

M.D. "A" Edition
August 2011

THE
Lion



We Serve



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can make a difference!



NEWMARKET LIONS CLUB

80th Charter Anniversary, 1931-2011

Sunday November 6, 2011

Light lunch 12:00 noon - Programme starts at 1:00 pm, Dessert and Coffee following

Guest speaker is:

Judge Brian Stevenson

Past International President, Lions Clubs International

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St Jacobs Lions, Name Melvin Jones Fellow

In recognition of his commitment to serving the world community, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) has named **Lion Murray Aberle** of the St Jacobs Lions Club, a Melvin Jones Fellow.

Lion Murray has been a member of the St Jacobs Lions Club for thirty-five years, served on numerous committees and twice served as Club President. In addition to raising a family and running the family farm he has been involved in a variety of farm related organizations as well as

serving as a Woolwich Councillor and on the Board of Adjustment.

At the recent Club Recognition and Awards Dinner Meeting, **District A15 Governor Todd Wilson** presented Lion Murray with a plaque, a lapel pin and a congratulatory letter from the chair of the board of trustees of Lions Clubs International, acknowledging his dedication to the foundation's humanitarian goals.



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Publisher: Herb Thompson

Production Co-ordinator: Heather Kelley
Editor/Graphic Design: Barbara MacDonald

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The Lions flag flies over the Seattle Space Needle.

THE Lion



We Serve

Welcome to the August 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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POSTMASTERS

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mdathelionmag@hotmail.com

GOVERNORS' COUNCIL 2011-2012

Council Chair

Todd Wilson (Lynda)
4 Raising Mill Gate
Elmira, ON N3B 3K8
519-669-4939
mailto: councilchair@mdalions.org

A1 Steve Mahovlich (Mary)
413 Lillian Lane, S.S. # 1
Belle River, ON NOR 1A0
519-728 9637
mailto: lionssm@windors.igs.net

A2 Bradd Anderson (Carol)
8138 Fatima Court
Niagara Falls, ON L2H 2Y8
905-353-0175
mailto: district.gov@braddanderson.net

A3 Earl Oliver (Carol)
RR #1
Norwood, ON K0L 2V0
705-639-5619
mailto: revilo@bell.net

A4 Joe Gauthier (Shelly)
214 Munroe Street East
Renfrew, ON K7V 3K5
613-432-7212
mailto: lionjoeg@gmail.com

A5 Dennis Young (Gwen)
PO Box 146
Powassan, ON P0H 1Z0
705-724-3034
mailto: youngwendolyn@yahoo.ca

A711 Ilkka Ahola (Sisko)
62 Pearce Drive
Ajax, ON L1T 2P8
905-427-4937
mailto: sisko@aei.ca

A9 Bill Chalmers (Elaine)
457 Jacob Street, PO Box 80
Neustadt, ON N0G 2M0
519-799-5914
mailto: lionbillc@wightman.ca

A12 Jim Corneau & Grace Oliveira
3568 Line Nine RR#2
Bradford, ON L3Z 2A5
905-775-5750
mailto: jimbobcorneau@aol.com

A15 Norma Peterson (Eric)
289 Garafraxa St. E
Fergus, ON N1M 1E2
519-843-2163
mailto: leadtheway@wightman.ca

A16 Larry Bell (Susan)
312 Country Lane, RR#2
Cameron, ON KOM 1G0
705-359-1305
mailto: lbell@lionsa16.com

Secretary Dave Voisey PCC
Treasurer Jack Fisher PZC

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EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President Dr. Wing-Kun Tam, Unit 1901-2, 19/F, Far East Finance Centre, 16 Harcourt Road, Hong Kong, China;

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We Are Family



Wing-Kun Tam
Lions Clubs International
President

It's a great privilege to serve as your international president. But I might not have become president or even become a dedicated Lion if it were not for how my club treated me. I was only 30 years old amid older Lions and I did not even understand

Lions were about service. I joined a Hong Kong club because I was told Lions included the elite. My club president, older and wiser than me, gave me an assignment that made me understand our mission of service. When I realized the happiness I brought to others, I became an enthusiastic Lion.

From my first day as a Lion my club treated me like a family member, caring for me, encouraging me,

doing what was best for me. Our clubs need to treat our members like family. Care for them, nurture them, look out for them. Give them projects they can handle, projects they are interested in. If someone in their family is sick, visit them, bring them food. If a Lion loses their job, try to cheer them up or alert them to job openings or people who may be able to help them.

Our clubs should be like families. The source of our strength in our clubs is the relationships we have with one another. We need to believe in one another and take care of one another like families do. If we do this, we will have no problems with retention. Our clubs will be full of members who are enthusiastic about service.

I encourage you to learn more about me (pages 8-10) and my theme of "I Believe" (pages 4-7). I believe my theme can help Lions serve better and help Lions come together. Besides a family approach and family participation in clubs, we want to focus on Leos, leadership and public relations. We also want to plant

one million trees this year. I believe this is a perfect project for Lions. It's simple: anyone can plant a tree. You don't need to be physically strong or have a green thumb. It's achievable. It's deliverable. It's measurable.

I believe that one person can make a difference. I believe in the power of Lions clubs and districts to improve their communities. I believe we will reach new heights with courage, commitment and action. I believe 2011-12 will be a remarkable year for Lions, and I look forward to planting seeds of success that will flower for future generations of Lions and the people we serve.

Wing-Kun Tam
Lions Clubs International President

LCIF

Lions Quest Builds on Successes

LCIF

by Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt

A senior at Cranford High School in New Jersey, Blake O'Donnell is looking forward to starting college. Like others her age, she faces a slew of educational and social challenges. But perhaps without realizing it, O'Donnell has had special preparation for this time since elementary school, when she began participating in Lions Quest.

"If I didn't have the Lions Quest Program, I wouldn't be who I am now. It has helped me be confident in decision-making with everything. I'm able to make friends better because of it. Without the program, I probably wouldn't be involved with school or activities or organizations," said O'Donnell.

It is because of young people like O'Donnell that Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) decided to expand the youth development program during the past year. Now in its 26th year, Lions Quest has reached 12 million students and 500,000 educators around the world in its mission to build character, develop life skills and contribute to communities.

Thanks to recent efforts of Lions and LCIF leadership, that number will continue to grow—several new countries were welcomed to the Lions Quest family recently, bringing the total to 66 countries. No matter where they live or what circumstances they grow up in, more young people can have a stronger start in life through Lions Quest. This is great news for Lions, who know that helping young people is essential to ensuring a healthier and more hopeful future for all.

Another exciting way that Lions Quest is expanding is through a grant LCIF recently received

from NoVo Foundation. The \$100,000 grant will bring the program to an entire U.S. school district by 2013. Funding will support Lions Quest for a three-year period, providing an opportunity to measure the program's impact.

Anyone involved in Lions Quest has seen that the program changes lives, but this opportunity will allow the Foundation to develop more evidence for what Lions have known for 26 years—that wonderful things happen for students, teachers, families and communities when they take part in Lions Quest.

Is Lions Quest a part of your local school district's programs? If not, this is an opportunity. Lions are essential to getting the word out, building enthusiasm and assisting with bringing the program to schools. Lions recently gathered at two-day trainings in Cyprus and Brazil to help launch and expand the program. Lions Quest seminars will be held at all upcoming forums so Lions can have questions answered and begin or enhance support of the program.

Also, the Foundation developed a new how-to guide for Lions to introduce Lions Quest into their community. Grant funding

through LCIF's Core 4 grant program is available for Lions as well. **Please visit www.lions-quest.org to download a how-to guide, inquire about grant funding or make a donation. Or contact Lions Quest at info@lionsquest.org or (630) 571-5466, ext. 6960 or 6965.**

"I invite all fellow Lions worldwide to work and Lions Quest. The materials are wonderful and not only children have access to them but also families. The response is incredible. We are forming better citizens, regions, cities and countries," said Lion **Maribel Tejera Colina**, a school principal and Lions Quest trainer from Barranquilla, Colombia.



The Philippines is among the countries to begin Lions Quest this year.

**“Don’t just think you can,
BELIEVE you can.”**

– Wing-Kun Tam



As Lions we are all droplets of water that together form the world’s mightiest ocean of service.

The Yellow River is the seventh-longest river in the world, stretching 3,395 miles long. It is often called the cradle of Chinese civilization, serving as the birthplace of northern Chinese civilizations and giving prosperity to millions. And yet, at its source, high in the Bayan Har Mountains, it all begins very humbly with trickles of water. It gains its power and strength as it flows northwest, then northeast, turning southward, and finally east flowing through seven provinces along the way and nourishing over 120 million people.

It’s astonishing that such a mighty force starts out so small.

Lions Clubs International also had a humble beginning. Our founder, Melvin Jones, and a few of his colleagues, were the first beginning droplets of water that today, 94 years later, have changed the world and touched millions of lives.





BELIEVE

Melvin Jones had one quality that made it all possible – he believed. He knew even then the difference between “thinking” and “believing” is a matter of conviction.

To me, believing is different from thinking because it has three other key elements:

- **Courage** • **Commitment** • **ACTION**

Even if you first fail — like the Wright brothers did with their first trial airplanes – a strong belief creates a sense of courage to try things others thought impossible. You then need commitment to try and try again, and to inspire others to follow you. And finally you need to take action, or run the risk of being just an idle dreamer.

It was these qualities that helped Melvin Jones transform an idea from a droplet into a river that could change the world. He created a culture organized around a belief in the value of giving back, and a belief that one person can make a difference. He believed in his idea of creating an organization that would serve people in need; he had the courage to follow through with his idea; he was committed to make the organization a success; and he took the necessary action to bring everything to fruition. Like a mighty river, Melvin Jones believed even in 1917 that we would gain strength with each Lion who joined our ranks – person by person, community to community – serving millions of people along the way.

Today – 94 years after the first drop of water nourished a seed that would grow into a worldwide service organization, Lions Clubs International continues to

flow. Our course has flowed in every direction, and across nearly a century in time. But one thing has remained constant. We Serve.

I believe we are making a difference like no other service organization in the world. I believe in our motto “We Serve.” And I believe in you – the Lions of the world, who make up a network of caring, and a network of service. Together, as a family of unique volunteers, we constitute Lions Clubs International – the global leader in community service.

This year, I am calling on all Lions to embrace a sense of belief of what it truly means to be a Lion – a belief that each individual Lion makes a difference and that, together, we can change the world even more than we have yet imagined.

I have set my vision – driven by my beliefs – on three special goals this year:

Strengthening and retaining our membership by taking care of fellow members as if they were family

Expanding our service to new heights, propelled by a special campaign to plant one million trees

And nurturing our future by involving more young people and Leos in all that we do

Together we will flow onward – a benevolent flood of service to the world.

Wing-Kun Tam
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

**“If you don’t believe what you are doing is right,
how can you INSPIRE others?”**

– Wing-Kun Tam



A SEED hidden in the heart of an apple is an orchard invisible.

– Welsh Proverb

Planting A Million Trees – Do you believe it can be done?

An important part of our extension of service this year will be caring for our environment. My goal this year is to plant a million trees around the world. That's less than one tree for each member. If we can accomplish this goal, it proves once again that we can accomplish anything – just like we did when we exceeded our goal for Campaign SightFirst II – just like we did when we prevented over 1 million cases of river blindness – and just like we are going to do by helping eradicate measles.

It's no secret that trees help the environment, but you may be surprised by all the benefits that planting a tree can provide. Trees are like the lungs of the planet. They breathe in carbon dioxide and breathe out oxygen. They also reduce erosion to save soil, help preserve local water sources, and provide habitat for wildlife living under more and more stress. Simply put, planting trees in your neighborhood really is one of the best things you can do for the local environment.

Any of us can plant a tree. It's a very visible and hands-on way for each and every Lion to make a difference. It's also a great project to invite your community at-large to join your local Lions club in a collaborative effort. If we can plant a million trees, it will reinforce the limitless potential we all know we have to make a difference as Lions. So make tree-planting part of your club or district activities this year, and invite your neighbors, friends and members of the community to join you. What better way to be reminded of our gift of service than to watch the trees you have planted grow year-by-year? After all, seeing is believing!!

Every month throughout the year, we will report the number of trees being planted on the LCI Web site. And to show pride in what we do, special art work for clubs to produce their own "I planted a tree" buttons, and certificates will be available to download from the LCI Web site.



PRESIDENTIAL THEME 2011-2012

Team Tam

New President Urges Clubs to Embrace Members Like Family

by Jay Copp

Wing-Kun Tam leans forward in his upholstered chair at Lions' headquarters in Oak Brook. "In one year I made the three most important decisions in my life," he confides.

Tam speaks softly. His manner is quiet and low-key, masking, of course, a fierce determination.

In July Tam became Lions' 95th international president and its first from China. On his office wall is a poster that reads in Chinese "descendants of the dragon." For Chinese the dragon is a symbol of strength and power, and they praise an accomplished person as a "dragon."

Tam's Chinese background is an integral part of his identity. Hong Kong was where he was schooled, began his international cargo company and raised his family with traditional Chinese values.



Tam cheers up a victim of the earthquake in China's Sichuan Province, a disaster that reinvigorated him as a Lion

But his story is universal, too. His life decisions shaped him and led him to Lions' highest office. His struggles and successes as a family man, business owner and Lion have provided the blueprint for his presidency.

First Decision

Living in Hong Kong with his family, Tam, 16, was a teenage tornado. He attended school and worked three jobs. He even had a job within a job – working in the import department of a company in the morning and the export division at night. His ambition came from his parents, Tam Hoi and Chiu Wai Han. "My father was telling me all time that if your children are not as successful as you are, that means you have failed," said Tam. His mother, too, urged her son to do well in school and make the family proud. "I work very hard;



Tam moved to Hong Kong from China with his family when he was five

my mother is even tougher," said Tam. "She's a very, very tough lady and she always wanted me to be number one."

After his business failed in China, Tam's father had moved his family to Hong Kong in 1955 when Tam was five. Even as a young schoolboy, Tam was able to turn failure and humiliation into motivation. At his new school, confounded by English, he tried reading the alphabet as if it were a single, elongated word. His classmates laughed and his teacher thought he was mocking him. Tam turned back to his studies and diligently learned English.

Tam's young career led him to the cargo industry. Only 20 years old, his company sent him to the United States to learn the business. He spent time in New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco. "Traveling is more important than learning from your books," his father counseled him.

Living in cosmopolitan Hong Kong was conducive to understanding various cultures. Working in the international cargo industry further developed Tam's ability to mix with people from many nations. "You learn to respect people and how they live. It gives you knowledge about dealing with people," he said.

When he turned 30 Tam knew he was ready to make one of the most important decisions of his life. "For me, being a Hong Kong person, we are born with entrepreneurship in our blood. If you really want to make some good money, you to have to start your own business," he said.

Today Tam's transportation company has 200 employees in 20 offices worldwide and its annual revenues are \$200 million. In frail health, his father witnessed his son's growing success. "That's the reason why he smiled at me all the time even when he was sick," said Tam.

Second Decision

"For 15 years Tam comforted his wife, made dinner, took her to the doctors and hospital, told her that someone with her vigor and willpower would not succumb to a pedestrian, commonplace curse such as cancer. Doctors had given Irene a grim diagnosis. She proved them wrong.

Tam and Irene were not a perfect couple. But don't tell that to their three children. "My parents are always the sweetest couple in the world to me. They are always very caring to each other. They understand each other," said Alvin Tam, 26. Said Tiffany Tam, 23, "What I admire most about my dad is his love for my mom." Added Andrew Tam, 18, "They never had a really big quarrel."

Tam was the serious parent, the one who drove them to do their best. Irene was the softer one, the parent who joked and cajoled and served as a soft landing pad when they took a misstep and tumbled off balance. Together they were a team, leading the Tam family to their sports events and ski trips to the

United States and Japan. Once a snowstorm blocked their way to Lake Tahoe and for 10 hours they sat in the car on a lonely road. Tam kept everyone talking to pass the time and divert their attention from their predicament.

Team Tam took root after four years of courtship. "She was very pretty, a very kind heart," said Tam. Irene won his heart by not wanting anything except his love and devotion. "I always tried to offer her the best. Bring her to the best Chinese restaurant, offer her the best food. She told me, 'Oh, I don't need that.' The same thing after we were married," said Tam, who was 31 when they decided to marry.



Tam and Irene enriched each other's lives from the day they met to her last hour

Tam's devotion to his family didn't diminish his attachment to his job or later to the Lions, both of which kept him on the road. Serving as host chairman for the Lions' convention in Hong Kong in 1992 required 25 hours a day. He spent untold hours huddling with Chinese officials and Lions leaders to bring SightFirst to China. Then one day he told Irene the convention might return to Hong Kong in 2005 and he was considering serving as host chair again. Irene fixed her eyes on him. "She said, 'Tam if you leave this home, don't come back.' I knew she was serious. And I left the luggage next to the bed and did nothing."

Irene knew how much Lions meant to him. "After one hour she came back to me and said, 'How about we make a deal?'" Tam agreed not to serve as host chair. He got to take his Lions' trip, flying to Rosario, Brazil, from Hong Kong via Frankfurt. Then he hurried to Los Angeles to meet with the Lions' international president and quickly on to Phoenix, from which he drove 150 miles through the desert to

meet a Lions leader at the only open restaurant – a Wendy’s. Then back to Hong Kong and Irene because a deal is a deal.



Tam’s family celebrates a birthday with his mother

The two worked it out, raising the kids, building a life, planning for the future. The cancer brought them closer. “They didn’t give up on each other,” said Andrew Tam. “They faced it together. I saw the bravery, the bond between them, how they dealt with it.”

Irene’s resolve strengthened Tam and changed him. “She believed she could beat it,” he said. “She believed in our family. She believed in me. And I believed in her.”

Tam had known for many years his decision to marry Irene was a turning point in his life. As she grew weaker, he wondered if she wished her life with him had taken a different path. As she lay dying, he summoned the courage to ask her, “Do you want to marry me in the next life?” “I will,” she whispered.

Third Decision

In Taiwan in 1981 Tam noticed a pin with the letter L on the lapel of a business associate. “What’s that?” Tam asked. “Oh, this is a very unique group I joined. If you join Lions, you elevate your status,” the associate told him. Not long after the work colleague told him he was starting a Lions club in Hong Kong. Tam joined, a decision that changed his life.

Tam was the youngest member of his club; the charter president was 94. Tam looked around at his club members and wondered if this was right for him. When the president gave him his first assignment, his doubts intensified. The club was taking senior citizens on a modest cruise.

Tam duly brought the seniors candies, biscuits, toothpaste and medical ointments. “You wouldn’t believe their reaction. They shook my hand. They hugged me,” recalled Tam, who told the charter president about their joy. “He said it wasn’t the value of the gifts that meant a lot to them. It was the love and care I brought them.”

That initial project imparted two lessons to Tam. “Before I joined the Lions, I only knew it was an honor to be a member. After I joined, I started to understand the spirit of Lions. I understood and believed we are to help the needy and share our happiness with others,” he said.

Secondly, the charter president had trusted him. “My club treated me like a family member. As a new Lion I was like a baby and my club took care of me until I could stand on my own two feet and be the one

to nurture others. Our clubs need to treat our members like family,” he said.

Tam had become a Lion at a difficult time in Hong Kong’s history. In 1984, the British agreed to transfer sovereignty of Hong Kong to China in 1997. Some Hong Kong residents were leaving; many were uncertain about Hong Kong’s future. Undeterred, Tam forged ahead with Lions’ projects including the largest project Hong Kong Lions have ever undertaken. Under his leadership, Lions raised more than US\$2 million in car-clogged, hyper-urban Hong Kong for a Nature Education Center, now visited by nearly half a million annually. “We were able to get people’s confidence, to tell them that the future of Hong Kong is as good as before,” said Tam.

Getting authorities to approve an international convention with a parade of thousands in such uncertain political times also was not easy. “When Tam came to me with the proposal to host the Lions convention and parade I was concerned because we’ve never done anything like it before. Against the very sensitive times in Hong Kong it was a brave decision to make,” said Benny Ng, then a top official with the Hong Kong police. “Tam was confident Hong Kong could do it. I believed in him and everybody placed their faith in him. Events proved him right.”

Tam was just getting warmed up. Millions of Chinese were blind unnecessarily because of cataract. The healthcare system lacked the resources to fund the simple surgical procedure to restore vision, and the government was leery of outside groups that wanted to help. In China, there were no Lions clubs, no sanctioned non-profit groups at all operated within its borders.

Tam and other Lions danced a tightrope, lobbying wary Chinese officials to allow Lions to initiate a cataract campaign and arguing their case with Lions Clubs International board members, uncertain about supporting a massive healthcare initiative where Lions clubs were not permitted. Tam recalled the skepticism he faced from the Lions’ SightFirst Advisory Committee: “We had never given that amount of money on a single project. And now we’re expected to grant \$15 million dollars to a country where there are no Lions clubs?”

Through persistence and working the right channels, the doors on both sides cracked open. A cataract pilot project began followed by SightFirst China Action, which helped 5.2 million people recover their vision.

“The SightFirst program was able to convince the Chinese government on two issues,” said Mark Tso, retired director of the Beijing University Eye Center. “Number one was that blindness is a serious problem to the society. Number two is recognizing the good qualities of the Lions.”

Added Lion Patrick Ho, a former ophthalmology professor in Hong Kong and a former SightFirst technical advisor, “We were not only able to save the blind and influence the development of eye care delivery systems in China, we were able to foster the Lions spirit in the Chinese community and gain the trust and confidence of the government in China.

That set the platform for building Lions clubs in China.”

His presidency will further boost Lions in China, Tam said. “People in China will hear about Lions and will know what we do. This gives them an opportunity to join us,” he said.



The Nature Education Center established an oasis of greenery in congested Hong Kong

It was a tragedy in China that re-invigorated Tam’s own Lions spirit. After Irene died, disconsolate and drained, he lay on the couch day after day watching the news. “Losing my mom is the definitely the hardest thing that ever happened to my dad. He was sitting there all day and crying over mom’s death,” said Tiffany Tam. Then came the devastating earthquake in China’s Sichuan Province in 2008 that killed 70,000 people. The televised images of the shattered families galvanized Tam, who called Lions’ headquarters. The executive committee happened to be meeting. He urged them to take action. Tam reached out to Lions in China as well, Teams of Chinese Lions drove hours to aid victims. LCIF approved a US\$500,000 catastrophe grant.

“I lost my wife and it was so sad. But now I thought I could help. And I believed I could help,” said Tam. “He fought for funds and supplies,” said Andrew, his son. “The original Tam came back. I could see in his eyes a spark I had not seen after my mom passed away.”



Tam (on the right) checks in on a patient whose vision was restored through SightFirst China Action

Tam believed in the power of Irene’s fighting spirit and he believed in his ability to leap past obstacles, whether they be tense political times or personal doubts. He believes in Lions and our dream of service. “Mr. Tam is basically a dreamer,” said Tso. “He’s the second type of dreamer, which is a dreamer of the day. These people dream with their eyes open and they make their dreams come true.”

Highlights of the Council of Governors Meetings held during the MD"A" Convention

The last meetings of the 2010-2011 Council of Governors were held during the MD"A" Convention at the Hampton Inn & Conference Centre in Ottawa from May 27th to May 30th 2011. The following represents the topics of general interest raised during these meetings:

C&BL

- Proposed changes to the MD"A" C&BL as contained in last edition of the LION Magazine were approved.

Environment

- The winner of the Environment Photo Contest was Lion Murray Collens from the Bradford Lions Club, District A12. Lion Murray's entry will be forwarded on to the LCI Contest.

2014 International Convention Committee

- A volunteer signup sheet will soon be incorporated into the MD"A" Website, many volunteers are required so please consider adding your name. The Share the Wealth draw winning \$19,750 as half of the total proceedings was the Niagara Falls LC.

Lions Foundation of Canada

- Fifteen teams graduated from LFC at a special ceremony held on May 12, 2011. Donations are down this year so clubs are urged to make a last minute push to increase donations to be made this year.

GMT/GLT

- The first official meeting of the GMT/GLT Multiple and District Teams is planned for August 5/6, 2011 at the Howard Johnson in Markham. PIP Judge Brian Stevenson will be bringing his team in to 'kick off' the program in MD"A".

MD"A" Governor Newsletter & Club Bulletin Editor

- The winners announced at the convention are as follows:

Twice monthly Club Bulletin

Winner – Lion Neil Mutch, Poplar Hill & District LC (A1), Runner up – Lion Len Jarrett, Dunville LC (A2)

Monthly Club Bulletin

Winner – PDG Dave Durant, Gravenhurst LC (A12), Runner up – Lion Sharon Astle Manuel, Trenton LC (A3)

Governor's newsletter

Winner – Lion Karen Christopher (A3), Runner up – PDG Al Leach (A9)

Promotion

- 82 Lions and Partners have registered to attend the International Convention in Seattle. An MD"A" Breakfast has been organized as well as the Canadian Caucus meeting and a special reception to honour the outgoing International

Director for Canada, ID Carl Young and to welcome the incoming Director, Lion Marvin Chambers from Saskatchewan.

Lions Quest

- The fund raising campaign is gaining momentum and Lions Quest paid back the first instalment on the loan from MD"A" amounting to \$35,000. A new Lions Quest Fellowship is available at the cost of \$500 and a special Lions Club 'Awards Display' Banner will be provided to any club purchasing two or more Fellowships.

Sight Conservation, CNIB Lake Joe

- There was an initial proposal to change the name of the Lake Joseph Centre to recognize one of the prominent supporters of the camp. This proposal was not pursued and instead the road leading to the Lake Joseph Centre is to be renamed from 'CNIB Way' to the 'Joe Findley Drive'.

Diabetes

- An investigation will be undertaken on seeking a Core 4 Grant from LCIF for the improvement of educational facilities at Camp Huronda.

MD "A" Effective Speaking Contest

- winners of the MD"A" Effective Speaking Contest are:
Jr. Eng. - Amandreo V. Cortes A-15; Int. Eng. - Karissa Manning A-2; Sr. Eng. - Katija Bonin A711; Jr. French - Sebastian Meissner A-4; Int. French - Jessica Tungeon A-4; Sr. French - Emillie De Hass A-4

LCIF

- Clubs & Districts in MD"A" have donated some \$6.4 million to LCIF since 1974. We have received 51 cents back for every dollar donated.

MD"A" Hotel

- The Howard Johnson Hotel in Markham will once again be the hotel of choice for MD"A".

Council Meeting Dates

- The following dates have been chosen for the Council of Governors' Meetings:
September 10, 2011 – Markham, November 5, 2011 – Markham, March 3, 2012 – Markham and June 1, 2012 at Niagara Falls

Vice Council Chair

- DGE Larry Bell from District A16 was elected as the MD"A" Vice Council Chair for 2011-2012.

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

Copies of the Minutes will be available on the MD"A" Website as soon as they are approved.

Takes on Tam



“What I learned from my father is never give up. I still remember in high school a basketball game we were losing. During the resting time, he came to me and said as long as the clock is still ticking, do not give up. We were able to turn the game around and win.” – Alvin Tam, 26



“My father always somehow sees himself as the savior, the hero who can help people out of their problems, their difficulties. I believe that Lions Club is the most important thing in his life apart from his work and family. He enjoys very much serving others because of his personality.”

– Tiffany Tam, 23



“Because of his first name, his Chinese friends know him as Uncle Gun. That's what everybody calls him in an affectionate way. He's sort of the head of the Lions family in Hong Kong. And all his Lions friends look up to him for his leadership as well as his care and affectionate friendship.” – Mark Tso, an ophthalmology professor at the Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins University in Maryland



“He has a lot of passion. He has a passion for Lions, for Hong Kong. That passion just comes out of him. You feel it. You're attracted to him. He is like a magnet that is genuine.” – Anthony Lau, executive director of the Hong Kong Tourism Board



“He has dedicated his life to the noble course. In my eyes, he's a selfless person. He inspired a lot of people in China to join the big family of serving the society.”

– Tang Xiaoquan,

president of the China Foundation for People with Disabilities

Successes in Improving Health

by Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt

The World Health Organization recently reported that blindness and visual impairment decreased globally by nine percent, or 26 million people, since 2004. Lions and Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), along with numerous organizations and foundations, played a key role in this milestone achievement. Through the SightFirst program, established in 1990, Lions have improved the vision of 30 million people.

Corporations and foundations are joining in Lions' efforts. Partnerships enable Lions to continue to be leaders in preventing blindness and improving the quality of life for millions, while further leveraging Lions' efforts. Two such partnerships were launched in 2010.

Hundreds of thousands of babies are born every year with a cataract in one or both eyes. This correctable condition often goes untreated, causing severe vision loss and even blindness. In 2010, LCIF and the Bausch + Lomb Early Vision Institute launched the Pediatric Cataract Initiative (PCI) to prevent and treat cataracts in children. For the pilot year, Bausch + Lomb awarded LCIF \$350,000 for capacity-building and research projects to decrease childhood blindness worldwide.

In May, the partnership granted \$150,000 to Tianjin Eye Hospital in China, the country with the most children — more than 40,000 — who are estimated to suffer from pediatric cataract. This grant is for equipment, human resource development and training.

"We hope that this grant will enable Tianjin Eye Hospital to provide much-needed training and

treatment in the region," said Dr. Joseph Barr, vice president of Bausch + Lomb's Global Vision Care Clinical and Medical Affairs and Professional Services. "Together we can improve patient health, outcomes and quality of life."

Grants funds were also awarded for research initiatives in Nepal and Nigeria aimed at better understanding the causes and best treatment for pediatric cataract in developing countries with limited eye care services.

This year Bausch + Lomb will award an additional \$350,000 to prevent pediatric cataract.

Although widely prevented in developed countries through routine vaccinations, measles remains a highly contagious, heavy public-health burden in developing countries. If action is not taken, UNICEF predicts that 1.7 million children could die from measles-related side effects in the next three years. Measles can cause serious complications including blindness, particularly among malnourished children.

To combat this disease, LCIF joined with the Measles Initiative, a long-term collaboration among several leading public health organizations. To support this LCIF project, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, a leader in addressing global health issues, awarded LCIF a matching grant of \$400,000.

"The Measles Initiative is very excited and optimistic about our new partnership with Lions," said Andrea Gay, executive director of Children's Health, United Nations Foundation. "With members in many Measles Initiative priority countries, Lions can provide an extremely valuable combination of social mobilization and organizational capability

with political advocacy that complement our other partner organization activities."

More than 41 million children in four African countries benefited in the pilot year of this partnership. In addition to supporting vaccinations, this project strengthened routine immunization advocacy and delivery systems.

Earlier this month at the International Convention, William H. Gates Sr., co-chair of the Gates Foundation, addressed Lions about the impact and future of this partnership.

To learn more about these initiatives or make a donation to LCIF, please visit www.lcif.org.



By joining with the Measles Initiative, Lions helped to vaccinate 41 million children in four Africa countries, including in Mali

Lions Club raises \$3,600 for relief in Japan

by Amanda Smith, for the Recorder and Times

When disaster strikes, the local **Brockville Lions Club** members help out to raise support in any way they can.

On Thursday morning, March 24, the Lions Club with the help of CJ's Banquet Hall held a breakfast to fundraise for Japan disaster relief following the massive earth-quake and tsunami on March 11.

"We did it for the Haitian disaster and the Thailand tsunami, so it's only natural that we want to help Japan too," said **Lions Club President Ted Hughes**.

The breakfast drew 239 people and raised \$3,600, only slightly shy of the club's \$4,000 goal, Hughes told The Recorder and Times.

"We're very pleased. It will go to the Lions in Japan for relief efforts. There's no overhead costs, and we know where the money is going."

Hughes said the Lions Club only had 10 days to put this event together.

"The disaster happened on a Friday, and I talked to the people here at CJ's the following Monday and they said they would help us," he said. "So at our meeting on Monday night we said we wanted to do this and we got started."

Hughes said the club worked hard to pull this event together and was 100 per cent behind this fundraising effort.

"This is a great town," he said. "People always say people in Ottawa are generous, but I think Brockville is just as generous as Ottawa."

Hughes said most of the Lions Club members had been at CJ's Banquet Hall since 6:30 in the morning.

"At 7 o'clock we had 25 people come through the door and it hasn't stopped," Hughes said. "We have this record of doing this, and the community

responds generously."

Susan Crossfield attended the breakfast and said it was a good cause.

"Especially this morning, when they are reporting that the radiation levels are twice the recommended level in their drinking water," Crossfield said Thursday.

Cathy McNamee, who was also at the event, had a personal connection to the Japan disaster.

"We have a friend who attended St. Lawrence College's theatre program live with us," McNamee said. "She lives in Tokyo".

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www.lionsclubwebsite.com

Cancer Coup

Two Canadian Clubs Fuel Research Breakthrough

by Anne Ford

In 2009, **Sherwin** and **Andrea Mah** of Vancouver, Canada, had four friends and family members die of cancer. Then things got worse.

"In November, my wife decided to get a mammogram," says Sherwin, a member of the **Vancouver Chinatown Lions**. "They found two lumps. In short order, they were diagnosed as cancerous." Andrea underwent a double mastectomy and four rounds of chemotherapy. And then, somehow, things got worse again.

Doctors recently discovered a tumor on Andrea's kidney. Though her prognosis is good, "it's always shocking to hear the word 'cancer,' and now we're hearing it a second time," Sherwin says.

The experience has left the Mahs with a heightened appreciation for the cancer-fighting efforts of Lions. For the past decade the Vancouver Chinatown Lions have been raising significant funds for cancer research. "We always knew it [supporting cancer research] was important," says Sherwin. "But when it hits you personally, you have a greater appreciation."

That's something fellow club member Paul Wong knows all about. Several years ago, Wong lost his father and two sisters to the disease. "Before they passed away, I made a commitment to them that I would do something to eradicate cancer," he says. That's why, in 2001, he began rallying his club to the cause. And that's how the Vancouver Chinatown Lions and the **Vancouver Arbutus Lions**, in partnership with Lions Clubs International Foundation, have come to raise half a million dollars and counting for cancer research.



Paul Wong, who lost his father and two sisters to cancers, led the Lions' effort to fund cancer research that broke new ground

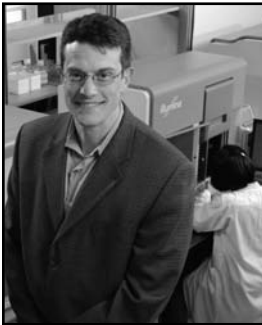
It all began with an invitation. About 10 years ago, Wong — a businessman who turned his father's one-man hand laundry into one of the largest laundry services in Canada — was asked to attend a BC Cancer Foundation presentation, where he found himself promising that his Lions club would raise \$100,000 for the foundation within the next decade. "I didn't even tell my club about this," he impishly says. "I just made the commitment." He thought to himself, "If I do not raise the money over 10 years, I will pay the balance myself."

The BC Cancer Foundation is the fundraising arm of the BC Cancer Agency, which provides care to

cancer patients in the province of British Columbia and the Yukon Territory. In the last few years, the agency has made several exciting strides in cancer research. These include the discovery of the gene that causes a type of ovarian cancer called granulose cell tumor, as well as the discovery that a mutation on a particular gene prevents it from stopping the growth of tumors in two types of ovarian cancer.

At the time, of course, Wong didn't know those discoveries would take place. He just knew it was time to put money where his mouth was. So he proposed to his club that they organize an annual dinner to award a Medal of Merit to a local community leader, with tickets to be sold to community members. "It was an instant success," he says. At ticket prices of \$1,500 per table, the proceeds swiftly added up. In just three years, they had raised almost \$375,000—more than three times the amount Wong had promised. With the aid of the Vancouver Arbutus Lions (who co-host the Medal of Merit dinners) and three matching grants from LCIF, that figure has reached \$520,000.

So how exactly have those funds benefited the fight against cancer? Dr. Marco Marra, director of the BC Cancer Agency's Genome Sciences Centre, explains: "We work on DNA, trying to find mutations that are associated with cancer. You can think of mutations as spelling mistakes in the genetic code. We know these mutations will tell us something about the how the cancer came to be in the patient, and they are also likely to reveal important targets for therapy. The thing that has allowed us to be able to look for the mutations is a technology called next-generation sequencing."



Dr. Marco Marra, director of the BC Cancer Agency's Genome Sciences Centre, stands near the next-generation computer sequencing equipment funded with Lions support

"To do this kind of work requires access to the latest equipment," he continues. "There's an exceptionally large list of equipment items that the Lions have helped us acquire over the years. It's through the aggregate utility of this equipment that we are where we are today. Without the support of the Lions and groups like the Lions, we wouldn't be able to do what we do." Douglas Nelson, president and CEO of the BC Cancer Foundation, agrees: "The relationship with the Lions is one of the strongest and most vibrant that we have. They've really gotten behind the initiative."

The Lions show no signs of stopping. As far as

Wong is concerned, it's all part of the promise he made to his family. "I made a commitment that I would do something to eradicate cancer," he repeats, "and I have fulfilled my commitment."



Research scientist Dr. David Huntsman of the BC Cancer Agency in Vancouver, British Columbia, is illuminated by an image of the genome of a rare ovarian cancer. Supported by two Lions clubs and LCIF, the agency's Genome Sciences Centre used next-generation DNA-sequencing technology to unravel the entire genome, a breakthrough in cancer research

Lions on Location

Crowning Achievement

Lady Liberty shines again. Lions in Chiayi in Multiple District 300 Taiwan repaired a replica of the Statue of Liberty that Lions built in 1988. Typhoons, as well as the ravages of time, had taken a toll on the statue, which sits high atop a traffic circle at the entrance to the city of 275,000. Three points in the crown were broken and its exterior was dirty and weather-beaten. Members of the Chiayi Lions Club and the Chiayi Chia Neu Lions Club spent eight days repainting and repairing the statue. The clubs built the statue to extol freedom and to demonstrate the spirit of Lions.



The replica statue gleams once more.

Able and Ready

Louisiana Lion Gives Back to the Youth Camp That Changed His Life

by Jake Clapp

As **Dean Navarre** drives around the tiny Louisiana town of Schriever, he likes to casually point out homes and buildings to whomever is daring enough to ride with him.

A sly grin crosses his well-aged face and it's clear that another story is brewing behind those kind brown eyes.

This time, the story is how his father worked at that abandoned gas station on the corner, making \$50 a week during the 1950s. Then to the time he and his younger brother were stranded about 10 miles from home after their go-cart broke down and he had to call their dad to pick them up. His father wasn't too happy.

At 60, Navarre has a countless number of stories to tell and each contains the same passion and zeal for detail as the next, no matter its length or significance.

The story could even turn to how Navarre's cells stopped dividing while his mother was pregnant, causing him to be born without arms – in a world designed for hands.



Dean Navarre, who doesn't let his disability restrict him, uses a table saw at home

A Normal Life

Despite his disability, Navarre says he has lived a full and happy life.

"I guess the worst part of not having arms would be I could never flap them and learn to fly," he chuckles in a thick Cajun accent. "There has always been a way I can do something. It might take me a minute longer or some unique way, but I can always figure out how to do what I want to do."

Navarre was born in Schriever, the eldest of two sons and a daughter of a gas station attendant and a nurse.

Even without arms, Navarre was able to live a normal, happy childhood. He just learned to do everything with his feet.

On warm, sunny summer days, you might have

caught Navarre down by the river with a fishing pole held up by his feet, or swimming with his brother and friends.

His father taught him carpentry – a hobby that Navarre still enjoys – and how to hunt, although he doesn't wait for a rabbit to cross his path anymore. He gave up hunting and fishing a few years ago when he moved back to Schriever to take care of his ailing father.

When he turned 15, Navarre took driving courses through his high school and easily got his license, with one stipulation. The back of his license read, in bold letters, "Must use feet to drive."

Navarre said he was the first child in Louisiana to wear artificial arms; his driving instructor worried the devices might get in the way of a safe drive. Navarre eventually stopped wearing the arms when he turned 21.

A self-described "prankster," Navarre would sneak off during high school classes and smoke with his friends, like a lot of boys his age.

"My family and friends really kept me equal," Navarre says. "Of course, there was teasing and name-calling in school, but I was mostly treated as an equal. I got to do everything just like everyone else."

Despite his inclusion, Navarre admits that early in his childhood, there were times of doubt and depression.

"All my friends had arms. My brother, 20 months younger than me, he had arms. My sister had arms. They all played football, and I couldn't play," Navarre says. "You start kind of wondering why I was the only one handicapped. You know, why God punishes, so to speak."

Navarre said he thought about this a lot when he was younger, but in the summer of 1959, when he was 8, Navarre's life and attitude changed.

Lions Camp

Ask Navarre what his favorite topic to talk about is, and it's guaranteed that he will tell a story about the Louisiana Lions Camp for youth with special needs, diabetes and pulmonary disorders.

The special needs camp had just opened near Leesville, Louisiana, and thanks to the urging of Lions Club member **Euly Gaineaux**, Navarre went there for a two-week session of riding horses, swimming and camping.

"I was sitting underneath a pine tree during a break and was talking to two blind kids, twins in fact," Navarre recalled. "We were going back and forth and one of them said, 'What can you do that we can't do?' So I pointed out two girls that were standing in the snack line and said, 'Well you can't see those two cute girls over there.' The other kid said back, 'That may be, but if they get too close, at least we can touch them.' I realized then, everyone has their special thing with them, even if they are handicapped."

Navarre said that exchange changed his perspective about his disability. Those weeks at camp, the friends made and fun he had, stuck with him for the rest of his life.



A boy offers Navarre a swig of soda at the Louisiana Lions camp, where his perspective on life changed

Linda Kemp was one of the life-long friends he made at camp. She had been mortified when her parents told her she was headed to the Lions Camp in the summer of 1965.

Suffering from a birth defect that affected her knees, Kemp wasn't sure what she would find when she made it to Leesville. She found Dean Navarre.

"The friendships you make at this camp are the kind that last forever," Kemp said. "And Dean was a lot of that experience. His attitude was great and it rubbed off on people."

Kemp said she remembers a mischievous young boy with no arms, a boy she had a crush on. Someone who helped her have a great time at camp when she was 13 and vulnerable.

They stayed in touch for a couple of years after camp and then lost touch. Last year they finally met again when Navarre organized a camp reunion.

"I was always amazed by Dean. Nothing stopped him," Kemp says. "Of course, he gets sad like everyone else at times and things bother him, but it would exhaust me to be as happy about life as Dean is. He does it so easy, it would wear me out."

Navarre returned to camp each year until he turned 15 and couldn't attend because of an age restriction. Those summers left an unfading impression on him.

"You know, I might have caught hell for nine months in school. But then I went to heaven for two weeks in the summer, so it all evened out," Navarre quipped.

After those summers at camp ended, Navarre graduated high school, started working, moved around Louisiana, got married and raised a daughter and stepson. Camp always stayed in the back of his mind.

Dedicated Lion

After losing his job in 1992, Navarre began receiving disability and devoted his life to volunteering at the camp and volunteering as a Lion.

Navarre joined **Baton Rouge Southeast Lions Club** in 1995. He was a charter member of the **Schriever Club** in 2002. He was awarded the Melvin Jones Fellowship this year.

Today, Navarre spends all of his time helping the camp any way he can. He even rode a tractor around Louisiana in 2001 as a fundraiser. The keys to three cities and 32 days later, Navarre raised \$65,000 to give back to the camp that gave him so much.

His latest project? Going through old files, photos and registration cards to digitally catalogue camp records going back to when the camp opened in 1958.



Shelley and Dean have shared laughs as husband and wife for 25 years

"There is probably more there than I can get to before I die," Navarre jokingly says. "But that's what keeps me going, the camp."

Dean's wife of 25 years, Shelley, is used to her husband's quirky nature and lightly brushes off his playful picking with a no-nonsense, but loving, look.

"I've never given Dean any slack," Shelley says. "I've never had to do anything for him. In fact, when I had major surgery a few years ago, he gave me baths, changed my bandages and did the housework. He has always been completely independent."

As for her husband's disappearance for a few weeks every year to volunteer at the Lions Camp, Shelley said it is no different than any other husband going hunting.

"When you go to this camp and you see what really goes on and how much fun these kids are having, you understand completely why he does it," Shelley says.

Navarre says he has no regrets and no sadness about not having arms. For him, life is an adventure and anything that's worth doing can be done.

When asked how he feels on the things he has accomplished, Navarre smiled and simply replied: "Not bad for a guy with no arms, huh?"



Navarre rides a tractor to raise funds for the Lions camp

Smiths Falls Lions

Smiths Falls Lion **Peter Campbell** tests a young person at the vision screening clinic held at the Smiths Falls Legion recently. The Smiths Falls Lions Club took the initiative to have a community vision screening day where parents could bring their children to the Legion and see just how the clinic is operated.

Congratulations to the Smiths Falls Lions for giving their community the chance to have their vision checked.



FOR THE RECORD

As of Mar. 31, 2011, Lions Clubs International had 1,358,153 members in 46,046 clubs and 743 districts in 206 countries and geographic areas.

Seattle Convention

Approximately 55 MD"A" Lions proudly carried Canadian Flags in the Parade at the International Convention in this year. We won the Precision Demonstration Units with our band the "Seattle Sounders Sound Wave Band".

submitted by CC Todd Wilson



Lions Camp Dorset

A Resort for Dialysis Patients

On behalf of the board of Camp Dorset, the staff and the patients that use Camp Dorset we would like to thank all of you for your votes during the Pepsi Challenge.

We made it the second time, and again THANK YOU!



We are still in need of \$30K to make up the total for the new machines that we need for the camp. So, when you send in your cheque to Camp Dorset, please let us know that you want to put that money towards the new dialysis machines. In 10 yrs it will cost us about \$700K to replace the machines again.

Most dialysis patients do not get the opportunity to travel due to expenses, health etc. and that is why Camp Dorset is the perfect place for the person on dialysis and their families. If you have never been to Camp Dorset, we invite you to come and see what goes on at Camp Dorset. The camp is open for the patients and their families for 12 weeks during the summer, but don't think that the camp stops. There are many exciting events that happen during the winter and off season as well.

We can also use many hands to make light work at the camp during the off season. There is lots of maintenance to be done on the cottages, grounds, recreation hall etc. Come out for a weekend, rent some cottages for your clubs and a group, and have a fun time at Camp Dorset.

Thank you.

*Submitted by Lion Suzanne Gunby,
Camp Dorset Director*

A Magical Bus Tour

We took to the road at 7am, leaving from Sharbot Lake and heading west. We made several stops along the way to pick up folks from Verona, Kingston, Bath, Napanee, Peterborough and Trenton. We were all Lions Club members and we were on our way to the Lions Foundation of Canada's Dog Guide School in Oakville. We were kept busy along the way with trivia games and a Chinese auction and by the time we got to Toronto we had 36 pumped up and very enthusiastic people on the bus.

None of us really knew what to expect of the facilities at the school and we were all quite surprised at how small the building actually was. We would soon learn just how cramped the training areas are and why they need help in upgrading and expanding their training areas and living quarters.

As we stepped off the bus and got in line for our turn in the cafeteria, a wonderful young woman was waiting to greet us. She said, "They told us that a group of Lions was coming this afternoon and I just wanted to tell you how much we all appreciate your support. Thank you." She had been standing in the entrance hall waiting with her Dog Guide specifically to show her appreciation to Lions. It made the entire four hour bus trip worthwhile just to hear those words.

After lunch we were introduced to our Tour Guide, Angela. She explained that it takes 3 years of full time work at the dog school to become a qualified trainer. They work very long hours because there has to be a staff member in the living quarters, on call for any emergency or questions, 24 hours a day.

The dogs are matched to prospective clients by assessing the needs of the client and by matching the personalities of both the dog and client. The pair then train and live together at the Oakville facility for six weeks to ensure bonding and a team approach to work and on-going care. Their room has an extra bed if the client is bringing a care giver. The dogs learn how to open doors, get things from the fridge, open and take clothes from the dryer and alert the owner to doorbells, sirens, telephones, & fire alarms. We were thrilled to watch some of the dogs demonstrate their

amazing skills. One dog could even read lips!

A typical Dog Guide is born at their facilities in Breslau, ON and is taken into a foster home for its first year of life to learn normal puppy behaviour. Foster parents are encouraged to socialize their dogs in as many real-life situations as possible. The dogs then come back to the school where each dog's skills and personality are assessed. Not all dogs are suitable to be Dog Guides and not all dogs are accepted to continue on. Training programs are both generic, to meet the general needs of all clients, but also specific to the needs of the individual client to whom the Dog Guide is assigned. A dog's working life, once fully trained, is about 8 – 10 years and finally the dog will be retired and becomes available for adoption to qualified families in the general public.

There is no government funding for this facility. Money comes mainly from Lions Clubs and through donations from corporate and private donors. From the birth of a prospective Dog Guide puppy, through its foster home, to its training and working life, and final retirement, costs about \$20,000. This also includes the transportation of the recipient to and from the school, extensive training and room and board at the school. There is no cost to anyone who needs a Dog Guide and the Foundation retains ownership of the dog until it is retired.

It was a long but very rewarding day on the bus. On the way home we reminisced about the devotion of the staff at the school and, of course, the wonderful dogs who dedicate their lives to working for a disabled human who really, really needs them.

Your participation in the Sharbot Lake Lions Walk for Dog Guides is critical to the continued success of this extraordinary facility. There is always the need for another dog and for more space at the school. Please be generous. This year the Walk will take place on Sunday, July 31st at 12pm at the Oso Beach pavilion. There will be Free Food & Drinks for registered walkers and prizes for the dog with the longest tail and a dog/owner look-alike contest. To register or make a donation please call Lion Carolyn Bond at 613-279-2502 or visit www.purinawalkfordogguides.com



Members of the Golden Lake Fire Department present their new smoke machine to Lions president Jim Homer. This training device allows firefighters to practice rescue in a smoke-filled building.

Killaloe Lions



Members of the Killaloe Fire Department show their new thermal imaging camera to Lions execs Karen Dupuis, Cathy Pearson, and Garnet Kranz; this camera allows firefighters to locate 'hot spots in a fire zone, as well as people's 'heat signatures' in a vehicular accident.

Innisfil Lions

Lion Barry Jaynes, President, Lions Camp Dorset was the guest at our May Dinner meeting. Lion Barry presented several Lion members with Life Directorship Certificates for our support of Lions Camp Dorset.

In addition, Lion Barry awarded our Lions Club a 100% Directorship of Camp Dorset. This recognition, by Camp Dorset, acknowledges our continued support. We should be very proud of this award.

As Lion Barry discussed, they change the dialysis machines at the camp every 10 years to keep up with new technology. Their old, but still usable machines are refurbished and sent to third world countries where they are invaluable to other Dialysis patients who would otherwise not have any treatment.

Love and Marriage ... and Lions

In Journey Through Life, Couples Enjoy Serving Together

by Cliff Terry

Ann and **Ray Favreau** started dating right after high school graduation in Agawam, Massachusetts. They celebrate 53 years of marriage this June. While raising a family, keeping up a home and making ends meet, they learned the value of teamwork. "It was our philosophy bringing up four kids," says Ray. "We always told them when they tried to play Ma against Pa, 'You'll never win because we're a team and you can't beat a team.' And that was the end of it."



Rain or shine, the Favreaus have been at each other's side through 53 years of marriage and 75 years combined as Lions.

The Favreaus also shared a commitment to service. Together, they've compiled 75 years as Lions, first in Agawam and now in Venice, Florida. The service as Lions has helped tighten their bond. "There are certain [Lions] things we do separately," says Ann, noting that Ray does a walkway cleanup along the intercoastal waterway by himself and she does the club newsletter and fashion show. "For the most part we do things together like the golf outing. When we have the club holiday food wagon, he cooks hot dogs and I sell them."

LION Magazine interviewed five Lions couples to find out how being Lions impacted their relationship. The couples told us that serving as Lions together added an important element to their marriage they both enjoyed. Their journey as a married couple and their experiences as Lions often overlapped, and the intersection enriched their time together.

Jeanne and **Jim Morris** of Oklahoma first met when both were on work committees for the annual rodeo sponsored by the **Duncan Noon Lions Club**. "Jimmy asked me if I had plans for dinner," Jeanne recalls. "He had lost his wife, and I was a widow. Well, widows don't have plans for dinner. They just go home to a bowl of Wheaties or something."

"So we went to an Italian place," Jim says. "There was another couple Jeanne knew, and the man came

over, looked me in the eye and said, 'Now, this is a nice lady.' And I said, 'I'm sure glad to hear that!' I got up the nerve to ask her to dinner again, and that's how it all started. Two years later we got married, and it will be five years this June."



Married for five years after both lost their spouses, the Morrises tip their hat to each other as loving partners.

A Lion since 1954, Jim was president of four clubs in Texas and retired from Southwestern Public Service Company, an electric utility. Jeanne, a Lion since the 1990s, is a former territory manager for the NFIB (National Federation of Independent Business). She'll become president of the Duncan Noon club this year when she turns 80. "That is, if I live that long," Jeanne laughs. "I'll probably be the oldest club president in Lion history. That's when you know things are tough! Anyway, I hope they give me a big gold star, for heaven's sake!"

And does being a married Lion couple help their marriage?

"I think it does," says Jim. "Working on Lion projects keeps us active and helps pay for the space we take up in this world."

"We were in Wal-Mart recently," Jeanne adds, "and were joking about comparing prices or something, and a woman came over, patted me on the shoulder and said, 'Honey, you kids are having way too much fun.' And we make our life that way. If we're working at the Lions rodeo, and it's a 100-degree day, and we've erected our own umbrella for shade, and it's just totally, totally miserable, we just make it fun."

Asked if one is the "boss" at home and one is "boss" at the Lions club, Jeanne answers, "I don't think so. There are things that I'm better at, and there are things that I simply assign Jimmy because I have no business attempting it. That's the only delegation we have."

Wanda and **John Barnett** of Arkansas, married 35 years, met when working at Kmart. "She was my Blue Light Special," says John, laughing. "I tell everybody there the motto is, 'Satisfaction guaranteed or your money refunded.' Well, I haven't got my money back yet. I'm really satisfied."

The Barnetts are members of the **Gravel Ridge Lions**

Club, where John is the membership chair and Wanda the secretary. They actually live in the town of England, about 10 miles from Little Rock. ("That's right, we're from England," John draws facetiously. "Can't you tell by our accent?")



Serving as Lions has added spice to the Barnett marriage.



They work for Lions Clubs International as consultants, although they're on temporary leave. Previously, Wanda worked for two banks and John was a manager at Kmart, executive director of United Way and an insurance company's sales director.

"Here's a story about how Wanda became a Lion," John says. "I was a Lion for over 20 years, and she always went with me to different conventions. The year I became district governor, we went to the Leader Dog School in Rochester Hills, Michigan. They showed a film called Dog Days. They lead the dog down the hall and take it to its new owner. It's pretty emotional. Well, Wanda watched it, then turned to me and said, 'I want to be a Lion.'"

So does being a Lion couple enhance the marriage?

"I tell people when I'm encouraging them to join as Lion couples that in today's society, most husbands and wives go to work and come home and go their separate ways," John replies. "Then they meet again about 10 or 10:30 and get up at 6 the next morning doing the same thing. Lions gives you an opportunity to do some good things for the community, and yet do it together. That's special for us."

"We worked on building a playground for the Arkansas School for the Blind," adds Wanda, whose 12-year-old nephew is legally blind. "In the week we were going to assemble it, my mother passed away. I felt that with my Lions family and my own family, that project helped us get through a difficult time in our lives."

So is one "boss" at home and one in charge at the Lions?

John laughs. "You know I'm not going to touch

that one! But I'll tell you the truth: We have a little bit different personalities. Both of us are pretty hard-charging-type individuals, but my personality involves the big picture, let's go do it, while Wanda is, 'Wait a minute, John, we have to wait and be sure if we've got this covered.' She's more detail oriented. So we complement each other in the fact that we have different philosophies but we compromise and get the best of both of us." To which Wanda adds, laughing: "But I'm still the boss!"

Another Lions "two-fer" are **Pat** and **Kevin Vannett** of the **Mandan Dacotah Lions Club** in North Dakota, across the river from Bismarck. He became in Lion in 1987, she in 2003. "Most of our 'couples-friends' are also Lions," Pat notes. "If they weren't before," she adds, chuckling, "they are now."



The Vannetts, who eloped, happily share Lions and lots of other things with each other.



"We've been married seven years. I was an assistant manager at a convenience store, and Kevin worked across the street for the state department of transportation. We were both divorced. He stopped in every day, then finally asked me out. I found out he had two small children. Mine were grown.

"He showed up in a red convertible for a Sunday afternoon drive. But I remembered it was Mother's Day, so I stood him up. I spent the day with my children instead (laughs). But then a few weeks later he said, 'I'm going to a Lions' Fest tonight, and we have a formal banquet. I'll pick you up at 6.' I wasn't a Lion at the time. So our first date was a Lions event. Our second date was a Lions picnic. We ended up getting married on the way to a Lions International workshop in Portland, Oregon. We stopped at Yellowstone, and in the gift shop, I noticed there was an item I had seen in Kevin's house."

"Guess where he went on his first honeymoon? Yellowstone, of course."

Asked about being "boss" at home and at Lions, Kevin reflects, "That's a tough one. We're both pretty strong people. I'm a two-time past district governor, and Pat is up-and-coming and has her own ideas. We bounce things off each other, even though we don't agree 100 percent. But we do pretty well."

"At home, we find a common ground," Pat says. "With our blended family, we have to make compromises such as on holidays. We have to make a new history, create new memories. At our Lions club, we might have differing views, but we just talk things through. We each have our different gifts. That's very helpful. And sometimes it's challenging. What we and other couples have found is that how much fun it is to be in a 'couples club' rather than traditional male or female clubs."

And do they see different sides of one another as Lions?

"I tend to see more of the Lion tradition than Pat, as a younger Lion, does," says Kevin. "She's looking more to the future." To which she replies: "I guess I challenge things sometimes for Kevin. Maybe change is good, and maybe not. He may say, 'We shouldn't change just for change, let's see why.' And that's a good checks and balance."

In another part of the world, **Jeannie** and **Alan van Wulven** of South Africa have been married for 30 years. They became Lions in 1990 when she was the charter president of the **Groote Schuur Lions Club**. They then chartered the **Tygerberg Hills Lions Club** in Cape Town in 2000, with Alan as the charter president. He's now the club secretary.



The van Wulvens toast to the good life as Lions and as spouses.



"Alan is a tax consultant, and has a lot of paper work, so when it comes to Lions' reporting, he is not a happy chappie," Jeannie says. "We always tease him, since we'd get his minutes very late. But for the last few months, we've been getting it the next day."

How has being a Lions couple affected their marriage?

"To us, Lions is a way to live," says Jeannie, who works in diamond jewelry manufacturing. "Our family and friends know that Lions come first in our lives. Our way of supporting the needy has had a positive effect on our children, and they are following in our footsteps. My greatest joy is to see them enjoying the world of giving. They currently are Leos in the **De Tyger Leo Club**."

Alan spends time with Leos. Jeannie was moved

by meeting disabled children during a project at Maitland Children's Hospital. "Alan and I work together well and complement each other," says Jeannie. "He allowed me to go forward in Lions, and I became governor in 2003-2004. For many years, he allowed me to go to convention with my Lions' friends while he stayed home looking after the kids and doing his hobby – fishing.

"I wear the pants and keep everyone on their toes. Alan doesn't have a problem with that, because it's just less for him to worry about. He often threatens to leave Lions whenever a nagging wife pressures him to do something. But he'll never resign."

In Florida, the Favreaus live in Venice, known as the "shark tooth capital of the world." Says Ann, a retired teacher, "When we travel, we take along our **Venice Lions Club** banner featuring the image of a shark head. Ray wraps a good-sized tooth with gold wire and we put it on a ribbon and give it to Lions people we meet. It makes an impact. It's something that they haven't seen any place else."

Asked who makes the decisions as to where to travel, Ray says, "It's kind of shared. Ann thought I was crazy when I wanted to go to India, but we thoroughly enjoyed it." In fact, in Pondicherry, India, they saw boats that were donated by Lions Clubs International to replace those lost in the tsunami.

A trip to Slovenia was also memorable. "What happened there is I saw the longest strawberry shortcake in the world," Ray says. "It involved a major fundraiser for the **Ljubljana Lions Club**. Ann was in meetings, and I'd go sightseeing. I noticed the main street was all blocked off and there were people in costume and cops on funny-looking big-wheeled tricycles. It was a big deal. Well, I think the shortcake was over 160 meters [125 feet] long. They made the equivalent of \$30,000 in one day. I found the club president, who had a hat on, with 'Ljubljana Lions Klub.' I wanted the hat. He said, 'I'll give it to you.' I said, 'I'll buy it for your fundraiser.' I still wear that hat when I go out on different Lion functions. People ask, 'Where is that?'"

Married couples who work together at home are reminded of the old joke, "Marry for better or worse, but never for lunch." So is there a downside to being married Lions, such as "too much togetherness?"

"We haven't found that to be true," says John Barnett of Arkansas. "We enjoy being together.

"We have pretty strong opinions. Both of us were Lion district governors, and actually I was council chair, which is kind of one step above that, I guess. When Wanda became district governor, she took her training in Hong Kong at the international convention. They have Spouses Day, where the spouses come in and meet the other people. A good friend called me out in the hall and said, 'Now, John, I have to tell you one thing: Wanda's the district governor, not you!' I told him, 'You don't have to worry about that. Wanda can take care of herself.'

"About two months later, we were sitting in our house and she said, 'I think I'm going to do this, this

and this.' I said, 'I don't know, that might not be a really good idea.' And she said, 'Just shut up and do what I tell you. I'm the district governor.' I said, 'OK.' It was kind of in fun, but we were able to work together.

"It could be a problem if one holds a higher Lions position, but you have to have some sort of understanding. That's what we did. The year I was district governor was the year that Wanda became a

Lion, so how shall I diplomatically put it? She didn't try to run the show."

The Favreaus don't think togetherness is a problem either.

"It's a lifelong practice of mutual respect," says Ray. "Even though we have our individual space, we don't step over the line. For example, I like to fish, Ann doesn't. She likes to write and read."

Adds Ann, "When we go to Lions meetings, we

just walk around, talk to whomever. I mean, it's not as if we're chained to one another! Once you retire, you have to carve out your little niche. It comes with the territory.

"The thing is, there are about five couples in our Venice club. And, the club is lucky. Because when they get a couple, they get a team."

She pauses. "You know, two for the price of one!"

Woodstock Lions

Lions is truly a family affair in Woodstock.

Recently, **Lion Jennifer Emmerich** married **Lion Rob Edlington** (left) in a quiet family ceremony. The wedding was performed by **Lion Chief Don Moore** (right) and witnessed by Tail Twister **Lion Kevin Grunert**. Also present was the groom's mother Joanne, widow of well respected Woodstock **Lion Dennis Edlington** and honorary '**Lion Cub**' **Hunter Dennis Edlington** who attended his first Lions meeting at 2 weeks old. We would love to say they met at a Lions function, but they had in fact known each other in high school and became reacquainted in Lionsim.



submitted by *Lion Henri Callebert*

Killaloe & Area Lions

In March, the Killaloe & Area Lions Club hosted a community dinner to honour St. Patrick's Day. In the photo below (l-r) Lions **Sue MacInnes**, **Jim Homer** (club president), **Kathy Lampi**, and **Lin Tremblay** present their smiling faces as they serve up traditional Irish fare such as corned beef, soda bread, colcannon, and barm brack to diners.



Pike Lake Minto Lions Accept Charter

The Lion roar echoed loud and long through the Pike Lake clubhouse restaurant on Wednesday, May 25, as the new Pike Lake Minto Lions Club celebrated its charter night.

Lions, guests, dignitaries and friends jammed the clubhouse to capacity for the evening's festivities, highlighted by inaugural club president **Dory Eickmeier** accepting the official charter from **District Governor John Stewart** and **Past International Director Bruce Murray**.

Pike Lake residents Dory and **Orbin Eickmeier** spearheaded the formation of the new club, in an effort to better serve the needs of Minto and the community in and around Pike Lake. The response was positive from the outset and, as last week's master of ceremonies **Past Deputy District Governor Brent Crawford** put it, "many heard the call of the mighty Lion."

Guest speaker for last week's charter celebration was Past International Director Bruce Murray, and his message brought inspiration to all in attendance, from Lions Club veterans to those marking their first steps into Lionism. Entertainment for the evening was provided by the Musical Belles of Holstein.

The Pike Lake Minto group thanked the **Clifford and District Lions** for sponsoring their new club, in particular Guiding Lion and **Past District Governor Ivan Campbell** for his assistance.

District Governor Elect Marilyn Meldrum and **District Governor John Stewart** led the toast prior to dinner, and Mayor George Bridge brought greetings from the Town of Minto.

Inducted as inaugural Pike Lake Minto Lions Club officers were: President Dory Eickmeier, Secretary **Bev Velix**, Treasurer **Sharon Hergott**, Membership

Chair **Frank Bresee**, Tail Twister **Monique Dunlop** and Lion Tamer **Jim Mitchell**.

Joining their executive as charter members were: **Don Brown**, **James Dunlop**, **Roger Duke**, **Carole Formica**, **Frank Formica**, **Harold Gillis**, **Sue Gillis**, **Anne Mader**, **Doreen Mitchell**, **Kim Reinhart**, **Mike Reinhart**, **Diane Rumig**, **Larry Velix** and **Art Villeneuve**. Also welcomed were new members **Ruth Harding** and **Rita Kennedy**.

The fledgling club already has a number of projects in the works as it begins its journey of community service, including a junior golf tournament this fall at Pike Lake they hope will evolve into a national event.



The new Pike Lake Minto club officially became Lions on Wednesday, May 25, with a charter celebration at Pike Lake Golf and Country Club. Inaugural club president **Dory Eickmeier** accepted the official charter from **Lion District Governor John Stewart** (left) and **Past International Director Bruce Murray**.

photo by *Chris Clark*, courtesy of the Mount Forest Confederate Newspaper

Blyth Lions

John & Mary Lou Stewart recently visited Mrs. Roe's Grade 1/2 Class at the Blyth Public School and presented Lions Project Pride Certificates & Canadian Flags to the students.

submitted by *Lion Al Leach*



Lakefield & District Lions Club

The Lakefield & District Lions Club celebrated their 65th Anniversary with dinner, awards & entertainment on April 30th. Lions from 15 other Clubs attended. *Submitted by Lion Wilma Bush*



Lion Pres. Larry Taylor receiving the Helen Keller Fellowship from District Governor Lion Gord Taylor



Lion George Payton receiving the Brian Stevenson Award from District Governor Lion Gord Taylor



Lion Jerry Lane & Zone 10 North Region Chair Lion Nancy Lane receiving the Melvin Jones awards from D. G. Lion Gord Taylor



Lion Pres. Larry Taylor displays granite plaque designed and given by Dodge Custom Carpets commemorating 65 years of service the Lakefield & District Lions have given to the Lakefield Community



Lion President Larry Taylor (left) presented Lion George Lord with the a 55 Year Chevron

Kitchener Lions Club

At the Lions Club of Kitchener's year end appreciation night, **Lion Ray Black** was presented with a Melvin Jones Fellowship.



Lion Chief Ray Derouin (left), Lion Ray Black and DG Todd Wilson (right)

Galt Cambridge Lions Member Named Melvin Jones Fellow

On the evening of June 21st **District Governor Todd Wilson** presented, on behalf of the Galt Cambridge Lions Club, a Melvin Jones Fellowship Award to **Lion Ajit Manku** for his work on the Culture and Community Activities Committee. He has been chair of that committee since 2008 for District A-15, as well as chair for our club. Lion Ajit was also presented with an International Certificate of Achievement at the Cabinet meeting on June 18th in Fergus by District A-15.

Lion Ajit has hosted an International Festival twice to foster a better understanding of the different cultures, and to showcase the diversity in our communities. The first Festival was an Indian evening that featured various foods from that culture and had entertainment by the Sradha Dancers. Our Greek Festival this year was just as well received with plentiful food and dancers from the Aphrodite Greek Cypriot Community of Waterloo Region.

These have been well attended by Lions, their families, and friends and we hope to see even more people come next year.

Lion Ajit is a worthy Melvin Jones Fellowship recipient. *Submitted by Lion Louise Reeve*



Clarence Creek Lions

Last October the Clarence Creek Lions Club celebrated its 40th Charter Anniversary. The celebration was held at the Clarence Creek Community Hall where about 100 Lions and spouses attended. Our guest speaker was **PDG Lion Al Page**.



Lion President Jacques Pagé from the Clarence Creek Lions Club presented Melvin Jones Awards to three Charter Members – Lion Joseph Duquette, Lion Gaston Lavictoire and Lion Gaetan Pagé. *Submitted by Lion Sandra Baldwin*

Canadian Outreach to El Salvador

*submitted by Lion Raija Rosenthal, P.D.G.
Toronto-Finlandia Lions Club*

My journey to El Salvador was with a Professional Healthcare delegation in April 2009.

The mission of our team was to provide health care for common illnesses, education, and vision screening and fitting of non-prescription eye glasses to 8 Mayan communities up in the mountains of El Salvador. Delegation of five nurses in this group had been to El Salvador in 2008 and had seen a 10 year old boy with spinal bifida who had outgrown his wheelchair. This time along with nurses there were three Lion members: **Lion Shelley** from Alliston, **Lion Carol Keith** from Washago and myself (Raija Rosenthal) from Toronto.

Trying to obtain a wheelchair for a child who had outgrown his, Toronto Rehab for Kids referred me to MOTION Specialties located in Don Mills. I was able to arrange a wheelchair free of charge for Eduardo in La Cieba, El Salvador.

The brand new wheelchair was custom-made by MOTION Specialties in Toronto by Janet Kerr, Vice President. The wheelchair travelled with us as part of our luggage.

Our team (10 nurses and 2 in business members) held many meetings in Toronto, raised funds and collected free medical supplies. We took 40 extra-large hockey bags of meds and supplies with us.

We were responsible to pay for 4 translators, 4 community leaders and rental of 4 vans and expenditures dealing with travel as well as our own airline tickets, meals and accommodations in San Salvador.

CRIPDES in San Salvador receives International funding to operate clinics, educate and focus on the rural areas. We were fortunate to have a volunteer Doctor Bruni from CRIPDES clinic, who generously gave his personal time for the entire time with us and diagnosed those who were seriously ill and needed



At the CRIPDES office in San Salvador. In the front are boxes containing hundreds of extra reading eye glasses which we left at this Clinic

further medical care.

We worked in El Salvador for 16 days, by visiting 8 Mayan communities, who are poorest of the poor up in the mountains treating over 1,700 people in that time period. Our days began at 6 a.m. The drive to the mountain villages was about 2 hours, returning back to our B & B around 6 p.m. Inventory of all our meds, etc. was done every evening to make sure that our medical supplies lasted a full 8 working days.

Lion Carol Keith and I worked as a team with our

own translator Miguel Mejia with us at all times. We took with us 2,000 pairs of reading glasses which were donated by an Optical company in Ontario. We screened and gave out over 800 pairs of reading glasses and 400 pairs of sunglasses; the rest off the glasses were left with Dr. Bruni at the CRIPDES office in San Salvador.



Mr. Norberto de Jesus Miranda attending the Health Clinic



Janet Kerr, Vice President of MOTION Specialties

We witnessed poverty and illnesses which appeared common in these villages, i.e. colds, parasites from dirty water, kidney problems, muscle pain, arthritis, cataracts, fungal problems, gastrointestinal problems, respiratory problems, diarrhea. The main diet is corn and beans!

Chickens, pigs, dogs and roosters were everywhere in the mountain villages with skinny cattle wondering around often along the highways.

During our visit to one particular village, I noticed a man walking with his hands, due to polio.



Edward sitting in his old wheel chair with his mother and siblings

In another village a very young boy with hydrocephalus and disfigured legs, was carried everywhere by his mother since there were no wheel chairs or strollers around.

I silently promised myself that I would help. Believing that no one should have to live a life walking with hands to get around or with a mother carrying her heavy boy everywhere!

In the Spring of 2010, I circulated information to my Lions Clubs in my Zone to raise enough funds to purchase two wheelchairs. Again, Janet Kerr from MOTION Specialties came to the rescue and custom-made two wheelchairs at her cost!

Normally El Salvador Government charges taxes on everything entering that country. I contacted the El

Salvador Consulate here in Toronto and asked for guidance and help. Consulate General Oscar Toledo was happy to assist and made arrangements with Ministry of Foreign Affairs in El Salvador to waive the Customs taxes.

Thanks to Christian Gomez, TACA Air Cargo (Toronto) for expediting the chairs at a special rate.



Edward now sitting in his brand new wheel chair which was presented to him at a Clinic

Negotiations with El Salvador authorities and paper work took 5 months!

The wheelchairs finally reached recipients in El Salvador at the end of November 2010. One went to Mr. Norberto de Jesus Miranda and the other to the boy, Edward who lives in El Admedro area

To assist me with my own donation, many thanks to **Toronto Cathay** and **Toronto Finlandia Lions Clubs** for their financial support towards this cause.



Lion Raija examining using the Snellen Chart with Miguel translating beside her



Boy with Hydrocephalus and disfigured legs sitting on his mothers lap



Lion Raija presenting a thank you gift to Consul General of El Salvador, Mr. Oscar Toledo

Paradise & District Lions Club

Paradise & District Lions Club sponsored 'Moxi' a Hearing Guide dog who is named after a hearing device manufactured by Unitron in Waterloo.

Moxi recently graduated in a ceremony which took place at the Lions main training facility in Oakville in June. Moxi was recently trained by and presented to Paradise & District Lions Club member **Dianne Saunders**.



This picture was taken at the Graduation Ceremony. Pictured are proud Lions Bob Saunders, Doug & Annette Kuhn, John Pfaffinger, Dianne Saunders, Joe Brick, Janet Pfaffinger, Denise Sutherland and Moxi

Killaloe & Area Lions Club

The Killaloe & Area Lions Club is a major contribution to the town's annual "Sno-Fun" winter carnival, organizing its opening supper, its youth talent show, and its closing dance. In addition, it provides refreshments for other activities, such as a family sledding party and the annual elementary schools broomball tournament.



Lion Andy Gajda joins president Jim Homer to serve up free hot dogs for the broomball players

Almonte Lions Club

The Almonte club recently presented a Life Membership to **Lion Stewart (Stu) Lee**.

Lion Stu joined our club in May of 1948 and this presentation was a special occasion for him.



Past President John Kerry of the Almonte Lions Club presented Lion Stu Lee with his Life Membership supported by his wife Jean.

Monkton Lions

The Monkton Lions participated in the July 1st. Canada Day parade held in Atwood, Ontario.



Lion Doug McEwen, being pulled by his grey mare



Lion Tony Smith, a member of the Monkton fire department is standing on top of the fire truck with two future Lions members



Monkton Lions tractor and float in downtown Atwood

Keene Lions

Keene Lions were at Bewdley with their new food trailer for Rice Lake Fishing Festival Kids' Day on Saturday, June 11.



Left to right are Lou Rinaldi, MPP for Northumberland-Quinte West, Tourism Minister of Ontario the Honorable Michael Chan and Keene Lions President Peter Armour.

Streetsville Tri-Club Meeting

The annual meeting of the Rotary, Kinsmen and Lions Clubs was hosted by the Kinsmen this year on Thursday, March 24 in Streetsville.



Mayor Hazel McClation addresses the Tri-Club meeting



Duncan Willock, Rotary President, Duane Lopes, Kinsmen President and Carl Easton, Lion Chief

Omeme Lions

Omeme Lions team up with Omeme Scouts on a regular cleanup of the Kawartha Lakes Canada Trail in Omeme area. A discarded large screen TV is typical of what is found.

submitted by Lion Sam Pittman



Belleville Lions

Belleville Lions Club held the Official Opening ceremonies of Belleville's new LIONS PAVILION. They have scheduled 24 "Concerts on the Bay" for the new venue for the summer season.

Lion Doug Thompson, Lions Liaison, and Lion President Harvey Gere hold the ribbon. Cutting the ribbon - MPP Leona Dombrowski, Mayor Neil Ellis, and MP Daryl Kramp.

submitted by Lion Wilma Bush



Cobourg Lions

Cobourg Lion President **Marg Grundy** hands over the keys to the '55 T-Bird car won by Darlene Brown, Campbellford (ticket #03326). **Bernard Murphy** donor of the car and also a Melvin Jones Fellowship recipient from the Cobourg Lions Club is shown with PID **Bill Maguire** and Draw Committee Chair Past President **Ron Wiebe**.

submitted by Lion Wilma Bush



Camp Huronda Project



Cabinet Diabetes Chair Lion Janice Schweder, Governor Lion Joyce Harvey and two boys who will attend Camp Huronda this summer being sponsored by District A-2 Camp Huronda Project.

submitted by Lion Wayne Scott

Lakefield Lions

At Lakefield Lions 65th anniversary April 30th, 1st **V.D. Governor Earl Oliver** presented a Life Membership to **Lion Gary Jones**.

submitted by Lion Wilma Bush



Town Beautification project in Port Rowan

What began as a simple suggestion to get a few Canadian flags from our local MP's office to decorate the town during the annual Canada Day week Car Show, morphed into a major town beautification project involving all 3 Lions Clubs in Port Rowan: the Lions, Lioness & Leos.

It turns out that the fierce Lake Erie winds at this beach community were too strong for mere flags. Banners, anchored at top & bottom & mounted on utility poles were needed. The 60+ banners, including Canadian flags & Lions Clubs' banners were funded by all 3 clubs. They are put up in the Spring & taken down just before winter.



The entire LP Lions Club poses with the Canadian flag version of the banner

submitted by Lion Bob McClelland

Dunsford & District Lions

Dunsford & District Lions had a very successful night with their food booth at the Bobcaygeon Tragically Hip Concert on June 25th. It was a sold out event with 250,000 people. We were the only service club there and had great reviews with our Beef on A Bun. The crowd supported our slogan ``HELP US HELP OTHERS``.



Dorchester Lions Club Contribution

The Dorchester and District Lions Club was out in force to tour the indoor track, gymnasium, game clock, new ice pad and other new features in the recreational facility. The naming rights for the game clock over the new ice pad have been purchased by the Lions Club. This commitment to the expansion project will be paid for over the next five years and this year's obligation amounting to \$8,000 was presented to Bruce Schruder, chair of the arena expansion fund-raising committee.

Bruce and Jack Baribeau, project manager for the project, were guest speakers after dinner with the Lions Club members. They indicated that the project is on budget and has been in use for many of this winter's activities. The facility has attracted a speed skating competition, a regional figure skating competition, college level ringette games, several Junior B, C & D hockey games, and hundreds of people weekly using the walking track, and the gym is now in full operation. It is truly becoming a centre of activity. They thanked the Lions for helping make this amazing project come together.



The Lions Club of Kitchener

CELEBRATING OUR 75th YEAR OF SERVICE

Saturday, November 05, 2011
Westmount Golf & Country Club
50 Inverness Drive, Kitchener, Ontario
N2M 4Z9

Social at 6 pm and Dinner at 7 pm
Tickets \$40.00 person
(Includes cocktails, meal, pin and beverages)
Dress Code: Business Casual
(Jeans are not acceptable at this venue)
Seating is Limited

Rooms available at the Waterloo Inn
Hospitality Room will be at the Inn prior and after the dinner
Transportation to and from Westmount will be provided



Our Guest Speaker
Past International President
Judge Brian Stevenson

For tickets please contact:
Lion Steve Dreyer
steve_dreyer@avivacanada.com
Lion Charlie Davis



The Lions Quest Fellowship Application

1. Recipient

Check here if the recipient is to be named later []

Name _____
(exactly as name should appear on Fellowship)

Address _____

Is the recipient a Lion/Lioness? (please circle if so)

Club Name _____

District _____

Check if the recipient is deceased []

If recipient is deceased, please print the name and address of the individual to whom the Fellowship is to be presented.
Name _____
Address _____

Name _____

Address _____

2. Donor

Complete this portion only if the donor is different from the recipient.

Donation made by (please circle):

Individual / Club / District / Multiple District / Other

Club Name _____

District _____

Is the donor a Lion/Lioness? (please circle if so)

Donor Name _____

Donor Address _____

Note: If there is more than one donor, please attach a list of donors and the amount contributed by each.

3. Payment (please check all that apply)

[] Cheque/bank draft/money order payable to **Lions Quest Canada**

[] Installment – minimum of \$100 – must be completed in 3 years from first installment date.

[] Use Lions Quest Fellowship funds previously donated for an unnamed recipient as received from _____

Credit Card: Visa [] MasterCard []

Card Number _____

Expiry Date _____

In the amount of \$ _____

Print the name of cardholder as it appears on the card _____

Signature of cardholder _____

4. Shipping Instructions

Print name, address (street number and name only please), telephone, fax and email information of individuals to whom the Fellowship is to be sent. **Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.**

Name _____

Address _____

Daytime Telephone Number _____

Fax Number _____

Email _____

5. Special Instructions

Please note the date if the Fellowship is being awarded in conjunction with a special event.

For office use only –

F _____

KS _____

F & P _____

11-10

MDA Directory Information

Council of Governor's Meeting Dates

- Council Meeting: September 10, 2011 – Markham, ON
- Council Meeting: November 5, 2011 – Markham, ON
- Council Meeting: March 3, 2012 – Markham, ON
- Council Meeting: June 1, 2012 – Niagara Falls, ON

District Conventions

Dist	Location	Date
A1	Leamington, Pele Motor Inn	April 13 - 15, 2012
A2	St. Catharines, Quality Inn Parkway Hotel	Mar 30 - Apr 1, 2012
A3	Kingston, Ambassador	April 13 - 15, 2012
A4	Ottawa, Hampton Inn	April 13 - 15, 2012
A5	Sault Ste Marie, Comfort Inn	April 20 - 22, 2012
A711	Toronto, Holiday Inn Select	April 27 - 29, 2012
A9	Goderich	May 4 - 6, 2012
A12	Huntsville, Deerhurst Resort	April 20 - 22, 2012
A15	Kitchener, Holiday Inn	April 27 - 29, 2012
A16	Haliburton, Pinestone Inn & Conference Centre	April 27 - 29, 2012

IMPORTANT DATES

MDA Convention

2011/12	Niagara Falls	May 31 - June 3, 2012
2012/13	Toronto	May 30 - June 2 2013
2013-14	To Be Announced	

International Conventions

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	Overland Park, Kansas
Sept. 2014	Puerto Rico



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Hero To Hero Team Canada

Hero To Hero Team Canada received a special request this year. Due to the difficulty in obtaining real Canadian maple syrup in Afghanistan, and with Canada Day approaching, we received an enquiry as to the possibility of Hero To Hero being able to send some maple syrup to Kandahar in time for their Canada Day breakfast.

Well the word went out and before long we had more offers of donations than we could handle. We gratefully accepted syrup from the Metro grocery store in Windsor, Ontario, Reids's Log Cabin Maple Syrup in Cambridge and Fairbairn Maple Syrup in Almonte, Ontario. Martha Mantha, a military mom and employee at Metro in Windsor convinced her boss to donate a case of syrup and her cousin Jay who works at Purolator Courier in Windsor shipped the syrup, cookies from Petrolia's "Cookie Lady" and bags of coffee from "Operation Caffeination" to Afghanistan for no charge. **Karen Wilson** is the Petrolia Cookie Lady and is a member of the **Petrolia Lions** in Petrolia, Ontario. She sent 150 dozen cookies with this shipment.

We also sent several Hero To Hero Directors coins to hand out to individuals that had done an outstanding job supporting our troops. The first one was presented to Rick Mercer.

Submitted by Lion M.B. Wilson



WO Tim Park. It looks like Tim is hiding in an alleyway so he doesn't have to share fresh baked cookies from the "Petrolia Cookie Lady"! Who can blame him, they are the best shortbread cookies known to man.



Canada Day Breakfast for coalition troops at Kandahar Airfield)

\$29,000.00 Raised

for Camp Trillium Childhood Cancer Support Centre

Snow, wind and rain - the **Townsend Lions** Classic Car Show in Simcoe has seen it all, particularly the rain this year on May 22nd. The Townsend Lions Club of 17 members and their wives have worked hard every year since 2007 in preparation for each year's show by soliciting sponsors and prizes passing out flyers, etc.

Despite the weather, this year, our hard work resulted in another successful event.

submitted by Lion Wayne Scott



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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.

MD"A" Membership Coordinator

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 email: mdathelionmag@hotmail.com

A1	Lion Shawn Davison	email: shawnd@yahoo.com	A711	Lion Jean Walcott	email: jeanwal@rogers.com
A2	Lion Wayne Scott	email: w.scott@a2lions.org	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

**Attach Your Address Label or
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**

THE
Lion
CLASSIFIEDS

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

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Cambridge, ON N1R 2Z8**

You may advertise items for sale, cottages or condos to rent, upcoming events held by your club, etc.



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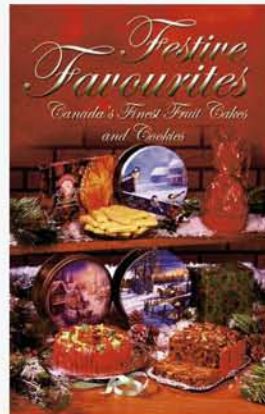
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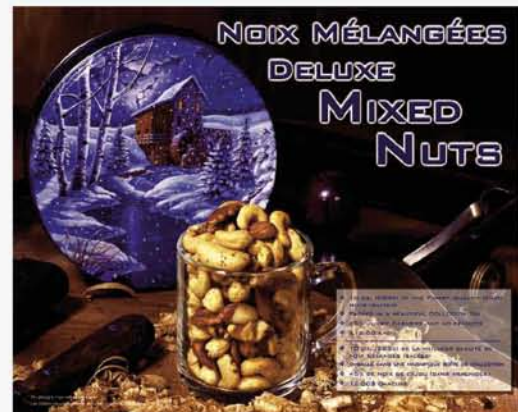
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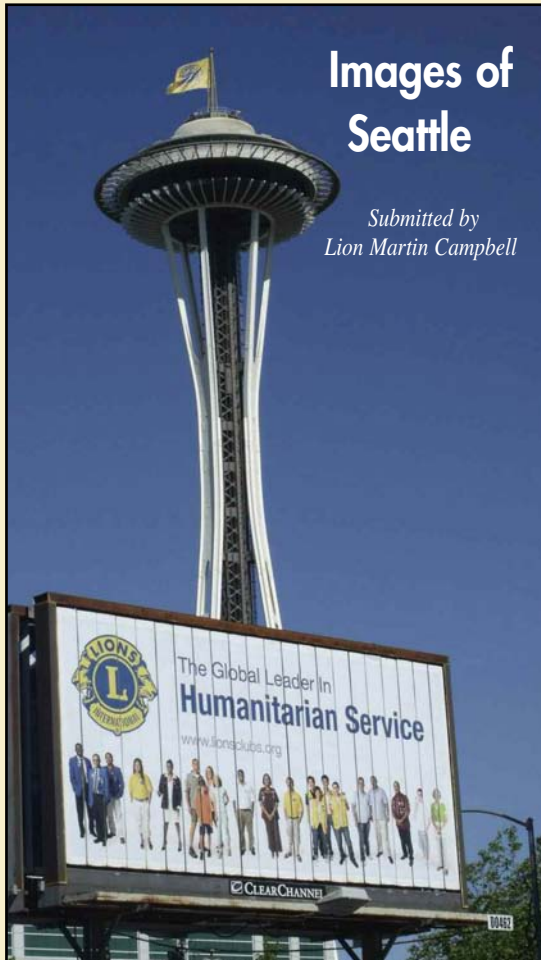
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Images of Seattle

Submitted by
Lion Martin Campbell



We Serve



Paradise & District Lions Club, St. Clements



Barb Grogan being presented with the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award by Past President Joe Brick. Barb has been a Lion for 18 years



Janet Pfaffinger being presented with the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award by Past President Joe Brick. Janet has been a Lion for 19 years



The Bruce Murray International Fellowship Award was presented to Denise Sutherland, Past Zone Chair 51 West by Past District Governor Todd Wilson. Denise has been a Lion for 19 years. We are so proud of our lions.

Thamesford Lions Club 50th Anniversary – May, 2011



Left: Lion charter member Joe Wallace, receiving his 50 year Charter award with D. G. Todd Wilson



Right: D.G. Todd presenting 7 Melvin Jones Fellows to Dave Woods, Jim Rogers, Don Knox, Bill Kerr, Chris Johnston, Howard Ferguson and Don Ballantyne

Agreement Number is:
41805020*