

LION



M.D. "A" Edition September/October 2012

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The China Disabled People's Performing Art Troupe performs at the 95th International Convention in Busan, Korea

THE Lion

Welcome to the Sep/Oct 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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Reading is Fundamental



Wayne A. Madden
*Lions Clubs International
President*

A few minutes ago you picked up your LION Magazine and began reading it. Congratulations. Your ability to read the LION Magazine qualifies you as not only literate but also highly literate. Nearly 1 billion people around the world are functionally illiterate. That's right. Twenty-six percent of the world's population can't even write their name. It's a problem not only in developing countries. In the United States alone, 21 million people can't read.

Former teachers, Linda and I personally can attest to the value of reading and writing and an education.

Attending college helped make us who we are, and we stressed the importance of education to our successful two daughters, both college graduates.

The ability to read can propel a person from poverty into a good job and a stable life. Books (and now the Internet) open up a world of possibility. The acquisition of knowledge is key to unlocking human potential, and reading is a fundamental skill needed to shape a successful life.

This year I'm asking Lions to expand our world of service by joining what I call the Reading Action Program (RAP). It's something every Lions club can do because the lack of reading skills plagues every community around the world. There are many ways Lions can help: reading to children at local libraries, volunteering as tutors through your local school and donating books and computers.

Lions also are encouraged to make a short RAP video that shows how your club promoted reading.

Videos can be submitted through the LCI YouTube channel. Visit the LCI website for information on the RAP video as well as literacy project ideas, literary partners and awards for clubs and district governors.

As children's author Dr. Seuss wrote, "The more you read, the more things you'll know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." I know you'll take up this challenge to fight illiteracy because no challenge is too great for Lions. In a world of service, helping children and adults learn to read will pave the way for a better world for all.

Wayne A. Madden
Lions Clubs International President

Remember the International in Lions Clubs

One of the great privileges of serving as an international officer is the opportunity to travel the world and meet people from many nations and backgrounds. It's been said that people are the same everywhere. I can tell you that's true. People want comfort, security and happiness for their families. It's also true that Lions everywhere are basically cut from the same cloth. Our clubs provide many forms of service, but they serve in the same way—meeting the various needs of their own communities.

I point out our basic similarity as Lions as part of my encouragement to Lions to take pride in being part of Lions Clubs International and to participate in it. Join Lions worldwide in the Global Service Action Campaigns: aid the blind in October, feed the hungry in December/January and improve the environment in

April. Take part in this year's literacy campaign. Contribute to LCIF. Use social media tools such as Facebook and Twitter to communicate with other Lions or at least to gain ideas from others.

It's great to focus on our communities. Let's keep doing that. But we also belong to the worldwide community. We are a global village. When I was young, my parents were very welcoming at the dinner table. Maybe my mom's brother's family would show up at dinner time or other relatives materialized. That didn't bother my parents in the least. There would always be enough food. I'm sure that small-town hospitality still exists. But because of the media and technological advances in communication we now know that many people far from our hometown are in need, and we must display a global hospitality. We

need to feed the hungry, help the blind see and teach reading skills, which are so important to success in life. We need to serve not only our neighbor but also other places and other people.

Remember the words of Helen Keller, who knew a few things about trust and faith: "When we do the best we can, we never know what miracle is wrought in our life, or in the life of another." In A World of Service, we Lions transform lives, communities and the global village.

Wayne A. Madden
Lions Clubs International President



Bradd Anderson
Council Chair

Madden. Within MD-A, our world of volunteers consists of approximately 550 Lions Clubs, 13,700 members, plus LEO and Lioness Club members. Together we are the driving force that assists locally, nationally and internationally. We are like no other!

Each year, our International President chooses a theme to help us focus on aspects of our volunteering spirit. You may have heard that "In a World of Service" is this year's theme chosen by International President

A few months back I received notice that District A-3 had been approved to receive a \$75,000US LCIF grant to assist with the purchase of radiation equipment for a district health center. This grant was made possible due to the collective service efforts of Lions Clubs - like yours. This is what we do!

MD-A is challenged with an increased need to provide service with a Lions family that is consistently decreasing. With this challenge in mind, I am asking you to utilize the resources available through your district membership and leadership teams (GMT and GLT). Leadership development is an important element in maintaining our membership and growing our organization. Resource components include: member orientation and re-orientation; coaching and

mentoring for all levels; effective meeting agendas; efficient timely communication.

Please do not underestimate the power of our Club Excellence Process. CEP is an excellent tool for engaging all club members in the planning process - establishing goals and plans of action for the club and the community. Using CEP allows each member to identify their role and the part they play in achieving these goals.

Your district has Lions members trained to assist your club to discover its inner strength through CEP and the resources provided by Lions Clubs International.

"In a World of Service",
CC Bradd Anderson
councilchair@mdalions.org



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

BUSAN, REPUBLIC OF KOREA

JUNE 17-21, 2012



AUDIT COMMITTEE

1. Modified the Audit Committee Charter regarding the review and evaluation of the independent auditor.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

1. Declared that the district governor, first vice district governor and second vice district governor elections in District 301-A1 (Philippines) for the 2012-2013 fiscal year cannot be affirmed, appointed Lion Ruth Chua as district governor in District 301-A1 for the 2012-2013 fiscal year, and declared vacancies in the offices of first vice district governor and second vice district governor for the 2012-2013 fiscal year, which shall remain vacant until further action by the International Board of Directors.
2. Upheld the second vice district governor election complaint filed in District 118-R (Turkey), declared the second vice district governor election in District 118-R for the 2012-2013 fiscal year null and void and of no force and effect, declared a vacancy in the office of second vice district governor for the 2012-2013 fiscal year and that the second vice district governor vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the International and District Constitutions and By-Laws, and declared that the filing fee less US\$100 shall be refunded to the Complainant.
3. Denied second vice district governor election complaints filed in District 321-F (India), District 324-A1 (India), District 335-B (Japan) and District 403-A2 (Togo) and declared the following as second vice district governors in their respective districts for the 2012-2013 fiscal year:
 - Lion Rajeev Goyal - District 321-F (India)
 - Lion V.S.B. Sunder - District 324-A1 (India)
 - Lion Hideki Kitahata - District 335-B (Japan)
 - Lion Diamilatou Aka Anghui - District 403-A2 (Togo)
4. Approved resolution to establish a legal entity in India to be called "The International Association of Lions Clubs (Secretariat Office India)."
5. Revised the Standard Form District and Multiple District By-Laws in the Board Policy Manual to reflect the newly established language for membership dues.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

1. Decreased the room requirement for bidding cities from 6,000 to 5,000 rooms.

DISTRICT AND CLUB SERVICE COMMITTEE

1. Reinstated the San Diego Brotherhood Lions Club into good standing.

2. Recognized the Republic of Georgia and the Kingdom of Cambodia as provisional zones following the adjournment of the 2012 International Convention.
3. Included the Republic of Guinea Bissau in the territory of District 403-A1 and the Republic of Angola in the territory of District 403-B, in order to provide greater assistance to the further development of new countries, following the adjournment of the 2012 International Convention.
4. Deferred the redistricting of Multiple District 354 until the close of the 2013 International Convention, unless a new proposal is submitted and approved by the International Board of Directors during the October 2012 or April 2013 board meetings.
5. Revised the Board Policy Manual to approve a hotel room for nine (9) days and meal expenses of up to seven (7) days for DGEs attending the DGE Seminar starting in the 2012-2013 fiscal year.
6. Appointed Lion Isamu Sakamoto to serve as the district governor of District 332-D for the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

FINANCE AND HEADQUARTERS OPERATION COMMITTEE

1. Approved Northern Trust as the custodian for the International Association of Lions Clubs General Fund and Emergency Reserve.
2. Approved the 2011-2012 4th Quarter Forecast, which is projecting a modest deficit.
3. Approved the 2012-2013 Budget, reflecting a surplus.
4. Approved modifying speaker engagement policy to limit the number to one official speaker in the event that sub-district conventions are held in conjunction with the multiple district convention.
5. Modified policy regarding vice president travel to area forums.
6. Housekeeping modifications to accounting procedures.
7. Made a housekeeping modification to district governor reimbursements clarifying Rules of Audit.
8. Modified board policy to clarify past international directors eligible for an in-district budget.

LCIF

1. Approved corporate resolutions in order to establish Lions Clubs International Foundation (Secretariat Office India), as a Section 25 company in India.
2. Renewed Core 4 funding priority status for the diabetes prevention and control program for one year, until June 30, 2013, and for Lions Quest for three years, until June 30, 2015.

3. Increased the humanitarian grants budget for the current fiscal year by an additional US\$2.5 million.
4. Approved 34 Standard, International Assistance and Core 4 grants totaling US\$1,790,025.
5. Denied one grant application.
6. Expanded the Lions Quest Advisory Committee to include additional Lion leaders with strong experience in supporting Lions Quest and technical experts.
7. Approved four projects to support rebuilding/recovery efforts, with the funding (US\$2.2 million) to be provided from the designated funds from the Japan earthquake/tsunami fund.
8. Approved a contract in the amount of US\$181,000 with Service Learning Life Skills Network for consulting services for a one-year period.
9. Amended the LCIF Operations and Policy Manual as follows: replaced the phrase "per capita" with "per member basis," updated qualifications for the LCIF Steering Committee and revised the exhibit which outlines forms of recognition.
10. Amended Chapter 16 of the Board Policy Manual as follows: updated the foundation's bank account signatories and updated mileage reimbursement rates.

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

1. Rescinded Resolution 3 from the Leadership Committee report from April 2012. Established a new policy that will begin in 2012-2013, whereby only those DGEs who complete the required training components will be eligible to receive the DGE meal per diem related to their DGE Seminar attendance.
2. Rescinded Resolution 4 from the Leadership Committee report from April 2012 related to the GMT and GLT appointments at the International level (Constitutional Area Leaders, Area Leader and Special Area Advisors).
3. Adjusted board policy related to the DGE Seminar group leader hotel and meal expense reimbursement from 11 to 10 days.
4. Made housekeeping revisions to the Board Policy Manual, Chapter XIV related to ongoing leadership programs.
5. Revised the Board Policy Manual to accurately reflect the application submission for Regional Lions Leadership Institutes.

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

1. Approved updated charter for the Centennial Planning Committee, which will take effect at the beginning of the 2012-2013 year.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. Determined that the GMT/GLT Rules of Audit be amended to reflect changes made to the automobile mileage allowance of US\$.41 per mile (US \$.25 per kilometer) and air fare approvals for international travel fares under US\$1,000.
2. Determined that the Regional Rules of Audit for Extension representatives and CEEI be amended to reflect changes made to the automobile mileage allowance of US\$.41 per mile (US\$.25 per

kilometer) and a new meal allowance limitation of \$25 per meal.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

1. Restructured the Public Relations Division by splitting the Public Relations Department into Audiovisual & Events, Corporate Communications, and Online Communications.
2. Determined that the Service Activities Leo of the Year Award recipients will automatically qualify for the presidential Leo of the Year Award.

SERVICE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

1. Named the 2011-2012 Leo of the Year Award recipients.
2. Changed the Leo of the Year Award application deadline to April 1 of each fiscal year.

For more information on any of the above resolutions, please refer to the LCI website at www.lionsclubs.org or contact the International Office at 630-571-5466.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEPTEMBER 2012 MEETING OF THE GOVERNORS' COUNCIL

Administration – Council authorized the term of office for MDA Treasurer Jack Fisher be extended by one year to June 30, 2014.

Convention Advisory – The 2012 MDA Convention suffered a net loss of \$68.18. Planning is well underway for the 2013 MDA Convention being held May 30-June 2, 2013 in Richmond Hill. Lions Clubs International 1st Vice President Barry Palmer and his wife Ann have accepted the invitation to attend. Registration Forms are now available. Planning has also commenced for the MDA 2014 Convention being held May 2-4, 2014 in Huntsville.

Convention 2014 – The committee announced that the major Convention fundraiser will again be the 'Maple Leaf Weekend.' Tickets will be made available to the Clubs shortly. A site inspection was recently completed with members of LCI including 1st Vice President Barry Palmer, 2nd Vice President Joe Preston and PIP Joe Wroblewski. LCI representatives were extremely impressed with the quality of the facilities and the extensive amount of organization completed to date.

Diabetes – The Lions Clubs of Canada have been awarded, 'The Outstanding National Partnership Award' by the Canadian Diabetes Association. World

Diabetes Day is November 14th.

Global Leadership Team – A successful Club Excellence Process Facilitators workshop was held in August. There are now more than 80 trained CEP Facilitators throughout MDA.

Global Membership Team – The team conducted a membership growth planning session in August for the 1st Vice District Governors and the GMT Chairs.

Hearing Conservation – The sale of Lions Trading Pins at the MDA Convention raised \$222.75 for Lions Camp for the Deaf.

LCIF – The ten District Co-ordinators have been approved for a three year term by LCIF Chair Wing-Kun Tam. Official tax receipts can be obtained for persons donating to LCIF through our Canadian Fund. Personal donations should be sent to Lions of Canada Fund for LCIF, Barrhaven RO, Box 89059, Nepean, Ontario, K2S 0R2. Club and corporate donations should be sent to Oak Brook, Illinois.

Lions Foundation of Canada – The Purina Dog Walks conducted across Canada raised more than one million dollars with over half of this money coming from Clubs in MDA.

Lions Quest – District A711 has booked a workshop

in Mississauga to train 36 teachers and a training workshop will be held for Brock University Teaching Students.

Opportunities for Youth – This past year six Districts in MDA participated in the Lions Youth Exchange Program with 80 youth visiting Canada and 30 youth travelling abroad. The MDA Effective Speaking Contest will be held May 3-5, 2013 in St. Catharines. The Leo Conference will be February 23-24, 2013 in Brantford. Information is being forwarded to the Clubs in respect to the Peace Poster and Blind Essay Contests.

Promotions – Unanimous support was given for the continuation of the Lions Bench program. Information is available by contacting Paris Equipment Manufacturing Ltd. at 1-800-387-6318.

Sight Conservation – A cheque in the amount of \$217,000. was presented to Lake Joseph Centre representing donations made by the Lions of MDA.

Treasury – The Governors' Council approved the MDA 2012-2013 Budget.

For more information, questions or concerns relating to these highlights please contact MDA Secretary John Stewart at email: secretary@mdalions.org.

Newburgh Camden Lions Club Jamboree

The third annual Newburgh Camden Lions Club Jamboree, held August 10, 11, 12, hosted almost 100 camper trailers from all around southern, southeastern Ontario and Quebec. The attendee travelling the furthest came from Miramichi, New Brunswick. Many more fans purchased day tickets to come for the lineup of talented local musicians, that included Don Cochrane and Neville Wells as the headliners. The grandstand was near capacity most of the time. People enjoyed the Lions' canteen for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The many draw items were announced and delivered. Over the past few months the club has been selling tickets at our regular monthly mini-jamborees, on a Martin guitar. The Martin guitar draw winner was Loretta Wilson, a Newburgh resident. President **Steve**

Williams presented her with her prize and she promises to put her new instrument to good use. The Lions are thankful for all of our wonderful sponsors, vendors, and patrons for their support. Several members of the **Sydenham Lions Club** donated their time to come and help on the gate and ticket booth. Special mention goes to

Wayne Clark and staff at Napanee Oil Change Center for the generous support. Photos show most of our club with Wayne's 1946 Chevrolet 3 ton flatbed, and the guitar winner. Look for us again in 2013.

Submitted by Lion Wilma Bush



Campaign SightFirst II Funds in Action

Have you made a difference in the world of sight? If you or your club donated to Campaign SightFirst II, the answer is a resounding yes! Many personal stories of people helped by Lions through Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) involve the diminishment or loss of sight, fear and dependence on others. Then Lions help through an LCIF grant. Sight is restored or improved, fear is gone and freedom is regained.

This is exactly what happened to Gomez Patricio, a cataract patient in Argentina. "Before the operation, my head was always hurting. I felt bad because I could not see. I was scared of falling down," Patricio says. "The surgery changed my life. Now I see well from far away, and I do not fear that I will fall like before. I am very grateful for Lions."

As the flagship blindness prevention program of LCIF, SightFirst has helped improve or restore sight for more than 30 million people around the world since 1990. This has been done through training eye care professionals, delivering services and improving facilities. Campaign SightFirst II (CSFII) was launched in 2005, raising more than \$200 million for SightFirst thanks to the efforts of nearly 8,000 volunteers and generous contributions from individuals, clubs and districts worldwide.

With funds from CSFII, Lions continue to help control and eliminate avoidable blindness including cataract, trachoma and onchocerciasis ("river blindness") while combating other threats to vision such as childhood blindness, diabetic retinopathy and uncorrected refractive error. For the first time, SightFirst will address threats to vision by supporting education and rehabilitation for those who are blind and have low vision, as well as vital public health research.

Lions' donations have helped millions of people like Patricio regain their lives. A donation gives low vision services to children in Kansas. It provides sight to Piyadasa Hewavithana in Sri Lanka. It helps Jelbert overcome vision problems so he can participate in school in the Philippines, and it does so much more.

Low Vision Initiative

In Kansas, a largely rural state, many children must travel far if they need an eye exam. The distance to eye health providers can be an obstacle. Even if a family is close to a city, they may not be able to afford the pediatric eye care that is currently available. This is where Lions step in.

A statewide low vision program for children is being strengthened by the Kansas Lions Sight Foundation, the Kansas State School for the Blind and individual providers of the Kansas Optometric Association. With SightFirst support, the low vision program will serve more than 400 children and educate 1,400 key community stakeholders about low vision needs by next year.

"Kansas Lions are honored and excited to be the

recipient of the first SightFirst low vision grant in the United States. We've been actively involved in vision screening events for years; this project takes us to a new level of involvement," says **Lion Beverly Nichols**.

The \$71,000 grant will equip 10 regional clinics and a mobile outreach program, reaching children in rural parts of Kansas. It will also create training and public education activities. Establishing a low vision device lending library will benefit the students and school districts of Kansas.

"The recent SightFirst grant from LCIF will immediately benefit visually impaired students throughout Kansas," says Dr. Kendall Krug, a participating optometrist. "In a state with a largely scattered, rural population, providing quality low vision services using the outdated centralized approach was not effective. With support from **Kansas Lions** and this grant, we are assured the continuation of this vital program."



Dylan Ferguson has his color vision tested by Dr. Kendall Krug as part of the Kansas Children's Low Vision Initiative while his sister Sierra watches

Cataract Surgeries

In Sri Lanka, Piyadasa Hewavithana is one of thousands who have Lions to thank for regained sight through cataract surgery. Once nearly blind, he now enjoys reading the newspaper and works again. "My sincere thanks to the doctor and staff of the Lions Hospital for providing free vision for poor people who would otherwise go blind. I have a new life," says Hewavithana.

LCIF has given more than \$1 million in grants for sight-related projects in Sri Lanka. In addition to surgeries, eye care wings were constructed or upgraded at seven government hospitals and three Lions eye hospitals received infrastructure development, human resource training and cataract subsidies.

Lions continue SightFirst projects in Sri Lanka by working with partners to build eye care systems in more regions of the country. This includes addressing cataract surgical backlogs. A newly-constructed Lions eye hospital in Ratnapura, financed through a SightFirst grant and a generous donation by the **Lions of Finland** and their government, will address even more eye care needs. Through these efforts, Lions are able

to help even more people in Sri Lanka regain their sight.



With funds raised through Campaign SightFirst II, cataract patients in Argentina and many other people around the world have a brighter future from improved vision

Education in the Philippines

Jelbert, a visually disabled child who has congenital cataract, was referred to the Resources for the Blind, Inc. (RBI)-Davao Medical Coordinators for cataract surgery. When he first arrived, he could not participate in pre-school activities because he lacked communication and play skills. While awaiting surgery, he was enrolled in RBI's Early Intervention and Rehabilitation Program to develop motor, cognitive and communication skills.

The Philippines needs educational services for children who are blind with additional disabilities. LCIF and SightFirst are joining with the Perkins School for the Blind to ensure all children like Jelbert have the opportunity to attend school. The Philippines project is the first SightFirst grant awarded for education and rehabilitation. Through expanding educational opportunities and empowering parents as advocates for their children, the SightFirst Philippines project is laying a foundation for broader social inclusion. When communities witness what children with disabilities can achieve when they are given the opportunity to attend school, stigmas and discrimination will begin to dissolve.

Jelbert is now learning pre-speech and communication skills and improving his playing skills. Because of this, Jelbert is now participating in group activities at school.

In addition to these examples, CSFII funds have been approved for many other projects including support for refractive error centers in Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, the Philippines and the United States. CSFII achievements also include 881,557 cataract surgeries, 5,230 diabetic retinopathy treatments, 147,057 trachoma surgeries and 37,141,374 onchocerciasis (river blindness) treatments.

Lions' donations to CSFII have had a lasting impact on sight around the world. The expansion of SightFirst into new areas such as education and rehabilitation for the blind ensures that the program continues to benefit people in need worldwide. Thank you for your support.

Blowout in Busan

Convention in Korea Energizes 55,000 Lions

by Jay Copp

Flanked by a calm sea on one side and glimmering steel towers on the other, Lions worldwide paraded down a wide boulevard of Busan with flair, friendliness and, above all, festivity. Row after row of Chinese Lions, resplendent in blue and white shirts, fervently chanted a slogan. A middle-age Pennsylvanian Lion strayed from his pack and exultantly high-fived the jumble of Koreans lined up on the street to see what the fuss was all about. A female Korean Lion in a yellow vest watching the parade and excited to see the blue-jeaned, cowboy-hatted Texans ringing small cowbells, cried out, "I luv' you!"



Lions cram into the exhibit hall in Busan

The gusto and camaraderie of the parade typified the 95th International Convention in late June in Busan. A record 55,308 Lions, the vast majority of them Korean, registered for the annual Lions gathering. (Not all came to Busan.) Conventioneers elected a new president and second vice president, cheered on the new district governors, listened attentively to thoughtful speeches by the head of the World Health Organization and other significant people, enjoyed rousing entertainment and partook in the omnipresent fellowship.

Lions didn't let language or cultural differences

hinder engagement. In the convention hall, a U.S. Lion made eye contact and smiled at a Lion from another nation and then thrust a pin into his pocket. "I don't have any pins," the Lion protested. "Think I care?" the Lion roared back.

The first plenary opened with an Idol moment, Korean-style. Sung-Bong Choi, homeless by himself for years since a young child and then a national sensation after his powerful, operatic voice was heard on an Idol-type TV show, welcomed the 21 past international presidents in Busan with a thunderous song. The 2011-12 president, Wing-Kun Tam of Hong Kong, China, detailed the many successes of Lions over the past year. He had asked Lions to believe in one another and our service mission and to care of one another like family, to involve youths in Lions and to expand participation in the four Global Service Action Campaigns.



New International President Wayne A. Madden of Indiana receives the presidential ring from Immediate Past President Wing Kun-Tam of Hong Kong, China

"So how did we do? I think one word sums it up: Wow," Tam said. The four service campaigns tallied nearly 5 million service hours spread among more than 50,000 service projects. Even more impressive: Lions planted 12,856,322 trees. Those trees, besides beautifying their surroundings, should produce 13.7 million metric tons of life-giving oxygen.

"I want everybody to take a deep breath now," Tam

said. "Yes, that breath and many, many more was made possible by Lions. Maybe we should do a TV commercial that shows a bright, shiny day and it says, 'Today's beautiful day brought to you by Lions Clubs International.'"

A few months prior to the convention Lions Clubs International and the World Health Organization renewed their long-standing partnership for another five years, and the keynote in Busan was Dr. Margaret Chan, director general of the World Health Organization. Chan decried the vast disparity in wealth and access to healthcare in the world: "a profoundly unfair, lopsided world of vast privilege, hoarded by the billionaires, the multi-millionaires, indifferent to the misery, the poor health, the early deaths from entirely preventable causes, of the bottom billion, the people who live on less than a dollar a day."

Chan vigorously praised Lions for preventing river blindness and trachoma and proudly noted that blindness is declining. "This is what happens when a posse of yellow vests, a pride of Lions, a family 1.3 million strong, roars into action," she said.

Following Chan, 2011-12 LCIF Chairperson Sid L. Scruggs III summarized the wide, effective scope of the Foundation – from preventing measles and providing disaster relief to aiding youth through Lions Quest and curtailing childhood blindness. Ken Miyata, a council chairperson in Japan and member of the East Japan Tsunami Recovery Committee, sadly related that 30 Lions died as a result of the disaster and many more lost homes and jobs. Yet Lions are persevering, as his nation is. "Japan is now on a steady road to healing and Lions in Japan are continuing to help with the recovery," he said.

Wayne A. Madden of Indiana solemnly took the oath of office as the 2012-13 international president during the final plenary. Befitting his love of sports and support for local teams, the 15-minute celebration prior to the oath featured the University of Indiana and the Notre Dame fight songs piped into the vast hall as poster-carrying Hoosiers and others marched before the stage and the waving Madden family.

Madden urged Lions to promote literacy and to



Korean drummers start the opening plenary session with a bang



A Korean children's choir sings "Let Peace Begin With Me" near the end of the final plenary

generally embrace service. "Service is what we do and who we are. It defines us as a revered, highly respected institution," he said.



Lions from two parts of the world find fellowship at the convention

An Indy 500 auto race fan, Madden also encouraged clubs to do quarterly "pit-stops." Said Madden, "It's necessary to set aside a day to reflect, to review the status of membership plans and refocus efforts as needed. Take care of small problems before they become too big."

Madden hit the ground running; at the end of his speech two officials from the United States Agency for International Development joined him on stage to partner on improving early childhood reading in developing nations. The partnership was "conditional" on Lions in attendance heartily assenting to the initiative. "Lions, on a count of three, let me hear you roar if you think Lions are up to the challenge," Madden said. The roar was sufficiently loud.



Two participants in the Leo-Lion summit at the convention meet

The crowd also roared in greeting the newly elected Second Vice President Joe Preston of Arizona. After Barry Palmer of Australia serves as president in 2013-14, Preston is slated to lead LCI in 2014-15.

Leading Lions this year will be 753 district governors, who just prior to the end of the convention saw a spouse or friend ceremoniously pull off their district-elect ribbons. After requisite picture taking, the district governors, along with thousands of other Lions, sped out of the hall and ultimately headed back to their communities, enthused, re-energized and more connected than before to other Lions and our mission of service.

Bonus coverage of the Busan convention is online in the digital LION. For a video , slide shows, speeches and stories, go to www.lionmagazine.org

Five Memorable Moments

Uncommon Rapper

Margaret Chan, the head of the World Health Organization, can not only bring sight and healing to the world but she also can rap. Leaving the speaker's podium for center stage at the plenary hall and then shaking her hips and gesturing with her hands, she rapped a poem of praise to Lions:

*I am speaking to a vast/posse of yellow vests
rappin' if you haft /to get the message out
Dressed to impress/in your yellow vests
Get the bad guys/save the eyes
Watch out, cataract/under attack
The lion sleeps tonight?/No way
No time to rest/in your yellow vests
Forget the "me"/it's "we"*

*Planting a million trees
Giving glasses to the kiddies/see?
Helping WHO/turn on the lights
Insight/foresight/all right!
Blind from bug bites/No more!
I hear a roar/philanthropic to the core!*



Chan raps out praise of Lions

Dancing That Pierces the Heart

Never mind that they are disabled or that they went over their allotted 10 minutes by a half hour, the China Disabled People's Performing Art Troupe captured the hearts of Lions with a stunning dance sequence at the third plenary session. In precise movements too perfect for ordinary people, the troupe proved that dance evokes a language of harmony that surpasses the boundaries of words. But maybe the dancers were especially inspired because they knew what was coming: shortly after performing the troupe and Deng Pufang, honorary chairperson of the China Disabled Persons' Federation, were jointly awarded the 2012 Lions Clubs International Humanitarian Award.



Dancers from the China Disabled People's Performing Art Troupe communicate love

Fair Trade; Currency is Respect

An example of the spontaneous international good will and camaraderie among Lions found over and over at a convention, Tom Lyle of Erie, Illinois, noticed a

Lion from Japan motioning at him. The Lion wanted his red, white and blue ribbon. Fair enough. Next thing he knew the Lion gave him his shirt off his back, well, his colorful kimono anyway.



This Japanese Lion keeps his kimono but shares his good will

Why Our Service Matters

Jong-Wook Jang told the Lions he once was a "miserable car accident victim." Just 24 then, the accident robbed him of his dreams and put him in a wheelchair, he told district governors-elect. He remade himself at the Daegu Comprehensive Rehabilitation Center, supported by Korean Lions. He met his wife there and found within himself the confidence and motivation to eventually lead a wooden artwork company with 46 employees, 36 of them with disabilities. His life was a "miracle," made possible by Lions.

Can't Lead Without Love

(Tie) People and places: we serve the places we love and our service is often possible because of the people we love. After presenting flowers to his wife, Linda, brand-new president Wayne Madden brought old friend and mentor Past International Director Gene Rice to the stage to tenderly sing "Back Home Again in Indiana." In his final speech as president, Wing-Kun Tam described how the death of his wife, Irene, drained him of his motivation until his children and his Lions family revived his faith in action and service.



Tam gives flowers to his three children



Past International Director Gene Rice of Indiana croons "Back Home Again in Indiana"



We Serve

Celebrating 10 Years of Sight for Kids

by Allie Stryker



We Serve

Alyanna Quimlat of the Philippines knows the benefits of healthy eyes and the Sight for Kids program. A Sight for Kids vision screening and eyeglasses helped her rise from among the lower performing students to become salutatorian of her middle school's graduating class.

"During third grade, a free eye consultation was held by the Peninsula Lions Club through the leadership of Ms. Gila Garcia. I was one of the fortunate students who were given the free eyeglasses," said Alyanna in her salutatorian speech. "Before, I thought my eyesight was normal, even though I could not clearly see what was written on the board. What a big help these eyeglasses were to me. Because of your support, I was able to reach where I am right now."

At just 14 years old, Alyanna recognizes that her eye sight is precious. Access to an eye exam and eyeglasses brought her world into focus—and brought academic success within her reach. Today, Sight for Kids in the Philippines is one of eight such programs in Asia providing much-needed vision screenings and follow-up care.



A child has her vision screened in the Philippines thanks to the Sight for Kids, LCIF's partnership program with Johnson & Johnson Vision Care

An estimated 19 million children are visually impaired around the world, according to the World Health Organization. More than half of these children have refractive errors (nearsightedness, farsightedness and astigmatism) that can be diagnosed through eye exams and easily corrected with eyeglasses. Left untreated, severe visual impairment and blindness can eventually occur. In Asia, a lack of access to visual impairment treatment has resulted in an estimated 1 million blind children.

To reduce childhood visual impairment and blindness in Asia, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) and Johnson & Johnson Vision Care created the Sight for Kids program in 2002. Led by Lions and local partners, the program recruits eye care professionals who train local teachers to conduct school-based vision screenings and eye

health education in underserved communities. When needed, students are referred to a local eye care professional and receive an eye exam, eyeglasses and further care at no cost.

"When this program began, I was very happy because we could better serve the people of our community," says Dr. Letty Anzures, an optometrist, a Sight for Kids volunteer and a Paolo City Emerald Lions Club member. "With the partnership with Johnson & Johnson, we were recently able to provide 200 more pairs of eyeglasses to local kids."

As World Sight Day is observed in October, the Sight for Kids program and its partners will celebrate its 10th anniversary. A decade after launching, eight Sight for Kids programs are thriving in the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Nepal and India.

"Gaining access to an eye screening early in life is critical since many vision-related issues can be addressed through preventative care," says Thibaut Mongon, the Asia Pacific regional president of Johnson & Johnson Vision Care. "We believe everyone is entitled to healthy vision, and our partnership with Sight for Kids gets us closer to this goal."

To date, more than 17 million children have had their vision screened through Sight for Kids. Of these, more than 500,000 children have received professional eye exams and 200,000 have received free eyeglasses.

"Sight for Kids shows what's possible when committed partners believe in addressing childhood health and sight issues," says Wing-Kun Tam, LCIF Chairperson. "Lions are leaders in blindness prevention and Johnson & Johnson is a leader in vision care. Together, this partnership allows us to save sight in areas of great need."

The accomplishments of the program have a special meaning for members of Sight for Kids in Thailand, one of the original countries involved. "When you are able to talk to [the children] before and after surgery, you can feel that deep inside you have just helped a young kid," says Vuthi Boonnikornvoravith, founder of Sight for Kids Thailand and a past board member of Lions Clubs International. "They always remember the Lions who have been helping them and, we hope someday, they will be able to help other less fortunate students."

Thammasak Chuthong is one of the recipients of Sight for Kids' care in Thailand. As an infant, he had cataract surgery in his left eye. Nine years later, a Sight for Kids examination revealed continuing vision problems in that eye. Because his vision problem was caught early through the screening, Thammasak received eye surgery at a local Lions hospital. His sight was restored and permanent damage was prevented.

"Our goal is to make it possible for an ever-growing number of children to be served by this excellent program," says Boonnikornvoravith. "Sight for Kids in Thailand has real impact because it creates an

awareness of eye health among schoolteachers, children and their parents, not to mention the public."



Vuthi Boonnikornvoravith, founder of Sight for Kids Thailand, helps give children in Thailand free glasses through Sight for Kids

During this anniversary year, Sight for Kids partners are celebrating accomplishments and also focusing on the program's potential and a new decade of efforts and success. Johnson & Johnson Vision Care has committed \$2 million to continue funding Sight for Kids in areas of need.

"If the next 10 years continues the momentum of the first decade, we will be delighted to have screened truly unprecedented numbers of children for uncorrected refractive errors and been able to provide appropriate treatment to those unable to afford it," says Mongon.

On World Sight Day and throughout October, visit www.LCIF.org to follow Sight for Kids celebrations and events.

Bath & District Lions

Deputy Mayor Ric Breese of Loyalist Township and A3 District Gift of Life Chair **Lion Mary Grace Amann** are shown in a Bath and District Lions Canada Day display. It only takes two minutes to register consent to be an Organ Donor on Trillium Gift of Life web site <http://beadonor.ca>. Approximately 1500 Ontarians are waiting for life-saving organs. Every three days one person in this Province dies while waiting for a life-saving organ transplant. One donor can save up to eight lives and enhance up to 75 more.





We Serve

Lions on Location



We Serve

Australian Lions To the Rescue

Situated on a picturesque stretch of coastline 90 minutes by car from Sydney, Australia, Caves Beach draws legions of swimmers, surfers and kite surfers. They've been protected from harm since 1929 by the Caves Beach Surf Live Saving Club. No life has ever been lost at Caves Beach while members have been on patrol.



The new rescue boat is named the *Pride of Swansea*

Swansea Lions want to keep that sterling safety record intact. Assisted by the Australian Lions Foundation, the club donated \$12,000 (US\$13,000) to the beach club for a new rescue boat. The club was making do with a 15-year-old vessel that needed constant repair.

Telethon Draws Viewers, Donations

RTL is the most-watched German TV station, so German Lions were optimistic when RTL agreed to include a Lions' project in Brazil during its 16th annual telethon. The Lions were not disappointed. The program raised 579,000 euros (US\$760,000) from viewers for a center for blind and severely disabled children in Recife, Brazil.

Even better, RTL matched that amount, and the German government kicked in nearly the same amount. Understanding the leveraged value of any contribution, Lions clubs from Germany had made about 300 of the 1,600 donations from viewers for the children's center.



Past Council Chair *Jörg-Michael Kimmig* appears on German television to appeal for funds for a children's center

The telethon also provided Lions with unprecedented exposure in Germany. The charitable initiative began with the popular midday news magazine show, "Punkt 12," on which Past Council

Chair **Dr. Jörg-Michael Kimmig** discussed Lions' service.

Says Wolfram Kons, the charity event coordinator who traveled beforehand to Brazil to learn about the Lions' children's center, "I experienced firsthand how committed the Lions are to improving children's lives in Brazil, and I am impressed how powerful the Lions in Germany are."

'Mother River' Smothered with Lions' Love

The man-made Horikawa River flows through the heart of Nagoya, Japan's fourth-largest city. The river glides past Nagoya Castle, built in the early 1600s during the samurai era and famous for its "shachihoko," the golden dolphins that adorn the roof of its castle tower. The reigning shogun had ordered the waterway to be built to bring lumber to construct his indomitable fortress. Since then, the river has enabled countless ships to transport rice, vegetables, fish and salt to the city. The waterway has been so central to the city's identity that residents fondly refer to it as the "Mother River."



Residents hang flower baskets along the *Horikawa River*

Sadly, rapid industrialization in the first part of the 20th century polluted the river. By the 1960s, the Horikawa had degenerated into a foul, stinking flow choked with sludge. The river was a civic embarrassment. The water quality was so fetid that that the "people of Nagoya were ashamed and did not want to deal with it," according to the Japanese LION.

Lions finally stepped in. The first step in the river's revitalization occurred in 1999 when 30 Lions clubs in Nagoya carried out a signature campaign to divert clean water from the Kiso River to the Horikawa River. Lions collected nearly 200,000 signatures in less than two months.

That was just the beginning. Spearheaded by the **Nagoya Horikawa Lions Club**, Lions and others reached out to business leaders, universities and other community groups to work with government officials on the river's renewal. Among the initiatives were a massive cleanup campaign, the planting of 10,000 tulips along the river, a photo contest, a symposium and a large gathering of elementary school students in

support of the river. In recent years, the City of Nagoya has dredged up sludge in the river and repaired its embankments.

Nagoya is a city of resilience and rebirth. Much of the city, including most of the castle, was destroyed in 1945 during the World War II air raids, but the tower was rebuilt in 1959 as Nagoya steadily rebuilt. The once dirty and smelly Horikawa now flows with dignity.

The river's rebirth is symbolized by the annual flower hanging basket project. From Sept. 28 to Oct. 3, hundreds of residents including Lions gather in a square to make hanging flower baskets that then decorate the riverside of Horikawa. At the end of October, the baskets are gratefully returned to the volunteers, who use them to decorate their own balconies and gardens.

We Serve Children in South Africa

The needs of children often are at the forefront of service of Lions in South Africa. A child rides high, well, halfway high, in the saddle of a miniature horse at the Helen Bishop Home, an orthopedic rehabilitation home supported by the **Kimberley Lions**.



A youth gets vertical at a camp for diabetic children in the Kwazulu-Natal Midlands organized by **Hilton Lions**; campers are sponsored by many clubs in District 410



C. Children happily learn at Tlameleg School for



children with disabilities, supported by Kimberley Lions. The arts skills taught at the Embocraft Training Centre, a project of the **Gillitts-Camperdown and Kloof Lions**, enable many parents to make crafts that support their families.

Contest Salves Thirst for Service

When the well is dry, we know the worth of water. Ben Franklin, the quintessential American, said that. But his sentiment is universal, and Leos from Sri Lanka posted that quote on their water poster contest website.

The contest for Leos in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal drew 83 entries. The contest was held during World Water Week, Aug. 21-27. Thanks to Facebook and other digital tools, Leos from France, Argentina and other



Leo R. Salujan of Sri Lanka won second place in computer design

nations sent along messages of encouragement.

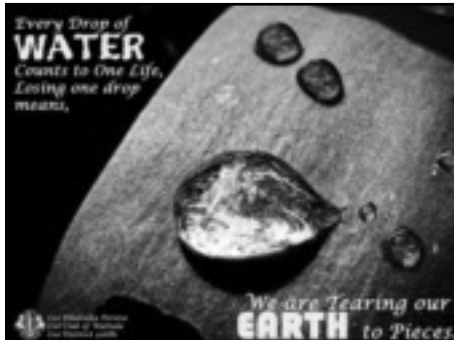
Three winners were chosen in each country in two categories: computer design and hand drawn. Winners received certificates.



The Kalubowila Leo Club in Sri Lanka took first place in the computer-designed category



Namini Panchala de Silva of the Moratuwa Leo Club in Sri Lanka won first place in the hand-drawn category for this poster



Dhanuka Perera of the Wattala Leo Club of Sri Lanka won third place

Rainbow Lake Camp Trillium Repairs

Ten of the **Selkirk Lions Club** members volunteered their time working hard on Saturdays in June of this year at Rainbow Lake Camp Trillium near Waterford, Ontario painting and repairing the Cabins and getting them ready for use shortly.



From left to right in photo are the volunteer workers, **Lion Ron Brewer, Lion Ted Bishop, Lion Theresa Martin, Lion Les McLaughlin, Lion John Murphy, Lion John Waldick, Lion Ron Pavlovich, IPP Lion Stan Francis, President Lion Charlie Hoover** and **Lion Anne Pavlovich** who took the photo.

Jeremy Deveau was inducted into our Club on June 12, 2012. Both he and his wife have helped at several of our events in the past.

Submitted by Lion Ethel Waldic



Update

On the back cover of the July/August 2012 version of the LION M.D. "A" Edition, the photo with our Queen is of Lion Staff Sergeant **Bill Stewart**, a member of the **Gloucester Lions Club** in District A-4.

Lakefield Lions Clubs Meeting Their Commitment As Knights Of The Blind

In 1924 at an International Lions Convention, Lions Clubs International made a commitment to Helen Keller to become Knights of the Blind. They vowed to put an end to preventable blindness in the world and Lions worldwide strive everyday to fulfill this commitment.

The two Lions clubs in Lakefield are part of a Zone Hearing & Vision committee that screen children in Senior Kindergarten & Grade One. Along with nine other teams of Lions from Peterborough, Warsaw, Chemung, Apsley, Bancroft & Millbrook, 44 schools welcomed us as part of their curriculum each year.

The vision screening portion of the screening program began in February 2003, and the hearing program followed in the fall of 2006. The two programs work well in conjunction with each other and have supplied a service that was badly needed in our area.

The Lakefield Lions Clubs have just completed their commitment for this year. They have visited 7 schools (Ridpath, & St. Pauls, in Lakefield, St. Anne,

St. Theresa, Prince of Wales, Edmison Heights & Rhema in Peterborough) and screened 372 students in vision and 368 in hearing, the pass percentage for vision is 68% and for hearing it is 90%. It is important to note that there are many factors that may contribute to a child not meeting requirements in a screening and since we are not doctors it is to the benefit of the child to be seen by a professional. There is no fee for vision tests at an optometrist for children between birth & 18, hearing tests at an Audiologists, however, may have a fee attached.

The main purpose of the program is to garner awareness of the need to have the health of the eyes and ears of young children checked regularly. It has been proven that a young student with eye or hearing problems has a harder time at school than one who has no problem.

These two programs are just another example of how your Lions Clubs are striving to serve their communities.



Lion Jerry Lane doing a hearing screening with Ashton Hockaday



Lion Jerry Lane doing a hearing screening with Ashton Hockaday

The Eye-Phone

Think You Like Your iPhone? The Blind Love It as Life-Changing

by Anne Ford

What's not to like about the iPhone? It lights up, makes nifty noises, takes pictures and even plays music. But when you get right down to it, all anyone really needs is a plain ol' cell phone that makes calls, right?

Not if you're blind or visually impaired. For them, the iPhone represents much more than just a shiny indulgence. It's a currency identifier. A book reader. A street navigator. A color identifier. In other words, it's the closest thing technologically possible to a set of working eyes.

Sound like an exaggeration? Listen to the people who know firsthand.



Tom Babinski of The Hadley School for the Blind in Winnetka, Illinois, says his iPhone is an antidote to blindness

Photo by Karen Marousek of The Hadley School for the Blind

One of the advantages of the sleek iPhone is that it is not bulky or awkward like some other tools for the blind

"Since I got my iPhone, I'm half as blind as I used to be," says Tom Babinski, the blind director of the Forsythe Center for Entrepreneurship at The Hadley School for the Blind in Winnetka, Illinois.

"Last Wednesday, my life changed forever. I got an iPhone," reads an entry from the online journal of Austin Seraphin, a blogger in Pennsylvania who has almost no vision. "In my more excitable moments, I consider the iPhone as the greatest thing to have ever happened to the blind."

"The things that I am able to do—it's unbelievable," says Gregg Pusateri, the executive assistant to the executive director of the Spectrios Institute for Low Vision in Wheaton, Illinois, who lost much of his vision to a retinal degenerative disease as an adult.

So what makes this particular piece of technology such a life-changer? The answer lies largely in a feature called VoiceOver, which comes pre-installed on every iPhone at no additional charge.

VoiceOver is a screen reader, that is, a function that reads the contents of the screen aloud when the user touches it. When it's activated, the user hears what's displayed on the iPhone's screen—texts, email,

applications, battery level, time of day, wireless signal strength—simply by tapping, double-tapping, dragging or flicking it.

In other words, a blind iPhone user interacts with the device the same way a sighted user does: by touching the screen. That's a revolutionary concept. As recently as 2008, a visually impaired Lion told this magazine, "Touch screens are a blind person's worst enemy." No longer, at least, not where Apple is concerned.

To be clear, the iPhone is not the only smartphone on the market with a screen reader. But unlike VoiceOver, the screen readers available on other phone operating systems are often sold as add-ons (requiring users to shell out additional money, in some cases considerable amounts of it). Experts say they aren't as reliable or as easy to learn as VoiceOver, and not all of them allow visually impaired users to access the Internet or use email.

"If you want a smartphone, you want an iPhone," David Flament, manager of adaptive technology services at Chicago's Guild for the Blind, tells his clients. He adds, "It is orders of magnitude better [than other smartphones on the market]."

Strangely, it's not clear that charities, state departments of rehabilitation and other organizations that donate accessibility devices to the visually impaired are fully aware yet of the iPhone's unprecedented powers. "Even the professionals who serve the blind are on a learning curve," says Tom Perski, senior vice president for rehabilitation services at the Chicago Lighthouse. "They have some catching up to do as to the specific things an iPhone can do."

That's a shame, given how practical and cost-effective the iPhone is, particularly in its ability to provide a multitude of functions in a single device. "It replaces so much other technology," Seraphin says.

For example, since different denominations of paper currency are not distinguished by size in the United States, blind people have historically had to ask a sighted person for help in keeping track of their money—something that can be embarrassing for an adult. "The problem is not that I don't trust the person [identifying the money]; the problem is that I don't want to be different," Babinski says. He could have purchased a stand-alone device that identifies money for the blind, but balked at its \$100-and-up price tag.

Instead, he downloaded an iPhone application called the LookTel Money Reader, for all of \$9.99. Now, to identify a piece of paper currency, he simply holds his iPhone over the bill, and the application speaks the denomination. An Internet connection is unnecessary.

Another application, Navigon North America MobileNavigator, turns the iPhone into an accessible mobile GPS unit. At \$59.99, the app might seem pricey until you consider that a separate handheld talking

GPS system for the blind currently sells for \$929.

And then there's Color Identifier, a \$1.99 application that allows users to determine the color of an object by taking a photo of it. Compare that to stand-alone devices that do the same thing—for hundreds of dollars more. And consider how useful it would be for, say, a blind businessman who lives alone to be able to make sure that his tie matches his shirt or that he's sorted his socks correctly.

The Color Identifier application has even more practical uses, too. Before he got his iPhone, Seraphin had to switch his Internet service provider because the company wouldn't provide any help until he told them what color the light on his modem was. "I just got so mad," he says. Now he doesn't have to get angry. He just gets out his iPhone.

Two of the most potentially useful applications for blind iPhone users are completely free. VizWiz allows users to take a photo of an object, record a question about it, and email both photo and question to an anonymous sighted worker, who replies with an answer within seconds. "Imagine I'm in a hotel and I want to get a Diet Coke out of the vending machine down the hall," says Brian Charlson, director of computer training services at the Carroll Center for the Blind in Newton, Massachusetts, and a member of the Newton Lions Club. "Which button is the Diet Coke button? I have no way of knowing. So I go to the machine, I take the picture, I ask the question, I wait for 15 to 30 seconds, I get a text message back telling me it's the third button down. Huge value."

The second, called oMoby, allows the iPhone user to identify an object by taking a picture of it. The application then uses pattern recognition to tell the user what the object is. Charlson recently used it to make sure that the cereal he was buying at the grocery store was, indeed, the Rice Chex he was after.

The iPhone can also be used to download audio books or e-books. "Reading books, for a blind person, has never been better than this moment," Charlson says. "Even when you take into account all the Braille books ever produced in the world, it's fewer than the number of books published this month in the United States." In other words, the number of books accessible to the blind has exploded exponentially.

From the perspective of a blind or visually impaired user, one of the most attractive features of the iPhone is that it's so culturally recognizable. "Most appliances for the blind in the past made you look awkward or different," recalls Perski, who is legally blind. He remembers using a complicated device that allowed people with low vision to read a newspaper by scanning over it with a mouse; the text was then displayed inside a special pair of glasses the user had to wear.

"I would sit in a cafe in an airport and use this, and I can't tell you how many people came up to me and

asked what I was doing," he says. "I was stopped on an airplane once because they saw all these wires and they were concerned. Now I can just stick my earphones in and read the Chicago Tribune [that is, have the iPhone read it to him] and not be bothered. Reading the newspaper, which I hadn't really done in 20 years—to be able to do that again is really nice."

Blind students in particular are likely to appreciate having the same device that many of their sighted friends have. "It's something that everyone recognizes," Seraphin points out. "When I was a kid, I had to jump through all kinds of administrative hoops to bring special technology to school. It definitely singled me out. When a blind person takes out an iPhone, it's just like, you know, cool."

iPhones aren't the only Apple products that feature VoiceOver. The feature is also available on Apple laptop and desktop computers, iPad tablets, iPod Shuffle music players, iPod Nano media players and Apple TV digital media receivers.

Nor is VoiceOver the only Apple feature for the visually impaired. People with low vision can make use of Zoom, a built-in, full-screen magnifier. Braille users can use their Apple devices with a wireless refreshable Braille display. A touch-screen Braille keyboard is under development.

And for iPhone 4S users, there's Siri, a virtual personal assistant that recognizes natural speech and replies out loud—thereby allowing users to bypass the keyboard altogether.

"The Siri function is another revolutionary thing," Perski says. "I can ask Siri all kinds of questions that come up throughout the day," from "What's the temperature outside right now?" to "What meetings do I have scheduled today?" to "Do I have any new email messages?" (which VoiceOver will then read aloud).

Siri can also schedule reminders, perform Internet searches and provide directions, among other things. (It also has a sense of humor. Tell it "I love you," and it responds, "I bet you say that to all your Apple products.")

Legally blind **Lion Mary Lee Turner**, 36 O district governor in Oregon, recently purchased an iPad, mostly as a means of keeping track of her many Lions-related duties and appointments. Because she has some remaining vision, she initially used the Zoom feature. Since incurring a back injury that makes it impossible for her to lean over the device to the extent necessary to see the screen, she's switched to VoiceOver. While she's still becoming familiar with the technology, "there's lots of things I'm really looking forward to doing," she says.

"I used a large-print calendar in the past, and that was very inefficient," she continues. "A, it was heavy, and B, flipping from page to page wasn't very professional. I don't have time to not be full-speed. Computer skills really help level the playing field for folks who are visually impaired."

While white canes and similar low-tech devices will remain hugely useful to the blind, of course, she would like Lions to begin considering donating iPhones and iPads to the visually impaired community as well. "I don't know another Lion who has considered purchasing these tools for somebody who's blind or visually impaired," she says. As an incoming district governor, she hopes that will begin to change.

The **Ottawa Lions Club** in Illinois did recently donate seven iPads at \$500 apiece to local children with hearing loss. The iPads' text-to-speech (and vice-versa) capabilities make it possible for children who use sign language to communicate with people who don't. "We're a small club, and we don't have a lot of

money," says **President Roberta McConaughay**. "But this was just the perfect opportunity to pay for something that was really needed."

iPhones begin at about \$200, with a monthly fee starting at \$59.99, depending on the carrier and plan selected. That means a Lions club could conceivably donate an iPhone and a year's worth of service for less than \$1,000. That's about the same amount that some clubs have donated in the past for a single stand-alone GPS device for a blind person.

In other words, if your club wants to make a significant impact on the life of a blind or visually impaired person, there's no reason not to give the iPhone serious consideration. Need one more bit of convincing? Consider this:

"I can give sighted people directions now," Seraphin says gleefully. "I can just pull out my iPhone and say: 'Let's see.'"



Helen Keller advocated the latest technology for the blind, even when costly. Photographed in 1924 at a meeting of the Uptown Lions Club in New York City, Keller launches a campaign to give radios to poor blind children. The radios cost \$75, the equivalent of \$950 today

St. Marys Lions Club

On Saturday May 26, 2012 the St. Marys Lions Club held their Annual Lions Club Toll Bridge. The funds raised here go back into our community and this year the money collected is going to a SKATE PARK. Skate Park volunteers manned the toll bridge along with the Lions to help collect funds. We raised a total of raised \$2,500.00.



Bridge Chair, Lion Larry McClelland holding up the sign, along with Lion Jill Haliburton and Secretary Lion Jo-ann Riordan collecting funds

Bridgeport Lions Club

May 12 saw the grand opening of the Bridgeport Community Centre, which is supported by the Bridgeport Lions Club.



Pictured from left to right: John Fronchak, secretary, Janet Fronchak, president, a representative from the community centre, 2 policy officers from the Waterloo Regional Police, Dave Millard, vice-president of the Bridgeport Lions Club and also chair of the annual Walk for Guide Dogs fundraiser - he is holding a future guide dog, and Peter Braid, member of parliament for Kitchener-Waterloo

Selkirk Lions Bowling For Kids 2012

The Selkirk & Lions Club raised a total of \$1268.00 and our Club donated an additional \$600.00 making a total donation of \$1,868.00 to support Big Brothers, Big Sisters on Sunday, April 1st, 2012 at the White Horse Bowling Lanes in Simcoe. Our bowlers raising the funds this year are from left to right in photo our Selkirk Lion President **Lion Charlie Hoover, Sandy Hunt, Lions Betty McDonald, L.P.P. Stan Francis, John Waldick, Ron. Lois Brewer, Norm Dye** and **Lion Glen Hunt** who took the photo.

Submitted by Lion Ethel Waldic





We Serve

Literacy Projects Light Up the World

by Pamela Mohr



We Serve

Kathy Zhao is proof that wisdom doesn't necessarily only come with age. At 17, the New Jersey high school senior is already a strong supporter of International President Wayne Madden's worldwide literacy campaign and is actively working to put books into the hands of young readers in Africa. As president of the **East Brunswick Leo Club**, Zhao led the new **Edison and Highland Park Leo Clubs** in a campaign to collect books and ship them to Africa. All three are sponsored by the **Edison Metro Lions Club**.

"I once saw big boxes of books being thrown into a dumpster at the public library and I thought it was such a waste. The books looked new and still had shiny covers," she says. "It was later while I was researching for a Model United Nations paper about child soldiers that I learned education in Africa was inadequate, with many students not having enough learning materials. I remembered those books at the library and how they were thrown away so carelessly, when there were children in other parts of the world who didn't have access to books." Zhao had previous experience when she organized a similar project for children in China.



Leos pack donated books in a school hallway in New Jersey

President Madden's focus is literacy—for all ages. As a former educator, he says that both he and his wife, Linda, a career teacher, "know firsthand the importance of obtaining even basic reading skills—and the consequences of not doing so." In a world in which 1 billion people are considered functionally illiterate, Madden believes that Lions are critical in the fight against global illiteracy.

During the recent International Convention in Busan, Korea, Lions agreed to partner with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and World Vision on a two-year agreement to improve early childhood reading in developing nations. Members worldwide are expected to help USAID reach its target goal of improving the literacy rates of 100 million children in developing nations by 2015.

The initiative is called All Children Reading. "Lions can make a difference," President Madden emphasizes.

Zhao shares that belief. "Each new library that is created impacts the lives of about 400 children. We

want to help as many of them as we can," she points out. Edison Metro Lions were firmly behind the Leos once the book collection project got started. **Lion Eddie Hui** contacted the **Dar Es Salaam Pwani Lions** in Tanzania for help unloading the books once they arrived.

Shipping costs skyrocketed because some companies refused to sail off the East coast of Africa where Somali pirates roamed. **Lion Kirby Tan** helped rescue the project with the assistance of a friend in the shipping industry, who agreed to ship the books at a discount. Several others, including Tan, donated to the cost and Lions paid the balance. The 1,600 books weighed more than 1,000 pounds.

Friends of Leos and teachers donated books. Zhao says after asking one library supervisor if there were any books available for donation, "She went into the storage room and packed three boxes for me. I plan to keep the project going because there are so many primary and secondary schools in Tanzania that don't have libraries. And I'm glad that we were able to save so many books from being dumped and turn them into brand new libraries." A second large collection of books is expected to be sent to Tanzania in November.

Madden explains that the basic definition of literacy throughout the world is a person's ability to write his name and simply read at the level of a 10-year-old. And yet, globally one out of four people of reading age are illiterate. Literacy is a challenge in the United States, too, where 21 million people are unable to read. "Lions are simply too big-hearted and too compassionate to let problems like illiteracy and empty bookshelves exist—not when there is so much we can do about it," he emphasizes.

Lions in Russellville, Arkansas, don't like to see empty bookshelves, either. In fact, for the past five years they have not only built 50 bookcases annually for children who are enrolled in a Head Start program, they also give each child a collection of 10 books—launching them on what they hope will be a lifetime love of reading. The bookcase project was the idea of Conway **Lion Jim Davidson**, a newspaper columnist whose club started a similar endeavor in his community 46 miles from Russellville.

Lion Jim Wescott and two helpers build the two-shelf oak cabinets from donated wood. Each piece is then stained and lacquered by **Lion Steve Wiman** in his air-conditioned and dust-free shop. "We do get a splinter or two in our hands," says project chair **Gerald Hook**. Wiman, a used book store owner, also purchases and donates books to the children.

Books are collected year-round by schools, churches and businesses and stored along with the finished bookcases at a car dealership owned by **Lion Gene Daughtry**. Books not considered in optimal condition are donated to shelters or missions.

"The need greatly exceeds the club's ability to supply," says **Lion Lori Kamerling**, who is employed by the company that administers the Russellville Head

Start program. The ages of recipients range from 3 to 5, and each bookcase they receive bears a brass nameplate donated by a local business.

Some of the project's biggest supporters are also the smallest. One recent donation for \$700 to buy books was collected by K-5 students at St. John Catholic School. "The children brought in pennies on Monday, nickels on Tuesday, dimes on Wednesday, quarters on Thursday and dollars on Friday," Hook says. "We've had book collections in the Russellville Middle School handled by an art teacher. Each of her classes competed with one another to collect the most books. That yielded several hundred."



A mother reads to her children after receiving the gift of books from Russellville, Arkansas, Lions Photo by Steve Newby

Kamerling recalls one child, a Hurricane Katrina evacuee, whose mother died shortly after becoming ill with cancer. Since his father wasn't a part of his life, an aunt became the boy's guardian. "His bookcase was one of his most prized possessions," Kamerling says. "We like to think we were a bright spot in all that tragedy."

Tiny Advance, Indiana, is a town with a single stop light that Zionsville **Lion Tom Melind**, 79, and his son, Andy, visited one day in 2007. They learned that the community of 500 could use a little Lions TLC. "Eighty years ago Advance had 500 people and 30 businesses. Now it has 500 people and three businesses," Melind says.

Melind, a noted park enthusiast who has helped create and repair many recreational areas, first set his sights on helping Advance create a suitable recreational area. He led the charge to build a beautiful new park and when that was successfully completed, turned his sights to giving residents a library.

With a \$20,000 grant, Melind, Lions and a crew of helpers turned a former bank into a library. Located just steps from the only school bus stop in town, the building is informally called the "Bus Stop Library," quips Melind. It also serves a dual purpose, he says:

“The kids not only check out books, they also use the library as a warming center when they’re waiting for the bus in winter.

“We raised money 500 ways to build the library,” he says. Fundraisers helped, but the generosity of the public was overwhelming, he points out. “Probably half the books were donated by people in the **Zionsville Lions Club**.” A friend of Melind’s who owns a carpet store donated the library’s floor coverings. Local woodcrafters volunteered to build and stain shelves and people donated books from their home libraries. “We also have several publishing companies in the area and they donated books, too,” he says. “Everybody helped. Books are everywhere.” The library is still a work in progress, he adds—another grant will soon help the library acquire computers and gain Internet access.

Launching a literacy project can begin by simply reading a book to children at a preschool or day care center. Learn more about International President Wayne Madden’s literacy initiative by searching for “Reading Action Program” at www.lionsclubs.org.

Clowning Around on Canada Day

The “clowns” from the **Scarborough Central Lions Club** pile onto the Club’s 1928 antique fire truck in preparation for their participation in the Scarborough Canada Day parade. Pictured from left to right are: Immediate Past President **Andy Cox**, Incoming President **Doug Harvey**, Lions **Ian Bailey**, **Bob Boland**, **Sandra Vousden** and **Brian Manning**.



Photo and Submission by Ken Thompson

Marmora Crowe Valley Lions

A lot of organizing and work goes into preparing for Marmora’s Canada Day celebrations. Marmora Crowe Valley Lions have been co-ordinating a Parade and events in Marmora Memorial Park (official opening, Senior of Year dedication, children’s games, music, special cake, etc) for a number of years.

In photo: Lions President **Russ Mitchell**, Parade Chair **Wilma Bush**, **Bonnie Danes**, Park Events Chair **Barb Fisher** and **Stew Fisher**.



Standard Grants Improve Local Communities

LCIF

by Allie Stryker

LCIF

Millions of people in the world lack access to basic items and services that many of us take for granted. Thanks to Standard grants given by Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), Lions provide these basic items and services for their communities, and the impact is enormous. Just ask Joseph. Abandoned at the age of 6, he lived on the streets for nine years until he was given a home in the Lions Street Children Home in the Philippines.

“Every day, my biggest problem was how to get my food,” said Joseph. “Sometimes I would have to beg or get food from my friends, who were other kids on the street.”

Lions in the Philippines partnered with LCIF and the Department of Welfare and Social Development to establish the Lions Street Children Center through a Standard grant. The center provides food, clothing and shelter, as well as counseling and schooling. Then Lions partnered with LCIF again to build a vocational training center for children in connection with the Lions Street Children Center. This ensures that young people like Joseph will not have to beg for food anymore. Instead, they are given the skills to succeed in their community.

“I feel very grateful to the Lions not only for myself, but for the other children as well who have benefited from this program. Now we are equipped to go out and face the world,” said Joseph, who now mentors young students.

Through Standard grant projects, communities gain access to education, technology, health care and many other improvements. Lions identify what is needed most for a community and make it a life-changing reality through LCIF.

Providing matching funds up to \$75,000, standard grants are approved for large-scale Lions’ humanitarian projects involving construction and equipment. The most common type of grant awarded by LCIF, they must serve a large number of people. Typical projects include mobile health units, hospices, nursing homes, major medical equipment, orphanages for vulnerable children, centers serving the blind and disabled, eye clinics and schools in developing countries.

Because projects are large-scale, individual Lions invest many hours of their time in fundraising, planning and volunteering their professional skills at the project site to make the grant a success. Such support greatly extends a project’s impact, making it possible to help more people than would otherwise be possible.

Through Standard grants, Lions can truly make a difference in their local communities.

For information about applying for LCIF grant funding, contact LCIF at lcif@lionsclubs.org. Grant applications are also available online at www.lcif.org.



Youths learn vocational skills at the Lions Street Children Center in the Philippines

New Hamburg Lions Road Clean-up

Lions members with a pile of garbage they collected along the shoulders of highway 7 & 8 outside of New Hamburg. This was part of our semi-annual road clean-up.



Pefferlaw Lions

Lion Al McDermott counting out the \$1000.00 winner Margret Carter from Keswick Ont. Commented Margret “This is my first time to win. I play all the time and give thanks to the Lions Club.”



Survey Shows Membership Growth Potential

by Jay Copp

A survey of non-Lions shows a positive perception of Lions, interest in volunteering and potential for membership growth for Lions clubs.

Those interested in volunteering say they want to directly help others, help their local community and value initiatives with opportunities for men and women – three characteristics that dovetail with a typical Lions club. However, those interested in volunteering also generally dislike meetings, customs and rituals, which also often typify many clubs.

The survey of 2,100 non-Lions in the United States and Canada was part of Project Refresh, a comprehensive global membership study by Lions Clubs International. Project Refresh also included a survey of thousands of Lions, as well as former Lions, in the United States, Canada and 131 other nations. Those results, including reasons why Lions are satisfied or dissatisfied and the reasons why Lions stopped being members, will be detailed in subsequent issues of the LION.

In the non-Lions survey, 73 percent of those surveyed were aware of Lions clubs, compared to a 69 percent awareness of Rotary and a 63 percent awareness of Kiwanis. Most respondents see Lions as helping others: 61 percent say that “services that directly help others” describes Lions clubs and 59 percent say clubs “help the local community.”

Not many people have negative opinions of Lions: 27 percent say Lions clubs seem “very hierarchical or formal” while 27 percent say clubs “expect their members to join ‘for life’” and 18 percent say clubs “would have many cliques.”

Sixty-two percent of respondents say they have low interest in volunteering. The rest prefer particular volunteer experiences. Nine percent want a volunteer experience with networking opportunities to help them with their career or business. Eight percent say they want to involve their family when volunteering. Another eight percent want to help people beyond their local community and want an organization with a strong support network.

These three groups of potential volunteers – the networking group, the family group and the “beyond local” group – are highly compatible with current Lions clubs. “What some of these non-Lions want matches the types of clubs Lions have,” says Shad Thomas, president of Glass Box Research Company in Chicago, which undertook the survey.

Adds Sue Haney, manager of the Extension and Membership Division at LCI, “We’ve made being a Lion as part of a family unit easier than any other

service organization because of our family dues structure.”

Five percent of respondents want to volunteer for a smaller community group and eight percent want a casual volunteer experience without membership requirements, customs/rituals or a hierarchy. The community and casual groups offer some potential as Lions, says Thomas.

Other survey findings:

- A large majority agreed that “they admire people who try to help those less fortunate” (86 percent), are “very happy to be able to do things for others” (84 percent) and “my family is the single most important thing to me” (80 percent).
- The networking and family groups are highly social. Eighty-four percent in the family group and 79 percent in the networking group say they want to incorporate fun into service, compared to 67 percent of all respondents. Similarly, 60 percent in the network group and 58 percent in the family group say they want regular meetings to plan initiatives, compared to 39 percent of all respondents.
- The networking and family groups, again showing a compatibility with Lions clubs, rated Lions clubs higher than those in the other groups. Sixty percent of those in the networking group and 59 percent in the family group say clubs “would have members who could become good friends,” compared to 49

percent of all respondents. Fifty-seven percent of those in the networking group and 43 percent in the family group say clubs offer “opportunities for members to receive awards/recognition for a job well done,” compared to 37 percent of all respondents. Sixty-three percent of those in the networking group and 33 percent in the family group say clubs “would embrace technology,” compared to 36 percent overall.

Not surprisingly, the networking group showed the greatest preference for meetings. Thirty-one percent want to meet a few times a month, compared to 28 percent of the family group, 19 percent of the community group, 17 percent of the casual group and 11 percent of the beyond local group. How about meeting less than once a month? Both the beyond local and casual groups checked in at 41 percent, followed by community at 30 percent, networking at 21 percent and family at 15 percent.

Female non-Lions showed a higher compatibility with Lions than men. Eighty-nine percent of women and 78 percent of men say it “makes me happy to be able to do things for others.” Sixty-four percent of women and 48 percent of men said they admire people who belong to a service club. Sixty-two percent of women and 51 percent of men say they are “always trying to make the world a better place.”

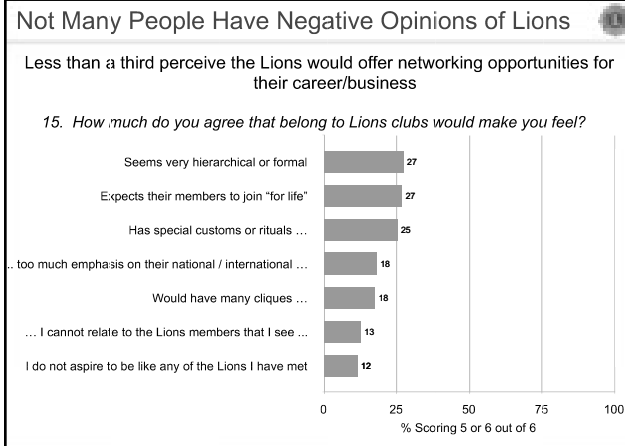
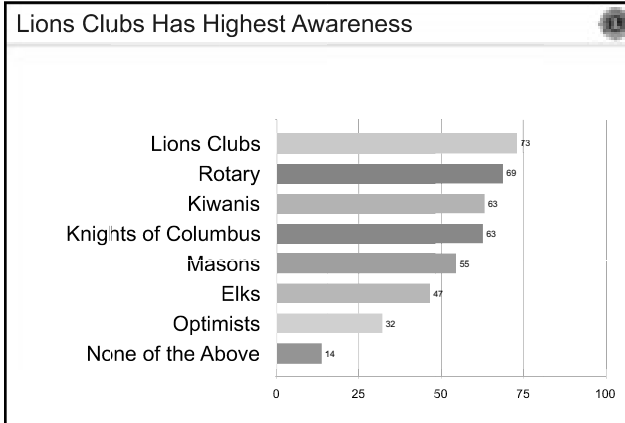
The survey disclosed low regard for traditional Lions’ practices. Regular meetings? Just 37 percent say they would appreciate that. Exchanging Lions pins? Seventeen percent went for that. Wearing a signature piece of clothing such as a yellow vest? Just 16 percent. Begin each meeting with a special Lions’ cheer or roar? Eleven percent.

The networking group showed the most appreciation for these practices. Half say they want regular meetings. Thirty-two percent would appreciate wearing signature clothes and 24 percent would sing a Lions song.

“What we learned from the survey is finding out what prospective members and new Lions want from your club. Find out their expectations,” says Haney. “A Lions club is all about the experience. They need to have a good experience.”

The respondents who indicated a low interest in volunteering presumably would present a challenge to induct and motivate. Only 15 percent say it is “very likely” they would consider volunteering for a charitable service group in the next five years. Just 31 percent say they would like to be active in their community.

The survey suggests various ways for clubs to increase membership, says Ken G-Kabira, group manager for Membership, Programs and Communications at LCI. More than one in three adults are interested in volunteering. “That means more than 90 million Americans and



Several Things Are Universally Important

Providing services that directly help others, helping the local community, and offering opportunities for both men and women to participate

8. When it comes to volunteer activities, how important to you are each of the following statements? (% scoring 5 or 6 out of 6)	Total	Networking	Family	Beyond Local	Only Local	Casual
Providing valuable services that directly help others	82	75	92	88	74	80
Ensuring that the activity helps the local community	76	74	82	68	70	73
Offering opportunities for both men and women to participate	74	70	85	82	69	74

nearly 10 million Canadians are potential Lions," he says. "We should be able to grow membership if we invite them and we provide a satisfying experience."

Women in particular also are potential Lions because 60 percent of those interested in volunteering are women. Currently, about one in four Lions in North America are women.

Clubs also should consider what kind of potential volunteer to which they can appeal. "Are they a right

fit for the family group? The Clubs can emphasize their traits that people find appealing," says Kabira. Clubs also need to make sure prospective members and new

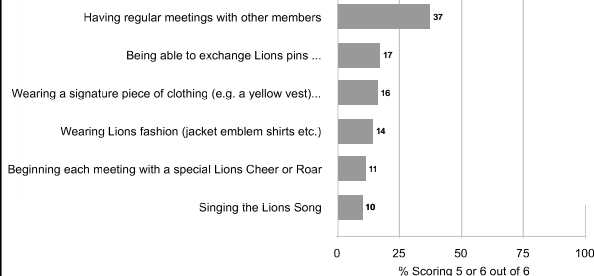
members experience the essence of Lions. "Our rituals and traditions such as the vest do not necessarily attract members. We need to ensure they experience the joy of serving others before being introduced to other elements of being a Lion," says Kabira.

group? The Clubs can **To view the complete Project Refresh report on non-Lions, visit www.lionmagazine.org.**

Very Little Appreciation for Lions Practices

Even meetings rather low with just over a third of Non Lions saying that they would appreciate them. Only 1 in 10 would appreciate Cheer/Roar/Song.

16. How much do you think that you would appreciate each of the following unique aspects of Lions club?



Orangeville Lions Support Friendship Gardens at Headwaters Health Care

Orangeville Lions President Lion Pete Robinson, and club secretary Lion Steve Piercy along with other community groups present a \$6500.00 cheque to Friendship gardens at the Headwaters Health Care Centre in Orangeville. Volunteers tend, and maintain the gardens for the enjoyment of all who are at the hospital, and rely solely on community support to provide them.



Tamworth Lions Club

Tamworth Lions have totally paid \$12,907 toward ice resurfacer in Township of Stone Mills since 2010.



At left Lion President Al Gordon presents final installment of \$6,500 to Stone Mills Deputy Reeve Eric Smith and Councillor Clarence Kennedy



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Grand Tour of Germany is dependant on 20 passengers



Thursday is Sight Day

by Jay Copp

Photos by Nicole Franco

It's three hours by car to Mexico City, nearly nine to the Texas border and an even wider gap in lifestyle and culture for the expatriates who relocate to San Miguel de Allenda. **Chuck** and **Jean Yeager** retired to San Miguel a decade ago after raising four children in Wisconsin, Texas and Delaware. Besides a moderate cost of living, the historic, hillside city offers quaint, narrow cobblestone streets, gorgeous 16th-century Spanish architecture and warm, sunny weather. It's a good life, and like other members of the **San Miguel De Allende Lions Club**, many of them also expatriates, Chuck counts his blessings and gives back.

Formerly its director, Yeager volunteers at the Clinic, the Lions club's eyeglass clinic. Every Thursday from about 8:30 a.m. to noon the doors swing open, and children and adults receive eye exams and eyeglasses. Children are not charged, and adults pay 25 or 50 percent of the cost or pay nothing, too, if they are impoverished. Since 1992, the club has overseen 17,000 eye exams and dispensed 14,000 recycled eyeglasses.

Most of the Clinic's clients get there by bus from a 15-mile radius. They hear about it from word-of-mouth or radio announcements, aired free of charge to the club. Without the clinic, "they'd do without glasses. They don't have any money... You have kids who couldn't see the blackboard," says Yeager, 75, who was an engineer for a food processing company that supplied McDonald's. "I've traveled all over the world. So many people live in sheer misery. I'm so lucky to have been born in the United States. It's just a good feeling when you can help someone."

Six to eight Lions, including optometrist **Alberto Carrera**, staff the clinic when it's open. Members leave little to chance. Donations and grants undergird their volunteerism. The Lee Page Memorial Children's Eyeglass Fund takes care of the purchasing of lenses. The Optical, Computer Software and Hardware Fund accounts for the optical refractor and technology equipment. The John Carper Memorial Fund accepts donations for miscellaneous needs.

Then there's the rent for the clinic. That's handled by the Schickel Haen Fund. The Lion that powers that fund is **Jean Schickel**, a retired sales representative from the Chicago area. She leads three-day tours of Mexico's cultural, architectural and archeological sights. The fee charged to tourists covers the monthly rent of 5,000 pesos.

Volunteering at the clinic can be routine: the people file in, get examined and go home with their glasses. Then there are the days of tears and joy. "It can get very emotional," says Yeager. "Some people can barely read one line on the eye chart. They're basically blind. When they put the glasses on, their eyes light up."



Lion Monica Brown (far left) checks in a patient at the Clinic, and Lion Carol Walk (back row, left) talks to a patient about his new glasses. The Clinic typically handles 20 to 25 patients every Thursday. The club also tests for diabetes at the Clinic



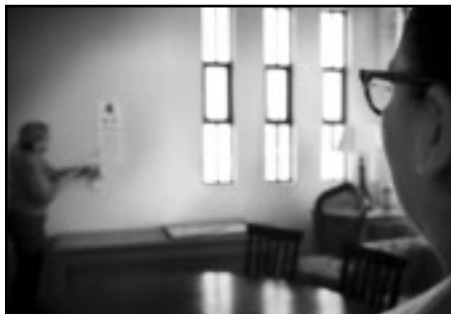
Carrera writes a prescription. Lions say the grateful humility of the Mexicans makes their service at the Clinic particularly gratifying. "I like people who are nice. The kids are so bright and cheery," says Palmer, formerly a musician and owner of an air conditioning company in Hawaii. "There's a payoff every day. I remember one couple. They must have been in their 70s. They both were fitted and they both were happy with their glasses. They looked at each other and got a kick out of it."



Commenting on this photo, Chuck Yeager says, "Yes, that's our [typical] customer." The man is from outside town and probably raises horses. If not destitute, adults pay for a portion of the cost of the glasses. "We ask them to contribute. That helps them respect the glasses and take better care of them," says Lion Skip Palmer, 65



The club has 35,000 eyeglasses in its computerized inventory, made possible by the Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center and by the individual collection efforts of Lions and others. The computer is programmed to provide the four closest matches to the prescription. Glasses are stored 40 to a box, and a pair can be found in under a minute. Adults will be given eyeglasses that may not be a perfect match to their prescription. If the club cannot perfectly match the prescription for a child, its Lee Page Memorial Eyeglass Fund pays for the cost of the lenses



A Lion checks the correctness of a prescription



The club tries to find a frame a patient likes. "It's no different here. The older people are not so picky. The young people can be picky," says Yeager. Back at his office, at no charge, Carrera used a lens to fit a frame that a young wants



Optometrist Alberto Carrera tests a patient's vision

Palmer Rapids and Area Lions Club



Walk makes sure a girl is happy with her glasses



Christine Eyre, clinic director, brings glasses to a boy. Eyre was once an office manager in England, where she organized a fair in the moat of the Tower of London to raise funds for a children's charity. Before coming to San Miguel, she taught math in California and helped build homes for the poor in Tijuana



Yeager uses a hand puppet to entertain children while they wait. When he was still working, while traveling, airline employees often assumed he was the famous test pilot. "They'd say, 'I can't believe it. I can't believe it. It's Chuck Yeager.' ... Once in a while they'd bring me a bottle of wine," he says. Yeager's daughter, Connie, a teacher, once met the test pilot at a teacher's conference. She sent him the photo that was taken with the message: "Look, dad, I'm with the real Chuck Yeager."



The Lion's clinic is open every Thursday, and people walk in not seeing well and walk out able to do schoolwork or tasks at home or work

Lions are on the move...!

The Palmer Rapids & Area Lions Club celebrated their 20th Charter anniversary in May 2010. This month the group has moved from their 'club den' to a new location in Palmer Rapids. Future club meetings will be held at the Palmer Rapids Community Hall (Arena) from 7:00pm. Meetings are scheduled every other Monday evening during September through June.

The former municipal building at 15962 Palmer Road has been home for the Palmer Lions for many years and the local quilting group has used the basement space. Since the township of Brudenell, Lyndoch & Raglan listed the commercial property for sale; the group faced some uncertainty over their future. Happily the township has given the club an undertaking that space will be provided within the Palmer Rapids Community Hall. This week the members began the transfer of all their effects to a storage space within the hall.

As a local community service club, the Palmer Rapids & Area operate within Combermere, Hardwood Lake and Palmer Rapids. This service area aligns with the two bordering clubs of **Madawaska Valley Lions Club** in Barry's Bay and **Killaloe Lions Club**.

A regular weekly event hosted by the Palmer Lions is the Wednesday evening Bingo that continues to receive good support from the public. May 2012 saw the Relay for Life event in Barry's Bay for which the group acted as co-promoters in offering a cash donation. On the same weekend, Palmer Rapids & Area Lions members were attending the annual

BAIT (Blind Anglers International Tournament) program, which offers a fishing experience to blind competitors.

The fishing takes place on the Ottawa River at Nangor resort and local resident Dan Heins was the club's prize winning sponsored fisherman this year.

Upcoming events include the MVDHS Graduation ceremony at which the Palmer Rapids & Area Lions will be making their annual bursary awards for students in continuing education. Ticket sales for the annual Summer Draw are progressing and the draw itself will take place during the Palmer Rapids Twin Music Festival July 27 - 29, hosted by the Schutt family at Cedar Grove Road. Three cash prizes are awarded each year. In addition the promoters have generously donated a fourth prize of two weekend tickets for the 2013 Festival event.



The club can be contacted by mail at 22 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 66, Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0

Magnetawan Lions Complete Their 45th Year of Free Swim/Red Cross Lessons

This year was the 45th year that the Magnetawan Lions Club has provided free swimming lessons and Red Cross certification for ages 4 to 14. Participants earn Red Cross certification and Royal Life Society

certification. The children are from the Magnetawan community, near by communities and summer visitors to the area.



Instructor Luke Charbneau presents most improved awards to Laurie Bianca and Chad Parker (Instructors Helina Purdy and Johnathan Dunnnett not shown)



3 children participated in the Magnetawan Lions swim program. Swim co-chair Lion Nick speaks to the group (left) with co-chair Lion Jack Chuba (right)



Multiple District "A" 2013

Around the World in 4 Days

District A-16 Host Committee

Registration & Function Ticket Order Form

May 30, 31, June 1, 2, 2013

Sheraton Parkway Toronto North

600 Highway 7 East, Richmond Hill, ON L4B 1B2 905.695.2870



Working Together in A-16

All persons attending the Convention must be registered (including guests and exhibitors) to participate in any portion of the convention including Meetings, Events and Meals.

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

Person A District _____ Club _____

Name: _____ Lion__ Lioness__ Lionette__ Spouse/Partner__ Leo__ Exhibitor/PinTrader__

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

District/International Office (if wanted on name badge): _____ Past: ___ Present: ___

Person B District _____ Club _____

Name: _____ Lion__ Lioness__ Lionette__ Spouse/Partner__ Leo__ Exhibitor/PinTrader__

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

District/International Office (if wanted on name badge): _____ Past: ___ Present: ___

Hotels : Please indicate 1st and 2nd hotel choice. Please note that both hotels are connected to the Conference Centre.

___ Sheraton Parkway Toronto North (MD"A" Headquarters) \$149 + 16% tax = \$172.84

___ Best Western \$109 + 16% tax = \$126.44

one bed __ two beds__

Handicapped ___

Date of Arrival _____ Date of Departure _____ Total # of Room Nights _____

Note: Booking of these hotels must be done through the Convention Committee. One night fee with tax must accompany registration. Book early to ensure room availability.

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

Please register early to ensure availability of event tickets. All cancellations must be in writing by mail or email & acknowledged. Cancellations received after April 25, 2013 will be subject to a fee of one night's room deposit. No refunds for meal events after April 30, 2013. Substitutions/transfers for registration and meals will be accepted.

Convention Chair	Lion Ray Howlett PDG	Email: rhowlett@sympatico.ca	705.448.2466
Convention Vice Chair	Lion Mike Springford PDG	Email: mspringford@lionsa16.com	905.895.3039
Convention Vice Chair	Lion Dick Peel PDG	Email: rpeel@lionsa16.com	905.294.9005



Payment Information

Section 1	Registration	Cost	Committee Use
Person A	Lion \$20 Lioness \$20 Spouse/Partner \$10 Leo \$10 Exhibitor/Trader \$10 Sunday only \$10		
Person B	Lion \$20 Lioness \$20 Spouse/Partner \$10 Leo \$10 Exhibitor/Trader \$10 Sunday only \$10		
Exhibitor/Trader	Pin Traders - \$ 25 total fee		
# of Tables _____	Commercial - \$75 each per day		

Section 2	Function Tickets & Pins	Price	Quantity	Cost	
Friday May 31	Lunch Buffet	\$ 27			
Friday May 31	Taste of the World Dinner Buffet	\$ 47			
Saturday June 1	International Banquet	\$ 62			
	Convention Pin	\$ 5			

Total Cost Conference Fees (Sections 1 & 2)		
--	--	--

Section 3	Hotel	Cost	
Hotel Room Deposit	Hotel Accommodation must be booked through the Convention Committee and must be secured by one night deposit including taxes . This will be credited to your account. Sheraton Parkway North \$ 149 + 16% = \$172.84 Best Western (adjoined) \$ 109 + 16% = \$126.44		

Total Cost Conference Fees & Hotel Deposit		
---	--	--

Payment Options: Cash Cheque Credit Card: Visa Mastercard Expiry Date: _____/_____/_____

Name on Card: _____

Number _____/_____/_____/_____

Credit Card Authorization Number (Hotel use only) _____

Make cheques payable to: "MDA 2013 Convention"

Mail Registration Form(s) & Payment to: Lion Betty Mills P.O. Box 704 Haliburton ON K0M 1S0

MD "A" Confirmation Sent _____

Name Badge/Event Record Person A _____ Person B _____





LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
2014 HOST COMMITTEE FUNDRAISER

TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS GET-AWAY WEEKEND



VS



Toronto Maple Leafs vs Boston Bruins
Saturday, March 23, 2013

Winner receives the use of 10 seats in the Molson's box at Air Canada Centre and Dinner in the Hot Stove Lounge prior to the game. Plus: One night accommodation (five rooms with double occupancy) at The Royal York Hotel.

*All proceeds for the 2014 Lions Clubs
International Convention Host Committee*

\$10.00 per ticket or 3 for \$20.00
Draw to be held on March 2, 2013

FOR ADDITIONAL TICKETS CONTACT:
STAN DURWARD - 705-357-2115
BOX 38, SUNDERLAND, ON L0C 1H0
Tickets to be sold only to Lions Club Members

Prize is subject to change in the event of an NHL Lockout.



Petrolia Cookie Lady Receives Royal Honour

Petrolia Cookie Lady, **Lion Karen Wilson** received the Queen's Jubilee Medal on July 26, 2012.

She was nominated by MPP Bob Bailey. This is a Great Honour. She has sent over 44000 Cookies to our Canadian Troops.



Canadian Soldiers in Afghanistan enjoying the Petrolia Cookie Lady's cookies



Petrolia Lion Karen Wilson receives her Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal from MPP Bob Bailey with RCMP Cst. Craig Lickers

Killaloe Lion Receives Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal

Lion Garnet Kranz received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medal from MPP John Yakabuski on Canada Day.

Nominated by the **Killaloe Lions Club**, of which he has been a long-time officer and has been made a life member, Kranz was honoured for over 40 years of community volunteer service - not only in the Lions Club and in the Boy Scouts, but for his role in helping create community institutions such as the Millstream seniors residence, Rainbow Valley Community Health Centre, and the Hoch Farm heritage site, at which the medal was presented.



Governor-General's Award

Lioness Pat Peterson (Pefferlaw Lioness Club - District A-16) is seen receiving the Governor General's Award from Lieutenant Governor David Onley. Lioness Pat was awarded the medal, as a 'Caring Canadian', for her 37 years of service to her community and her leadership in the Lioness program.



MDA Directory Information

Council of Governors' Meeting Dates

- Council Meeting: September 7 - 8, 2012
- Council Meeting: November 2 - 3, 2012
- Council Meeting: March 1 - 2, 2013
- Council Meeting Convention: May 30 - June 2, 2013

District Conventions

Dist	Location	Date
A1	Leamington, Pelee Days Inn	April 12 - 14, 2013
A2	St. Catharines, Holiday Inn & Suites Parkway	March 22 - 24, 2013
A3	Kingston, Ambassador Hotel	April 12 - 14, 2013
A4	Ottawa, Brookstreet Hotel	April 12 - 14, 2013
A5	New Liskeard, Hotel TBA	April 12 - 14, 2013
A711	Mississauga, Delta Meadowvale Hotel	April 19 - 20, 2013
A9	Orangeville, Best Western Hotel	April 26 - 28, 2013
A12	Highland, Best Western Plus	April 26 - 28, 2013
A15	Cambridge, Holiday Inn	March 22 - 24, 2013
A16	Newmarket, Community Centre	April 26 - 28, 2013

IMPORTANT DATES

MDA Convention

2012/13	Richmond Hill, Sheraton Parkway Toronto North,	May 30 - June 2, 2013
2013/14	Huntsville	May 2 - 4, 2014

International Conventions

96th	Hamburg, Germany	July 5 - 9, 2013
97th	Toronto, Canada	July 4 - 8, 2014
98th	Honolulu, Hawaii	June 26 - 30, 2015
99th	Fukuoka, Japan	June 24 - 28, 2016
100th	Chicago Illinois, USA	June 30 - July 4, 2017

USA - Canada Forum

Sept. 13 - 15, 2012	Tampa Bay, Florida
Sept. 19 - 21, 2013	Overland Park, Kansas
Sept. 18 - 21, 2014	Puerto Rico
Sept., 2015	Grand Rapids

The Lakefield Lions Club's Lobsterfest & Show 2012

Saturday June 9th was a great night for Entertainment & Lobster as the Agony Chorus entertained a sold out crowd of over 429 people in the Create Shade Party tent after they had dined on pound & a half succulent fresh East Coast Lobster. The Lobsterfest and Show was the combined effort of the **Lakefield Lioness Club** and The Lakefield & District Lions Club and exceeded all expectations. When the final figures were released the total profit for the evening came to \$13,069.17 which was split between both clubs & will go to community betterment.



The Agony Chorus performing during the show portion of the evening (The Ayotte Boys from East City Peterborough)



Mary & Mike Moher & Liz Dafoe getting ready to enjoy those delicious lobster soaked in Stirling Creamery Churned 84 butter.....mm good!!!

Set the record straight

On page 14 of the July/August 2012 version of the LION M.D. "A" Edition, the Effective Speaking Winner of Senior English, 1. Morgan Wase is from A-15.

FOR THE RECORD

As of January 31, 2012 Lions Clubs International had 1,347,278 members in 46,135 Clubs and 747 Districts in 208 Countries and geographic areas. There were 332,965 Melvin Jones Fellowship recipients and 61,872 Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship recipients.

Dedicated Lions Honoured

The **Morrisburg & District Lions Club** recently named Lions **Les Cruickshank** and **Glen Cunningham** Life Members to honour their long standing active commitment to the Club and their service to the community.

Lion Wayne Domanko spoke first of Lion Les Cruickshank's contributions to the Club since his induction in 1959. Lion Les served as Club President in 1962 and has sponsored 7 new members over the years. Always a leader and visionary, Lion Les avidly supported the move to invite women to join the Club and the formation of a CIC (Club In a Club) committee as a means to attract and retain younger members and simultaneously charge the Club with actively focusing on the youth and young families within our committee.

Aware of the historical uniqueness of Morrisburg, Lion Les was instrumental in establishing Old Home Week, an initiative that has been revitalized recently. Keen to establish a healthy environment for youth in the community, Lion Les built bleachers for the ball diamonds in Morrisburg and a stage for the Morrisburg arena. Having built a highly successful construction company, Lion Les has generously contributed equipment to Riverside Heights and Morrisburg recreation and park, the "Let Them Be Kids" project and the preservation of historic buildings and structures. With his expertise and equipment, the Docksyde Ice-Cream & Snack Bar became a reality. In its 8th season, this has become a summer tourist destination as well as a gathering place for residents of all ages. And, in addition, Lion Les generously designed and built an amphitheatre for the community.

Turning to Lion Glen Cunningham, Lion Wayne cited the 39 years of dedication and commitment Lion Glen has given the Club. Lion Glen presided as the Club's President during the 1978-1979 Lions year and has introduced eight new members to the Club. Lion Glen's creativity is a huge asset to the Club: specifically he initiated and chaired many fund raising initiatives for the Club including car rallies and several variations of canoe-a-thons.

Passionate about the area and all it has to offer, Lion

Glen headed up several projects for the Club that improved the community, especially those that made use of the waterfront such as the Morrisburg & District Lions Memorial Pavilion dedicated to Lions who passed away while in service to the Club as well as the popular summer project the Docksyde Ice-cream and Snack Bar. Desiring to honour seniors in the community and their significant contributions, Lion Glen chaired the Free Senior's Christmas Concert for many years. Most recently, he brought together other Lions Clubs to ensure the work of the Dundas Hospice continues.

Wishing to preserve the history of South Dundas, Lion Glen implemented the design and creation of sixteen different murals displayed in various business in the area, illustrating the rich history of the area.

A skilled carpenter, Glen made cases for South Dundas medallions that are purchased by tourists and given as gifts throughout the community. He also designed the braces in the Morrisburg & District Lions Memorial Pavilion. In addition, Glen refurbished the Moccasin, a train that ran locally in the 1900-1950 period delivering products to Montreal and returning goods to residents and businesses in the area. This train is on display along the highway and is a feature of Upper Canada Village.



Left to right: President Lion Bob Bechard (left), Lion Les Cruickshank and Lion Glen Cunningham following Wayne Domanko's (right) announcement the distinction of Life Members had been bestowed on Lions Les and Glen to recognize their many years of contributions to the community and to Lionism

Help Wanted

The Lion Magazine is looking for a retired Advertising Executive, or someone with experience in the advertising field, to sell ads on a commission basis for our magazine. For more information, contact Lion John Daniels at mdathelionmag@hotmail.com or call 519-622-1997.

Guelph Royal City Lions Club

Guelph royal City Lions Club was given a tree by International Past President Tam.

Pictured from left to right, are Charter **Lion Bob Sherwood**, **Lion Pearl Misersky** (widow of Charter President **Peter Misersky**), Lion Chief **Ed Wells**, Charter Lion **John McGee**, and Charter Lion **Don Cohen** of the Guelph Royal City Lions Club. They are planting IP Tam's tree in Peter Misersky Park, near the Friendship Arches, which were installed in his memory.



Submitted by Lion Edward Wells

Tree Planting Continues

Wellington & District Lions Club planted 1,000 trees on April 21 near Foxboro, with the help of **Frankford Lions** and **Cherry Valley Lions**, as well as three high school students earning community hours.



Back left to right: **Bill Boulbee**, **Harry Marissen**, **Will Durham**, **Chris MacKay**, **Art Hewer**, **Fred Keating**, **Kevin Wight**, **Mac Allin**, **Jason Forestall**, **Brendan Clarke**, **Dave Clapp**.
Front left to right: **Liz Boulbee**, **Janet Marissen**, **June Jewell**, **Ken Jewell** and **Betty Wight**

HOW TO GET INTO THE LION Contact your District Reporter

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: shawnwd@yahoo.com
A2	Lion Wayne Scott	email: w.scott@a2lions.org
A3	Lion Wilma Bush	email: wilma.bush@sympatico.ca
A4	Lion Sandra Baldwin	email: slbaldwin@rogers.com
A5	Lion Liam Brennan	email: lembrennan@hotmail.com

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

District Reporters

A711		
A9	Lion Al Leach PDG	email: adleach@hotmail.com
A12	Lion Nick Poulakis	email: nixter@rockinbird.com
A15	Lion Bob Rutter	email: bulletin@a15lions.org
A16	Lion Allan Argue	email: allargu@persona.ca

MOVING SOON?

To ensure that the next MD "A" Lion magazine reaches your new residence, please complete this form and MAIL ENTIRE FORM TO:

Circulation Manager, LION Magazine
300 W 22nd Street

Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842

or e-mail your information to: stats@lionsclubs.org

**Attach Your Address Label or
Print Your Old Address Here:**

(include all code numbers)

New address will be (Please Print):

Name (print): _____

New Address: _____

City: _____

Province: _____ PC: _____

Club #: _____ Member #: _____

Date of Change: _____

**WE AT THE LION CANNOT CHANGE YOUR
ADDRESS, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR CLUB
SECRETARY TO HAVE YOUR ADDRESS
CORRECTED AT LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL**

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 "**Lions Resource Centre**" on the left side of the page.



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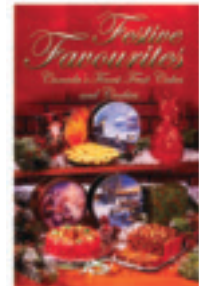
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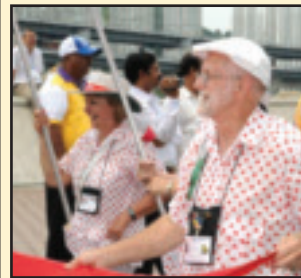
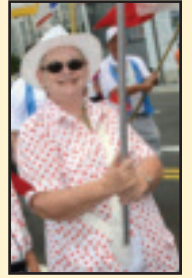


Great Day for a Parade

Images from Busan



photos taken by LCI's photographer ACES XP, LLC



Agreement Number is:
41805020*



Lion Susan Snider was our cheer leader!

