

M.D. "A" Edition
December 2010

THE
Lion



We Serve



Season's Greetings

Marsville Lions Club Awards Two Local Students

June 24 2010 - Region Chair **Lion Neil Hoogendoorn** representing the Marsville Lions Club as they present Male and Female Athlete Awards at East Garafraxa Central Public School.

Bradley Bowden was present to encourage the students in their athletic endeavours. Bradley Bowden is a recipient of a gold medal in sled hockey and wheelchair basketball.



From left to right; Paul Panatagiou (teacher), Wheelchair Athlete Bradley Bowden with Kennisis VanSoelen, Tyson Leitch and RC Lion Neil Hoogendoorn.

Submitted by Lion Elly Hoogendoorn



We Serve

Lions Camp Dorset Canoe Draw Winner

To all

The canoe ticket was drawn by Lions Camp Dorset Director **Jim Coulson** at approximately 5:00 pm on Tuesday Oct 26th 2010.

The winner of the Canoe, by **Tom Bailey**, was Ticket # 3922 held by Louise Bozic.

I have contacted the Bozic home and talked to Mrs. Bozic's husband and told him of her winnings!

Mrs. Bozic's mother is a dialysis patient and was at camp with her this summer for treatments.



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*W*elcome to the December Edition of *The Lion*.
To submit stories, photos, comments or suggestions, please
contact your District Reporter (Pg 26) and please
remember to check your camera settings to ensure
highest resolution pictures.

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Great Clubs excel in service to others

"Everybody can be great because everybody can serve. You only need a heart full of grace, a soul generated by love."—Martin Luther King

"Greatness comes not from prizes won, but from lives changed."—Anonymous

I fear that few people when asked to give a definition of greatness would speak of service to others. This month our magazine features great clubs that have excelled in service to others. They are not just another volunteer group in their community, but they are at the center of community life, turning clusters of homes into true neighborhoods where people care about and look after one another. Their service shines a powerful beacon of hope that has created a momentum of positive change.

Yet what's interesting about these clubs is that they

are really not much different than any other Lions club. Perhaps they have a core group of members with extra motivation, passion and leadership that lifts up the other members. But one thing is clear: these clubs have decided to take "that Lions' Spirit" to new levels of service. These clubs are true Beacons of Hope and they know that, as Helen Steiner Rice wrote, "Time is not measured by the years that we live, but by the deeds that we do and the joys that we give."

Shining a beacon on certain clubs in no way diminishes the service of any club. Every act of service is a great deed, and every club deserves praise for improving their community. As we share the deeds of some clubs, let each of us encourage one another to be all that we can be. Being beacons of hope takes energy, commitment and an untiring selflessness.

Please take full advantage today, and then tomorrow, and the day after of the opportunities and responsibilities of being a Lion. Our loving service can shine a light on people that will change their lives, for the better, forever.



Sid L. Scruggs III
Lions Clubs International
President

Sid L. Scruggs III

To the Lions, Lioness and Leos of Multiple District "A"

The U.S.A./Canada Lions Forum held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin has concluded and it was a wonderful experience indeed.

As usual, the Forum provided an exceptional opportunity for all Lions to learn more about our great organization and to also be inspired and rejuvenated as we set out again to carry on our service in our own communities and around the world as members of our international association.

As Canadians we appreciated **International President Sid Scruggs'** invitation to George Rioux, Canadian Consul General, to attend our Forum in Milwaukee. Consul General Rioux spoke at the Forum Luncheon on Saturday, September 25 and his message on volunteerism and the outstanding spirit of co-operation between our two great nations was greatly appreciated by all Lions in attendance. The Consul General made the most of his opportunity to meet as many Lions as he could while in Milwaukee and he

was very pleased with the many chances he was given to discuss community service issues with Lions from both countries.

International President Sid Scruggs' programme this year asked our clubs to become involved in a youth oriented programme during the late part of the summer. In the month of October our President would like our clubs to be involved in sight related service projects. As well our President would like our clubs to learn all we can about the "Third Global Action Campaign: Relieving Hunger". Lion Sid Scruggs would like us to become involved, during the month of December and the Holiday Season, in a programme to help feed the hungry people in our communities and thereby assist in meeting this most fundamental human need. If we are able to carry out these projects no matter how small or large in these areas of need we will indeed advance towards our goal of truly becoming "Beacons of Light" for all

mankind to see and follow.

Very soon Christmas and the Holiday Season will be upon us. In the event that Elizabeth and I do not have the opportunity to see or speak to you over this period we wish to thank you most sincerely for all your kind wishes and assistance extended to us. In addition we wish all of you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Take care and travel safely,



Lion Carl Young, I.D.

Lion Carl Young

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Highlights of the November 13, 2010 Meeting of the Governors Council



The second meeting of the 2010-2011 Council of Governors was held on November 13th at the Howard Johnson Hotel in Markham. The following represents the topics of general interest raised during the meeting:

MD "A" Life Memberships - One new MD "A" Life Membership was approved for a member of the Kincardine LC in District A9.

MD "A" Secretary - The term of office has been extended by nine months to end June 30, 2012.

MD "A" Treasurer - 2009 Audit indicates the MD "A" financial statements to be in good order, no irregularities were identified.

Camp Liaison - Lions are urged to support the electronic campaign for Camp Dorset by voting on the Pepsi Challenge.

Convention Advisory - 2010 MD "A" Convention "A Capital Convention" registration forms available on website and in the upcoming edition of the LION Magazine. The theme for the 2012 MD "A" Convention in Niagara Falls will be "The War of 1812". The rates for the main two hotels in

Niagara Falls will be in the order of \$160 to \$205 per night but there will be a lot of alternate accommodation to choose from.

Hearing Conservation - The Council of Governors did not approve a partnership arrangement requested by "Listen Up Canada".

2014 International Convention Committee - The Vice Chair of the Committee, PDG Derek Bloomfield will assume the responsibilities of the Host Booth/Office Committee.

Lions Foundation of Canada - MD "A" donations to The Autism Assistance Dog Guide program has finished a most successful 1st year graduating 20 teams. The goal for this year is 45 teams. First quarter results for donations to LFC is disappointingly down some \$80,000 from last year. Look for details on an electronic phone-in campaign for LFC.

MERL - Transition from MERL to GMT/GLT will be completed by the end of this year. The MERL team has distributed summary sheets to 1st and 2nd VDGs as well as the current Governors as each will be involved in the selection of the

District GMT and GLT coordinators.

Webmaster - The transfer of information to the new website is almost complete.

Lions Quest - Lions Clubs are urged to support a donation to the Lions Quest program. The Lions Quest Executive Director has offered to help districts promote the program and is willing to go directly to school boards to assist district chairs with their presentations.

Around the Districts - **District A3** has been nominated by two hospitals to receive a prestigious fund raising award. **District A4** - Lion Stuart Pringle, President of the Chesterville & District LC has been awarded the Governor General's Medal of Valour for pulling a woman from a burning house, also A4 is submitting a bid to host the 2015 USA/Canada Forum. **District A711** - Chartered its first conversion of a Leo to Lions Club. **District A9** - Received a First Light Award from LCI.

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

LCIF

The Value of Giving

How much would you pay for a pair of shoes? Would you pay \$50? How about \$150? Before walking up to the cash register to pay, you may ask yourself a few questions: How often will I wear these shoes? Will they last? Do they match my navy suit or red skirt? We ask ourselves these types of questions in order to answer one question: What is the value of those shoes to me?

Now, let's consider the value you might place on helping someone. What type of questions might you consider if asked that question?

- Will my assistance really make a difference?
- What will happen if I don't help?
- What do I have to do?

When a Lion says, "We Serve," does that only relate to working on a community project or does that also extend to giving? Would you consider service as working an extra hour, if it supports Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) and helps an individual receive cataract surgery?

Your donations to LCIF are extremely valuable to those served. A donation of \$20 helped Felecia Otero of Chiapas, Mexico, receive sight-saving cataract surgery. She now can see her grandchildren for the first time. Dan McCarthy of Iowa knows the value of this gift. His son, Tye, received glasses through Opening Eyes, an LCIF partnership program with Special Olympics. The students at Liudvukas Stulpinas Basic School in Klaipeda, Lithuania, have seen their test scores improve and note a positive change since Lions Quest has come to their school.

These are only a few examples of what LCIF programs accomplish each day. With a small donation

of only \$20, LCIF can save three people from preventable or reversible blindness, support a Lions Quest student or help provide aid to those affected by natural disasters.

November is Contributing Member month. All Lions are encouraged to make a donation of \$20, \$50 or \$100 to LCIF. By donating only \$20—less than the cost of dinner for two—you could have a life-altering impact on three individuals who would be facing a lifetime of blindness without your help. The cost is small, but the rewards of supporting LCIF are great. For each level, there is a special annual Contributing Member pin.

LCIF Chairperson Eberhard Wirfs understands how important these donations are to those we serve. "Without the support of Lions, LCIF would not be able to help those in need," he said. "Contributing Memberships are an easy way to give to LCIF and to show your support to other Lions. I hope every Lion and club will consider taking part in the program this year."



A competitor is screened at an Opening Eyes event

Dherai khushi lagyoy! I can see!

by Joshua Friedman

Providing eye care in Nepal, a land-locked country in the Himalayas, is not an easy task. The mountainous north has eight of the world's 10 highest mountains including Mount Everest. In the most difficult regions, teams of up to 15 porters carry hundreds of pounds of equipment up steep mountain paths to reach the eye camp destination.

Nor is it easy for patients to reach the camps. After hearing of the camps on the radio, some patients walked as many as six hours to reach the campsite.

But the effort is worth it.

"I was helping remove the bandage from one elderly gentleman who just the day before was able to see only from one eye. I asked the patient how his vision was and he cried loudly, 'I can see better than in my sighted eye! Dherai khushi lagyoy [I am very happy],'" recalled **Girdhari Sharma**, Multiple District SightFirst Chairperson. "I will never forget this experience for the rest of my life."

Nepal is a poor country. About half its people live below the international poverty line of \$1.25 per day. Where finances are scarce, so are health and eye care services. About 45 percent of Nepalese lack adequate eye care, and 80 percent of blindness is a result of cataract.

Since 1994, the **Lions of Nepal** have been working to reverse this trend by organizing annual cataract surgery campaigns. SightFirst has supported the efforts with 37 grants totaling \$9.7 million. As a result, almost one-third of Nepalese with cataract are receiving the surgery they need. Lions are one of the largest providers of eye care services in the entire country.

Lions play a key role in SightFirst projects. Lions from nearly 200 clubs publicize the projects and participate in the initial screening of patients at the outreach camp site. The Lions credit the visibility of their efforts to their recent membership gains.

Data shows that the Lions achieved a very high surgical success rate. The study also found that 53 percent of all operated patients were female. This is significant since equal access to eye care remains a challenge for females, and nearly two-thirds of blind people worldwide are female. Lions plan to publish their findings in a journal to show that service clubs can provide high-quality eye care.

The Lions of Nepal recognize the enormity of their task and realize the need to work collaboratively in the fight against blindness. They have partnered with the Tilganga Institute of Ophthalmology, the

Seva Foundation and Nepal Netra Jyoti Sangh, well-known and respected eye care institutions and organizations.

With funding from Campaign SightFirst II, Lions worldwide are ensuring those most in need receive the eye care they need, regardless of location, gender, or other obstacles.



A patient receives screening through Lions outreach efforts.

Bowling for Big Brothers/Sisters Cambridge Highlands Lions Club

One - two - three strikes- you're out! No, no, we are not playing baseball. We are bowling and you still get 3 chances, only you have to get all the pins down at the other end of the alley. On Saturday, March 27, led by our ever faithful leader **Lion Isabel Weir**, a large group met at Dickson Bowling Lanes to help raise funds for Big Brothers/Sisters in Cambridge. **Lions Jan Ho, Pat Bryan** and **Marg de Boer** along with Lion Isabel Weir brought all our friends and family members to bowl for this worthy cause. Lion Jan rounded up 12 youth from her church plus 2 young relatives to come out. They were so eager and had lots of fun with the boys playing against the girls. On our lane, it was a little quieter (and slower). Lion Pat was the exception as she bowled very well as usual. Lion Isabel subbed her wee great granddaughter, Kailey, and older granddaughter, Kaitland to

bowl for her. Lion Marg brought her two grandsons, Clayton and Blair to take her place. We all managed to finish the two games and enjoy pizza afterwards. There were prize draws also from coupons given by the representative for Big Brothers. He was a pleasant looking Irishman and was told he might have trouble understanding our Lion Isabel (with the very Scottish accent!). Needless to say, they had no trouble at all communicating with each other. Lion Isabel works very hard and takes it to her heart every year to raise as much as she can. This year the total was a whopping \$1321.00!! **THANK YOU** to everyone who participated and collected money for this organization. Many little brothers and sisters will appreciate our efforts. Lions do roar and make a difference!



Lion Isabel Weir with granddaughters Melissa, Kaitland & younger great granddaughter Kailey.



Group of youth who bowled for us.

Submitted by Lion Marg de Boer

Lions Club of Stoney Creek

The Lions Club of Stoney Creek presented a \$5,000.00 cheque for Camp Trillium on November 16, 2010 to representative Ed DeVries whose son Craig is a Cancer survivor and is now 6 years cancer free. Their family have had the use of Camp Trillium.

Presenting the cheque is **Lion Harry Mans** who will be a 30 years member in December of 2010 and our club members.



*Picture by member
Lion Wendy C Mans-Keddie*



Great Clubs

by Elizabeth Blackwell

Any club that serves its community deserves praise. But some clubs stand out. They get things done. No matter what the challenge or how daunting the task, members work together to better their community. Some outstanding clubs are large and some are small. They are rural and urban, full of younger people or predominantly retirees. What they share in common is they matter to their community. They are not a “nice addition” to the community or merely a community asset. They help form the community and make it what it is. Their service helps bind the community together and connects people. The help is transformed into hope, or the shared conviction that problems can be solved and solutions are as close as the next Lions meeting.

Lakeville Lions Club, Indiana Small-Town Club, Big-Time Impact

Walk down a street in Lakeville in north-central Indiana and you’re likely to bump into a Lion. The town has 600 residents, 96 of whom belong to the Lakeville club.

“There are a lot of giving people here,” says **President Dave Grenert**, who runs an auto-repair business that’s a town hangout. “Our club is a conduit for the community. People rely on us and come to us.”

When a need arises, Lakeville Lions find a way to meet it. When they saw that children receiving Thanksgiving food baskets were thrilled just to get Spaghetti-Os, they partnered with Toys for Tots to give Christmas gifts as well. Realizing that families went hungry once the holidays were done, they joined with local churches to distribute food packages year-round.

Earlier this year, when preschool teacher Teresa Eggebrecht feared she wouldn’t be able to join a three-day breast cancer walk because she hadn’t raised enough money, the Lakeville club came to the rescue. “If it weren’t for the Lions, I wouldn’t have been able to do it,” she says. With only six weeks notice, the club organized a concert showcasing local musicians and raised \$1,600. “It felt like the whole community was behind me,” she says. “We all pulled together to achieve this goal.”

Lakeville’s current vitality is the result of some soul searching. Through the years, the club had gotten stagnant, with the same few members working at the annual Good Friday fish fry or the food booth at the county fair. A few determined members decided to shake things up.

“Almost everybody tends to resist change,” says **District Governor Paul Russell**, a member. “Some of us were not easily discouraged and started pushing for new ideas.” Thanks to the club’s success with new projects, “we’ve seen a huge resurgence in enthusiasm,” says Russell—as well as 15 new members in the past year. One strategy that has

worked particularly well is to pair new members with long-time Lions as project co-chairs. Grenert also strives to keep older members involved by tailoring their responsibilities to their current abilities, rather than expecting them to perform the same tasks year after year. “Now they’ve seen our success and embraced it,” he says.

Not long ago, Grenert had an experience that renewed his own enthusiasm. Working the food booth at the county fair, during the last hour of a nine-day stretch, he was exhausted and frustrated by rude, messy patrons. “A woman walked up who was visiting from Africa,” he remembers. “She saw our logo and she told me Lions had come to her village and eradicated river blindness. She thanked us, and my whole attitude changed. I remembered why we do this.”



Past District Governor David Court of the Lakeville Lions welcomes visitors to the club’s Toys for Tots drive.

Haddonfield Lions Club, New Jersey A Positive Bounce for an Entire Town

The squeak of sneakers and the roar of a crowd is a sign that the Haddonfield Lions are busy again. Every spring, the New Jersey club hosts the Lizzy Haddon Invitational Basketball Tournament, a weekend-long competition that attracts almost 100 teams from three states. The basketball extravaganza raises money and spirits, enabling Lions to lift up their community.

Some 3,000 people descend on the town for the tournament, says **Karen Ressler**, club secretary. “They have such a good time, they keep coming back. We ask the girls to bring used glasses with them, and that carries our message to the players and their families.” The tournament has been such a success that the Haddonfield Lions now share the wealth by paying local booster clubs and other Lions clubs to help staff the gyms.

The tournament was started by a local parent, Sam Donnellon, as a way to raise money for his daughter’s team. When it grew too big for him to handle, he suggested the Lions take over. “Even though there is no trophy at the end, people fight to get in,” says **Lion Chris Clancey**, who chairs the tournament. “We have

really good customer service, and we’ve created a product people want.”

Initially, some of the club’s older members wondered how girl’s basketball would fit in with their mission. “It’s been fun to watch these guys get a look at the future they didn’t know existed,” says Donnellon. “They’ve become our most devoted followers.”

The tournament brought in a profit of \$23,000 for the 60-member club this year.

It also had an invigorating effect on the town of Haddonfield. Local businesses pay to sponsor official T-shirts (which always feature a Lion logo), and competitors have to pick up their shirts in one of the stores, guaranteeing foot traffic and sales. “It’s a bigger shopping weekend for our downtown than Christmas,” says Clancey.

The weekend has a celebratory feel that’s about more than basketball. In the center of town, a DJ plays music, and girls begin spontaneously dancing. “There are so many unintended but delightful offshoots of the tournament,” says Donnellon. “Our family will always feel like it’s a part of us, but it ended up going to people who can handle it better than I ever did.”



The basketball tournament raises money and spirits.

Photo by Vinnie Craven

Grand Rapids Lions Club, Wisconsin Leveraging 30 Acres of Green Space

All clubs look for certain qualities in prospective members, such as an interest in helping the community or the ability to get along with others. At the 42-member Grand Rapids Club in central Wisconsin, it also helps if you’re handy with a hammer and lawnmower.

That's because the club owns a 30-acre park, a valuable resource that requires a lot of upkeep. The park, which has a clubhouse, outdoor pavilion and four-acre pond, rents for \$1,000 per day and brings in the majority of the club's revenue. But the club also donates use of the park for a number of different annual events, including a spring Easter egg hunt, Cub Scout retreat, youth leadership camp and fundraiser for the local fire department.

"The grounds are phenomenal," says Scott Burnett, the town's fire chief. "We bring in close to \$30,000, and there is no way we could put on such a successful event anywhere else. Being the chief of a volunteer fire department, I understand how hard it is to get people to volunteer their time, so my hat goes off to them. Their members are very dedicated."

In the summer, each member assists with events at the park two weekends a month. "You have to be willing to work," says **President Donna Smrz**. "We have too much to take care of." Fortunately, the club has a few advantages: half its members are in their 40s or younger, and many have practical mechanical skills (members include an electrician, a pipe fitter and a plant manager at a local hospital).

Grand Rapids Lions fund a program that donates bikes to children who serve on school safety patrols and another that gives out gift cards for food and clothing to families in crisis. They are also active in a Wisconsin-wide Lions initiative that gathers used fire equipment and delivers it to towns in Mexico.

"The key to attracting new people is to publicize what you do and have people see you in action," says **Keith Luebke, the immediate past district governor**. During the winter, the club donated use of the park for a Polar Plunge that raised \$40,000 for Special Olympics—and brought in three new members. "People in the community see these things and are supportive of what we do," says Luebke. "Our younger members have turned out to be a blessing."



Lions hold a fishing derby at Grand Rapids Lions Park.

Riverside Lions Club, Minnesota Caring at a Time of Dying

Thirteen years ago, **Lion Ginny Paulson** was at the point of collapse. A member of the Riverside club in western Minnesota, she was trying to care for her desperately ill husband while working a full-time job. She resisted all suggestions of hospice care, thinking it would mean she had given up. She finally realized she had no choice—and immediately wished she had called sooner.

Q - Paulson or Paulsen?

"All I had to do was support my husband, and they supported me," she says. "I thought death would be painful and fearful, but for him, it wasn't. When the time came, he was relaxed, and I hadn't anticipated that. It was very comforting."

So when she heard that a local healthcare agency, Lakeland Hospice & Home Care, was planning to open a residence for hospice patients, she was determined to support it, even though it came with a daunting \$2.7 million price tag.

"I've never been a good fundraiser, but I believed in hospice," she says. "So I kept going to meetings and telling my story." **Jim Arvidson** of the nearby **Pleasant Prairie club** soon joined the cause. As he rose to vice-district and then district governor, he made the hospice a district-wide project.

"We put on presentations for clubs, zone meetings, and community groups," says Arvidson. "We kept pushing. I tell people I'm not brilliant, but I'm determined." Minnesota Lions raised a total of \$75,000 to the project, and LCIF added a \$153,000 donation.

The Lions' strong support convinced other groups to get involved, and the hospice opened one year ago. The bright, light-filled building can house up to eight patients at a time and includes a kitchen, children's playroom and suite for family members to stay overnight.

"People in their last days deserve a place like this, where they can feel at home," says Arvidson. "I was there from the first shovelful to the opening, and to see the end product was wonderful. It was a great day to be a Lion."

The Lions' commitment didn't end when the building opened. The Riverside club now holds its meetings at the hospice, and Lions from other area clubs cook meals for families, sew quilts, clean and help with gardening. Lionism got such a boost from the project that a new club was chartered in Fergus Falls, where the hospice was built.



Ginny Paulsen chats with Jim Arvidson at Lakeland Hospice & Home Care. The two helped spur Lions' support for the hospice.

Lions Clubs of Maine Food for the Hungry

Maine conjures up images of pristine waterfront vacation towns such as Kennebunkport. But beyond the picturesque coastlines, it's a place with rising unemployment and poverty. Maine Lions recently joined together to support a cause that benefits the whole state.

While setting up a new club in the town of Auburn last year, **Past International Director Lewis Small** and **then-District Governor Roger Blackstone** toured the Good Shepherd Food Bank, a massive storage facility that supplies food pantries and social-service agencies throughout the state. The 53,000-square-foot warehouse holds 1 million pounds of frozen food alone.

When they heard the food bank had no backup generator, they were astonished. One stretch of nasty weather—common enough during a Maine winter—and all that food would be lost. "A generator is like insurance," says Small. "It shouldn't be a luxury. It's a necessity." Building one would cost \$151,000. Small vowed to have one installed in one year, and proposed making it a district-wide Lions project.

"When it came to fundraising, a new generator never made it to the top of the list," says **Rick Small**, the food bank's director (and no relation to Lewis). "To have someone say, 'We'll do it' has been a blessing. Lewis is a perfect example of a loyal Lion. He's very gracious and very determined."

Blackstone hit the road to promote the project. "It was almost a no-brainer," he says. "Clubs have seen the effect of the food bank in their own areas." Of 81 clubs in the state, 71 made contributions, and LCIF added a \$50,000 grant.

"This project hits at the core of the need in Maine," says Small. "It has made more people aware of Lionism and what we do." When Blackstone recently attended a dinner for the food bank's supporters and volunteers, he was amazed how many people came up to him and thanked him for what the Lions were doing. "A lot of people around the state know about us now," he says. The food bank director was so impressed that he became a charter member of the new Auburn club.



Lions provided a backup generator for the massive Good Shepherd Food Bank.

Bonita Springs Lions Club, Florida Whirlwind of Service

Some Lions clubs can brag that they're big; others can boast of being active. The Bonita Springs Club is both. The 125-member club, made up mostly of retirees, is an impressively devoted group. The club raised \$300,000 last year, and 80 percent of its members volunteer on Lions projects at least once per week.

There are plenty of projects to keep them all busy. Since the 1970s, the club has run its own thrift store, staffed entirely by volunteer Lions. Not only is it a major source of revenue, the casual conversations that spring up between shoppers and volunteers has also resulted in new members. The club also runs two successful farmer's markets, Saturday morning pancake breakfasts and an annual bluegrass festival.

"Most of us are retired, so we can give more time," says **Betty Harkins**, membership chair. "You can't sit back and fold up the tent." The club brought in 24 new members last year, and Harkins makes sure each signs up for a project at their orientation. From the beginning, it's clear that a Bonita Springs Lion is expected to be involved.

One of the club's most important recent initiatives is its Eye Clinic, which opened in 2008. During the past year, 1,200 medically needy patients were treated for free (more than half were also given reading glasses), with that number expected to grow by at least 50 percent next year. The club is hoping to expand the clinic so surgeries can take place on-site.

Dr. Howard Freedman, the clinic's medical director and president of the **Naples Lions Club**, says patients come from throughout southwestern Florida. "The need is huge," he says. "I've seen people who were formerly employed, but are now desperate for help. It is so gratifying to come and see dozens of people and not have to worry about fees or charges. It makes me proud to be a Lion."



Marge Shivel works the jewelry counter at her club's thrift store in Bonita Springs, Florida.

The club supports a foundation for the developmentally disabled, a literacy program and baseball tournaments for the visually impaired. People who have received help from these groups are regularly invited to meetings. "It brings what we're doing home to the members, much more than writing something in a newsletter," says **President Robert Hilliard**. "It makes us all feel like we're part of something."

The Bonita Lions also know how to have fun. The club hosted a spaghetti dinner and fashion show

featuring women's clothing from the thrift store. The twist was that all the models were male Lions. "Some of the wives really went all out with their husbands," laughs Hilliard. "With the makeup and wigs, we didn't even recognize them!"

Alhambra Lions Club, California Supporting Our Worldwide Foundation

For Lions, becoming a Melvin Jones Fellow is a proud accomplishment. But boasting about it won't get you any extra points at the Alhambra club. All of its 19 members are Melvin Jones Fellows, making one of only two clubs in the country to reach that goal last year. The Fellowships support Lions Clubs International Foundation, of course.

The Alhambra Club is also notable for another reason: the majority of the members are Chinese or Chinese-American. "We also have a few American members who are interested in Chinese culture and arts," says **King Lam**, club secretary. "When a new member joins the club, we expressively advise them that our goal is for all members to become Melvin Jones Fellows. Everyone has to participate in raising funds for charity."

Most members are professionals. The club roster includes lawyers, financial advisers, bankers, advertising professionals and entrepreneurs.

In addition to the usual Lions projects—such as White Cane Day, collecting eyeglasses and holiday food drives—the Alhambra Lions also organize events with an Asian twist, such as mahjong games and karaoke parties. They regularly donate to disaster relief efforts, sending money to the victims of the Sichuan, China, earthquake in 2008 and the Haiti earthquake in early 2010. They also support causes closer to home such as blood drives and an Asian-Pacific center for abused children.



A karaoke and dance party raises funds for the Alhambra Lions Club.

"Despite our small size, our members are energetic, generous and eager to support the community," says Lam. "Everyone shares in the duties and participates."

Edmonton Host Lions Club, Alberta, Canada Dedication and Innovation

The Edmonton Host Lions Club may have celebrated its 80th birthday last year, but the club hasn't let age slow it down. Tour the town of Edmonton, Alberta, and sooner or later you'll come

across proof of its members' dedication.

There's the recently renovated Central Lions Senior Recreation Centre, with its modern fitness studio and busy schedule of activities and meetings. The outdoor skating rink that Lions helped rebuild and upgrade in an inner-city neighborhood. Or the state-of-the-art surgical suites at Stollery Children's Hospital, which Lions' fundraising helped make possible.

"I think our club epitomizes what Lions is all about," says **Clint Mellors**, first vice president. "We're a real service club, and we've got a lot of hardworking people."

While the Lions are experienced fundraisers, they donate their time to hands-on projects that help seniors, children and the needy. Some cook and serve a hot lunch at a local church once per month, feeding up to 1,200 people. (The church's pastor, the Rev. Jim Holland, was so impressed by the Lions' work that he became a member.) Others volunteer at a local school that uses the Lions Quest curriculum. Edmonton Lions also help manage and staff the Lions Villages, a group of three properties that provide affordable housing for seniors.

"It's a family," says **Lion Karon McGrath**, who volunteers her time as the Villages' property manager and treasurer. Residents get together for coffee and outings, avoiding the social isolation that many seniors face. "It's very gratifying to see people talking as I walk through," she says. "One couple told me they'd met more people here in a few months than



One of three properties managed by the Edmonton Host Lions, Railtown has 60 units housing 80 seniors. Lions Villages houses 366 seniors, and plans are under way to build an additional 120 housing units.

they had in the condo they'd lived in for five years."

The club has 76 active members, but Mellors says the leadership is looking at ways to bring in more. While the club had traditionally held lunch meetings, a trial-run evening meeting at a local science museum had a good turnout. "We're going to try to mix things up," says Mellors, appreciative of the club's willingness to stay flexible and be innovative. "A lot of us say, 'Why not give it a try?'"

Do you think your club should have been included in this story? LION Magazine would like to hear from you. Write us at the LION, 300 W. 22nd Street, Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842 or e-mail magazine@lionsclubs.org.

The King of Canemakers

Where do all those little white canes come from? California club is an industry of one.

by Anne Ford

When **Dale Butler** joined the **Monterey Park Lions Club** in California about 25 years ago, he discovered two things right off the bat.

First, one of the club's main fundraising activities consists of manufacturing small white canes, miniature replicas of those used by many blind people as a mobility and safety tool.

And second, the Rube Goldberg-esque machine used to make the canes is not a contraption just anybody is allowed to fool around with.

"I stood next to this machine [bagging canes] for 10 years before I was even allowed to touch it," Butler remembers. "Nobody just walked down to the local Home Depot to buy this thing. You can tell that this machine was built in somebody's garage. And yet it works."



Dale Butler tends to the white cane machine.

Works so well, in fact, that more than 50 years after its creation, the machine continues to churn out about a million miniature white canes each year. The Monterey Park Lions sell the canes at cost to other Lions clubs across the country, who in turn use them as marketing giveaways when soliciting donations for eye health programs. The canes are often handed out during either White Cane Week (the third week of May) or on National White Cane Safety Day (Oct.15).

"White Cane Days is the biggest fundraising program we have," says **Lion Sandy Jeghers**, administrator of community Lions programs for the Northwest Lions Foundation, which buys thousands of the miniature canes from the Monterey Park Lions each year. And the canes are a big part of the program's success: "If you can give somebody something when they walk by, it tends to make them stop and say, 'Well, what's this all about?' It gives them a chance to learn what we do."

The Monterey Park Lions' machine would never have existed were it not for the efforts of another Lion decades earlier. In 1930, **George A. Bonham**, president of the **Peoria Lions Club** in Illinois, came up with the idea of a white, red-tipped cane that blind people could use both to identify themselves to others and to locate objects in their paths. His club distributed some canes to the local blind community, and the idea quickly caught on among other clubs throughout the United States. Around the same time, white-cane movements sprung up in other countries as well. Soon the white

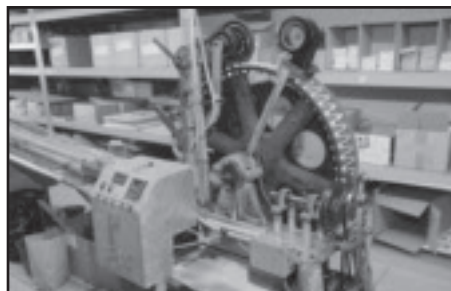
cane became an internationally recognized symbol of blindness.

In 1952, the Monterey Park Lions were looking for a way to raise money for their sight conservation efforts in the community. A member hit on the idea of bending white pipe cleaners by hand into miniature canes, dipping their ends in red ink and handing them out to people on the street during fundraising drives. In the years following, several dozen other local Lions clubs agreed to do the same—as long as the Monterey Park club would supply the canes. Clearly, hand-bent pipe cleaners weren't going to cut it forever.

To meet the growing demand, Monterey Park Lions and automobile engineers Johnny Johns and Kenny Gribble used an old motor from a potato-chip factory and a custom-made, foundry-cast wheel to build a machine capable of producing 50,000 canes in an eight- to ten-hour day.

"When I first started, they used to run it 24 hours a day," remembers club treasurer and past president **Russell Haas**, a member since 1954. "At the time, I had a restaurant, and I closed at 10:30 p.m., so I'd work [at the machine] from 12 to 3 in the morning. You get together with a bunch of guys, and it's fun."

Now the canes are produced in the Monterey Park Lions' clubhouse about two days a month. It takes four



The homemade machine churns out about 1 million miniature white canes each year.

Lions, working in two-hour shifts, to weigh, staple and stack the bags of canes as they're filled. "Those guys have a pretty good workout at the end of two hours," Butler says. Longtime volunteer **Agnes Douglas** oversees the orders and ships them to Lions clubs all over the United States. A bag of 1,000 canes costs \$43; a kit of 5,000 canes that includes other fundraising items such as bumper stickers, window signs, balloons and posters sells for \$500.

The Monterey Park Lions experienced a proud moment last December when then – **International President Eberhard Wirfs** stopped by to check out the machine while visiting California to appear in the Tournament of Roses Parade. "He took one look at the machine, and he couldn't believe it," Butler says. "He took 30 minutes to walk around it, trying to figure out how it works."

As Wirfs discovered, the machine works today in essentially the same way that it always has: White

plastic cord is passed through a hot-water tank to become pliable. It's then wound around studs on a wheel and cut to form the canes. The canes drop onto a chain that dips their tips into a tank of quick-drying red paint and carries them to the chute where the bags are filled.

"Some of the members have added little innovations as time has gone by," says **Gilbert Rodriguez**, a club member since 1985. "Not too long ago, one of the other members came up with the idea of using a garage door opener with an electric eye" to automatically move the chute from bag to bag as they fill.

It all seems fairly simple, but as Butler can attest, operating the machine is trickier than it sounds. "It's so fine-tuned that if it's off an eighth of an inch, you might as well throw the machine away," he says. "Every day I hope that a belt isn't broken. We don't put a lot of pressure on it. We don't run it real hard. Nothing gets really, really hot. We make sure that it rests."

The Northwest Lions Foundation, which assists individuals with sight and hearing problems in the Pacific Northwest, orders about 80,000 canes a year from the Monterey Park Lions. "We're one of their biggest customers," Jeghers says. The foundation distributes the canes to about 100 clubs in its district, who in turn donate the money they raise during White Cane Days—usually about \$200,000 all told—back to the foundation.

Dwindling membership numbers, as well as the home-grown nature of the cane-making operation, may soon put the supply of miniature canes at risk. The Monterey Park Lions have seen their numbers drop drastically in recent years—from more than 100 to about 25. And Butler, who has overseen production for the last decade or so, has had little luck interesting anyone else in learning how to operate the temperamental, one-of-a-kind machine. "Nobody else wants to touch it," he says. Moreover, "it would cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to make a new machine."

If the Monterey Park Lions are forced to stop producing the miniature canes at some point, Jeghers says, "White Cane Days would continue. We'd figure something else out." But at the same time, he's very happy with the current arrangement.

"We spend about \$3,500 a year on the canes," he says. "I could probably go to China and get them for \$2,500." So why doesn't he? "Because I know that the Monterey Park Lions use that money for the same thing we use our White Cane Days money"—preserving or even restoring the eyesight and hearing of people who would otherwise be unable to afford help. "It's an absolute win-win scenario."

To purchase canes from the Monterey Park Lions, call (626) 307-9569.

Tabs 4 Wheelchairs

It was 20 years ago when a bunch of fellows sitting around the "BS table" at the Elora Legion pondered an urban myth that might have made them feel a little bit foolish that day.

They had heard that the aluminum from pop tabs could be traded for wheelchairs. They agreed that since the tabs were aluminum, they must be worth something. They had already collected several hundred pounds of tabs. **Jack Baumber** took it upon himself to contact a scrap metal dealer willing to pay 20 cents a pound. Then someone else found a recycling company willing to buy the tabs for 50 cents a pound.

The tabs program was underway. The result of their speculation is making metal history as well as providing hundreds of wheelchairs, walkers, and motorized scooters for people in need.

Now entire schools collect them as well as factories and service organizations. Truckers have been known to drive out of their way to bring these tabs to the Elora Legion where they are cleaned, sorted, weighed and sold. This story of the tabs has been aired and published all over the world. People have started to collect in Britain, Alaska, California and all points in between. Even Japan is now sending shipments over to this worthwhile cause.

Lion Jan Ho of **Cambridge Highlands Lions Club** leads this project starting with members collecting pop cans. Tabs are removed and gathered separately. **Lions Len Hallman** and **Isabelle Langley** spend many hours in their back yard and shed doing this process with other volunteer members. The cans are recycled and sold as scrap.

Thanks to everyone involved, all this hard work pays off to make a wheelchair recipient happy.



Lions Len Hallman, Marg de Boer, Isabelle Langley with pop can tabs.

Lucan and District Lions Fish Fry

Many organizations benefitted from the Lucan and District Lions Fish Fry held every February. A total of \$12,000.00 was divided equally between S.A.R.I (a riding stable for disabled children), VON and the Canadian Diabetes Association.



Pictured are Lions Gary McFalls, Lion President Ken Curtis and Lion Brad Weber presenting the cheques.

*Submitted by
Lion Marilyn Madacsi*

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Lions Clubs International 2014 Convention Host Committee

The 2014 International Convention Host Committee is currently seeking applications from the Lions of MD "A" to serve as a Committee Chair on the Host Committee in one of the following capacities to take effect as of September 2010.

Treasurer-Finance Committee: With Fundraising Chair. Souvenir & Pin Sales, Reporting Directly to the Host Committee Chair.

Secretary: Minutes of Committee Meetings, Committee Chair Communications, General Secretarial duties reporting directly to the Host Committee Chair.

Vice Chair (4 positions): Vice Committee Chairs to work with and oversee various Committees and their functions, reporting directly to the Host Committee Chair.

Promotion & Publicity Committee Chair: In co-operation with Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Manpower Committee Chair: Key Areas. Sergeant-at-Arms, Manpower Communications & Website, Crisis Management.

The following Committee Chairs will be open for applications in the coming months as and when the committees become scheduled.

Parade Committee Chair: Bands, Judges, Snacks & Refreshments, Band Housing, Floats, Parade Volunteers.

Transportation & Hospitality Chair: Transportation for the International Family, Interpreters, Greeters, Host Night, City Hospitality, Host Office & Booth, Shuttles from Pearson International Airport, Shuttle Bus schedules.

DGE Seminar Committee: Registration & Gift Distribution, Classroom set-up, DGE Shuttle, DGE Opening Ceremony, DGE Hall Monitors & Runners.

Applicants for the above committee chairs will be supplied with a more comprehensive and detailed description of the responsibilities for the Committee Chair of their choice upon receipt of their application. These positions are open to the Lions from all Districts of MD "A" and applications should be sent to the Host Committee Chair, PDG Carl Young at: Carl.Young@ocj-cjo.ca

or mail to : PDG Carl Young, 73 Westview Drive, The Glen, RR#1, Omeme, Ontario K0L 2W0

Lions/CNE Peewee Baseball Tournament

by Lion Wayne Hoey

We had a very successful Lions/CNE Peewee Baseball Tournament this year.

Thanks to the clubs in **District A-711** for making donations to the tournament of \$5,500 and the fact that our snack bar at the game brought in \$4,000, we were able to make a donation to the CNE of \$9,500.00.

We had a lot of hard-working Lions involved in this project, especially **Lion Bill Dicks** who chaired this project and **Lion Ray Charbonneau** who did a marvellous job of getting the volunteers together to run the booth.

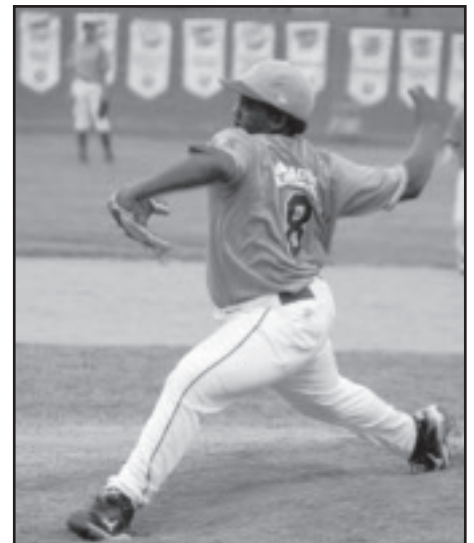
Again the CNE were very appreciative of the Lions efforts and they gave us great publicity as being their main sponsor of the tournament. We have Lions signs up everywhere, and our logo was in the program that was handed out to the over 1 million visitors.

The teams this year were from Ajax, Aurora, Barrie, Brampton, Burlington, Clarington, Georgetown, Mississauga, New Market, Niagara Falls, Oakville, Richmond Hill, St. Catharines, Thorold, Uxbridge, Whitby, Vaughan, and Toronto. There were 32 teams altogether. The final game saw the Brampton Royals vs. West Toronto Wildcats. It was a great game with a final score of Royals 12 Wildcats 7.

The baseball tournament is the most prestigious and oldest event of its kind in the province for kids 12 and 13 years old.

Next year will be the 55th year of the tournament. It is not too early to start thinking about the 2011 Lion/CNE Peewee Baseball Tournament, and since this will be our 15th year being involved, I would like to ask all clubs to consider now, if they would like to donate money towards this worthwhile endeavour. Also please consider donating your time to work the snack bar.

This is a high profile project that the Lions from all around MD "A" can be proud of.



Lions on Location

Australia – Helping Themselves While Helping Others

Lions in Australia are recycling glasses while rehabilitating lives.

Lions Recycle for Sight in Redcliffe, Queensland, uses a staff of 50 who are mostly women from two correctional facilities. The recycling center gives the gift of vision for people in developing nations in Africa as well as Fiji and Vanuatu. The staff at the recycling center receive a “work ethic, skills and societal norms,” said **Kenneth Leonard**, chairman and CEO of Lions Recycle for Sight Australia.

The recycling center annually collects 300,000 eyeglasses and 50,000 sunglasses from 1,000 locations in Australia. Japan collects another 100,000 eyeglasses annually for the center, and Hong Kong Lions also contribute eyeglasses to the center.



Earlier this year, Lions Recycle for Sight in Australia packed 300,000 eyeglasses and sunglasses in Lions Christmas Cake boxes for delivery to developing nations. Each box holds 250 eyeglasses.

Latin America – Doing What’s Needed When Needed

Lions in Latin America have been busy feeding the hungry, providing healthcare and helping disaster victims. The **Arequipa Armonia Lions** in Peru display the solar ovens that need only sunlight to cook food. Lions taught villagers how to build the ovens. **San Borja Lions** conduct a health campaign in Pucusana for people with limited access to medical professionals. **Chame Lions** in Panama distribute school supplies to needy students. **Pena Blanca Lions** in Chile pass out bedding to victims of an earthquake.



The Arequipa Armonia Lions in Peru display the solar ovens that need only sunlight to cook food.



San Borja Lions conduct a health campaign in Pucusana for people with limited access to medical professionals.



Chame Lions in Panama distribute school supplies to needy students.



Pena Blanca Lions in Chile pass out bedding to victims of an earthquake.

Nepal – School is a Lifesaver

Several of the 50 female students at the boarding school in Odari, Nepal, clamber out of bed at 5 a.m. to fix breakfast with the school’s cook. The rest of the girls awake one hour later to tidy their rooms, strengthen their hands and wrists through exercises, do yoga and then attend hours of sewing classes as well as instruction in English.

It’s a long, tiring day but the students welcome the rigor. “This is like paradise,” says Puja. “We are able to learn so much here.”

The skills they learn could save them from a life of prostitution or, at least, destitution. **Lions in Sweden** founded the school in 2007 after Lions visiting Nepal realized that girls without education often faced a bleak future.

“The goal was not to change the country, but to educate the children and give the next generation a chance to develop their country,” says **Lion Claes Lofstedt**, 64, a tour leader for a travel company. He

first visited Nepal in the early 1990s and shortly thereafter began collecting funds to help promising youths in Nepal receive an education.

The Lions’ school in Odari has trained 700 students from ages 4 to 16 and many now work as seamstresses or in other jobs. Being educated also raises their status and enhances their marriage prospects, says Lofstedt.



Tara learns sewing.

The **Huskvarna Lions Club**, Lofstedt’s club, spurred the school project, and **District 101 SV** joined in. LCIF also contributed \$75,000, and individual Swedes pay the US\$40 monthly boarding cost for each student.

Most of the girls come from desperately poor homes; the nutrition they receive at school is far superior to what they would get at home. Since the school has limited space, girls who can make it home within one hour on bike borrow a school bike and commute.



Students and teacher talk in the schoolyard.

“The school is a miracle,” says **Bo Sigebäck** a Lions adviser to the school. Besides an education, the girls “also get increased self-confidence and they develop female empowerment,” he adds. The school’s other Lions adviser is **Anette Axelsson**, who had made the

crucial trip to Nepal several years ago with Lofstedt when the idea to open a school was hatched.

The Swedish Lions say they want to do much more. They are looking into providing training on operating machinery. Girls also have dire personal needs. Sigeback met a girl named Basanta in Odari who was born with her feet upside down; her toes face inwards. "To walk barefoot and keep her balance on the slippery snow was hard and cold," he says. "We have promised her a visit to the doctor."

Nigeria – Water and Smiles

The 2,000 residents of Ogijo in Nigeria risked their health using a stream for drinking water. So nearby **Sagamu Metropolitan Lions** sank a borehole equipped with an overhead tank and power generator. "It's disheartening to see people suffer from water of all things," said **Moshood Olugbani**, 404 A district governor in 2009-10. "What we do as Lions is to put smiles on the faces of people."



Sagamu Metropolitan Lions sank a borehole equipped with an overhead tank and power generator to supply water to residents of Ogijo in Nigeria

Lucan and District Lions

Present the Ivey Clinic with a cheque for \$50,000



Presenting the cheque are from left to right: Lion Larry Hotson, Lion Gary McFalls, Lion President Ken Curtis, chairman Jef Macoun, Dr. Tom Sheidow, both from the Ivey Clinic in London, Lion Bruce Lamb, Lion John Wayne Carol and Lion Pete Mastorakos.

*Submitted by
Lion Marilyn Madacsi*

**Whitestone-McKellar
Lions Club Annual
Bike Rodeo**

Continuing with their mandate of initiating services which benefit families in the communities of McKellar and Whitestone the Whitestone-McKellar Lions Club, formerly known as the Dunchurch Lions Club, with the cooperation of the OPP and Principal Don Campbell and staff of Whitestone Elementary School, held their Annual School Children's Bike Rodeo at the Dun-Dome in Dunchurch on Tuesday May 25th. Children from Grades 1-6 took part with trophies for the top four in each of four divisions. There was a hot dog and juice lunch for all the school including teachers and staff.

Constable Barry Hubbert assisted the Lions and was the emcee for the trophy presentations.



Pictured are the young recipients of the 2010 Bike Rodeo trophies. Back row, left to right are Lions Director Ron Quick, Constable Barry Hubbert and Lions Director T. Stanley. At the time of the photo-taking Lions Club President Charles MacDermid was BBQing for contestants, their school friends, teachers and staff.

Cobourg Lions Club

Saturday, October 16th, 2010, Art and Yvonne Seymour, in partnership with the Cobourg Lions Club, organized a traditional Newfoundland "Jiggs" Dinner and Dance. Attended by close to 100 people, this event – featuring a boiled corn beef dinner and music by The Unrehearsed – raised over \$1,200 in support of St. John's Ambulance, Northumberland

Branch and the Lions and Lioness Chemotherapy Department at Northumberland Hills Hospital. Presentations were recently made to each of these community organizations.

Submitted by Lion Wilma Bush



President of the Cobourg Lions Club, Marg Grundy (left) and Art and Yvonne Seymour (right) present Shane Maclean, Board Chair of the St. John's Ambulance, Northumberland Branch, with a donation.



Art and Yvonne Seymour and Marg Grundy, President of the Cobourg Lions Club, present Registered Nurse Whitney Lake (far right) with a cheque in support of the Chemotherapy Clinic at Northumberland Hills Hospital.

Renfrew Lions Club

Here is a picture of **Lion Ruben Raymond** attending the refreshment table sponsored by our club for the Terry Fox runners in Renfrew Lions Club for the 2010 Terry Fox Fund Raiser.

Submitted by Lion Bill Guyea



Annual Citizen of the Year Named for 2010

This citizen is nominated by the public and is announced at the annual Spaghetti Dinner/Silent Auction held by the **Coboconk & District Lions Club**. **Lion Barb Tomlinson**, Chairperson presents this year's award to Past Pres. **Lion Pauline Barber** in recognition of her dedication and service to various groups in the community.



Submitted by Lion Don McGovern

A3 - Wellington and District Lions Club

Wellington and District Lions Club ran their 4th Annual Dragon Boat Races in 2010 as a fund raiser. This has grown to 16 teams comprised of 352 competitors. Teams across Ontario competed from as far away as North Bay. There were six local community teams, five Breast Cancer teams and five Dragon Boat Club teams. Over \$10,000 was raised with net profit of \$6,652. The Club created and now sponsor a Dragon Boat Club known as the Wellington Lions "Top Dawgs" with membership of 36. The Club races in other

communities and has a qualified coaching staff. The youngest member of the Club is 15 years and the eldest late 60's. Five Breast Cancer Survivor Teams were invited from across Ontario. A carnation ceremony was held on race day in memory of those losing life to breast cancer, which raised the profile of the disease, was well attended and reported by various press members.

Picture below: "We Are Off - Wellington Lions Top Dawgs"



Lions Life Membership

Family and friends joined the **Exeter Lions Club** at the Ritz Villa, in Mitchell on September 12/10 to present **Lion Howard Hodge** with his Life Membership Award. Howard joined the **Ripley Lions** in 1972 and transferred to Exeter Lions in 1992. Howard has always been a very active, dedicated and proud member of the Lions Organization and his community involvement.



Left to right 1st Vice Bruce Hodge, Zone Chair Paul Anstett, Howard Hodge, President Paul Scott

Car Draw for a 1955 T'Bird Convertible

Tickets on a 55 T'Bird are being sold by **Cobourg Lions Club** with two early bird draws and the draw for the car is July 1, 2011. Club members have attended fairs and car shows to promote their major fundraiser this year.

Photo was taken at the September 18 Stouffville Auto Show.

Q - Ad on IFC says July 3.

Which is correct?



Submitted by Lion Wilma Bush

Keene Lions Club recently donated funds to help Keene Fire Department acquire a new six-wheeled ATV for very much improved accessibility to emergency sites. The ATV can also pull a trailer with a Zodiac type dinghy for water emergencies. A recent rescue was successful because, otherwise, the hypothermic victim would likely have lost his life.

Fire Chief Ted Bran, First Vice Lion Ivan Clark, President Lion Peter Armour and Fireman Jason Condon.

Submitted by Lion Wilma Bush



The Story of a Perimeter

by Liam Brennan

Here is a wonderful story about how several Lions and two Lions Clubs, One in Calgary, Alberta and One in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario that worked together, to make a difference, in a small town in Africa.

This is a story about a donated piece of equipment that traveled 19,000 kilometers, around the world to Tanzania Africa.

It is about two Lions Clubs, thousands of miles apart that raised enough money to get this expensive instrument packaged and shipped to a new home, safely!

It is a story about four total strangers in different parts of the world that have a connection to each other only in that they belong to their local Lions Club and because of that connection made a difference in the world.

It is a story of the generosity of an Optometrist, in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, **Dr Aceti** who has a big heart and understands the difficulties his peers have in impoverished countries.

The story begins with one Lion, **Lion Rob Scott** of the **Sault Lions**. Dr Aceti a local optometrist knew Lion Rob was a Lion and asked him if he knew of anyone that could use a machine that he was about to replace. Lion Rob said, later in an interview that this was a wonderful opportunity that he was not going to let go of. He asked Dr. Aceti not to give it away until he got back to him.

The particular piece of equipment was a machine called a Perimeter. If you have ever had your eyes tested you know exactly what this machine does. It measure's a person's peripheral vision. That is the ability to see out the corner of your eyes. It is also a primary indicator of Glaucoma, as the side of the eyes is where that disease is first detected.

Lion Rob asked **Lion Andy McRae**, the District A-5 Treasurer, at that time, if he knew of anyone that could use it. The very resourceful Lion Andy said he would do some research to find out if any Lions Clubs knew of anyone that could put it to use. He made a couple of calls and found **Lion Bernie Gribbon** from the Canadian Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center In Calgary Alberta.

Lion Bernie said he would ask his contacts and see if there was anywhere he could place this unique machine. After making several inquiries he found **Lion Mike Rochefort** of the Canada Vision Care Center who also distributes the used eyeglasses for Lion Bernie's Eyeglass Recycling program.

Lion Mike of Canada Vision Care said he would check his contacts to see where it could be used. He then made several phone calls and found **Lion Shabbir Kapasi** OD in Dar Es Sallem, Tanzania, Africa.

You cannot believe the joy that this Lion, who is also an optometrist, expressed in the opportunity in being able to get this equipment. He pleaded with Lion Mike not to trade this off with anyone else until he could figure a way to raise funds to get it to Tanzania Africa.

Are you following this so far? And here the story gets even better.

Another phone call to Lion Andy and the Sault Lions were all over raising the money to securely package the machine and ship it to Calgary. They convinced **Soo Van and Storage** a local transport company and their partner company, **Allied Van Lines** to supply **free** of charge transportation to Calgary Alberta.

Here is some blatant advertising! If you ever get a chance to use Allied Van Lines mention this story to them. And thank them for their help.

Lion Mike was ecstatic to receive such a wonderful instrument. He checked it from top to bottom and repackaged it for transport to Tanzania.

Lion Mike then realized he would need some major funding to pay for the transporting half way around the world. He approached the **Eye Opener Lions Club of Calgary** to see if they could help. Without hesitation they rose to the charge and raised more than enough money to ship the machine safely.

Another phone call to Lion Shabbir to tell him the equipment was on the way and that the Canadian Lions raised the shipping costs! This brought Lion Shabbir to tears and in a very emotional way he asked Lion Mike to thank all the Lions that helped.

From the initial inquiries in early September 2009 to its final destination, it took less than six months, that is when the machine arrived safely in Tanzania. And by mid March it was being put to good use!

Lion Shabbir reported that before he could use it he had the machine TFDA approved, that is similar to the CSA standards in Canada, and he had to up-grade to the 220 voltage used in Tanzania. The total cost to him was around \$500 and took less than three weeks. He said that since it was put to work the area Doctors and hospitals have recommended patients to him for diagnostics and Lion Shabbir estimates that thousands of eyes will be saved because of the generosity of the Canadian Lions and Dr. Aceti.

This all happened because one Lion in a small town asked one question of another Lion, and virtually a million Lions worldwide were mobilized to get an end result. And because of this thousands of people in a village in Tanzania Africa will have better eye care! Imagine that!

Lion Andy McRae reported "It was great being just one of the links in the chain in making this project possible. The thank you e-mail that we received from the Doctor in Tanzania and his patients were great as it also included pictures of those that it is helping.

I find that many times as Lions we do not get to see who we help as we just do our administrative type jobs and it was fantastic to see those people that were helped by this most generous donation from Dr. Aceti. Projects like this show the power of The Lions worldwide organization."

Lion Rob also added, "This is not the first time

Dr. Aceti has sent equipment over seas. A previous donated piece of equipment form Dr. Aceti is also in use at an eye clinic in Jamaica."

I asked Lion Shabbir, in my interview with him what would he like to say to the Canadian Lions that put this effort together. This is his reply;

"A big thank you is due to Dr. Peter Aceti, the donor of perimeter machine, CVC (Canadian Vision Care) members and Lions Club (of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario and Calgary Alberta) for contribution in transportation cost (and procurement of this instrument). I hope they will continue to help people of Africa in future. No thank you would be enough for Mr. (Lion) Mike Rochefort (& Lion Rob Scott & all the Lions) for their great generosity, for (their) hard work, for (their) personal time and energy spent, to help poor and needy people of Africa always, from going blind. All my patients pray for (all their) good health and prosperity. These patients know the perimeter machine by name "Machine from Canada".

In the end, five Lions know the parts they played in this extraordinary story of the Perimeter Machine, and not one of them asked that this story be told or even thought it was that big enough of a story to be told as all of them thought "This is what we do as Lions every day! What so special!"

It is actions like this that makes most of us "proud to be Lion's"!



Sisters praying to Almighty Lord for good health and prosperity of all the members of Canadian Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centre, Canadian Vision Care members, and in Sault Ste. Marie LC Ontario Canada prayers held in my office.



A sister from Mother Theresa's Missionary of Charities home, undergoing visual field tests.

In all 13 sisters from mother Theresa home were screened free of charge, made possible by big hearted donors from Canada! No words are enough to thank you Bernie & Mike.

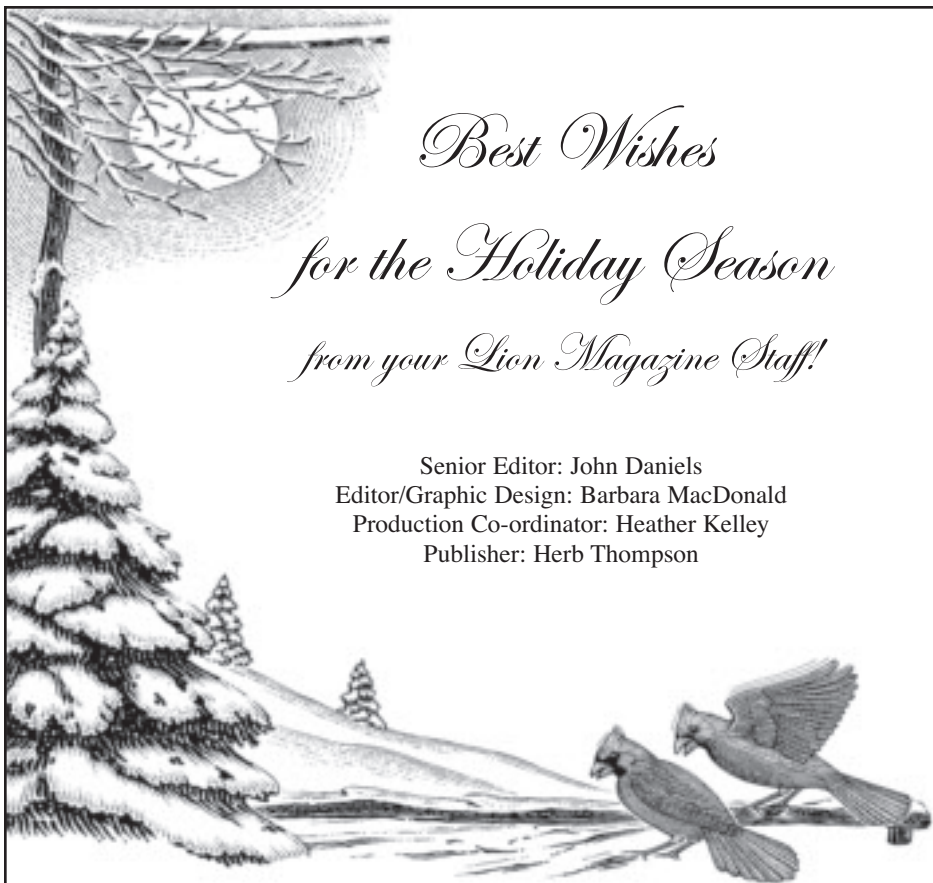
Kind regards, Dr. Shabbir Kapasi, Tanzania



A patient sitting at the Perimeter Machine



A Doctor conducting a visual test



*Best Wishes
for the Holiday Season
from your Lion Magazine Staff!*

Senior Editor: John Daniels
Editor/Graphic Design: Barbara MacDonald
Production Co-ordinator: Heather Kelley
Publisher: Herb Thompson

Children's Wish Story

Lioness Carol Buss was Lioness President for A-16 last year.

Her project, as you can see, was Children's Wish. She raised \$15,100.00 which was presented to Susan Remmer, Resource Development Manager at a recent meeting. Just a few days later, Lioness Carol received this letter telling what the money was going to be spent on and for whom.

Dear Carol & Eric,

I had a lovely time last night. Thank you for having me as your guest once again and for the generous contributions of the Lioness and Lions.

I am very happy to share some information about the wish you will be granting.

17 year old Zoe was diagnosed in 1992 with epilepsy, right-sided hemiplegia and hemianopsia (right-sided field vision loss). She has a brain lesion that is calcified, so her status is unpredictable. She experiences episodes of prolonged and severe seizures followed by increasing right-sided weakness and disability. She has been hospitalized multiple times and is followed by the Acquired Brain Injury intervention, neurorehabilitation and community physiotherapy. With each episode, she is left with increasing problems.

Even though she and her family live in fear as she faces the unknown every day she has learned how to make the most of life. In her spare time she swims and skis and has qualified for the Special Olympics.

It is only natural that a young lady who loves giraffes and all wild life would be very excited about her upcoming wish trip on October 9th – to Africa, for a magical African Safari with her 12 year old sister and parents to see Giraffes up close. I spoke with her mom this morning and she is excited that you would sponsor Zoe's wish and has agreed to send me some photos of the trip when she gets back. Perhaps you could pass them around at a meeting once I get them to you.

If you have any questions please give me a call. I look forward to speaking with you in the future and wish this year's charity of choice as much success as we at Children's Wish has benefitted through the efforts of the Lioness. Jennifer Ashleigh is also a very worthy cause.

With Every Best Wish,

Susan Remmer, Resource Development Manager
The Children's Wish Foundation of Canada,
Ontario Chapter

What is Courage?

Courage is taking your first step.
 Courage is swimming in a lake for the first time.
 Courage is getting a two wheel bike.
 Courage is going to your first day of grade one.
 Courage is doing your first big test.
 Courage is doing E Q A O *Education Quality Accountability Office Test*.
 Courage is being in a race.
 Courage is starting middle school.
 Courage is going into a national race.
 Courage is going into high school.
 Courage is running a race in university.
 Courage is getting your first job.
 Courage is running your own business.
 Courage is proposing.
 Courage is having kids.
 Courage is taking your kids to kindergarten.
 Courage is getting a big big job.
 Courage is making a speech for work.
 Courage is refereeing.
 Courage is entering the seniors Lions Club.
 Courage is going to a funeral.
 Courage is becoming President of the Lions Club.
 Courage is running in a marathon – A marathon of hope.

Written by 8 year old Grayden Gamble for his Grandfather, PDG Lion Don Gamble (after he had a heart attack in September).

Port Stanley Lions and Lioness Clubs

On June 5, 2010 the Port Stanley Lions and Lioness Clubs, in conjunction with our corporate sponsor, Shoppers Drug Mart stores in Aylmer and St. Thomas hosted our first annual Marr Family Golf Tournament. One of the first golfers on the course was the President of the Port Stanley Lions Club, **Lion Dave Marr** whose family once farmed the land which is now Kettle Creek Golf Club. 148 golfers enjoyed a fun day of BBQ lunch, Martin/Lampman golf demonstration, 18 holes of golf and a fish fry dinner. From the profits that day, a donation of \$10,000.00 was made to the St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital for the purchase of 2 Surgical Telescopes.

*Submitted by Lion Bob Nemett,
Port Stanley Lions Club*



Cheque presentation to the St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital.

Trent Campus Lions Club

Trent Campus Lions Club Charter Night was held November 13, 2010 with induction by PID **Lion Gil Constantini** at Peterborough Lions Community Centre. The Charter was actually signed May 13, 2010.



Submitted by Lion Wilma Bush

Napanee Lions Club

Napanee Lions held a Tag Day November 13 at Wal-Mart and collected \$400.

Shown are Lions Eileen Huart, Bill Huart, Norma Snider, Ray Snider and John Grose. (Missing Lions Elsie Dowdle and Jim Tucker)



Submitted by Lion Wilma Bush

Register for the 2011 MD"A" Convention in Ottawa

Join us for "A Capital Experience" **May 26, 27,28, 29, 2011**
Hampton Inn Conference Centre

**Convention events will include
Workshops, Banquets, Entertainment, Training, Pin traders, Exhibitors**

*Come meet some old friends and make some new ones.
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*Visit "The Mint", Visit the War Museum, Visit the Museum of Civilization,
Visit the Byward Market, Visit the Governor General's Residence.
Take a tour of parliament. Stroll through friendly neighbourhoods such as
downtown, Byward Market, Little Italy, Somerset Chinatown, Manotick,
and Rockcliffe, to name a few ...*

**Stop - Look - and Listen
and make it**

"A Capital Experience"

See pages 19 and 20 to register.



Multiple District "A" Capital Experience 2011

District A-4 Host Committee

Registration & Function Ticket Purchase Form



May 26th, 27th, 28th & 29th, 2011

Hampton Inn and Convention Centre

100 Coventry Road, Ottawa, ON K1K 4S3 Tel. 613.741.2300

All persons attending the convention must be registered (including guests and exhibitors) to participate in any portion of the convention including meetings, seminars, luncheons and International Banquet.

Complete names exactly as you would like them to appear on your name badge (Name & Club will be printed on badge)

Person A District: _____ Club: _____

Name: _____ Lion Lioness Lionette Spouse/Partner Leo

Address: _____ Pin Trader/Exhibitor

City: _____ Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ - _____ Email: _____

District/International Office (If wanted printed on name badge) _____ Past Present

Person B District: _____ Club: _____

Name: _____ Lion Lioness Lionette Spouse/Partner Leo

Address: _____ Pin Trader/Exhibitor

City: _____ Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ - _____ Email: _____

District/International Office (If wanted printed on name badge) _____ Past Present

Hotels: Please indicate 1st and 2nd hotel choice:

- Hampton Inn and Conference Centre (MD "A" Headquarters hotel) (613) 741-2300 \$134 + applicable taxes per night
- Chimo Hotel, 1199 Joseph Cyr Street, Ottawa (613) 744-1060 \$125 + applicable taxes per night

- Room Preference: 1 bed 2 beds Handicapped **All rooms non-smoking**
- Date of Arrival _____ Date of Departure _____

Note: Booking for these hotels must be done through the Convention Committee. One night fee (without tax) must accompany registration. Book early to ensure room availability.

Please advise if you have dietary, accessibility or other special needs and/or if bringing a dog guide:

Information: Please register early to ensure availability of event tickets. All cancellations must be in writing by mail or e-mail & acknowledged.
Registration cancellations received after April 30, 2011 will be subject to a \$10 handling fee.
No refunds for meal events after April 30, 2011. Substitutions/transfers for registration and meals will be accepted.

For Convention Information: Convention Chair Lion Gus Este, PDG Email: jusgus@rogers.com Tel: 613-825-1168
 Convention Vice Chair Lion James Doyle Email: jamesddoyle@rogers.com Tel: 613-825-2373



| Payment Information | | | | Comm. Use |
|--|---|-------------------|----|-----------|
| Section 1 | Registration | Total Cost | | √ |
| Person A | Lions \$20 Lioness \$20 Spouse/Partner \$10 Leo/Lionette \$10 | | | |
| | Exhibitors/Pin Traders \$20 Sunday only \$10 | | | |
| Person B | Lions \$20 Lioness \$20 Spouse/Partner \$10 Leo/Lionette \$10 | | | |
| | Exhibitors/Pin Traders \$20 Sunday only \$10 | | | |
| Exhibitor | Table Rental Pin Traders \$25/table Commercial \$50/table # Tables _____ | | | |
| Total Cost Registration & Table Rentals | | | \$ | |

| Section 2 | Function Tickets & Pins <i>(Reserve early to avoid disappointment)</i> | Price | Quantity | Total Cost | √ |
|---|---|-------|----------|------------|---|
| Friday , May 27 | Convention Luncheon | \$22 | | | |
| Friday , May 27 | Cabaret Dinner & Entertainment | \$40 | | | |
| Saturday, May 28 | International Banquet | \$49 | | | |
| | Convention Pin(s) | \$5 | | | |
| Total Cost Function Tickets & Pins | | | | \$ | |

| Section 3 | Hotel | | | √ |
|---------------------------|--|----|--|---|
| Hotel Room Deposit | Hotel accommodations must be booked through the Convention Committee & must be secured by one night deposit (Hampton \$134 or Chimo \$125). This will be credited to your account. | \$ | | |

| | | |
|---|----|--|
| Total Cost Sections 1, 2 and 3 <i>(due & payable as indicated below)</i> | \$ | |
|---|----|--|

Payment Options: Cash Cheque Credit Card: Visa MasterCard Expiry Date: ___/___/___

Name on Card: _____ Number: _____

Make Cheques payable to: Capital Experience Convention
Mail Registration Form(s) & Payment to: Lion Joyce Firlotte 133 Pine Ave., R.R. # 3 Smiths Falls, ON K7A 4S4
Email contact for registration information: capitalexperience@cogeco.ca Telephone 613.283.1170

This section for Committee Use Confirmation sent Badge A B



Multiple District "A" 2014 Host Convention Fundraiser



To: All Members of the Lions Family,

The 2014 International Convention was granted to the City of Toronto and the Lions of Multiple District "A" are the hosts of this event. The Council of Governors has appointed International Director Carl Young as chairperson.

We, the Lions of MD "A" need to raise at least \$150,000.00 to fund the many and various activities required to present an International Convention. (The actual 2009 Minneapolis Host Committee expenses were \$221,000.00.)

Some of the expenses, which we will incur, are:

- **Host Night Reception**
- **Airport Transportation & Parking**
- **Parade expenses including Bands, Special Music for 1st Int'l Pres., water, snacks and carts**
- **Volunteer Recruiting & Promotion – including Travel, Web Site, Newspaper/printing, Signage, Volunteer hats and Street banners**
- **Hosting Expense – including Signage at Airports and Hotels Gifts (LCI Board), Pins & Bags.**
- **Merchandise Expense – sale Items and MD"A" Host Delegation Shirts and Hats**
- **Information booklet printing**
- **These are just some of the expected operating expense we anticipate to host this amazing event.**

It is our intention to hold a "Share the Wealth" Draw

Along with this correspondence is an order form to purchase your ticket. The cost is \$ 500.00 per ticket. Draw to take place at the 2011 MD "A" Convention next year in Ottawa.

Consider this:

At \$500 per club, with a minimum target of 300 clubs participating would generate \$150,000. The winning club's share would be \$75,000.

Just think of the great work the winning Lions Club could do in and for their community if they won this amount of money!

Because the winning club can use or donate the proceeds of this draw to the project(s) of their choice, the cost of the ticket qualifies to come from the Service or Activities Account.

In addition, because, only Lions Clubs will be purchasing these tickets, no lottery license will be required.

How will the Draw work?

Attached is an order form to enable your club to order your ticket(s). Please complete this order form and forward it to my address along with a cheque payable to Multiple District "A" for \$500.00. Your ticket will be forwarded to you promptly.

We hope that many clubs participate and make this a successful method of raising a portion of the necessary funds.

Thank You,

Stan Durward
Fund Raising Chair

Multiple District "A" 2014 Host Convention Fundraiser "Share the Wealth" Draw Ticket Order Form

Club Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone : Area Code (_____) - _____

Email Address: _____

Return this Order Form with your Club's Cheque in the amount of \$500.00 payable to:

Multiple District "A" – Convention 2014

Return Order Form with Cheque to:

**Stan Durward PDG
2014 International Convention Fund Raising Chairman
Box 38,
Sunderland, ON
LOC 1H0**

**Upon receipt of your remittance, a draw ticket will be forwarded to you.
On behalf of the 2014 Host Committee, Thank you for your participation.
Good Luck**



London Central Lions Help at Special Olympics

The National Special Olympics Summer Games were held in London this past summer and London Central members and wives were there to help with vision testing of the athletes. They assisted in the "Opening Eyes" program; an LCIF funded program which has partnered the Special Olympics in over 80 nations and Lions Clubs International for the last 10 years.

They were part of a group of 35 volunteers, which included optometrists and opticians, who for 3 days did the screening, eye testing and dispensed corrective glasses. 314 athletes were screened and 182 prescription glasses plus 144 sunglasses were provided.

Caterina Rewega, Sports Manager, Special Olympics Canada expressed her gratitude to the Central members that committed their time and effort to the Opening Eyes event.

We dedicated 3 days of our time to receive much more than we gave states **Lion Brian Nicholds** who organized the Club's participation. We were given the opportunity as Lions to interact with such wonderful people rather than just giving a donation. It will long be remembered.

The London Central Club will be celebrating its 90th anniversary this coming June and President **Lion Ed Busko** states that in the 45 years that he has been a member vision care has always been the number one priority with the Club. The Club had recently made a \$50,000 commitment to equip an eye examination suite at The Ivey Eye Institute at St. Joseph's Hospital in London.

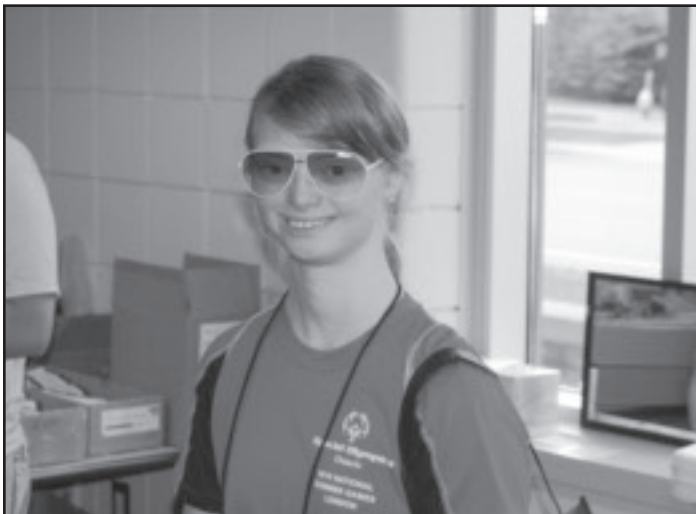
*Submitted by Lion Ed Busko
President, London Central Lions Club*



Lion Ron Lindsay checks depth of field vision of Olympic athlete with team coach and Lion Brian Nicholds and wife Teresa looking on.



Lion Don Hardy does colour vision check of special Olympian.



Very happy athlete from Team Ontario with her new pair of sunglasses.



Olympic athlete being fitted with prescription glasses by volunteer optician.

Black Creek Stevensville Lions Induction Night

At a special ceremonial dinner at the Black Creek Community Center on Oct. 18th 2010, the Black Creek Stevensville Lions Club along with several dignitaries from District A-2 Lions International, inducted 14 new members. The new members are Rory King, Brenda Jarrett, Margaret Agretto, Carole Peischl, Carol-Ann Bourgeois, Lisa Blythin, Sharon Thomas, Wayne King, Doug Jarrett, Robert Agretto, Pete Vidican, Derek Thomas and Debbie Barnes.

Peischl, Carol-Ann Bourgeois, Lisa Blythin, Sharon Thomas, Wayne King, Doug Jarrett, Robert Agretto, Pete Vidican, Derek Thomas and Debbie Barnes.

"This is clearly a landmark event for the Club," stated **Ted Watts**, Membership Chair, "the new members not only strengthen our Club, but places us

on the threshold of increasing our meaningful contribution to the Community."

*Submitted by Lion Craig Robinson
Zone Chair 5 South District A-2*



The new members are (seated left to right) Rory King, Brenda Jarrett, Margaret Agretto, Carole Peischl, Carol-Ann Bourgeois, Lisa Blythin and Sharon Thomas. (standing left to right) Wayne King, Doug Jarrett, Robert Agretto, Pete Vidican, Derek Thomas and Debbie Barnes. (absent from the photo is Nuala Durkin)

Schumacher Lions Club

Melvin Jones Fellowship award



Lion President Mark West (right) presenting the Melvin Jones Fellowship award to Lion Joe Ferrari (left) of the Schumacher Lions Club



Lion President Mark West (right) presenting Lion Joe with the Melvin Jones badge to sew onto to his Lion Convention Jacket

New Inductee



Lion Oliver Laurila (left) conducting the induction ceremony with Lion Steve Ferrari the sponsor (middle) and our new member, Lion Mario Dagenais (right)

*Submitted by Lion Mark West
President Schumacher Lions Club*

Coldwater Lions Club Honours 4H Sheep Club Grads

For the third year on November 22, 2010 the Coldwater Lions Club invited the Coldwater and Area 4H Sheep Club members to hold their graduation ceremony at the Coldwater United Church. On this day, the final November Lions Club dinner meeting, approximately 60 parents, sheep club members, and Lions Members were treated to a delicious roast beef dinner followed by multiple servings of dessert.

The Sheep Club members, who range in age from 10 to 16 years, were recognized for a year of accomplishments by the presentation of various

awards from the **4H organization**. As a result of attending and demonstrating their sheep handling skills at the Coldwater Fall Fair, the Ramona Fall Fair, the Coldwater Museum Heritage Day and the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, the club members garnered more awards.

The members also participated in various in-club activities that taught them life skills that they would use for many years.

For the past 20 plus years the stability and organization of the Sheep Club has been provided by **Herb and Helen Black** who made the resources of their

farm available to the Sheep Club members.

The Coldwater Lions Club decided it was time to recognize Herb and Helen Black for their many years of dedication to the youth of the Coldwater area and arranged for an evening of fine dining.

Lions Clubs worldwide are dedicated to helping the youth of today become the future world leaders of tomorrow.

*Submitted by Lion Doug Binns
Coldwater Lions Club*



Coldwater and Area 4H Sheep Club members



Herb and Helen Black

MDA Directory Information

Council of Governor's Meeting Dates

- Council Meeting: March 5, 2011 – Markham, ON
- Council Meeting: May 26-29, 2011 – Ottawa, ON

District Conventions

| Dist | Location | Date |
|------|---|----------------------|
| A1 | London, Four Points Sheraton | April 8-10, 2011 |
| A2 | St. Catherines, Quality Inn Parkway Hotel | March 25-27, 2011 |
| A3 | Kingston, Ambassador | April 15-17, 2011 |
| A4 | Ottawa, Hampton Court Inn & Conference Centre | April 15-17, 2011 |
| A5 | Sudbury, Holiday Inn | Apr 15-17, 2011 |
| A711 | Mississauga, Delta Meadowvale Convention Centre | Apr 15-17, 2011 |
| A9 | Palmerston | Apr 29-May 1, 2011 |
| A12 | Gravenhurst, Taboo Resort | April 15-17, 2011 |
| A15 | Elmira, Elmira Lions Hall | May 6-8, 2011 |
| A16 | Haliburton, Pinestone Resort | April 29-May 1, 2011 |

IMPORTANT DATES

MDA Convention

| | | |
|---------|---------------|-----------------------|
| 2010/11 | Ottawa | May 26 - 29, 2011 |
| 2011/12 | Niagara Falls | May 31 - June 3, 2012 |

International Conventions

| | | |
|------|------------------|--------------------|
| 94th | Seattle, WA | July 4 - 8, 2011 |
| 95th | Bosan, Korea | June 22 - 26, 2012 |
| 96th | Hamburg, Germany | July 5 - 9, 2013 |
| 97th | Toronto, Canada | July 4 - 8, 2014 |
| 98th | Honolulu, Hawaii | June 26 - 30, 2015 |

USA - Canada Forum

| | |
|------------|-------------------|
| Sept. 2011 | Anchorage, Alaska |
| Sept. 2012 | Tampa Bay, FL |
| Sept. 2013 | TBD |





Lions Clubs Insurance Products

- * Club Property & Paraphernalia
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20 Project Ideas for Relieving Hunger

(Reprinted from October 2010 issue)

1. Sponsor a community food drive to replenish a local food pantry.
2. Volunteer to deliver prepared meals to elderly citizens.
3. Organize a feeding program at a local school to provide healthy, nutritious meals.
4. Prepare and deliver food baskets to families in need.
5. Serve meals at a soup kitchen or homeless shelter.
6. "Adopt" a family struggling to put food on the table. Take them shopping for fruits and vegetables.
7. Organize an event to benefit the food bank in your community; use cans of food as admission.
8. Sponsor a hunger walk and use proceeds to buy food for an orphanage or shelter.
9. Create snack packages to be distributed to children in need.
10. Collaborate with other area service organizations to take turns hosting a meal for people in need.
11. Partner with local restaurants or food markets. Pick up donations of fresh food items for a women's or children's shelter.
12. Create a cookbook of inexpensive, easy-to-make recipes.
13. Start a food cooperative to serve as a resource for healthy food at a more affordable price.
14. Help plant a community garden so local residents can harvest their own food supply.
15. Collect infant formula and baby food for an organization serving young mothers at risk.
16. Provide a healthy snack or meal for a group of needy children who are in an after-school program.
17. Work with healthcare professionals to provide free classes on nutrition and food preparation.
18. Provide apples or another type of fruit as a healthy snack for children in childcare facilities.
19. Provide transportation for elderly residents so they can shop for groceries.
20. Teach children to bake a loaf of bread that they can take home to their families.



Tips for Cultivating Volunteers

(Reprinted from October 2010 issue)

Annual events can stress a club with huge demands for volunteer help to pull it off for yet another year. How do you avoid burnout and encourage volunteers to come back for another year?

Al Lee, a longtime volunteer at Elburn Days, says a key to success is providing special perks for the hard-working volunteers. At the main festival location, volunteers eat and drink for free in a private hospitality room. Strong leadership is essential as well, so the volunteers clearly know what they are expected to do. "You need a strong, intelligent leader who is fair," says Lee. "You can't have a figurehead and hope that the event pulls itself off."

Recruitment of new volunteers is essential. While a core group of organizers may come back year after year, Lions say bringing in new blood is key to a successful event. **Bill Evers**, 96, of Dunnville, Ontario, has seen volunteers come and

go during the past 40 years he has volunteered at the **Dunville Lions** annual carnival. Evers says Lions shouldn't be shy in soliciting help. "All you have to do is ask," says Evers. "That's the way you have to do it."

Many of the Lions festivals include help from other organizations. Some Lions tap nonprofit groups that will benefit from donations raised at the event. It's a way for Lions to expand their reach and find the staff to help with the myriad jobs that need attention.

At the Peach Festival in Michigan, the Lions pay the local Boy Scouts to help clean up after the masses depart. "They are like ants," says **Gary Schocke** of the **Romeo Lions**. "They do a great job."

Having fun at the event is a sure-fire way to attract volunteers. That's the attitude at the Lions Follies, the satirical show put on each year since 1936 by the **Temple Founder Lions Club in Texas**. "Success breeds success, and people want to be a part of it," says **Lion George White**. "It's a way to help people and have fun too. Even though it takes time and effort, you get that real Lions feeling – we are doing this because the money we raise is going to help a lot of people."

Procedure To Get Your Address Changed

Lions

When you need to change your address or make corrections at the LIONS HQs databases your club secretary can



- 1 Use the WMMR website application or
- 2 By the Monthly Membership Report (snail mail)
- 3 If there are multitude of address changes, your secretary can e-mail them to **stats@lionsclubs.org**

The Lion Magazine can not do this for you as we do not have access to LCI's Data Base

Editor The Lion

MD "A" Lions Resource Centre Website

The "MD'A' Lions Resource Centre" website is available for your use. Its goal is to provide a "one-stop-shopping" website for Lions resources, ideas and tools in all aspects of Lionism, including recruiting new members, keeping the members we already have, revitalizing clubs, fundraising ideas and club and district operations. The MD'A' "Lions Resource Centre" website may be viewed by going to the MD'A' website at www.mdalions.org and clicking on the "Lions Resource Centre" button.

Lion James Johnston,
MD"A" Membership Coordinator 2009-2010
Tel: 613-589-2092,
Email: james.johnston@magma.ca

HOW TO GET INTO THE LION Contact your District Reporter

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

District Reporters

This year we have appointed District Reporters for the Lion Magazine. Their job is to assist the Magazine Editor and you the Lions. Their job is to collect new photos with stories, anything that you would like to submit to the Magazine for consideration. Please be aware anything for the Magazine should now go to the District Reporter in your District as follows:

Please remember when sending your articles to your Reporter to indicate if it is for the Governors District Newsletter of the Lion Magazine.

Lion John Daniels, Editor Lion Magazine

| | | | | | |
|-----------|---------------------|---|-------------|----------------------|---|
| A1 | Lion Shawn Davison | email: shawnd@yahoo.com | A711 | Lion Jean Walcott | email: jeanwal@rogers.com |
| A2 | Lion Bob Townsend | email: bobtownsend@sympatico.ca | A9 | Lion Al Leach PDG | email: adleach@hotmail.com |
| A3 | Lion Wilma Bush | email: wilma.bush@sympatico.ca | A12 | Lion Nick Poulakis | email: nixter@rockinbird.com |
| A4 | Lion Sandra Baldwin | email: slbaldwin@rogers.com | A15 | Lion Tracy Brant | email: branttron@quadro.net |
| A5 | Lion Liam Brennan | email: lembrennan@hotmail.com | A16 | Lion Donald McGovern | email: mcgovern48@hotmail.com |

MOVING SOON?

To ensure that the next MD "A" Lion magazine reaches your new residence, please complete this form and give it to your CLUB SECRETARY

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Print Your Old Address Here:**

(include all code numbers)

New address will be (Please Print):

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

City: _____

Province: _____ PC: _____

Club #: _____ Member #: _____

Club Secretary: _____

Club Secretary: include the information from above in your next MMR Report.

**WE AT THE LION CANNOT CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS,
PLEASE CONTACT YOUR CLUB SECRETARY**

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Lion
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RATES: \$1.50 per word. Minimum 10 words. Boxed ads are \$2.50 extra per ad. Prepayment requested. All copy is set in standard typography. We do not furnish box numbers.

Submit ads to

mdathelionmag@hotmail.com

or mail to

**Lion Classifieds/John Daniels
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You may advertise items for sale, cottages or condos to rent, upcoming events held by your club, etc.



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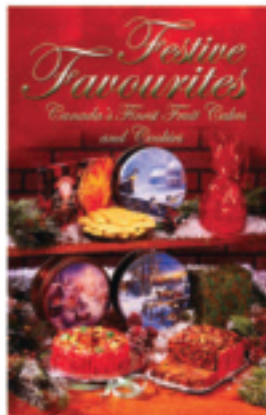
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Lakefield Lions Club



We Serve

Lakefield Lions co-ordinated the 2010 Santa Claus Parade with 40 odd floats and bands. Main street was kept car free allowing hundreds of children and parents to view the parade before children met Santa at the Legion and received candy and drinking boxes.

Submitted by Lion Wilma Bush



Lion Larry Taylor and Lion Eric Bloomfield preparing Santa's sleigh for the parade.



Lion Nancy Lane, Club secretary and Zone Chairperson of 10N, waves from the Lakefield Lions' float.



Santa and one of the children he greeted at the Legion following the parade.

Ariss Lions Jail Grinch – Christmas Saved!



PDG Larry and **Lion Hilda Wainwright** of the **Ariss and District Branch Lions Club** force The Grinch (aka **Lion Chief Brian Kurtz**) into jail before the Guelph Santa Claus Parade November 21. With The Grinch locked up, Christmas was saved. Santa Claus, at right, (aka **Lion Mike Campbell**) was elated and gave the reindeer pulling his sled an extra treat before arriving in Guelph to the cheers of many hundreds of children who lined the parade route.

Santa's crew are shown below left.

*Submitted by Lion Bob Rutter,
Newsletter Editor*



Agreement Number is:
41805020*

