and they were driven straight to a staging area at Shea Stadium and then in a fire truck to Ground Zero. Food was needed at Ground Zero. Another past district governor arranged for hot dogs and other food to be delivered there. So it went. Lions in New York were able to meet needs because Lions from near and far were ready to lend a hand.

“The strength of our organization is not necessarily the money we’re raising all over the world. But the real strength is the networking of clubs,” he says. “If something happens in some place we’re able to get on a phone and say, hey, something happened in Kansas. The town was just wiped out by a tornado. Within 24 hours we have Lions at that town starting to work with people who were left homeless.”

The Lions’ leaders from New York and elsewhere who met after Sept. 11 collected supplies for recovery workers, provided short-term aid for victims’ families, sponsored job training and held bereavement retreats. Maureen went straight to Ground Zero. Because there were few survivors and her medical services were not needed, she helped construct wheelbarrows. Brandel coordinated recovery support efforts and later volunteered at an emotional but healing bereavement retreat.

Heroes of Service

How do you get to be international president? Brandel was a district governor and served as an international director from 1993-1995. Being president was not something he



Brandel enjoys time with a child at a bereavement camp for 9-11 families.

ever targeted. “The only position I ever wanted was to be club president. That was my goal,” he says. “When the opportunity came for me to run for vice president and eventually president. I had to make a decision about that. And I said, yeah, I’d like to do that. I’d like the opportunity to serve on the next level.”

His experiences as a son of a volunteer, as a police officer and especially as a Lion, have broadened his perspective of service and Lions. He’s hand-delivered corneas for transplant; as he realized, his brief time as driver made possible a lifetime of sight. He’s worked with UNICEF as a Lion on their school-in-a-box program; the project enables schoolchildren disrupted by a disaster to continue their education. He’s seen a small Lions’ district in South Africa feed multitudes and keep hunger and sickness at bay.

These moments of service add up to something spectacular. Lions need to fully grasp that.

“Lions don’t really understand the impact they can have on the community,” he says. They sort of take themselves for granted. Sometimes they get frustrated. They say, ‘We can’t do that. We don’t have enough members. We’re too old.’”

He thinks about his father, his uncle, the Lions he’s served with and seen in action. They toiled often without realizing their accomplishment. “The real modern-day heroes may never be on TV or may never have a book written about them,” Brandel says. “But they’re people like Lions. The very simple things they do around the holidays like bringing a food basket. They put a smile on somebody’s face.

“I see one of my roles, and Maureen’s too, is to tell these stories that are going on and these miracles that are happening around the world. Clubs that may have less people than they once did are making a big impact in people’s lives. I see my role is to let everybody know of the miracles happening around the world and they can make miracles happen in their own backyard.”

Celebrate LCIF

by Alecia Dimar

CSFII is One of LCIF's Greatest Successes

At the 91st Annual Lions Clubs International Convention in Bangkok, Thailand, we celebrated one of Lions Clubs International Foundation's (LCIF) greatest successes. Thanks to the generosity and support of Lions worldwide, Campaign SightFirst II (CSFII) raised more than US\$200 million. These funds will allow Lions to continue and expand the life-changing work of the SightFirst program.

LCIF's SightFirst program has saved or restored sight to more than 27 million people in communities around the world. The funds raised through CSFII will allow these efforts to increase, saving the sight of as many as 37 million more. This is a tremendous accomplishment and a great success for Lions worldwide.

The SightFirst program is one of LCIF's largest and most renowned initiatives to date, but is only one aspect of the humanitarian work of our Foundation. For more than 40 years, LCIF has provided a wide range of humanitarian service to those in need. In addition to our sight initiatives, LCIF combats disability, provides disaster relief and supports

the health and education of youth. Through LCIF, Lions develop projects that address the immediate and long-term needs of their local and global communities.

Lions Take Pride in LCIF

Lions can take pride in their Foundation. Since 1968, LCIF has awarded nearly 9,000 grants, totaling more than US\$625 million. It is through the generosity and support of Lions worldwide that LCIF has accomplished so much in its 40-year history. Our members are the reason LCIF was recognized as the number one NGO in the world with which to partner in July 2007. The high level of service performed by Lions is a testament to the pride taken in serving others through humanitarian work.

Your continued support of LCIF enables us to help others, both in your local community and around the world. Each dollar donated to LCIF makes a difference in people's lives and 100 percent of each donation goes directly to Lions' projects. Working through our Foundation, Lions continue to live their motto, "We Serve."

The Power of Lions Working Together

The power of Lions working together is enormous, spanning the globe with 1.3 million

members. We are on the front lines performing localized service in nearly every community. LCIF's work is accomplished through Lions' combined local efforts, and together, we play a significant role in humanitarian service around the world.

The global impact that Lions have is truly a collective effort. Together, LCIF and Lions have decreased blindness worldwide, bettered the state of health through efforts like improved sanitation, educated millions of children, reconstructed thousands of communities after natural disasters and brought hope and healing to millions around the world.

Continued support is essential for the future growth of LCIF. The unwavering efforts of Lions throughout CSFII have established the SightFirst program as a leader in the fight against preventable blindness. Together we can ensure all of the Foundation's programs continue to bring hope and healing to people throughout the world.

Lions recognize the power of what individuals working together can accomplish. Together, LCIF and Lions continue to serve those in greatest need.

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10 Secrets to Great Meetings

There's No Reason for Them to be Long and Boring

by Elizabeth Blackwell

A Lion for 17 years, David Wentworth has sat through a meeting or two that lacked sizzle. "As Lions, we run on meetings," says Wentworth, 44, a vice president of marketing and a member of the Millard Lions Club in Omaha, Nebraska. "We have a meeting to find out when we're going to have our next meeting."

When's the last time you jumped up out of your seat, thrilled at the thought of attending another meeting? Whether at work or through volunteer activities, we've all been subjected to dull meetings that ramble on pointlessly, leaving us both exhausted and irritated. It's no wonder we make fun of them.

But meetings may be literally a life or death matter for Lions clubs. Long, boring meetings are a primary reason that half of new members drop out within three years.

The best meetings not only get projects accomplished but they also motivate members to become more involved. "If we fix our meetings," Wentworth says, "it will have a direct impact on retention."

But how do you liven up a dull meeting? Based on real-life experiences, here is how Lions keep their meetings fresh, effective, and – best of all – fun.

1. Plan the Mission

The best meetings actually start days before the scheduled time. That's when the leader should determine the meeting's purpose. Meeting just for the sake of meeting is not enough—you need to have a goal, something concrete you want to accomplish by the end.

Once the goal is determined, the leader needs to share it with the members, so they can arrive prepared to discuss the issues at hand. That's why it's so important to prepare an agenda in advance: it's the road map that keeps the whole event on track.

"At 75 percent of meetings, someone grabs the last meeting's agenda, makes some changes, and thinks about it for five minutes before the meeting starts," says Wentworth. The result? Boring meetings that sound like reruns of the month before.

"Everyone should know what we want to accomplish," says Esther LaMothe, 61, a retired educational consultant and member of the Jackson Eyeopeners Lions Club in Michigan. A Lion for 12 years, she is a former district governor and serves on the faculty of Lions International Leadership Development programs. "I send out an agenda at least 72

hours in advance by e-mail, and ask everyone to come in with ideas and be ready to work on them."

If members have an issue they want discussed, they should ask that it be added to the agenda in advance, rather than interrupting the flow of the meeting with unrelated topics. "I tell people to get hold of me two days before the meeting, and ask that their issue be added to the agenda," Wentworth says. "If it's really important to you, you'll find the time to discuss it beforehand."

2. Start On Time

It seems like basic common sense, but far too many meetings get dragged out by small talk before they've even started. It's a self-destructive cycle: if your meetings have a reputation for starting late, members will stop showing up on time, pushing your start time even later.

Beginning promptly signals to members that you respect their busy schedules. Unlike office workers who are paid to attend dull meetings, Lions are volunteers. If you're asking them to give up their free time, it had better be worth their while. "If we're trying to get younger people to join," says LaMothe, "they're often coming right after work. They have family responsibilities and other priorities. You should honor the fact they're giving up their time to come and help." Starting a meeting on time shows new members that you won't waste their time.

3. Keep It Moving

Marshall Brence, 52, of the Poteau Evening Lions Club in Oklahoma, has sat through his share of frustrating meetings: a Lion since 1989, he was the MD 3 Leadership Development Chairman for 10 years before recently taking on the role of MD 3 MERL Team Coordinator. But he's always remembered one meeting he attended at a small club in Oklahoma: "They wanted to argue for 45 minutes about a pair of glasses. I found out later they'd been having the same argument for six weeks."

We've all sat through meetings that suddenly ground to a halt, thanks to members who rambled on too long. Think of your meeting as a journey that needs to constantly move forward. Effective clubs enforce their agenda: if a topic is not listed, it doesn't get discussed.

"Too many times you go over the same ground," says Donna Coulter, 64, a retired office administrator who is immediate past president of the Grande Prairie Lions Club in Alberta, Canada. Involved in Lions since 1971, she is a past district governor and is on the Planning Committee for the 2008 USA/Canada

Lions Leadership Forum. "You have to make a decision and live by your decisions," she says.

Too often, members are simply afraid of making decisions. It's up to both the leadership and members to insist that an issue be resolved in a meeting rather than appearing on the agenda over and over again.

4. Motivate the Membership

While the club president might be the one running a meeting, members share the responsibility for making it work. But how do you get them to show up – let alone care about what's going on?

The key is to get them invested in what the club is doing. For that, Marshall Brence suggests yearly brainstorming sessions, an experience that revived his club.

"We started off asking, 'What's the worst thing about our meetings, and what are we going to do about it?'" he says. "We didn't blame anyone or talk about what the current officers did or didn't do. Instead, the question was, 'What do we expect?'" Not just from our officers, but from our members? It brought the whole membership together to say, 'This is my club.' It helped us have a purpose."

Such sessions can be watershed moments for a club. Once you've got members who care, and feel that their input is valued, they'll not only show up at meetings—they'll have a revived enthusiasm for Lions clubs.

5. Reward Attendance

Even if members feel invested in their club, you have to make it worth their while to show up at meetings. How?

Sometimes it's as simple as bribery: some clubs ask everyone to put a dollar in a pot, then raffle off half the take at the end of the evening. But the rewards don't have to be financial. Make sure each meeting offers something of value to members, whether it's an interesting program, a good meal, or news about how a successful project has helped your community. You'll soon see the difference between members who show up out of guilt or obligation, and those who come because they actually want to be there.

6. Break Up Routines

Ever feel like your meetings are something out of the movie *Groundhog Day*, with the same people, sitting in the same places, complaining about the same things, over and over and over again? It's up to both the person leading the meeting and the people attending to keep each meeting fresh – and not just by changing the agenda.

Cliques are a fact of life at most clubs, but breaking them up can breathe new life into your get-togethers. "At almost every meeting,

we try to come up with new ways of seating people,” says Wentworth. At one meeting, he placed the numbers 1 through 6 at each place setting. Once the members were seated—with the usual cliques at their usual tables—he told everyone that they would have to move: all the people sitting in front of a number 1 would sit at one table, all the 2’s at another table, and so on. That got everyone talking to members they had never sat with before.

At the next meeting, a group of friends all sat in front of the number 1 at different tables, thinking they’d be moved together. Wentworth’s solution? He told everyone that this time, they’d stay where they were – and the clique remained separated.

Another way to break up seating patterns is to give each table a theme, then ask everyone to pick themes from a hat or bag as they arrive. At every meeting, you’ll have a different mix of people at each table, giving each get-together a new dynamic.

Coulter’s club in Alberta regularly invites members from other clubs to their meetings. “We do joint projects in the community, which builds camaraderie, increases the size of our meetings, and gets more members coming,” she says.

7. Get Everyone Talking

Variety is the key to keeping members engaged. Nothing is more dull than hearing the president talk, then talk some more, then keep talking. To keep everyone interested and motivated, find ways to get members involved. Not only will it make the meeting more interesting, it will make each person feel that their input is valued.

Brence’s club added a feature they call Biography to every meeting: each member is assigned a week during the year when they must get up and talk about themselves, their family, their business – whatever they want to share. “We found out about a lot of cool

hobbies that way,” he says. “We also learned that one of our members was a cancer survivor. Later, when another member was diagnosed with cancer, he had someone to talk to who had been through it.”

Coulter includes time for a roundtable discussion at the end of every club meeting she leads. “I ask each member if there’s anything they want to share or ask. Going person to person controls the flow of the discussion, and it shows them you’re interested in their concerns. As president, it helps me get to know the members better. I also ask what they’d like added to the next agenda, which saves me time at the next meeting.”

How do you encourage member input without getting bogged down in long-winded discussions? At Wentworth’s club in Omaha, whoever wants to speak must stand up. “First,” he says, “it helps them to be heard. But it also makes the speaker think about what he or she is going to say. If it’s not important enough to stand for, it’s not important enough for the meeting. That saves us a lot of wasted time.”

8. Have Fun

Even the strictest agenda should leave time for socializing, which is often the highlight for many members. Mike Mixer, an attorney and president of El Cajon Valley Lions Club in California, says Happy Dollars and fines are the best part of his club’s meetings. “We try to go through the calendar items and reports quickly, to make as much time as possible for that,” he says. “It gives everyone a chance to get their digs in, or get up and boast, and lots of people enjoy that. For us, the heart of the meeting is finding out what people are doing.”

A good Tail Twister can add that sense of fun to the meeting, but make sure the joking and ribbing don’t take over the meeting. “The Tail Twister should be listed on the agenda with

a limited amount of time, like any other agenda item,” suggests LaMothe.

Every club tolerates its own level of silliness, but members and leaders should know when to say enough. “Some things we like to joke about,” says Brence, “but when we have a guest, we don’t want to look like a bunch of junior high kids.”

9. End on a Positive Note

Ever seen a movie or read a book that started off great, only to fall flat at the end? Never underestimate the power of a good ending. If you want your members to walk out feeling good about your meeting, you’ve got to finish it right.

“You have to wrap up your story,” says Wentworth. If you’ve start a meeting by determining its purpose, end the meeting by telling members how you accomplished that goal. Summarize what was decided, and talk about what’s coming up for the club in the future. The goal should always be for members to leave on a positive note.

10. Meet Between Meetings

Ideally, your club meetings shouldn’t be the only time you talk to fellow Lions. For club leaders especially, it’s crucial to stay in touch informally, via phone or e-mail. As club president, Coulter called or sent a note to any member going through a life change, whether it’s a new job or a spouse’s illness. “It all flows together,” she says. “If we show members someone cares about them, they’re more likely to show up at meetings later.”

If members leave your club meetings knowing something got done – and that their input was valued – they’ll not only think better of your club, they’ll have a more positive view of Lions clubs as a whole. And that’s why meetings are no joking matter.

Meeting Help Online

For more ways to liven up your meetings, visit the Lions Learning Center at the Web site of Lions Clubs International. (Go to www.lionsclubs.org, click on Leadership Resource Center on the left, click on Lions Learning Center and click on Meeting Management.) The Meeting Management module takes you through ways to better prepare and run meetings. Especially helpful is the Club Meeting Assessment checklist, which helps narrow down exactly which parts of your meeting are most – and least – effective.

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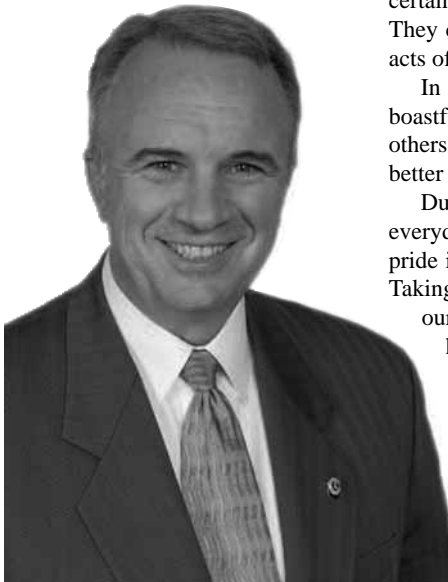
TIME TO CELEBRATE OUR Miracles Through Service

I'll never forget September 11th. And I will always remember September 12th and the many days following. We all know what happened on September 11, 2001. But it's what occurred afterward that left an equally strong impression. Every day, for months, Lions staffed the central warehouse in New York that housed the supplies for the recovery efforts at Ground Zero. Seven days a week, Lions were there to ensure the best possible outcome from an awful tragedy.

The service offered developed into a long-range plan to help families of victims. Multitudes of Lions made certain that families could pay their bills. They did home repairs and drove family members to doctor visits. They coordinated bereavement retreats. They supported job counseling and mentoring of children. Ordinary acts of kindness for Lions. Lions changed lives for the better.

In my travels, I've sometimes been asked who exactly are Lions. Well, without wanting to sound too boastful, let me say that Lions are everyday heroes. We go about our service, greatly enriching the lives of others without much glory or attention. Quietly and without much fanfare, we make our communities much better places to live and raise families.

During my presidential year, I will celebrate Lions for performing miracles through service and for being everyday heroes. This is not about self-congratulation. Instead, it's a way to further our service. I want to renew pride in what it means to be a Lion and tell the world at large about what we do to build a better tomorrow. Taking pride in what we do will give us more energy and motivation to continue our great works and increase our service. We are on a journey together in the Lion year of 2008-2009. Let's walk smartly with our heads high and hearts proud. Let's tell our story—to each other, to other Lions clubs and districts and to the rest of the world, who don't yet quite know what it is we do and how well we do it. It's probably true that most Lions – and the public – automatically associate Lions with our work on behalf of the blind. That's great. But let's usher in the day that upon seeing a Lion people also say, "There's an everyday hero. There's someone who makes a difference". Remember, even the smallest act of kindness can make a huge impact.



Albert F. Brandel, President

"Following the tremendous success of CSFII, we will now begin to focus on our greatest membership initiative – the Global Membership Team. This effort will not emphasize 'numbers for numbers' sake, but for the sake of those we serve, in order to serve them better." Al Brandel

OUR MEMBERS MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO CREATE MIRACLES THROUGH SERVICE

Through new initiatives like the Family Membership Program, and the increase in the number of women joining Lions Clubs, we are beginning to see our membership numbers once again start to climb. We must continue toward building membership and the placement of a structure that can provide continuity and consistency from year to year. In the past, annual membership programs have demonstrated that international programs driven by LCI leadership can have a positive impact on membership. Such annual programs, however, suffered from continuity constraints. It often takes three years or more for an initiative to take hold and be embraced at the club level. A structure that will provide a consistent message, with continuity of the individuals delivering the message, could be the difference in keeping the membership numbers moving in a positive way.

With that, I'm proud to announce that the International Board of Directors has approved the Lions Global Membership Team. The membership team will consist of experienced Lions with strong membership growth experience working with Council Chairpersons to utilize the MD MERL teams. Detailed information is available on the association's web site, www.lionsclubs.org.

More than ever, the world needs heroes. When you put others above yourself, you become a hero. When you elevate others – improving their quality of life – you become a miracle worker. Our members are the reason Lions Clubs International leads the way in community service – making miracles happen each and every day.



RESCUING CHILDREN FROM OBLIVION

Once a sleepy fishing port, Shenzhen has been one of the world's fastest growing cities since 1979. That's when the Chinese government, mindful of the city's proximity to Hong Kong, designated it as a special economic zone and encouraged capitalism. The growth has been so spectacular that "one high rise a day and one boulevard every three days" became the city's unofficial slogan.

But the feverish economic growth meant no additional resources and services for one of China's fastest growing social problems—until Lions came along. Nearly 1.8 million children in China have autism; that number is rising by 20 percent a year. Children with autism are not accepted in schools and their parents must teach them at home.

Lion Dang He saw how a friend's child grappled with autism and resolved to help. "I've seen them struggle and there was no place they could get help," he says. So the Xiang Mi Hu Lions Club established an autism center in Shenzhen, the first in the city of 10 million.

The Lions not only financially support the center but also regularly visit the center. "We play and the children get to know us.

FILLING MILLIONS OF EMPTY PLATES

South Africans overturned apartheid and established democracy but the economy is a work in progress. Hunger is a major problem in South Africa. As many as 60 per cent of the nation's 18 million children live in poverty. The lack of food results in health problems and developmental delays.

Lions in District 410-A in South Africa are alleviating the hunger problem to a heroic degree. "The Lions Food Project provides food for nearly 60,000 people each day," says Past District Governor Viv Grater. "We supply food to schools, orphanages, soup kitchens, senior homes, shelters and many organizations and clinics that assist people with HIV and TB."

Nobel Peace Prize winner and retired Archbishop Desmond Tutu serves as the patron of the food project. "When someone is weeping, God would like to wipe away the tears from their eyes," he once said, "but cannot unless you, you, and you are the means. God smiles through the tears because he has such fantastic partners – you, the Lions."



LIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA FEED NEARLY 60,000 PEOPLE EACH DAY.



AWARDS REFLECT IMPORTANCE OF TEAMWORK

Some awards have been modified or created this Lion year to incorporate International President Brandel's emphasis on teamwork. The awards are intertwined to a certain extent, meaning a Lion can earn the award if other Lions in related leadership positions excel as well.

District Governors can earn the District Governor Excellence Award if, among other criteria, at least 50 percent of region or zone chairpersons earn the Region/Zone Chairperson Excellence Award. (The District Governor Excellence Award was formerly called the 100% District Governor Award.)

A new award, the Region/Zone Chairperson Excellence Award has among its criteria a requirement that 50 percent of club presidents in the region/zone achieve the Club President Excellence Award.

The applications for the District Governor Excellence Award, Region Chairperson Excellence Award, Zone Chairperson Excellence Award, and the Club President Excellence Award are on the web site of Lions Clubs International.



SPREADING THE WORD ABOUT MIRACLES THROUGH SERVICE

During International President Brandel's term in office (and beyond), Lions are encouraged to "tell the world" about Lions and our service. Perhaps in the past Lions could let their actions speak for themselves. But in today's world of cluttered information Lions need to shine a light on themselves.

Lions Clubs International (LCI) has developed core messages for Lions to convey. Staying "on message" ensures that non-Lions understand Lions. Lions ought to use these messages in recruiting prospective members, interacting with the community and working with the media.

Among the core messages Lions should convey are: we serve where we live, we are global, we give 100 percent (all donated funds go to causes), we are "hands on" (we work together on projects, as well as make personal donations), we're rich in heritage and pride, we have fun, and we are dedicated to sight and more. We ask "what does the community need?"

LCI created an attractive booklet titled **We are Lions** that outlines Lions' new public relations and branding strategy. It can be downloaded from www.lionsclubs.org.

A New Way of Talking About Who We Are and Why We Matter



"I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands; you need to be able to throw something back."

Maya Angelou

The great American author Willa Cather once wrote,

"Where there is great love, there are always miracles." Share your stories of love, your stories of giving, and your stories of miracles, with others.



SHARING MIRACLES WITH OTHERS

Since the founding of public relations as a discipline, practitioners have intuitively believed in the power of positive unpaid media to affect the cycle of awareness, knowledge, interest and intent that is needed to achieve behavioral goals.

We've all heard the old adage "if a tree falls in the forest, and no one is around to hear it, does it still make a sound?" Similarly, what good is the most provocative message if no one hears it?

So why is it important for us to share our story with others? Needs continue to escalate around the world. In order to continue to meet those needs, it is important that we grow our membership. To do that, we must increase public awareness of the Lions Clubs International brand – who we REALLY are, what we REALLY do, and what we REALLY stand for. In other words, the message of "We Serve."

It's time we, as Lions, share with others how we have been "throwing something back" for 90 years, by serving others. And it is vital that clubs tell their story on the local level.

For more information on how you can make an impact through public relations, go to www.lionsclubs.org.

EXPANDING ADVOCACY/ FUNDRAISING

Last year Lions Clubs International Foundation was named as the best non-governmental organization worldwide, according to London-based Financial Times. LCIF came in first for its execution of programs, accountability and other factors. Lions enjoy highly productive relationships with many highly regarded partners: The Carter Center, Habitat for Humanity, Lenscrafters, Special Olympics, Eli Lilly, Johnson and Johnson, the National Eye Institute, the U.S. State Department and others. LCI does not go it alone. It leverages its reputation and resources to form partnerships in order to further its service goals.

Under the leadership of International President Brandel in 2008-2009, and the assistance and dedication of Lions around the world, LCI will deepen its ties with current partners and form new relationships. Lions will be able to utilize the expertise, funds and resources of our partners,

TEAMWORK

Maybe in yesteryear, when life was slower and technology and communications were relatively primitive, the go-it-alone mentality worked. But today Lions need to work in teams. In short, we need to plan together – to develop achievable, prudent, highly focused goals – and then to work together to realize those goals. Many hands make light work, as the saying goes. Lions' service is not modest; it's ambitious and far-reaching, whether it's related to sight, hearing, youth, the elderly or another concern. Consequently, the planning, teamwork and marshaling of resources should be commensurate to our ambitious service aims.

Bringing Lions together in teams – at the club level, among several clubs and at the district level – helps avoid unnecessary duplication of resources.

"The most important Lion is the individual Lion member. The big picture is about the people we serve, and the Lions who serve them." Al Brandel

Editor: Due to limited space in *The Lion*, the President's program has been edited. A complete copy of the program is at www.lionsclubs.org



Highlights of the Meetings of the Governors Council

Meetings of 2007-2008 Governors Council were held during the MD'A' Convention in London May 29th to June 1st, 2008. The following represents the highlight topics discussed during the proceedings:

Treasurer

The new Treasurer for MD'A' is Lion Jack Fisher from District A-3. Lion Jack is replacing PDG Jim Lemoire who is stepping down for personal reasons.

Administration

A recommended increase of .2 per kilometre under Rules of Audit were approved with a further increase to be allowed should gas prices exceed \$1.50 per litre. This increases the current per kilometre rates from 24 cents to 26 cents and 25 cents to 27 cents in District A5.

Convention Committee

Planning for the 2009 Convention in North Bay is on target and the 2010 Convention will be held in District A3 in Kingston. MD'A' is still looking for a bid to host the 2011 convention.

Historian

The digital transfer of Past MD'A' minutes has been completed.

International Advisory Committee

An LCI Senior Lions Institute will be held in Toronto on October 2 – 6, 2008. It will be open to 100 participants (15 from Canada). A new Three Year Global membership Team Initiative has been established (PID Terry Graham will head-up Eastern Canada), the position of 2nd VDG will be mandatory if approved at the International convention, and funding in excess of the \$150M goal for CSF II will be available for diabetes sight related purposes in developed countries including Canada.

LFC

The MD'A' endorsed candidate for the Ontario Director for LFC 2009-2012 is PDG George Hostick from District A-2. The LFC print cartridge collection fund raising project is unsustainable and has been cancelled and the Light the Path of darkness program will be extended into 2009.

Magazine Committee

Due to the limited responses to the production and distribution survey published in the LION Magazine – the status quo will be maintained until further notice.

MERL

LCI approved a further grant which will permit MD'A' to offer another MD'A'/LCI Lions Regional Leadership Institute which will be held in Newmarket on October 16th to 19th, 2008. More details to follow.

No Child Without

The federal Government has donated \$5M towards the program. Lion's families can take advantage on a new member Discount Package which will allow Lions and their immediate families to receive a \$35 discount.

Research & Long Range Planning

As a means to reduce MD'A' excess funding, the MD'A' Membership dues will receive a Temporary Administrative Dues Reduction (TADR) for 2008-2009 of \$2.00 per member. Clubs will be invoiced the normal \$14.50 per capita rate and then the TADR will be applied. This initiative will be reviewed annually. The requirement of first being an LCI Life member for Clubs wishing to sponsor a Lion as an MD'A' Life Member has been dropped. The cost is \$200 and a revised application form and presentation certificate are being developed.

Sight Conservation

Details on a restructuring of the CNIP Knights of Lake Jo award will be available soon.

Voting Report

A revised MD'A' Constitution and By Laws, tailored to the LCI standard multiple district C&BL was approved. Governors subsequently approved a new MD'A' Policy and Procedures Manual, and both documents are available for viewing (or downloading) from the MD'A' website.

International Director Candidate

The MD'A' endorsed candidate for the International Director for Canada, 2009-2011 is PCC Carl Young

For more information, questions or concerns relating to these highlights please contact MDA Secretary Dave Voisey at secretary@mdalions.org or 613-843-1687

Continuing Our Momentum

Last year was a year of great success for Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF). The monumental success of Campaign SightFirst II is due to Lions' enormous support. CSFII is LCIF's greatest fundraising success to date. Lions all around the world truly rallied to the cause of the campaign.

While the campaign may be over, the need to support LCIF is not. We must capitalize on the momentum of CSFII to increase understanding of the Foundation and increase donations from external groups.

The SightFirst program is just one focus of LCIF, but there are many programs deserving of Lions' support. Lions are also known for the Lions Quest youth program, hearing aids, relief and reconstruction following natural disasters and grants to address large-scale humanitarian projects. All of these programs are only possible through unrestricted donations to LCIF.

Through LCIF, Lions can serve locally and globally, making a difference in many lives at one time. The power of Lions acting

together outweighs what we can accomplish individually.

I ask for your support this year in spreading the word about LCIF's other vital programs that enable Lions to provide needed services in communities around the world. LCIF is your Foundation.

Mahendra Amarasuriya
Immediate Past International President
Chairperson, LCFI

A1

Helen Keller



Blenheim Lion Mary Blonde accepted the Helen Keller award from Lion Robert Henry of the Blenheim Centennial Lions Club. Mary has been a member for several years and has done a lot of hard work for the Club. Her tireless commitment to the club should be recognized with this great award.

Submitted by Lion Paul Oullet

A2

Air Cadets



Air Cadets from Fort Erie #337 Allan Troop Squadron have been sponsored by the Fort Erie Lions Club since 1943. Recently they won the following awards; (left to right) Lac. Justin Murray-Schweyer, top first year cadet; Sgt. Patrick Chevalier, top senior sports; FSgt. Matthew Swan, top overall cadet; WO2 Andrew Laplant, top graduating cadet and cadet scholarship; and Cpl Ryan Stevenson, top corporal. Kneeling is FSgt Jeff Roos, top senior NCM and top band award. Without the major sponsorship of the Fort Erie Lions Club these cadets would not have all the opportunities they have.

Submitted by Lion Bob Townsend

5 Service Clubs



Annually the five Dunnville service clubs meet for fellowship and joint planning. The Dunnville Lions hosted the February 2008 meeting, which was well received by all. Also in attendance were two Haldimand Council members.

Front row (left to right): Lioness President Nancy Southon, Mayor Marie Trainer, Royal Canadian Legion president Lionel Ford. Back row (left to right): Councillor Lorne Boyko, Kinsmen president Dave Welch, Optimist president Jim Smekar, Lions president Hank Hultink and Rotary president Ian Durand.

Photo courtesy of The Chronicle

A3

Dinner Anywhere

The Lions of District A3 consider their recent Convention in Kingston, hosted by Zone 43 North, among the most successful in recent memory. \$75,000 was raised for International Campaign Sight First II. The 50 Lions Clubs in District A3 sold 1,939 tickets at \$50 each. Winners were:

- 1 - Esther and Bill Shaw, Peterborough - dinner for two anywhere in the world
- 2 - Wade Mitchell, Napanee - dinner for two anywhere in Canada
- 3 - Mary Belch, Peterborough - dinner for two anywhere in Ontario



Respectfully submitted by Lion Wilma Bush, Marmora Crowe Valley Lions Club

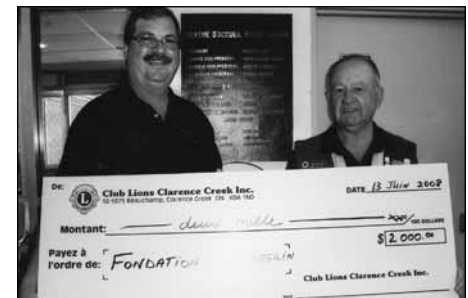
Relay for Life



Once again the Marmora Crowe Valley Lions had a team at the June 20th Relay For Life in Belleville. Shown before the walk are Lion Elaine Jones, PDG Russ Mitchell and Lions Wilma Bush, Winston Wylie, Vera Wylie, Bill Jones and Marilyn Maloney with team leader Lion Jeannette Goodchild in front. Luminaries were lit for late members of the Club: Mickey Maloney, Brian Goodchild, Gordon and Stella Bennett and Dan and Audrey Bateman.

A4

Outaouais Golf



A golf tournament organized by the Centre d'Accueil Roger Seguin (home for aged people) had 180 golfers vying for honours and prizes. Best of all the Centre received a \$2000 donation from the Clarence Creek Lions Club at the tournament. Mike Belanger, president of the tournament, left, received the cheque from Lions Club president Gaetan Page.

Metcalfe Awards



On June 12, Metcalfe Lions Club members and spouses enjoyed food and a visit at the Sand Row Golf Club. Awards were handed out: Lion Shirley and Lion Richard received a Helen Keller award, Lion Richard and Lion Gord received their Presidents award, and Lion Bob and Lion Mike received a LFC award. The Metcalfe & District Lions have already partnered with Medic Alert for the No Child Without program. We have already sponsored one school and will be sponsoring 3 more in the upcoming year.

Submitted by Lion Helen Porteous

Westport Works 'em

Westport Lions Club President Mike McIntyre handed out membership certificates to new Lions members Bob Weir, sponsored by Lion Bob Lavoie, and Ross Burns sponsored by Bill McCafferty. Lion PZC Jim McGlade conducted the Helen Keller induction ceremony, assisted by newly appointed Vice District Governor Lion Tom Keates. The new lions will be helping in vision screening in the local schools, assisting with the mobility van - driving it and taking patients to local hospital appointments, and also helping with the blood donor clinics.



Visit

www.lionsclubs.org

for Lions Club International information, conventions, and more.

Penny's Induction



My name is Lion Penny Leclair, I am deaf-blind. I wish to share with you a very special event. On April 12, at the District A4 Convention in Ottawa, I was inducted into the Lions Club at the World-Wide Induction Ceremonies. Around the world, at this time, on this day, new members are inducted into Lions Club International. Lions and guests witnessed nine of us as we were officially inducted by Past International President Kay Fukushima.

Lion Nancy Lawson and my sponsor, Lion Tony Lawson, stood with me. I have a special FM system with a t-coil loop around my neck and an electronic receiver attached to my waistband, which Lion Tony arranged for me to use. With this high-quality FM system that works in conjunction with my cochlear implant, I was able to hear everything. Nancy gave me environmental information about who stood where, and kept me positioned in the appropriate direction. I repeated the words to promise to do all my duties as a member of the Lions Clubs International, the world's largest service organization. It was also an honor to have David, my husband, and Kilo, my guide dog, present at the induction.

How this day came to be started when I moved to Ottawa just over ten years ago. Back in 1998, when I couldn't afford an expensive note taker with a Braille display, two Lions Clubs joined to put this valuable equipment into my hands. The equipment, ten years ago, was extraordinarily expensive, so that obtaining this wasn't within my means. I approached the Cumberland Lions Club, to request help. When a need is too large for one club to meet, the Lions Clubs work together, to serve and make a difference. Along with the Gloucester North Lions Club and two outside organizations, The Canadian Institute for the Blind and Canadian National Society of the Deaf-Blind, I received the note taker.

With the use of the cochlear implant and FM system, I heard every word spoken, it made this event so meaningful, because I heard the emotion of PIP Lion Kay Fukushima and the sincerity of his voice. I will always cherish this moment. My journey begins, as I find new ways to serve my community, my country, and the world. For when you are a member of a largest service organization in the world, Lions Clubs International, anything is possible.

Submitted by Lion Penny Leclair Barrhaven Lions Club

Ho Ho Al



Incoming A4 Governor, Lion Al Page. Lion Al is a Santa at Christmas, making the season that much jollier, hence the nickname HoHo Al. But Lion Al just can't let it go, no matter what the season - celebrate.

Submitted by Lion John Proulx

Playtime



Clarence Creek Lions Club president Gaetan Page presented a cheque to Lisa Souigny, President of the Clarence Creek Public School Parents Association and Richard Rancourt, president of the School Council. The Club donated \$5000 towards the purchase of a new play structure for the schoolyard.



The Knights of Lake Jo Awards



Dear Lions and Lionesses of MD"A",

It is my pleasure to provide you with an update on the revitalized Knights of Lake Jo Award and at the same time to introduce myself as the new liaison between CNIB and Lions Clubs of MD"A." My name is Jan Ditchfield and I have recently taken on the position of Associate - Lake Joseph in CNIB's Toronto office. I am very excited to be working with such a great group of volunteers dedicated to Lake Jo and to the safety and the well-being of our guests.

To recognize this outstanding commitment, I am pleased to announce that we are re-launching the **Knights of Lake Jo Award**. Many of you will recall this initiative from earlier years; we have made a few changes to the award to make it more practical and to better reflect the needs of Lake Jo, while giving Lions more flexibility in determining how their donation is used.

Lake Jo staff have prepared a wish list and published it on the CNIB Lake Jo website, at www.cnib.ca/lakejo. The list contains items (and their corresponding costs) that represent the most urgent needs of the camp, as well as longer-term camp goals. Individual lions can now reserve items from this list that they wish to donate to Lake Jo. They can either send a donation for the full amount of a less expensive item right away, or members can start their own fundraising efforts towards more expensive donations.

To qualify for the title of Knight of Lake Jo, a minimum donation of \$100 is required. For each donation of \$100, individual Lions will receive a Knight of Lake Jo pin with the year of the donation engraved on it. You will also be mailed a certificate of appreciation, and your name will be listed on our virtual wall of recognition. This wall will be directly linked to the MD"A" website; at the click of a mouse, members from the entire district will be able to see your generous support for Lake Jo.

We are formally launching the award at the upcoming Lions Appreciation Day in September. From then on the Knights of Lake Jo recognition ceremony will become a regular part of the annual Lions appreciation day. If you have any questions about the award or the appreciation day, please do not hesitate to contact my by phone at 416-486-2500 ext 7417 or by email at jan.ditchfield@cnib.ca.

Thank you, Lions, for your ongoing commitment to CNIB and your wonderful generosity. Your efforts are helping to bring hope and independence to people of all ages in our communities who are living with vision loss. We look forward to your continued support and partnership.

Mark your calendars!

Our annual Lions Appreciation Day will be held on **September 27, 2008** at the CNIB Lake Joseph Centre. Entertainment will be provided by The Dooley Sisters and Booze Brothers – your fellow Lions and Lionesses!

Paid for by Friends of CNIB

Tool Show



The Brockville Lions Club have been busy...another Music Festival (the 57th) has come and gone, chaired by Lion Norm Kearner and Roy Millier. White Cane Day on May 3rd brought in \$2,347.05. Event Chair PDG Ted Hughes was very pleased with the efforts.

The most recent venture was a Woodworking and Tool Sale held in May. It was the first and according to event chair Lion Sean Seabrook, will continue next year. Well over 1000 patrons attended at the local Memorial Centre to view 38 booths. Both federal and provincial Ministers were on hand to open the show. Left to right: Bob Runciman, Provincial MP, VDG Tom Keates, Brockville Lions Club president Mike Galbraith, and Federal Minister Gord Brown

Submitted by Lion Ian Inniss

Collecting Change



Recently the Westport Lions Club assisted the local Beer Store with collecting change from patron's empties to go towards the cure for Leukemia in children. Lion Kevin Northcott and Lion Bill Slagel spent two hours each and took in \$355.47. Pictured is Lion Kevin Northcott with his collection box.

Submitted by Lion Jim McGlade

A5

Spaghetti Dinner

Members of the Onaping Falls Lions have been busy: the Spring yard sale brought in \$2,500; Spaghetti dinner \$603, which will be an annual event in memory of Lion Larry Gauthier who recently passed away. Lion Larry and his wife Alma hosted our first such dinner. A donation to the Salvation Army of \$4,000 from manning the kettles. Our club was awarded the Membership Excellence Award from Lions International at the District A5 convention in Sault Ste. Marie. We are now busy preparing for our fall Cavalcade of Colours in September.

Submitted by Lions Diane Hayes



Pitching In



The Argyle Lions Club is proud to welcome four new members. ZC Cal Osborne, far right, performed the induction of, from left to right: Rick Moreau, Paula Champagne, Pauline Beatty, and John Beatty. These new Lions will be a definite asset, and have already started new fund raising projects, as well as eagerly pitching in to help with ongoing events.

Reported by Club President Julia Moore President

Azilda Grand Opening



The Azilda Lions held the Grand Opening of their new hall at 3964 Rg Rd 15, Chelmsford, formally known as Old Town Hall, on May 3rd. It was attended by over 40 community supporters, Lions members and representatives from the Trillium Foundation, Community Living, DG Myra Kiernan and her husband PDG Hillary Kiernan, RC Lion Harvey Quackenbush, Zone Chair Lion Ron Langlois, members from our sponsoring group - the Chelmsford Lions Club and other supporters. We would like to thank everyone who lent a hand in making this project a reality with financial support or labor in one form or another. Thanks to everyone's cooperation the hall is now wheelchair accessible and ready for rentals. Check the Lions website at <<http://www.azildalions.ca>> for more information.

Submitted by Lion Madeleine Langlois

To Japan



Onaping Falls high school student James St. Germain has been busy raising funds for his fantastic adventure – he is going to Japan as an exchange student for a year. The Onaping Falls Lions Club helped James in his quest with a cheque for \$1,560 to help with his expenses.

Submitted by Lion Diane Hayes

Education Donation



The Lions Club of Sudbury made a \$2,500 donation to Laurentian University. It was presented to the University President, Dr. Judith Woodsworth by Club President Gloria Packard. This donation will be matched by the Ontario Trust for Student Support. The donation is dedicated to local students attending Laurentian University who would benefit from financial support towards higher learning and achievement. Also in the picture is Tracy MacLeod, director of development at Laurentian University and, winner of the 2007 National Alumna Volunteer Award for the Advancement of Education.

The Sudbury Lions Club also made a \$2,500 donation to La Fondation du College Boreal. The donation will be matched by Ontario Trust for Student Support. This donation is dedicated to support local students of College Boreal either for high achievement or in need of financial support. College President Denis Hubert, and Laurie Rancourt, Academic Vice-President of College Boreal accepted the cheque.

Giving Back



Levack Public School Rock Band thanked the Onaping Falls Lions Club for its donation to their music program by playing a medley of songs at a club meeting. Bravo to some future talent.

Submitted by Lion Diane Hayes

Gloria Gives



In recognition of her one-year term as President of the Sudbury Lions Club, Gloria Packard, left, made a donation of \$2,500 to Cambrian College President Sylvia Barnard. This gift will be directed toward scholarships, bursaries and awards. The donation will be matched by the province through the Ontario Trust for Student Support (OTSS).

Submitted by Lion Gloria Packard

A711

Olive Branch



Donation to Olive Branch Food Bank, one of 7 donations to food banks the Hamilton Central Lions Club has made. Standing left to right: Lion George Fletcher, John & Marie Lewis (directors of Olive Branch).

Submitted by Lion Bob Semkow

Pile Up



Charlton-Englehart Lions Club pileup their 13th year with Adopt-a-Highway. This brings the club's total kilometres of highway pick up to 143 kilometres. It all started in 1995 when the club adopted the 11 kilometre section of Highway 560 from Englehart to Charlton. The first year they picked up three one-ton truck loads of litter. Every year since they have been able to get it in one load. Coffee cups, cigarette packages and pop cans usually make up most of the litter. Some of the youth groups that the club donates to take this opportunity to say thank you and help. They included some from the Charlton-Englehart Hockey Team, Squadron 355 Cadets and some high school students needing volunteer hours. Over 30 Lions and volunteers showed up to help. Only a few posed for the picture.

Submitted by Lion Vic Roach

In Memory



A donation to Dog Guides Canada was made in memory of Lion Bob McGovern of the Hamilton Central Lions Club. Standing left to right: Lion George Fletcher, Lion Shirley McGovern and Julie Jelinek of Dog Guides.

Submitted by Lion Bob Semkow

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Great Golf

The Forest Hill Lions Club held its 12th annual golf tournament at Sleepy Hollow Golf & Country Club in Stouffville in June. Although 80 golfers showed up we sold about 90 slots so the club made some extra money. During the event there were Mulligan Tickets, Closest to the Hole event, Beat the Pro and 50/50 draw tickets, and Silent Auction with some great items. Chairman of this committee was

Lion Dr. Henry Nirenberg He should be acknowledged for his dedicated work. The weather was luckily with us. Amazingly it stopped raining as we got onto the carts and started when the last golfer returned to the club. RESULTS ... overall the club made about \$23,000. It was one of the Club's best fundraisers this year.

Submitted by Lion Sol Mednick



M&M BBQ



Once again this year, the East York Danforth Lions participated in the M&M Meat Shops Charity Barbeque in aid of The Crohn's and Colitis Foundation. The Lions cooked and served over 1,800 hamburgers and numerous hot dogs. This location raised \$2,800 with about \$2 million dollars being raised across Canada. Pictured are several of the Lions busy cooking and serving up burgers and hot dogs.

Submitted by Lion Ken Thompson

A9

Women's House



Tiverton Lion Brent Crawford, health and social services committee member, and Club Treasurer Rosemary Grover on the right presenting \$500 to the Kincardine Women's House representative Bev Spence.

Submitted by Lion Brent Crawford

Project Pride



Teeswater Lions Club's 2008 Project Pride was held with Grade one students of Hillcrest Public School, Teeswater. Lion I.R. Patel, Club President Hilda Wales, and Lion Don McKague with the class of Grade One students. On this occasion Citizen Certificates and Canadian Flags are presented to individual students, encouraging them to be proud Canadians. Lion I.R. gets some small free-bees from local businesses, which brings big smiles on the faces.

Photo submitted by Lion I.R. Patel.

Hawaiian Theme



We have four new members in Chepstow! PCC BJ Findlay performed the induction ceremony at the club's June meeting with a Hawaiian theme. The new members participated in a spirit of great fellowship. We look forward to the spark these young members provide and they look forward to being part of the best service organization in the world!

From left: Mike Lang, sponsor Lorne Strauss, Joe Strauss, TJ Zister sponsor Paul Zister, John Walter sponsor Bill Walter. These new Lions bring the Chepstow Lions Club membership to 55.

Submitted by Lion Jean Clancy

Mitchell Melvin



The Mitchell Lions Club presented Lions International Foundation's most prestigious award: The Melvin Jones Award to Lion Tom Heath for outstanding service to the club and the community. Among Lion Tom's many responsibilities have been TV Bingo, sight/eyeglass collection, park fund-raising to name a few. Lion Tom, centre receives his plaque from Club President Lloyd Tubb, left and ZC John Stewart, right.

Submitted by Lion Allen Muegge



AI2

Swagerman Makes 50



Bradford Lions Club President Mel Papke, left, presents a 50 Year Service Pin to Lion Hank Swagerman.

Photo by Nancy Bobala.

Oro Helen Keller



Lion Gord Dixon of Shanty Bay has been named a Helen Keller Fellow by the Board of Directors, Lions Homes for Deaf People, Oakville, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to his community. Dixon is a member of the Oro District Lions Club.

The Oro District Lions Club provides an emergency supply of hearing aid batteries in the four public schools in their area and, in one school, has contributed toward the cost of placing "hush ups" on the feet of desks and chairs to eliminate the high pitched noise they make when moved. The club also generously supports the Ontario Homes for the Deaf, the Ontario Camp of the Deaf, and the Lions Foundation of Canada, which raises and trains service dogs for the deaf.

Submitted by Lion Frank Lawson

MD and Dialysis



The Innisfil Lions Club presented Stewart from the Muscular Dystrophy Association with a cheque for \$750 and Barrie Lion Carol Ellis with \$750 for the Barrie Dialysis unit.

These are just two of eight cheques that were presented within the week to very worthy organizations in the Innisfil area.

Submitted by Lion Sharon Hunt

What's Up Dock



Dock Building Project

One of the Magnetawan Lions Club's annual major fund-raisers is the construction of custom built docks for area residents and cottagers. These "building Bees" occur throughout the late spring, summer, and early fall and generate a "lion's" share of revenue for the Club's various activities.

Each dock takes about 2-3 hours to build with a volunteer work bee averaging 10-15 members per dock. With that great a turnout, each dock is built in little time with a fair chunk of extra time left for camaraderie and happy hour. Last year a record number of nine docks were constructed.

A special mention of gratitude must go to Lion Garfield Robertson, who not only lines up all the materials for each dock and draws up the plans for construction, but generously allows each of these docks to be built in his backyard.

Submitted by Lion Randolph Soth

Effective Speakers



Carly Burchell of Wasaga Beach, left, placed first overall in MDA in the Junior English division with her speech on Bullying. Lion Barb Ennis, centre, District A12 Effective Speaking Chair. On the right is Rebecca Pearce, who placed first in the Intermediate English Division. She is from Midland and her topic was headlines.

Submitted by Lion Barb Ennis

Best Editor



At this time our club also acknowledged our bulletin editor, Lion Garfield Robertson, who on behalf of the club, was the recipient of the magnificent A12 trophy for best editor ... a first ever for our club. Pictured is Lion Garfield Robertson, left, being presented with the A12 Bulletin Editor Award, a first for this club, by PP Jim Shaw.

The Magnetawan Lions Club said farewell and best wishes to one of our own, as Lion Jake McGarry moves out of the country in July bound for his new home in Australia. As a small memento of Jake's many years of lionism with the club, President Harry Bell presented Lion Jake with a photo album of pictures showing Jake in action for the club.

Submitted by Lion Randolph Soth

Bunnies for Sale



Members of the Huntsville Lions Club spent time selling chocolate bunnies at the Huntsville Place Mall. Lion Harold Phippen, left, Lion Al Thorpe, centre, and Lion Russ Nicholls offered samples to passers-by to help lure customers to their table of Easter treats.

Tiny Trails Cleanup



Members of the Tiny Trails Lions Club assembled at Bernie LeClaire Park on Balm Beach Road, formed teams, picked up vests and garbage bags, dispersed to their designated starting points and cleared the entire Tiny Trail of litter. The Tiny Trails Lions Club adopted the Tiny Trail as part of their nature conservancy strategy earlier this year in order to encourage members of the community to use this valuable multi-use recreational resource. The trail runs for 24 km through Tiny Township from Boundary Road in the south to Overhead Bridge Road in the north. Standing left to right: Rosemarie Straw, Dianne Paddags and Dave Dusome display some of the trash that was removed from the Tiny Trail.

Photo by H. Paddags.

Hockey Tournament



On May 25 the Barrie South Lions Club held a 3 on 3 Hockey Tournament at the Barrie NTR. Six teams totaling 60 youth age 13-14 played hockey to raise money for Lions Clubs International Foundation Campaign SightFirst II.

The winning team was, from left to right top row: Garrett Taylor, Barrie South Lions Club President Leonard Day, Matt Donald, Alex Ayers, Club Secretary Shirley Day. Middle row: Paul Magi, Dalton Hillier, Jamie Swales. Front row: Ryley Egerton, Matt Seeley, Kyle Stephan. The kids enjoy playing some fun hockey knowing that they are helping others at the same time. The funds raised from tournament will be going to the Lions Clubs International campaign to fight and eliminate different forms of Preventable Blindness.

Reported by Lion Shirley Day

Smelt Fry



The Magnetawan Lions' Club is pleased to announce this year's winner of the Smelt Fry 50-50 draw is Olive Jenkins from Magnetawan. Presenting the cheque for \$630 on behalf of the club is Club President Harry Bell, left, and Lion George Brooks, right. Net proceeds will be used for local projects by the club within the community.

Submitted by Lion Randy Soth

Car Wash

The Magnetawan Lions Club held their annual car wash at the Lions Centennial Park on June 7th.

After a busy morning of washing cars, \$190 was raised. Co-ordinated by Lion Bruce Campbell, this annual event is not only a fun get-together, but raises funds for Lion's activities and projects.

Submitted by Lion Randy Soth

Huntsville Earth Day



Members of the Huntsville Lioness Club celebrated Earth Day 2008 by doing a roadside cleanup. Left to right: Lioness Diane Brown, Lioness June Crooks, Lioness Marg McWinnie, Lioness Donna Rudd and granddaughter McKenzie.

Grad Night



Although the Magnetawan Public School is small, it was an honour and privilege to attend graduation night at Magnetawan Central Public School (MCPS) on behalf of the local Lions Club last on June 19th.

Magnetawan Lions Club President, Harry Bell, congratulated all the graduates and presented each of them a book gift on behalf of the club. Congratulations graduates and best of luck from all of us. Pictured is Magnetawan Lions Club President Harry Bell presenting school graduate Karsten Hildebrandt with a gift book on behalf of the club. All graduates are so honoured by the club.

Submitted by Lion Randy Soth

Bike Rodeo



Once again this year, the OPP in co-operation with the Kearney and Magnetawan Lions Clubs, held their annual bicycle rodeo ... an event where public school children test their bicycling skills of co-ordination and safety for a prize of trophies and just plain good fun.

Held at the Community Centre Lions Pavilion, a good turnout from the local Magnetawan Public School helped this event once again be a successful one for safety and bicycling on our local roads for the children of our town.

The proud winners from Magnetawan Public School in the annual Bicycle Rodeo are flanked by Magnetawan President Harry Bell, left, and Club VP Bruce Campbell, right.

Submitted by Lion Randy Soth

Lioness Give



Huntsville Lioness presented \$500 cheques recently to the SightfirstII campaign, CNIB Camp lake Joseph, Camp Huronda and the Camp for the Deaf. \$500 for Lions Camp Dorset was presented by Huntsville Lioness President June Crooks, left, and Lioness Marian Shaw, right, to Dorset Lions Barry Janes and Bill Vernon, representing the Camp.

Innisfil Leos



The Innisfil Leos held their 1st Charter on March 9, 2008 when all twelve members were chartered. Leo President Dallas McEllistrum and fellow executive members also were installed into their respective positions. The club plans on fundraising events such as a dart tournament and bike-a-thon, working toward funding for cancer awareness and other charitable organizations. The Leos are sponsored by the Innisfil Lions Club.

Reported by Lion Sharon Hunt

A16

Eyeglass Shipment



Several Lions Club in District A16 once again combined forces to collect and ship over 8000 pairs of eyeglasses to the Lions Depot in Calgary. Once again Lindsay Moving and Storage provided transportation at no cost. Lions members on hand for the recent shipment were: from left to right: Bob Wilson, Chuck Golden, Jan Eisinga (all from the Lindsay Lions Club), Shawn Fletcher (Dunsford), Wally McKinnon (Bobcaygeon), Nick Larocque (Lindsay), Hugh Manley (Dunsford), Doug Osbourne (Oakwood), Roger Larocque (Lindsay), Lindsay movers representative and Ed Johnson (Omemece).

Submitted by Lion Jim Young



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Ready to Work

The Bobcaygeon Lions Club, being in the heart of cottage country, has a full summer schedule of activities. And now with new members Lion Thelma Purdy, and Lions Maria and Walter Correa, they will have the manpower to accomplish all tasks. These new lions were inducted in April into the family of Lionism.

Submitted by Lion Wally Mackinnon

Volunteer Night



The Cannington Lions Club decided to institute an annual tribute to local volunteer groups with a festive dinner. The first dinner was held May 15 and was appreciated by all who attended.

Submitted by Lion Doug Fuller

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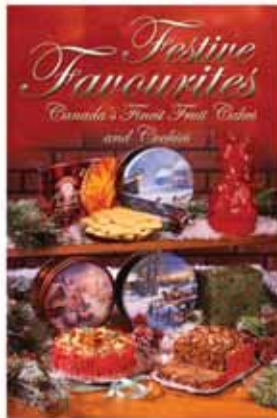
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