

L I O N



M.D. "A" Edition May/June 2013

www.lionsclubs.org

We Serve

Hamburg, Germany prepares to receive the Lions of the world



See Convention Call - page 4

Melvin Jones Fellow

A3 PDG **Lion Earl Oliver** was presented with a Melvin Jones Fellowship Award during **Norwood Lions** 61st Charter Night, February 7, 2013.

Submitted by Lion Wilma Bush



L-R: Lions Secretary Doug White, PDG Earl Oliver, President Don Snider

St. Mary's Lions

At the District A-15 Convention March 22-24, 2013 – PDG **Lion Karen McKnight** received the International Presidents Award from ID **Marvin Chambers**.



L-R: PID Bruce Murray, PID Art Woods, PDG Karen McKnight, DG Dr. Dan Ayim and ID Direct Marvin Chambers

Grand Valley Lions

Lion Jim Shaw with his wife Marion accepting his Queen's Jubilee Medal from MPP Sylvia Jones.

Submitted by Lion Randy McClelland



Cornwall Township Lions Club

We are proud to announce that **Lion Brian Goodfellow** of the Cornwall Township Lions Club had the honour of receiving the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal which was presented to him in February on Parliament Hill in Ottawa for his efforts to Canada in support of our Canadian Military and their families, by volunteering through the Red Ribbon Forces. www.supportcanadatroops.ca

Submitted by Lion Eleanor Bookman



Palmer Rapids Lions Saluted by Governor-General

Marlene Ryan and **Ted Thompson** wear their Lions vests proudly as they meet Governor-General David Johnson at a reception to honour volunteers in Renfrew County at the start of National Volunteer Week in April. Both are charter members of the Palmer Rapids and Area Lions Club, veterans of more than two decades of community service. They are also the club's 'memory' and historians. In addition to her work with the Lions, Marlene is a founding worker and on-going volunteer with her township's "Four season park".

A representative of each Lions Club in the Renfrew County area was specifically invited to the reception by County Warden Peter Emon, who stated that this was a "Thank-you for the ongoing energy and enthusiasm given by your club in making our community a better place to live and raise a family."



Delaware Lions Club

Delaware Lions celebrated with **Lion Kees Serrarens** and his wife Gini as they presented him with an LCI "LIFE MEMBERSHIP" as well as his 40 Year Charter Chevron and 40 Year Perfect Attendance recognition. Lion Kees is a Charter Member of the Delaware Lions Club serving his community from 1971 to the present. Being community minded, Lion Kees was an integral part of the "Rink Committee" in initiating the formation of the Delaware Lions Club. He served as Secretary, Treasurer, and Bulletin Editor and chaired key Club Committees over the years. For more than 40 years he has contributed an abundance of time and effort to the success of the Club's service and

fundraising endeavours. As the electronics and computer wizard, Lion Kees was frequently called upon to apply those special skills. Lion Kees has been a very visible Lion serving others while always keeping in mind and applying the motto "WE SERVE!"

Submitted by Lion Henry Vanderweyst





See pages 20-23 to review the upcoming events planned for the 2013 Hamburg Convention

THE Lion



We Serve

*W*elcome to the May/June 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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The LION Magazine, official publication of Lions Clubs International, is published by authority of the board of directors in 20 languages - English, Spanish, Japanese, French, Swedish, Italian, German, Finnish, Korean, Portuguese, Dutch, Danish, Chinese, Norwegian, Icelandic, Turkish, Greek, Hindi, Indonesian and Thai.

Management Committee Lion Magazine
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Failing To Plan Is Planning To Fail



Wayne A. Madden
*Lions Clubs International
President*

In “Lincoln,” the award-winning recent movie, U.S. President Lincoln verbally spars with Representative Thaddeus Stevens, who is idealistic but lacking in practicality. Both want to abolish slavery. But Lincoln believes that Stevens’ bullheaded way will backfire. He pointedly tells Stevens that a compass will

point you to true north. But it won’t show you the swamps in between, and if you plunge ahead recklessly you will sink in the swamps and never reach your destination.

Lions, we know where we want to go, where we want to be. We want to serve. But to be as effective as we can be we can’t rush forward without planning and

preparation. We need to be intentional. We need to map out our path. We need to not just assume our clubs will thrive but take steps to ensure that outcome.

The four “pit stops” I encouraged clubs to take is a proven way to keep clubs strong. Periodically assess your needs, set goals and evaluate your progress. I hope clubs continue this process next Lions year and beyond.

Also embrace social media. Admittedly, I’m part of the generation considered to be behind the curve when it comes to cutting-edge communications. I may never quite catch up to my children and grandchildren, but I am the first international president to have his own Facebook page. I’ve enjoyed many informative interactions with Lions through Facebook.

Lions Clubs International recently surveyed Lions on social media use: more and more Lions are using Facebook and Twitter to connect with one another and to publicize their service. But we need to increase our use of these communication tools. We live in a digital world, and Lions, who always have prided themselves

on being part of their communities, must be fully engaged with their communities in every way possible including social media. We belong in the mainstream, and today the flow of communication travels down the digital highway.

Maybe years ago we gathered on front porches and in backyards to meet our neighbors and build relationships. Let’s still do that. But let’s also often talk and share information online to tighten bonds among Lions and to let the wider community know we are here and how important we are. Communication builds community. In a World of Service, we can increase the scope and reach of our clubs by fully embracing the digital world.

Wayne A. Madden
Lions Clubs International President

The Secret of Service: In Giving We Receive

The humanitarian Albert Schweitzer was once asked by a young person at a gathering for his advice on life. He replied, “I don’t know what your destiny will be, but one thing I know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve.” We Lions know that. In my world travels this year I’ve met Lions of all ages, occupations and socioeconomic status. Yet we share a certain inner satisfaction. We find purpose and meaning in helping others. You’ve heard of “runner’s high”? That’s the release of endorphins during physical activity that produce a feeling of euphoria. Well, Lions experience a “helper’s high.” Volunteering is a positive, often joyful activity.

Forgive my feeble attempt at humor, but we did so much volunteering and no doubt experienced so much

“helper’s high” that we wouldn’t have wanted the Drug Enforcement Agency looking over our shoulder this past year. Clubs embraced the Reading Action Program. Final numbers are not in, but 14,608 clubs reported 64,507 activities, more than 2.3 million hours of service and 6.3 million people served. Many Lions also took part in the Global Service Action Campaigns focused on youth, vision, hunger and the environment. So far, we served 6.4 million people and tallied 1.9 million service hours in these campaigns. Add to that all the other service we did, and you can see we roared exceptionally loudly in 2012-13.

Linda and I are deeply grateful for the hospitality and warmth of the Lions we met. We are extraordinarily impressed by the dedication and passion of Lions. I know Lions are proud of their own

club’s accomplishments. But Linda and I were able to see a bit more of the forest, and not just the trees, and it’s amazing how much we do. U.S. President Teddy Roosevelt once said, “Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.” Lions do just that. But add those club efforts together, and it’s staggering what Lions accomplish in a World of Service. Take pride in being a Lion, continue to serve as a Lion and keep making the world a better place.

Wayne A. Madden
Lions Clubs International President

Convention Call

In compliance with Article VI, Section 2 of the International By-Laws, I hereby issue the Official Call for the 2013 International Convention. Our 96th International Convention will be held in Hamburg, Germany. It begins at 10 a.m. July 5 and ends July 9. The purpose of the convention is to elect a president, first vice president, second vice president and 17 members of the International Board of Directors and to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Hamburg is a historic, beautiful city with an international flair, delicious food and stunning Old World architecture. Germany’s second-largest city is a major player on the world stage in commerce, culture, the arts, sports and tourism. It’s a wonderful, vibrant

city Lions will enjoy and cherish.

Convention Week is an unforgettable experience filled with fellowship, fun and enrichment. Lions will enjoy many decades-old traditions such as the stirring flag ceremony, the festive international parade and the highly entertaining multicultural international show. The lively plenary sessions include a keynote speech by former U.S. First Lady Laura Bush, the presentation of the 2013 Humanitarian Award to the legendary Italian tenor Andrea Bocelli, who will sing for us, and the installation of the 2013-2014 international president and district governors.

The Lions of Germany have been working diligently to make the convention run smoothly. Their admirable efficiency and gracious hospitality will ensure that

Lions enjoy themselves and get the most they can out of the convention. In a World of Service, our convention is a pinnacle experience that makes Lions better able and more enthused to fulfill our service mission. I strongly encourage you to join more than 20,000 Lions in Hamburg for a memorable convention.

Signed by me at Oak Brook, Illinois, United States of America, this 9th day of May 2013.

Warmest regards,

Wayne A. Madden
Lions Clubs International President



Official Notice

2013 International Convention, Hamburg, Germany

The following proposed amendments to the International Constitution and By-Laws will be reported to the delegates for vote at the 2013 International Convention.



ITEM 1:

IN ORDER TO DISTINGUISH THE TITLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS FROM THE TITLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORS, THIS RESOLUTION WOULD REINSTATE THE TITLE OF "EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR" AND ADD THE TITLE OF "SENIOR EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR" AS ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS. *(THIS AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS REQUIRES A TWO-THIRDS VOTE TO ADOPT.)*

SHALL THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION BE ADOPTED?

BE IT RESOLVED, That Article V, Section 1 of the

International Constitution shall be amended by deleting the phrase "executive director, treasurer, secretary (the Executive Director, Treasurer and Secretary shall constitute the Administrative Officers)" and substituting the phrase "Administrative Officers".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Article V, Section 8 of the International Constitution shall be amended by deleting the phrase "executive director, treasurer, secretary" and substituting the phrase "administrative officers".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Article III, Section 3 of the International By-Laws shall be

amended by deleting the phrase "executive director" and substituting the phrase "senior executive administrator and/or executive administrator".

ITEM 2:

A RESOLUTION TO INCREASE THE ONE-TIME FEE PAYABLE BY LIFE MEMBERS TO US\$650. *(THIS AMENDMENT TO THE BY-LAWS REQUIRES A MAJORITY VOTE TO ADOPT.)*

SHALL THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION BE ADOPTED?

BE IT RESOLVED, That Article XI, Section 7 of the International By-Laws be amended by deleting the phrase "US\$500" as it appears in this section and substituting the phrase "US\$650".

Lions Quest Presentation

by Joanne McQuiggan, Executive Director

Growing up I had a number of people around me who weren't afraid to give me responsibility to not only participate, but contribute to my community. I was active in my church, in 4H clubs and in my school. I took part in the Lions Youth Exchange and travelled to Switzerland sponsored by my local Lions Club and in 1986 I was honoured to be chosen to take part in Past International President Sten Akestam's Youth Forum on Drugs representing Canada.

I was not only allowed but expected to take on leadership roles at a young age. I felt important, trusted, and cared about by the caring adults in my life – and it felt good.

Take a moment to think about an adult who made a positive difference to you when you were growing up. Someone who made you feel that you mattered. Do you remember how great it made you feel? Did that person help you to become who you are today?

That feeling is one of the main things young people need to succeed - adults who care about them and adults who make them feel that they matter. One way to achieve this feeling is to gain experiences, skills and guidance through Lions Quest School-Based Programs. Another way is to surround our youth with an interconnected web of caring, responsible adults. The more adults who make the effort to support the young people in their lives, the better chances young people have to succeed.

Doing this requires us to make some shifts in our thinking.

We need to get away from young people being depicted in our communities as problems, or having problems that need to be fixed. By focusing on young people's strengths, not their problems we can affirm and increase their skills and talents. We must believe that

every young person has strengths and potential to use those strengths supported by their web of caring adults to overcome problems or challenges they face. We can't ignore problems completely, but by putting the emphasis on strengths evidence has shown that negative risk-taking behaviours like substance use, violence and bullying decrease in young people.

All of this makes sense? So how do we do it?

We found that many programs worked well, we needed to move beyond programs to encouraging positive relationships with all young people. We can have the greatest programs in the world happening in our schools, but we need to treat all young people in our communities with respect, with genuine care and with interest. Young people continuously need to hear the message that they are valued.

We recognized this challenge many years ago and developed Lions Quest School-Based Programs in partnership with a number of other organizations. Our programs train teachers to develop social skills in their students – things like problem solving, communication skills, peer and family relationships, conflict resolution, goal setting – to prevent negative behaviour. A core part of what we do in schools is helping students get along with one another and build a positive school climate – in other words – we are building relationships among not only our young people but the staff and all of the other caring adults connected to the school.

Our School-Based Programs are based on the 40 Developmental Assets from Search Institute. The list grew out of reading, thinking, and discussion between researchers and experts on youth development. They confirmed the list and found out that the more assets/strengths young people have the better off they

seemed to be. They are the building blocks that young people need to grow up healthy, capable and of strong character – our mission.

Lions Quest School-Based Programs support the development of 32 of the 40 assets. We, as an organization, continue to support our workshops for schools, but the recent labour issues in some provinces have meant a pause in this activity. Schools can't and shouldn't be held responsible for the development of these skills alone - we all know "it takes a village to raise a child."

We also know that the more assets young people have, the less likely they are to be involved in negative behaviour including drug use, violence and bullying. The more assets young people have, the more likely they are to be involved in positive behaviour including good health, school achievement, valuing diversity and taking on leadership roles – just like I did all those years ago.

Research tells us that many, many young people in all types of settings and places have too few assets. On average youth in the province of Saskatchewan are reporting that they have only 18.5 of the 40 assets they need to succeed. So what can we do to change it?

It sounds like a big job, and maybe a hard one.

A school put the names of the 900 students on the wall and asked teachers to put a sticker next to 10 students who they felt they had a connection with. One quarter of the students had one sticker, a few had more than one, but more than one half had no stars at all.

The staff members decided to take time to be deliberate and intentional about connecting with the young people who did not have any stickers.

What do you think happened? The climate improved at the school. Students felt like they mattered. Students felt like they were cared about. Students who had not been active in the school community started to take on new roles, leadership roles. Things changed for the better at that school.

Think about your own community – are young people valued? Would they think that adults cared about them – or is it lip service?

Here are some simple strategies for connecting with young people:

- Learn names, read their name tags when you encounter them in stores and restaurants and go out of your way to use them.
- Be deliberate about building a relationship with a young person (informally or formally).
- Take time to talk with young people, make eye contact and smile when you see them.
- Expect young people to behave responsibly and call them on it when they don't.
- Thank people who work with young people – teachers, youth leaders, etc.
- Eat at least one meal together as a family every day.
- Be a friend to your children's or grandchildren's friends.

- If you don't live near your own grandchildren 'adopt' a local family with young children or teens and get to know them a little better.

Remember the people who made a difference for you, who made you feel that you mattered. You can be that person for someone else. Maybe you already are, and you don't even know it.

Think about three young people on whom you might be able to have a positive effect. In the next week, do something to make a positive difference to one of those young people.

We are not talking about information, or a message about new attitudes. We're talking about deeds, actions, relationships.

- It starts with attitudes and relationships.
- It grows with each person and community acting positively.
- It ends with young people growing up believing that they're good, strong, and productive – because they are.
- It ends with young people believing that they matter because they do.

Hanging on my office wall is a quote by Margaret Mead: *Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.*

Waterloo Lions Celebrate 75 Years

Lions and friends gathered to enjoy a sumptuous dinner, as the Waterloo Lions Club celebrated their 75th Anniversary at Kennedy's Tavern on April 11, 2013. To commemorate the occasion, all members received a Lions Foundation of Canada Life Membership, making it a 100% Club with LFC Membership.

With the assistance of **Governor Dan Ayim** and Guest **PID Terry Graham**, **Lion Chief Rob Montgomery** presented an International President's Certificate of Appreciation to two very deserving Lions, **Lion Bill Weiler** and **Lion Wendy Voigt**.



Governor Dan Ayim, Lion Bill Weiler and PID Terry Graham



PID Terry Graham, Lion Chief Rob Montgomery, Lion Wendy Voigt and Governor Dan Ayim

The Waterloo Lions were the sponsors of the **Kitchener Waterloo Community Spirit Lions Club** when they chartered in 1997. In honour of the occasion, the Community Spirit Lions presented **Lion Ross Otto** with a Lions Quest Fellowship. Lion Ross has always been very involved for many years with our community and Lions projects and lately especially in assisting with the children's eye screening in the local schools.



President Janet Dawson Brock and Lion Marianne Steadman making the presentation to Lion Ross on behalf of their Club

LCIF

Reading Summit Held at Headquarters

LCIF

Coon Rapids Lions in Minnesota play not Bingo but BANGO with students while visiting elementary schools. Letters printed on flashcards are called out, and students whose tokens form a full row receive a brand new book.

Middletown Township Lions in New Jersey took another approach to encourage reading. They held a literacy event at a school that featured music, dancing, magic, face painters, balloon artists, comedians, and, of course, books and reading. The aim was the same but the means were different halfway around the world in Singapore where **Singapore Chatsworth Lions** enlisted the wife of the high commissioner to read books by British author Roald Dahl to schoolchildren.

Lions worldwide are embracing President Wayne Madden's Reading Action Program (RAP). So far, 56,627 total activities have been reported, serving nearly 6 million people through 2.1 million Lions service hours.

Building on Lions' enthusiasm for literacy, Lions Clubs International near Chicago is hosting a Reading and Literacy Summit on May 1. Nearly 30 organizations will convene to promote literacy. Participants include the U.S. Agency for International Development, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, World Vision, CARE, Aga Khan Development Network, Reading Is Fundamental, Reach Out and Read, Scholastic International, the Perkins School for the Blind, the Hadley School for the Blind, the American Foundation for the Blind, Benetech Initiative (Bookshare), Special Olympics, Johnson & Johnson Vision Care and Nokia.

The summit will seek practical, low-cost strategies to promote early reading, improved access to education for marginalized populations and learning environments that meet the needs of children with disabilities.

Participants will focus on several key questions. Regarding global literacy, what has been achieved? What needs to be done? What is the role of civil society?

Regarding early reading and book distribution, what can be done at the community level to promote early reading and what are the most effective means to distribute low-cost, age- and culturally-appropriate books to children in need?

Questions also swirl around literacy for those with visual impairments and other disabilities. What are the barriers to inclusion and how can vision care improve school performance? Finally, regarding the role of technology, how can e-readers, mobile devices and other innovative tools improve literacy?



Leos in Finland record classic stories and fairy tales to be posted online for visually impaired children

Lions Homes For Deaf People Support Various Hearing Projects

The Lions Homes for Deaf People are energized about their recent support for a number of groups and organizations. LHDP has contributed to the Canadian Hearing Society's **Mobile Communication Access Kits**. The LHDP funding has allowed CHS to support the development of 35 Mobile Communication Device and Access Centre Kits. The Mobile CDAC Kits enable staff and clients with instant access to a full range of technical assistive devices that CHS markets to enhance accessibility and ensure the safety of people who are deaf, deafened and/or experience hearing loss. The one-stop display puts communication devices instantly in the hands of clients, allowing them to see them, compare their functionality, test them and make the right decisions for personal situations. The CDAC Kits are being used at trade fairs, conferences, workshops and accessibility demonstrations. Most importantly, they allow CHS counsellors who visit clients in their home, or travel to remote and rural areas to demonstrate and test a wide range of devices. Client's lives are made safer and they are able to re-connect with their community and to live independently as much as possible. LHDP has made a phased commitment to CHS of \$125,000 which runs through to June of 2014.

In late 2012 LHDP also committed to supporting

the **Glebe Centre** for a specialized unit for deaf and deaf/blind. The Glebe Centre is a 254 bed long term care facility located in Ottawa, Ontario. The Centre has worked with Deaf Community partners like LHDP to develop a long term care plan for a special 32-bed unit for residents who require the services of the long term care home and who use sign language as a primary means of communication on a daily basis. The need for such a facility is evident in the fact that there are 165 clients diagnosed with such a combination of long term care needs and deafness in the local community. LHDP has approved a commitment of approximately \$40,000 to fund infrastructure and equipment adaptations and specialized staff training necessary to implement the unit and programme.

LHDP has again reached out and is working with **DeafBlind Ontario Services** to assist in financing the construction of a group home to accommodate four deafblind persons in London, Ontario. LHDP looks to complete this \$185,000 commitment in June 2015, financing being phased in conjunction with the completion of the new facility. The new group home will be named **Lions Martins House** in honour of the many years of service by LHDP Board Member Lion Gary Martins.

These commitments have only been possible by the continued and generous support of all Lions and Lioness Clubs in Multiple District "A". The LHDP Board thanks all Clubs for their great efforts and allowing us to make these worthwhile donations. The needs are so great! Continued support by the Lions of the entire District will ensure our deaf and deaf/blind goals are secured. Keep up the great work fellow Lions and Lioness!

Reported by LHDP, March 2013

*Lion John Lackey
Orangeville, Ontario*



Lions Martins House



Lion Bradd Anderson

our organizations good work in one form or another.

Who knew that taking on the position of MD-A Council Chair would be that different? To be honest...I didn't! Over the past year I have witnessed our collective efforts at an organizational level. It seems complex, but it is our association (or "network") that make us strong and identifies us as LIONS globally.

Recently, the principal of a Lions Quest School in Niagara Falls was explaining the concept of "footprints": those that the students leave through their actions. Relating the "footprint" reference to Lions: it's the contributions that we make; our thoughtful actions that demonstrate respect for our communities; our self-confidence that we can "get the job done"; and our determination to work together and improve the world around us. These are our "footprints".

During the past year our multiple district has taken

A Few Last Words

"In a World of Service", I found out quickly, that being a Lion had many intangible rewards: it seems that after 25 years of service we all experience first-hand the results of our

up many challenges that will, over time, help us to leave more footprints. Hats off to our leadership team of instructors and mentors! They have dedicated their time to develop and present meaningful learning sessions that will have a positive impact on our organizations leadership today and into the future. Our leadership and membership teams (GMT/GLT) are truly outstanding.

By pooling our resources our districts and multiple district were able to provide funding for projects that were recognized by our foundation and received matching funding (LCIF Grants) to assist children's camps and several community hospitals.

This year's Opportunities for Youth Luncheon at the MD-A Convention was a perfect example of how we can learn from each other and more importantly our youth. Our MD-A Opportunities for Youth committee is to be commended for providing us with this unique opportunity to showcase our collective youth programs.

Looking back, it has been an honour for me to serve with you and witness the many "footprints" that you have thoughtfully and purposely placed.

Going forward, as is usually the case, the year ahead of us will be filled with some new challenges including playing hosts to the world of Lionism. Set your goals, choose your path...and as we will be reminded..."Follow Your Dream".

Waterloo Lion Supports Cancer Research

Lion Ron Berhendt, the owner of Code Yellow Towing painted his truck pink in support of Grand River Cancer Center. His truck, the Twinkle of Hope, a symbol of support for cancer research, was on hand to greet the guests as they arrived at the celebration of 75 years of Lionism in Waterloo.



Lions Rob Montgomery, Ron Berhendt and Bill Weiler

Dog Guides Transform Lives

Gerry and Houston: A New Leash on Life

It happened just after his touch football game ended. Before that point, Gerry had known about his health problems but he never imagined they would boil over and disrupt the life he had set up for himself: his job as a welder and franchise owner, father, husband, and provider.

He told his kids he was not feeling well and that one of them would have to drive his car home from the game. Home quickly turned into a trip to the hospital where it was revealed that Gerry had suffered a stroke caused by a blood clot that had broken off and lodged itself in his brain. The clot cost him his vision and consequently altered the dynamics of his life. "The most difficult thing for me was that my role of provider was taken away because I could not work the jobs I had," says Gerry.

Returning home, Gerry knew his life had taken a drastic turn but he was determined to readjust and regain his mobility. He turned to a white cane first and used it to learn his daily routes, but once he felt he knew the routes well enough he opted to leave the cane at home. This proved to be unsafe and Gerry's family felt uneasy when he would go out on his own. "My wife didn't feel comfortable about me going out on my own without my cane. I really wanted to be able to use the bus and get out more and I figured a Dog Guide would allow me to do that. So I started researching and found LFC," says Gerry.

After learning about the Canine Vision Dog Guide program Gerry put in an application. A few months later he travelled to Lions Foundation to train with his new Dog Guide, Houston. "My life is changing tremendously. Houston gives me the freedom to go places I couldn't go before and he gives my wife peace of mind. I finally have the confidence to venture out again and do the things I used to do" shares Gerry.

Canine Vision Dog Guides like Houston are trained to help their handlers navigate daily routes and provide

them a safe means of moving about freely in their community and beyond. If you or someone you know could benefit from a Canine Vision Dog Guide, please email Alex Ivic, Client Services Supervisor.

Kristen and Fido – Special Skills Dog Guide Graduates

Kristen was out for one of her routine bike rides in preparation for an upcoming triathlon when her life took a dramatic turn; she was hit by a drunk driver. She had been out cycling by herself, it was night time and the driver took off, leaving her on the street. The last thing she remembers is thinking that she should turn around and head back home.

When she woke up in the hospital she had no recollection of the accident. Her father had to tell her what had happened. "I was conscious when it all happened but I can't remember anything," says Kristen. Her stay in the hospital lasted two weeks but the damage done was life changing and the recovery process has been ongoing. The accident left Kristen paralyzed from the shoulders down.

For a young woman who was living a very active life, the impact of that night was enormous; however Kristen has not allowed it to be definitive. "So much of my identity was based around being active – from playing hockey and travelling to the United States for a hockey scholarship, to the triathlons I was training for. I've really had to try my best to get back to the frame of mind I had before the accident. When you have an accident like I did, you have to start your life over again," explains Kristen.

Her rehabilitation process started when she came to Lyndhurst, a spinal cord injury rehabilitation hospital in Toronto, Ontario. "When I entered rehab, I gave myself a goal of gaining back as much mobility as possible. I am a very determined person, and I have my parents to thank for that," says Kristen. During her stay at Lyndhurst another patient told Kristen's mom about Dog Guides, right away they started the

application process. Not long after, Kristen travelled to Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides training facility in Oakville to participate in the Special Skills program. It had only been a year since her accident and she was working hard to regain her independence.

After three days at Dog Guides, she was paired with Fido, a black Labrador Retriever. "Fido is really chill, I think that's why they chose her for me. I live in a busy area but she's really relaxed and athletic. She isn't fazed by the amount of activity that is happening around her and is super focused. It's funny that we're both so similar; the trainers did an awesome job pairing us," shares Kristen.

Graduating with Fido was a turning point for Kristen. She worked hard over the three weeks that she was at Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides to ensure that she and Fido could become a flawless team. "I don't know where I would be now if it weren't for Fido. The rehabilitation process is intense and it's made an enormous difference having her with me throughout it. She motivates me to get up in the morning," Kristen admits.

When she discovered Dog Guides Canada, Kristen was looking for ways to regain her independence. Like most young adults she wanted to be able to do things for herself. She knows that her road to recovery will be lengthy and that there will be things that she will have to ask others to help her with. "I am incredibly grateful for those people in my life who help me do the things I can't do for myself. Fido falls into that category for me. She just motivates me to live and be the best I can be," says Kristen. "I can't imagine where I would be if I didn't have her. Becoming healthy again starts from within yourself, but when you have someone like Fido you find strength and motivation that you didn't know you had."

Kristen is currently working towards regaining mobility in her hands and arms and is studying to complete her masters.

12 Steps to a Successful Lions Club

submitted for PCC Mike Springford, MD-A GMT

During the last two years working on GMT it has become apparent to me that the basics of Lionism have not changed. It is us that have changed. Our Lions club demographic must represent current thinking and ideas in our communities.

With this in mind, I offer a list of 12 items, which I consider still vital to our well-being. This is in no way a finite list. Obviously, we are all proud Lions, otherwise why would we be here today? Any time that things get tough, it's time to get back to the knitting and by that I mean there are certain things that we must do to make our clubs successful.

- 1 We must embrace all aspects of public relations to promote ourselves.
- 2 Ensure that your three man membership committee makes a plan and stays with it, then monitor this

twice a month.

- 3 Recruit at least 10% of your membership every year to avoid age gaps and attrition.
- 4 Make your new member sponsors accountable for two years.
- 5 Always talk to newer members and prospectives of the pride we have in our organization and of our humanitarian efforts at home and around the globe.
- 6 Explain how satisfaction in service work can make your health get better.
- 7 Make your awards ceremonies outstanding with all the pomp and dignity you can muster and remember to say "thank you" nine times.
- 8 Insist that your newer members regularly go on club visitations in a group and don't forget to teach them about what has made Lions Clubs successful

for nearly 100 years.

- 9 Talk about how every Lion is responsible for membership increases and retention of current members.
- 10 Monitor the pulse of the club often and talk about current issues, then work to resolve them.
- 11 Use all of the resources that LCI has made available for us.
- 12 Put the fun back in your club.

FOR THE RECORD

As of December 31 2013, Lions Clubs International had 1,343,063 members in 46,055 clubs and 753 districts in 207 countries and geographic areas.

After the Horror

Japan Slowly Recovers from the Tsunami

It took minutes for the tsunami and earthquake on March 11, 2011, to devastate Japan. Two years later communities remain in tatters. Three clubs were particularly devastated. Eleven of the 70 members of the **Rikuzentakata Lions Club** died. Almost all 36 members of the **Minami Sanriku Shizugawa Lions Club** lost both their homes and workplaces. All 30 members of the **Iidate Lions Club** remain in evacuation facilities. The Lions are bravely carrying on, taking care of their families, re-establishing their workplaces, rebuilding their towns and continuing to serve as Lions.

Rikuzentakata Lions Club, Iwate

On the 11th of every month, **Lion Seiichiro Kanno** and his wife bring a can of Coke and flowers to what remains of the once-imposing Rikuzentakata post office, where their only son, Hiroyuki, worked. To his father's delight, Hiroyuki took after him in many ways. He preferred soda to alcohol, for example. For Kanno, all of that seems more than a lifetime ago.



The downtown of Rikuzentakata was almost completely washed away without a trace



The first meeting for Rikuzentakata Lions after the tsunami was held last November in a temporary office

The city finally is tearing down the post office, which only had its exterior walls left. Seeing the building come down makes Kanno reflect on his son's final moments: "What was Hiroyuki thinking as the water bore down on him?" Little things remind him of his son, and his eyes moisten. Well-meaning but blunt people have told him, "Don't let it get you down for

so long." But, for Kanno, remembering his lost son is the one thing he can do for him.

Rikuzentakata is now famous in Japan for its Solitary Pine Tree of Miracle, the single tree left standing in a forest of 70,000 trees. Last September, to preserve the tree, the city carefully uprooted it. In November the city demolished the Civil Gymnastic Hall, where terrified residents fled. The hall, an official evacuation site, was believed to be safe. Only three of the 100 or so people there survived.

The city is moving forward. All public buildings are slated for teardown soon. The city's reconstruction plan includes creating a bank 12.5 meters high and a memorial park by the shore. The business district will be elevated five to eight meters higher than before. The construction company owned by **Lion Shu Kinno**, which resumed its operation sooner than any other company after the disaster, is heavily involved in debris removal. "We need to hurry. We have to clear up the land soon and move on. Otherwise, recovery will be forever out of our reach," says Kinno, club president.

But the rebuilding is fraught with tension. Some residents want to preserve buildings as abiding memorials. Rikuzentakata Lions formerly met at the Capital Hotel, which offered gorgeous views of the pine forest. Demolition was halted after citizens protested.

Initially, members of other Lions clubs visited Rikuzentakata to help. After about a year, Rikuzentakata Lions realized that it was impossible to continue hosting Lions eager to help. They needed to focus on reviving their businesses and politely told other Lions financial help was most appreciated.

Lion Satoru Sugawara opened a makeshift gas station just a month after the tsunami. He called it "ganbaro," which means "let's hang tough." Last November he began construction on a permanent building. Sugawara is eager to move ahead so his employees can return to work.

Matayoshi Kumagai, 2011-12 president, welcomed his son back to his water supply company a year ago. The son received training in Tokyo before returning to greatly help the business recover. But neither Kumagai nor his company can do anything about the lack of housing. None of his employees have a permanent home yet.

For years the Rikuzentakata Lions Club held a youth speech contest. This year they hosted a speech workshop in which schoolchildren expressed their hopes for the future. One group of children unveiled detailed, ambitious city dioramas and appealed to adults to rebuild their beloved hometown.

Minami Sanriku Shizugawa Lions Club, Miyagi

The torrent of water washed away precious recipes for his cakes, breads and pastries. A year ago, working strictly from memory, **Lion Yuichi Abe** reopened his cake

shop in a temporary strip mall. He wakes at 4 each morning and works far into the night. A long night's sleep is a luxury. As club president, he spends many hours networking with Lions from other towns who offer aid. He says he struggles between feeling grateful for the support and the stress of meeting his responsibilities as a shop keeper and a Lions leader.

After a nine-month delay, the club held its 50th charter celebration last April. The club invited Lions from throughout Japan who had traveled to their town to help. Nearly 300 Lions attended. The tsunami was sadly ironic for the Lions: the club was initially organized to provide assistance to Chile after a terrible earthquake and tsunami there.

Abe, the baker, escaped from the tsunami with two young employees. One eventually quit her job after giving birth, and the other left because of her emotional distress over the disaster. Abe hired two employees in their 50s. Other stores in the strip mall face the same problem of finding young workers. The town's population was 18,000 before the disaster and perhaps less than 12,000 now. Businesses can't afford high wages. Young parents have moved away.



Lion Yuichi Abe reopened his bakery. He says he wants to "bring smiles to the faces of the residents in the town with my cakes"



A sign made to look like a kiriko stands on the site where Lion Shinichi Sato's photo studio existed. A kiriko is a traditional Shinto altar decoration created by cutting out Japanese papers

Lion Shinichi Sato, president of the Shizugawa Primary School PTA, sees the same problem. With



Salmon are brought to the Shizugawa fishing port. The recovery of the fishing industry in the Miyago area is crucial to economic development

housing in short supply, enrollment dropped from 450 to less than 50.

In the year after the disaster residents, though heartbroken, were determined to show a strong resolve. As time passed by, harsh reality sunk in. What was best? Sell their property in the flood zone or exchange the land for property in an elevated area?

A beat ahead of the deadly torrent of water, Sato had hustled out of his photo studio with a camera bag and other tools of his livelihood. He resolved “to keep a photographic record of the town until the day it achieves full recovery.” Vowing to stay the course, he reopened his photo studio in a temporary shopping mall.

But even Sato will have to decide on relocating. The town’s plan is to keep the mall open for five years. Residential plots of land will be developed in three locations on elevated ground, and the flat land in the town’s center will exclude residences. That’s problematic because before the disaster most of the store owners used their business premises as living quarters as well.

For now Sato continues his documentary work. He traveled through Japan to exhibit his images of the town’s post-disaster situation. He also visited London last year in August during the Olympics. Sato proudly displayed his photos at an event held to show Japan’s gratitude to the world for the aid that poured in.

Iidate Lions Club, Fukushima

Thirty-five years ago, after painstakingly learning his craft as a cook in Yokohama and Yokosuka, **Sakae Akaishizawa** opened a noodle shop in Iidate with money saved from a second job as a driver. The restaurant he built in the middle of rice paddies became an immensely popular community fixture. The tsunami rubbed out the restaurant in a flash. Akaishizawa was

heartbroken. Making things worse were the required evacuations. Akaishizawa and his wife, along with his 82-year-old mother and pet dog, relocated to rental housing. He kept busy as a fire department leader, providing drinking water and goods to residents.

Iidate is a small village in a scenic mountain valley that counted 6,000 residents before the disaster. The village motto is “madei,” which means “with thoughtfulness” or “in a courteous manner.” Life in the farming village, endowed with rich natural resources, had always been calm and peaceful. Like Akaishizawa, their club president, the other Lions in Iidate considered themselves fortunate. Retired from a government job, **Hiroshi Kanno** contentedly grew vegetables in a sizeable field. **Seiichi Shiga** practiced an eco-friendly lifestyle. Using his skills working with sheet metal, he fashioned a handmade wood burning stove out of a recycled gas tank.

After the earthquake, Iidate accepted approximately 4,000 evacuees from the coastal area. That turned out to be a terrible mistake. Authorities soon realized that the whole village was heavily contaminated with radiation from the nearby Fukushima nuclear plant. All residents had to leave.

Lions relocated far and wide. Three club officers got busy keeping in touch with the widely scattered members. Lions in Japan donated funds to the club, and Lions Clubs International waived dues. Somehow the club continued on. The first club gong after the earthquake was heard in January 2012. Members commiserated with one another. “I can say with full confidence that our club is a firmly united, friendly club, and we can say anything to each other,” says Akaishizawa. A meeting was later held in Fukushima, and some members traveled more than two hours. Before the earthquake, members had met at a restaurant and ate “botan-nabe,” or boar’s meat hot pot. Now the food was not the focus. Lions spoke of the fear of nuclear contamination projects. “We became more knowledgeable than the experts,” a Lion half-joked.

Authorities reorganized their once idyllic village into three sections: “area preparing for evacuation order release,” “habitation restriction area” and “difficult to return area.” According to the government, decontamination will be completed by March 2014.

Akaishizawa, the noodle shop owner, wonders if his village will ever recover. Will only the elderly come back? Even if people return, the days of collecting mountain vegetables in the spring, wild mushrooms in the autumn and growing vegetables in the backyard may never come again.

Yet there are spots of light in the darkness. Akaishizawa has reopened his noodle shop in a temporary building. He cut the menu in half because of sparse kitchen equipment. But business is good. Longtime customers travel great distances just for his signature “Kohaku” ramen, the rich noodle soup filled with crispy pork and piles of vegetables. When he sees his customers hunched over their bowls or chatting with one another, content and satisfied at least momentarily, Akaishizawa can half-believe the days to come may equal the days that went before.



Lion Sakae Akaishizawa has reopened his popular noodle shop



Iidate Lions now meet at this restaurant, which led to the owner becoming a Lion

Editor’s Note

Adapted from a story from the Japanese LION.

Lions Clubs International Foundation mobilized more than US\$21 million for Japan relief efforts thanks to LCIF grants and donations from Lions worldwide. Among other projects, LCIF helped Lions provide equipment and supplies to support victims who were relocated to transitional housing; major medical equipment for hospitals including a full-body radiation detection unit, ophthalmology equipment and an x-ray machine; and assistance for an economic revival project.

Milverton Lions

On March 27th 2013, Milverton Lions pledged \$15,000.00 to the Knollcrest Lodge “Raise The Roof” fundraising campaign.

This project when completed will provide new main entrance doors, a covered entry and other upgrades to this outstanding long-term care residence.



Milverton Lions President Ken Goebel and Knollcrest Administrator Susan Rae

Candidates for Second Vice President - Lions International

As of press time, there were six candidates for Second International Vice President. The election is scheduled for July 9 at the 96th International Convention in Hamburg. The winner will serve as international president in 2015-16.

Naresh Aggarwal

Past International Director Naresh Aggarwal of Delhi, India, was elected to the international board of directors at the association's 81st International Convention in 1998. An entrepreneur with several business holdings, he has been a member of the Batala Smile Lions Club since 1974. In addition to his service as a GLT constitutional area leader, he is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and the recipient of many professional and Lions awards.



Salim Moussan

Past International Director Salim Moussan of Beirut, Lebanon, has been a member of the Beirut St. Gabriel Lions Club since 1988 and served on the international board of directors from 1997-1999. Twice a board appointee and group leader, he is currently GMT Area Leader. He was chairman of



several forums and regional conferences and has attended 25 international conventions and more than 50 area forums worldwide.

Phil Nathan

Past International Director Phil Nathan of Earls Colne, England, has been a Lion since 1982 and is a charter member of the South Woodham Ferrers Lions Club. He served on the international board of directors from 1999 to 2001. A stockbroker and director of a company, Nathan was president of the 2006 Europa Forum and has been recognized by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with an MBE, Member of the British Empire, for his service achievements.



Steven D. Sherer

Past International Director Steven D. Sherer of New Philadelphia, Ohio, has been a member of the Dover Lions Club since 1980. He is a licensed public accountant and the finance officer/CFO of New Philadelphia City Schools. An international director from 2006-08, he also served as a GMT area coordinator from 2008 to 2012, is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and has received numerous Lions



awards as well as professional accolades.

Eugene M. Spiess

Past International Director Eugene M. Spiess of Moore, South Carolina, is a retired college administrator and instructor. A member of the Spartanburg Lions Club since 1981, he was elected to serve a two-year term on the board of directors at the association's 93rd international convention in 2010. The recipient of numerous Lions awards and professional honors, he is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.



Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada

Past International Director Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada of Minokamo-shi, Gifu-ken, Japan, has been a member of the Minokamo Lions Club since 1985. The director of a hospital and a doctor of neurosurgery, he was elected to serve a two-year term on the international board of directors in 2005. He is a Melvin Jones Fellow, is active in many community and professional organizations and served as an adviser to the governor of Gifu Prefecture.



Sharbot Lake and District Lions Club

The Sharbot Lake & District Lions Club were proud to donate \$1000 to the Low Vision Clinics Services Project. This will help provide services within the community to visually challenged residents, enabling more residents to receive vision care within their own homes.

submitted by Lion Wilma Bush



PDG Lion Dave Hansen, District A3 Governor Lion Mary Ann Smith and Sharbot Lake Lion President Lion Coleen Richter

photo by Lion Linda Zwier

Seven New Members Join St. George Lions

The St. George Lions Club were delighted to welcome 7 new members into their club at their meeting on May 8th, 2013.

submitted by Lion Kevin Hewitson



L to R, Glen McDonald, Frank Rolson, Irene Kuniuk, Kim Sabatino, Kelly Lahosky, Lorraine Ferretti & Steve Ferretti, along with their sponsors

by Allie Stryker

When communism fell in Eastern Europe and Russia, health care systems were thrown into turmoil. Training eye care specialists became problematic. Lions and SightFirst stepped into the breach.

Tucked into a corner on the campus of Vinohrady Teaching Hospital Eye Department at Charles University in Prague, the Lions Ophthalmology Educational Center (LOEC) has introduced ophthalmologists to a public health care approach for eye care in Central and Eastern Europe as well as in the former Soviet Union.

The LOEC was constructed and equipped through a SightFirst grant awarded to local Lions in 1998.

Ophthalmologists attend teaching programs at the LOEC that address causes of avoidable visual impairment and blindness. Since 2002, 1,120 ophthalmologists from 20 countries have been trained by leading eye care specialists, who often volunteer their time.

"The Lions Center is a shining example of a successful continued collaboration of local Lions and the Vinohrady Teaching Hospital Eye Department," says Dr. Ivo Kocur of the World Health Organization. "There have been a number of dedicated people engaged in developing this institute. The outcome of this collaboration has been one of the most impressive examples of the Lions' contribution to the communities in the European region."

A program of Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), SightFirst works to save sight and prevent blindness. This center is a unique project for LCIF: it is only one of four stand-alone eye care training institutions constructed by SightFirst. The other three are located in Barbados, India and Paraguay. The LOEC facility also has been supported through partnership funds from Charles University and the Christoffel Blindnen Mission (CBM), a German eye care organization.

In the Republic of Moldova, low vision rehabilitation is a new field. When ophthalmologist Tatiana Ghidirimschi had the opportunity to attend low vision courses at the LOEC, she could not pass it up.

"I am very lucky that I had this opportunity to attend these courses," she says. "The knowledge gained is very important for my practice and, most importantly, I can better help our patients who have lost hope!"

Dr. Ghidirimschi says that the knowledge gained through the LOEC courses improved methods of examining patients for low vision and prescribing low vision aids, as well as improving the exchange of information where she works.

"At these courses, we can meet colleagues from different parts of the world and discuss interesting topics. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the Lions for their involvement with this center and giving us the chance to attend the LOEC courses," says Dr. Ghidirimschi. "I would recommend this center to others, and I would also like to express my gratitude

for the specialists who presented us with very useful information."

For Bosnian ophthalmologist Amra Nadarevic, visiting Prague meant following in the footsteps of Bosnian doctors who have attended classes at the LOEC. In December, she and a colleague attended a course on ocular inflammatory diseases.



A SightFirst grant will provide students at the Lions Ophthalmology Educational Center in Prague with courses on pediatric ophthalmology, low vision and other topics

"I liked the fact that during two days we could ask anything about ocular inflammatory disease," says Dr. Nadarevic. "The experts had a lot of patience to answer all of our questions. The knowledge they give you is very precious. They talked about their experience and what really matters."

For Dr. Nadarevic, the experience at LOEC was invaluable. "Dr. Kocur inspired me and gave me a lot to think about when I returned to Bosnia. If we have a will, we can do almost anything to prevent blindness in our country. I am very thankful for this opportunity," she says.

None of this would have been possible without Lions. Since 1996, the **Prague Hartig Lions Club** has been the primary collaborator with Charles University. The club helped develop the original LOEC project proposal, construct the facility and prepare the programs. Club members have also closely worked with LOEC to promote Lions Clubs to the participants and give advice on possible projects. Together, they have been filling a great need.

"You must remember that the center was established in an era in European history when political

transition was taking place in the countries of Eastern Europe and former Soviet Union," says Dr. R. Pararajasegaram, a former consulting ophthalmologist with the World Health Organization and member of the SightFirst Advisory Committee. "The transition also affected medical education including ophthalmology."

Since being founded, funding for the training courses has been supplied by CBM, and students have been supported by the university or corporations. Now, SightFirst will assist the center through a grant providing courses on pediatric ophthalmology, low vision, uncorrected refractive error and diabetic eye disease. This summer, 27 students will benefit from these courses. LCIF is now working with LOEC and Lions to develop a system in which Lions from around the region are formally a part of the training process.

"The Lions Center has promoted the concept of a public health approach in eye care planning and provision," says Dr. Kocur. "It has been instrumental in addressing the major causes of avoidable visual impairment. It has created an unprecedented platform for exchanging experience and networking for the whole generation of junior eye care professionals."

Ophthalmologist Lucia Gogorova, a second year resident at the Faculty Hospital Kralovske Vinohrady in Prague, attended three courses at the LOEC and looks forward to more. "Although I have a chance to work with really good doctors, sometimes I am not able to consult cases with them because they are very busy. On the other hand, I need to learn quickly, to make important decisions by myself," she says. "The LOEC helped me with that in a perfect way. The courses organized by the LOEC are the best opportunity to discuss, compare and improve my skills. I can communicate with other young people who have similar questions, goals and attitudes as me."

Those trained at LOEC agree that the experience is both priceless and unique. "I can say LOEC is helping me to become a good doctor and to do my best," says Dr. Gogorova. "I am grateful for that to all who participate on this and support young doctors."



An ophthalmologist in Romania screens a child for visual impairment

Lions on Location

Smart Shopping in Hungary

Lions in Hungary seeking support for guide dogs targeted a segment of the population likely to be sympathetic to the cause: pet owners. Members of two clubs in Miskolc, a bustling city of 170,000, brought guide dogs to a popular pet store to explain the role of the dogs and to ask for backing.

Instead of asking for cash, Lions asked pet store patrons to buy dog food, supplies and tools and deposit them in a shopping cart. In six hours close to US\$2,000 in goods was donated.

The guide dog school in Miskolc supported by the clubs trains half of all guide dogs in Hungary. The additional Lions' support was especially welcome because the government decided to no longer fund the school, and the wait time for a new guide dog has increased to 2 ½ years.

The all-male **Miskolc Lions Club** has 28 members, and the all-female **Miskolc Deborah Lions Club** has 12. **Peter Koleszar**, secretary of the Miskolc Club, says he was "infected with the Lions-fever by my father." His father, **Lajos**, and other Lions helped protect the city against flooding years ago. That memory helped prompt him to join. "I realized I have to remember the 'We Serve,' family," says Koleszar, 40, a high-tech entrepreneur whose wife, **Helga**, also is a Lion.



Shoppers filled a cart for guide dogs (children not included)

Nothing Bigger of Its Kind

The second-hand book market run by Oslo Lions is so large that books are stored in a two-story former bomb shelter in the mountains, and orchestrating the nine-day event takes "military discipline," according to a member.

The **Oslo Berg Lions Club** has run the sale, the largest used book sale in Norway, since 1976. Forty-five thousand books, separated in 30 categories, are offered for sale. Thousands of book lovers and professional collectors, searching for overlooked gems, browse the stacks. Many customers return year after year, such as Odd Holter, a retired auto shop manager. He walked away with books on cars and motorcycles but did not find the Hardy Boys books needed to complete his collection.

Lions pulled books from their own bookshelves in the first year of the market. Now they rely on regular

donors, email campaigns and stories in the media. The government provides the storage facility in the mountains at no cost with the club picking up utility expenses and maintenance.

Proceeds support many causes: guide dogs, Scouts, youth sports, outings for senior citizens, a drug-sniffing dog for federal agents, schools and orphanages in Ghana, and nutrition, health care and female entrepreneurs in Mali.



Bibliophiles crowd the Lions' sale

Lions on the March



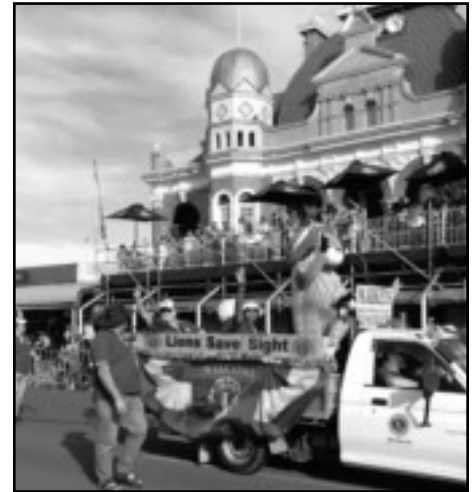
The Lord Mayor's Show in London bills itself as the oldest, longest, grandest and most popular civic procession in the world. But what's a parade without Lions? A large pack of Lions from **Multiple District 105** joined the newly elected Lord Mayor of London as he left the city for Westminster to swear loyalty to the crown. King John began the ritual as a precaution nearly 800 years ago, but today the tradition is an excuse for a



colorful procession of pomp and unrehearsed circumstances.

History also oozes from the streets of Piura in Peru, founded in 1532, making it the oldest Spanish city in South America. Parading down its streets in a Lions parade were Cubs, a relatively new addition to Lionism. Cubs are children or relatives of Lions. The city of 370,000 has 178 Lions in seven clubs.

Lions in Australia also like to come out of their dens: members of the **Hannans Goldfields Lions Club** took part in the festive St. Barbara's Day Parade.



Carefree Camp for Kids Counters Illness

Romanian Lions call it the Wonderful Children's Camp. The young campers with diabetes, who normally feel stigmatized because their disease is little understood, wholeheartedly agree. Camp is an escape, a haven, an interlude of feeling accepted. The youths swim, dance, make crafts and make friends at the camp.

The **Oradea 22 Lions Club** began the camp five years ago. Founded in the 12th century, Oradea is an elegant city of 183,000. Diabetes in Romania, as elsewhere, is becoming ever more prevalent.



Oradea Lions launch blue balloons in a historic public square to raise awareness of diabetes

The Lions' camp provides 15 children with gentle instruction on how to manage their disease amid a "relaxing holiday atmosphere," says Past District Governor **Rodica Dacin**, charter president of the club. "It's a climate in which children feel like they are a part of a family, where they are understood, trained, educated and loved."

The club raises funds for the camp through charity concerts and an annual Lions Ball. Members also sell jewelry, some of it homemade, at a bazaar in the city. Oradea 22 Lions partner with **Oradea Lions** to raise awareness of the disease by illuminating in blue (the symbolic color of diabetes) historic buildings such as the City Hall and Queen Mary Theatre.

Lions Embrace Gifted Pianist

Giuliano Graniti grew up under modest circumstances in Italy. He took piano lessons, displaying rare talent. In 2005 he attended the Lions Sound of Music Youth Camp in Austria, where Austrian Lions were bowled over by his virtuosity and humble demeanor. Today Graniti, still studying music in Florence, plays benefits for Lions and Leo Clubs in Austria.



Giuliano Graniti performs in Ischl at a Lions' benefit concert

"During a visit to Italy, I noticed how difficult it is to finance a university education there or to have the opportunity to perform, which is why we wanted to give him the opportunity to perform in Austria," says **Fritz Drobesch**, youth chairperson for District 114 M.

Lions of Ischl recently sponsored an evening of piano music in the historic beer hall of the former imperial city. Graniti performed Beethoven's "Sonata Op. 22," "Children's Corner" by Claude Debussy, Prokofiev's "Sonata Nr. 8" and closed with the "Three Preludes" by George Gershwin. It was "a program that demanded everything from the artist," according to the Austrian LION. Graniti was up to the task: he "proved to be at once sensitive, technically brilliant and feeling in both intonation and tempo."

Publicans Take to the Streets

Once a year pub owners and their regulars in Dover take their fun out into the streets. Dressed up in silly costumes and making a racket, they march along the seafront to raise money for the **Dover Lions Club** in England. The Annual Publicans Walk has been a cherished tradition in Dover, famous for its White Cliffs, since 1974.

A few Lions have been known to frequent the pubs on occasion. But the club holds its meetings in a social

club, and members have no special connection to the city's dozens of bars. "As with most Lions' fundraising I think it was just an idea that was conceived and tried. It worked, so we've held it every year since," says **Marion Baker**.



Marchers in the Publicans Walk have fun while raising funds for good causes

Walkers raise funds by signing up sponsors. The club uses the funds for a Christmas lunch, including door-to-door transport and entertainment, for seniors.

Last year the first place winner in the group fancy dress category was Old Endeavour Pub. Its patrons pulled a replica of the HMS Endeavour, commanded by James Cook on his epic voyage of discovery to Australia and New Zealand in 1769.

Big Brazilian Barbecue

Tres Lagoas, a city of 100,000 in Brazil, is known for its robust civic spirit: its elaborate festivals and rodeos draw large crowds. The 33-member **Tres Lagoas Lions Club** also does things in a big way—its barbecue beef party fed hundreds.



Photo by Sebastien Abry

Lions Day Raises Awareness

Few Italians know who the Lions are. District governors planned a nationwide Lions Day to let their countrymen know about Lions' service in Italy and worldwide.

In Florence, Lions set up a stage at the Piazza della Repubblica, a busy city square near the Duomo (the city's main cathedral). Posters and videos showcased Lions projects related to the environment, children's health, vision and Lions Quest. Lions held a guide dog demonstration, blood donation, an eyeglass collection and vision and hearing screenings. Three concerts took place: a gospel chorus and blues in the morning, performers from a popular musical in the afternoon, and pop, jazz and rock for the younger crowd in the evening.

Florence guides and friends of the museums agreed to coordinate visits to lesser known parts of the city. Leos held a walk to call attention to their service.



Italian Lions used this street logo on Lions Day

Olive Garden a Labor of Love

A stone sign near a quiet road on Shodo Island in Japan reads: **Lions Forest—Shodoshima Lions Club**. Each October the forest comes alive with Lions: they gather amid the olive trees to handpick tiny olives. The work is laborious, but Lions find it fulfilling.



Lions harvest olives on Shodo Island

"Out of all the activities, this one involves the most physical exercise. I think working together using our hands and bodies helps our club develop the harmony and solidarity that we have," says President **Kohgi Kohno**, 41, the youngest in his club.

Kohno owns the land. **Lion Masahiro Tamura** owns the processing facility where the green olives are brought to remove the bitterness. The end result are prized packages of pickled olives. Since the tasty olives are not mass-produced, buyers are willing to pay a premium for them. A few years ago the club enjoyed a rich harvest and sold about 1,000 packages for 360,000 yen (US\$3,700).

The olive forest was planted in 2005 as the club's environmental project. Lions carefully nurtured 100 seedlings through tri-annual weeding and fertilizing, summer watering and winter pruning. The club started to make pickled olives within two years.

The olives are sold in packages with the Lions logo at a festival or purchased in advance. The proceeds help underwrite a music festival where children on the island perform with homegrown musicians. Funds also help pay for a day trip for children with disabilities.

Walking a Waka

Lions in a small New Zealand town literally took matters into their own hands to help preserve history.

Morrinsville Lions learned that the cost to relocate a

prized historic waka (a Maori canoe) and its shelter from a closed museum to a new heritage center across town was tens of thousands of dollars. That wouldn't do. "Everyone called a mate," says **Lion Grant Jury**, chairman of the Morrinsville Lions Civic Improvement Committee. Eschewing a costly crane, about 50 Lions and others hoisted the waka on a truck. Then they carried the shelter 500 meters (about 1/3 mile) along Canada Street to the Morrinsville Heritage Center.

The shelter was "a bit heavier than we thought," says Jury, and the next morning there were a few aches and pains. But the relocation cost was only \$10,000 (US\$8,500), a third of the cost if a contractor had been used.



Lions and other volunteers carry the waka shelter to its new home

The 17-meter-long waka was found on a farm in 1901 and then used to transport flax to a mill until the Ngati Paoa people donated it to the Morrinsville Historical Society in 1968. Maori blessed the canoe after Lions relocated it.

New Access Ramp

The **Cumberland Lions Club** is pleased to announce the completion of a new barrier free access ramp and automatic door opener at the rear of the Maple Hall in Cumberland. This will facilitate the accessibility for handicap, wheelchairs or any other assisted devices. In response to new legislation in 2010, the Lions installed a barrier free washroom in the Maple Hall. This enhanced their capacity to deliver services to people with mobility disabilities and created increased physical access inside the building and made better use of the interior of the facilities. It also enhanced organizational responsiveness to the users of the Hall in the community but more needed to be done in that regard. The Hall still lacked other key compliance strategies. One of these was an access ramp.

In response to this requirement, the Lions had a plan prepared by an Architectural Draftsperson that provided a ramp at the rear of the Hall. In addition, it gave the Lions an opportunity to create 1-2 handicapped parking spaces near the new ramp. The availability of these spaces has since been posted at the front of the Hall where there is street parking only.

The Cumberland Lions recognize that people with mobility disabilities often still do not have equal, universal access to services or buildings that others enjoy. It is further recognized and accepted that the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, S.O. 2005 (AODA) was passed with the goal of creating standards to improve accessibility across Ontario. It is therefore the goal of the Cumberland Lions to try to

meet the objectives of the AODA so that those with disabilities can access services in a manner which takes into account a person's abilities and disabilities.

The Lions recognize that the current architectural design and physical features of the Maple Hall limit access to persons with a mobility disability. To correct this shortfall, the Lions have identified the services and facilities people with disabilities rely on and have considered how persons with these disabilities could best access their facility. Although there is a ramp at the front of the Hall, there are limitations to its design.

This project was made possible with Grants received from the Rural Community Building Grant Program of Urban Affairs at the City, the Cumberland Community Association and the balance was funded by the Lions Trillium grant surplus. Lions members, particularly **Lion Gordon Kerluke**, Immediate Past President, and a local Welder, **Mike Scott**, devoted extensive volunteer hours. There were also other key volunteers. Cumberland Ready Mix donated the concrete.



Simcoe Lions Show Ingenuity

Here's what happens when Simcoe Lions get together with their own hands-on ingenuity and 240 board-feet of wood: they put together nearly five dozen birdhouses for distribution along Simcoe area trails and parks.

More than a dozen Simcoe Lions pitched in on a bright February day to build 59 chickadee and bluebird houses as well as a couple of nifty bat-houses. The operation went slick as a whistle and the club's environment committee was very pleased with the output.



Lions Rob Francis (left), Bert Spoelstra and Chuck Ashley work away at some of the five dozen birdhouses built during the Simcoe Lions Birdhouse Blitz in February

While building the bird boxes was great, the extra bonus was the feeling of accomplishment when Lions come and work together. The nature community will certainly benefit but it was the one-on-one conversations among club members working side-by-side that will have a lasting club benefit. The biggest bonus was that nobody had to pull out their health card at the end of the day and everybody left with the same digits they started with at the beginning of the project.



Lions Jamie Rodgers (right) and Jim Adams Jr. work on a chickadee abode



George Jacob puts the finishing touches on a birdhouse



Lion Bert Spoelstra makes some adjustments

The project came together for less than the \$200 budgeted for the project. There are plans to accomplish a similar feat another time but with plans to get donated end-pieces from area fence builders to cut down further on costs.

A future project will commission a work party to find suitable spots for the new houses.



We Serve

Learning to Be a Lion ... One Mile at a Time

by Mark Mansell



We Serve

June 16th, 2012 (Day 1) - 2:30 a.m.

The alarm clock glows and I roll over for the umpteenth time. I'm 51 years old with the aerodynamics of a semi-truck, carrying 270 pounds on my six-foot, six-inch frame. I normally put in long hours at my desk at work, where I am a school superintendent. In six hours I will embark on a 3,500-mile bike journey across America. No wonder I can't sleep.

My wife, **Debbie**, and I belong to the **La Center Lions Club** in Washington. My half-crazy plan is to pedal from Portland, Oregon, to Portland, Maine, to raise awareness and funds for Leader Dogs for the Blind. OK, I have put in thousands of miles training over the last year and a half alone and logged hundreds of hours planning, prepping and promoting this trip. But up until a couple of years ago my longest bike ride was no more than 10 miles. I'm Everyman trying to do something few have done.

Obstacles likely standing in my way are bad weather, equipment breakdowns, falling off my bike or getting sick. Many Lions are counting on me to be at their events on specific dates and times. I'll have no support vehicle to rescue me if I run into problems. I've done my research and tested my equipment thoroughly, but who knows what awaits me.

I think I'm ready for almost anything. I'll haul camping gear, wads of clothes, communication devices and photographic equipment along with spare parts in a small trailer I'll pull behind my bike. But here's my inspiration: those who founded Leader Dogs for the Blind in 1939 to help a fellow blind Lion faced huge challenges. They persevered and succeeded. Like them, I'll undertake my journey as a Lion—plunging ahead in the service of others.

June 19th (Day 4) - 8:40 am

I left camp early this morning to get in some miles before the heat of the day. My goal was to settle into a routine. But today I am struggling and feel off kilter. Biking can do that to you.

I basically skipped breakfast and planned to stop in a small town for my morning meal. When I arrived, the only business open was a convenience store. I know that without nutritious food my body could wear down. Turns out I had a more immediate crisis. Hearing a rumble, I glanced in my rear view mirror and spied a double trailer fuel truck, charging up the hill and getting frightfully close. I veered to the far end of the gravel shoulder just as the road curved right. I teetered and struggled to stay upright. The air blast of the semi-tractor pelted my back. I rode through thick black exhaust smoke as the truck roared by. Another rumbling immediately rose up. A second semi cut the corner even more than the first, missing me by precious inches.

June 22nd (Day 7) - 6:30 p.m.

My seventh straight day of riding began in the dark at 4 a.m. Exercise is supposed to work like Ambien,

but I couldn't sleep because I knew I had a lot of ground to cover. My trip odometer showed 570 miles ridden. To stay on schedule, today I need to ride nearly 100 miles with 4,000 feet of climbing.



I met multitudes of Lions as well as ample reminders of our service. On my way out of Hysham, Montana, I passed Lions Park

Less than two hours ago a sense of accomplishment washed over me as I completed a steep climb out of Idaho's Salmon Wilderness area and over the summit of Lolo Pass to cross into Montana. Now was supposed to be an enjoyable, easy 2,000-foot descent over the last 35 miles into Missoula. Instead, as I crested the summit a stiff headwind nearly toppled me over. Storm clouds brewed on the horizon. Stopping early was problematic. The Lions who awaited me did not know me but they believed in my trip and me. That thought energized me. I pedaled hard, envisioning the Lions cheering me on.



You see a quieter, more beautiful side of America while on a bike. The Rosebud River in Montana meanders through gorgeous country

June 29th (Day 14) - 8:45 p.m.

Daylight dwindled as I arrived in the small eastern Montana town of Custer. I needed to find the town's park commonly used by bicyclists for overnight camping. Even though Custer probably has a population of maybe 100 people, I couldn't find this park to save myself. "Hey, do you have enough water?" a man calls out to me. Today I rode more than 100 miles in the most challenging heat and wind conditions I have experienced. Along the way there were few signs of life. The temperature shot past 105 degrees. Any cool water I found to fill my bottles soon

turned warm or even hot. No, I did not have enough water.

Ed has lived in Custer most of his life. He often sees bicyclists come through town looking for the park, and he's learned over the years that almost all of them are thirsty. That's why he has bottled water ready to share. He buys it in bulk every time he goes to "the big city" of Billings and puts as many as he can in his freezer. I offer to pay him for the three ice-cold bottles, but he sternly declines and says it is something he wants to do.

Ed and I chat briefly as the last of the sunlight fades from the sky. His act of kindness impresses me and reminds me of our Lions motto, We Serve. Ed had no motive other than to be kind. He turned a long and exhausting day into a memorable experience. Beyond the water, Ed gives me an even greater gift ... simple directions to the park.

July 6th (Day 21) - 5:45 a.m.

Loud cracks of thunder woke me early. A glance outside my motel window showed sideways rain with regular flashes of lightning. My first thought is relief, I chose to stay in a motel rather than in my tent at a campground. I also think that Debbie would not be thrilled if I rode through the lightning. The TV news shows the storm will pass soon, so I head to the motel lobby for breakfast to let the storm pass. With my brightly colored yellow "Cycling for Leader Dogs" shirt, conversations are usually easy to start. Sue, the motel desk clerk, tells me about her husband, Bob, who actually has a Leader Dog. She tells me how comforting it is to know he can get around safely without her because of his Leader Dog, and she thanks me for doing the ride. Sue helps me realize the multiplying power of our service to others as Lions. Not only does our service help those directly in need



Trust me: it's a big country and a long way from coast to coast. Here I am on Day 27 as I head from Green Bay, Wisconsin, to Ludington, Michigan, a relatively short jaunt of 45 miles

July 21st (Day 36) - 12:30 p.m.

So far I've met hundreds and hundreds of Lions across the country. Surprisingly, I have arrived at every single scheduled event within minutes of when expected. Today's scheduled event is extra special. I'm

riding to Leader Dogs for the Blind headquarters in Rochester Hills, Michigan.

A handful of Leader Dog supporters met me on bikes 35 miles from the headquarters. At 10 miles out, a larger group of 25 riders joined us. On a beautiful sunny Saturday morning, we glide into the parking lot, filled with Lions from around the region and many other Leader Dog supporters. They cheer, clap me on the back and shake my hand. After more than 2,400 miles of pedaling, I am extremely moved.

They made me laugh, too. Time and time again I heard "you have only 1,100 miles to go!" Easy for them to say!



While traveling along the interstate in North Dakota, I passed by a lake where this man had caught an impressive Northern Pike

July 28th (Day 43) – 2:30 p.m.

My journey reminds me of that wonderful Bill Murray movie, "Groundhog Day." Basically, I get up early, eat, ride 50 to 100 miles while munching down what I find along the way and turn in for the night not long after I get off my bike. My mind and body both have acquiesced to this routine. Instead of being worn down and perpetually sore, my body has been resilient and adjusted to the pace.



One of my surprise encounters was a group of boys near Abbotsford, Wisconsin, out early guiding sheep right down the road. I was not sure where they were going, but it looked like they were having an interesting time keeping them headed in one direction

Burning through 8,000 to 10,000 calories, I am certainly tired at the end of a day. But I eat nutritious food that does its job. This is my life now, and I like it

and find it normal.

What distinguishes each day are the people I meet. This morning a convenience store clerk, noticing my Leader Dog riding shirt, asked if I was that "dog guy" riding his bicycle across America. He must have seen the interview I did on a local television station



In Bluffton, Minnesota, District Governor Margaret Van Erp and her husband, Past District Governor Pete, hosted me for the night: two of the most fun and energetic Lions I met

yesterday. Apparently convenience store clerks across America regularly watch the evening news because I am often known in advance. I've done more than 50 newspaper, radio and television interviews so far. The people I meet are excited to have me in their stores, and their enthusiasm never fails to boost my energy and spirits.

Around mid-morning a car passes me slowly and then pulls over ahead of me. The driver jumps out and waves me over to him. Ron is a Lion who heard about the trip through a district governor's newsletter and then saw me on the news. He tracked me down to personally thank me for doing the ride as a Lion. He handed me a donation and wished me well. Once again, it was gratifying to see how my ride brought out the best side of people.



Randall Lions in Minnesota made a banner

Later I reached the Erie Canal trail and enjoyed the scenic view. Walkers, runners and a few recreational bicyclists shared the path with me on this beautiful Saturday morning. I rode past a man and a woman who were leisurely riding along on their bikes when the man called out, "Are you doing a charity ride?" We talked a bit. Jamey reached into his wallet and gave me a crisp \$100 bill. Kathy, his companion, told me

they were headed to the town of Medina a few miles away to meet their two sons and their girlfriends for their regularly scheduled Saturday lunch. They invited me, and we had a great time.

Back on my bike, I reflected on all the craziness in the world that we hear about daily in the news. Virtually every day of my trip I encounter kind, compassionate people who just want to make the world a better place to live. Driving around the country never gave me these types of opportunities to connect with people. Beyond the bicycle, what makes these interactions even more special is doing the ride as a Lion for such a great cause.



In Michigan, I spoke about my trip at the installation dinner for 11 A2 District Governor Jim Pettinato

August 5th (Day 51) - 10:25 p.m.

Today I put in more than 100 miles and climbed 5,500 feet. The sun set hours ago. But I kept going. It's my final day of my seven-week journey across America. I am a mere two miles from Portland, Maine. Today has once again brought heat and humidity as



Vermont was one scenic view after another including this church in a small town and a covered bridge



well as a severe late afternoon thunderstorm. All my gear is still drenched, and I am soaked to the bone. But my spirits are high. I am about to complete the promise I made long ago to family, friends and my fellow Lions. They believed in the project and in me.

I've covered nearly 3,500 miles, always on schedule. Darkness engulfs me. The dim lights of my bicycle create shafts of clarity. Then suddenly the headlights of passing cars and the periodic streetlight fully illuminate the road before me: a light-filled final sprint. I have met literally thousands of people and have been helped by the kindness of so many. Nearly \$100,000 has been raised for Leader Dogs, almost three times our original goal. Three Lions back in 1939 simply wanted to help get a fellow Lion a guide dog and they ended up creating an organization that has now provided more than 14,500 guide dogs. They believed, acted and found success. That formula worked for me as well.

Present Day

Ever since I returned, I hear the same question: "Have you recovered from your bike trip yet?" I understand why people ask me this. By any measure, 3,500 miles is a long way to travel, especially on a tiny triangle-shaped bicycle seat. The person I was before the trip surely would have had a ready-made answer about how tough it was. But the person I am now simply smiles and nods. How can I ever possibly explain the experience that captures how this journey changed my life, as a Lion and a person?

I learned a lot on my journey. Lions are separated

from one another; they belong to their own clubs, each distinct. But knowing we are part of something bigger than ourselves brings encouragement and power to our service. It unites us. An everyday Lion like me who had a crazy idea of riding a bicycle across America could have done only so much alone, but it is the connection among Lions that made my journey possible. Our simple acts of kindness bring us together.

My eyes have been opened to what is possible through the power of Lions. Not everyone is able to nor wants to ride a bicycle across America, and that's OK. Knowing you are part of something bigger than yourself as a Lion, unselfishly being kind to others and trusting in the multiplying power of service to others in need is what is really important—not the project itself. I will carry these lessons with me in my service

as a Lion, whether it involves a bicycle or not. Cycling for Leader Dogs has changed my life not because of what the project accomplished but because of what I learned as a Lion through this journey—one mile at a time.

The irony is I'm not finished: I have many more miles to go—10,000 miles in fact. This summer Debbie and I will travel through 48 states in 24 days on motorcycles to again raise funds for Leader Dogs. Wish us luck and good weather. We know for sure that Lions across the country will be there to greet, shelter and encourage us.

My entire journal for the bicycling trip (and my other bicycling adventures) can be found at www.bigguyonabike.com.



When I returned home, I dipped my bike wheels in the Pacific

Organ Donors

The **Gloucester North Lions Club** organized an Organ and Tissue Registration Day at Place d'Orléans Shopping Centre on Saturday April 27th from 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Lions are hoping to attract donors through their unique URL provided by the Trillium Gift of Life. Many people are familiar with organ transplants (liver, cornea, heart, lung, etc.) but there is also a high demand for skin, tendons, bones and marrow. Volunteers will be available to answer questions and assist with registering donors.

Many people who signed their driver's licence may be under the misconception that they are registered donors. They are not. In Ontario, you must be registered through your OHIP card number so that medical personnel will see the information during any medical emergency. For some organs and tissues, time is of the essence. Please note, that even if you are a registered organ donor, it is vital to inform your family of your intentions so that they follow your wishes.

To register, have your Health card ready and go to the unique URL: <http://beadonor.ca/gloucester-north-lions-club>

It only takes a few minutes to register. Don't take your organs and tissues to Heaven with you, Heaven knows they are needed here.

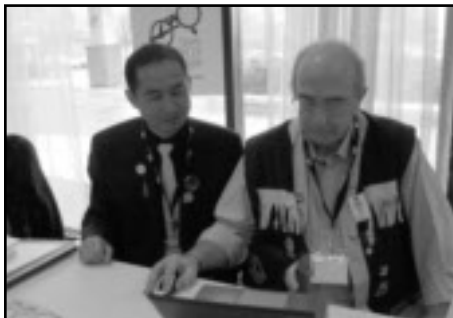
Donor Opportunity

The **Lions Clubs of District A-711** have been involved in a partnership with Trillium Gift of Life Network to promote a valuable program that will help save the lives of many Ontarians. This program is one that addresses an underserved community need for organ donors.

At the recent District A-711 Convention, **PDG Rajja Rosenthal**, District A-711 "Gift of Life" Chairperson thanked Dr. Gary Levy, Director, University of Toronto Transplantation Institute and Director, Multi Organ Transplant Program and presented him with a

Life Membership Certificate to Lions Foundation of Canada on behalf of all Lions in District A-711.

Several Lions took the opportunity to register as organ donors for the "Gift of Life" Organ/Tissue Donor Program.



Lion Charlie Wang is watching carefully as P.D.G. George Carpenter is registering himself as an organ donor for the "Gift of Life" Organ/Tissue Donor Program.



PDG Rajja Rosenthal, District A-711 "Gift of Life" Chairperson thanking Dr. Levy and presenting him with a Life Membership Certificate to Lions Foundation of Canada on behalf of all Lions in District A-711

Magical Village 2012

The **Gloucester North Lions Club** runs a fund-raising event each year during December called The Magical Village. This is a miniature display of buildings, scenescapes and trains ran from November 24 through December 24, 2012 inclusive at the Place d'Orleans Mall in Orléans, Ontario. There are skaters, skiers and action houses that come to life at the touch of a button. Appealing to children of all ages (including Lions), it reaches out to the community every year to raise funds for needy projects. The 14th annual display, originally created by Claudette Cain, former mayor of the City of Gloucester (1991-2000), had over 5,000 visitors including some from Cornwall, Toronto and Buckingham, Quebec, other parts of Canada and a few international visitors.

Entrance to the Magical Village is free, but food and monetary donations are more than welcome. Donations from visitors coupled with support from advertisers and sponsors helped raise \$11,600 that was distributed to 3 organizations: Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard, Dog Guides Canada (Lions Foundation of Canada) and Multiple Organ & Retrieval Program (MORE) - a Lions partnership with the Ottawa Hospital regarding donors and recipients of kidney trasplants.

The Gloucester North Lions Club thanks all the visitors as well as the advertisers and sponsors for their generosity. More than \$200,000 has been raised and distributed to various individuals and organizations since its inception in 1998.

The Club is in the process of planning next year's Magical Village - the 15th annual display and former mayor, Claudette Cain has agreed to officially open the display on November 28, 2013. Next year's recipients will be the Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard, Camp Dorset and Ronald McDonald House Ottawa. Any Lions and their families who are in the Ottawa/Orleans area from Nov. 28 through Dec. 24th, are cordially invited to visit the Magical Village - there are even a few interactive displays for those of you who like to push a few buttons.

On Tuesday March 26, 2012, the Gloucester North Lions Club distributed the proceeds from the Magical Village that was held at the Place d'Orléans Shopping Centre from Nov. 24 to Dec. 24, 2012.



The Grinch with Max the dog on Mount Crumpet

MDA Effective Speaking Competition



The District winners gathered to participate in the MDA Effective Speaking Competition



The Senior French Winner, Jessica Turgeon of A-4, with CC Bradd and A-2 Gov. Allen Snider



The Senior English Winner at the MDA Eff. Speaking was Karissa Manning, of A-2. She is flanked by CC Bradd Anderson, A-2 Eff. Speaking Chair Katherine Reid, and A-2 Gov. Allen Snider



The Intermediate English winner, Laura Bender from A-15, with A-2 Gov. Allen Snider and Council Chair Bradd Anderson



Junior English winner, Luke Doria, of A-711, with A-2 Gov. Allen Snider, A-711 MDA E.S. Chair Bill Willcocks and CC. Bradd Anderson



A-2 Gov. Allen and PDG Joyce Harvey shared a laugh when he was presented with an appreciation plaque for hosting the MDA Effective Speaking Finals in A-2



We Serve

Seminars and Activities at the 2013 Hamburg Convention



We Serve

Friday, July 5 to Monday, July 8 Environmental Photo Contest

View photos of colorful landscapes, rare weather phenomena and wildlife captured by Lion photographers from around the world. Vote for your favorite photos. Purchase a 2014 photo contest calendar or enter the photo contest silent auction that benefits LCIF.

Friday, July 5 through Tuesday, July 9 Lions Clubs International Foundation Booth

Be sure to stop by the LCIF booth to learn more about LCIF's initiatives and how the Foundation can help your club or district further its humanitarian service goals. Staff members will be on hand to answer questions about donating to LCIF and the grant application process. Donations will be accepted in U.S. dollars and euros.

Friday, July 5 Lions Clubs International-Special Olympics Opening Eyes Screening Time To Be Determined

Celebrate more than 10 years of the successful partnership by witnessing this program in action. Special Olympics athletes will be screened during this demonstration event and information will be provided on how to get involved with this program. You can even volunteer your time during the screening. LCIF Chairperson Wing-Kun Tam will make an appearance at the event and speak on behalf of LCIF.

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Leo Lion Summit (ticketed event)

This special event will bring Leos and Lions together from around the world for a day of celebration and dialogue, including traditional opening and closing ceremonies, breakout sessions, a town hall meeting and networking luncheon. Please note that pre-registration for the summit is required by May 1; tickets are limited. For more information about the Leo Lion Summit, visit the Leo Zone "News and Events" section at www.lionsclubs.org/leoclubs or email leo@lionsclubs.org.

1:30-3 p.m. Strides: Lions Dance for Diabetes Awareness

Lions, get ready to dance! "Come as you are" and participate in the Strides: Lions Dance for Diabetes Awareness event. Help promote the benefits of healthy exercise for prevention and control of diabetes. Enjoy dancing to live music selections performed by the German Lions Symphony Orchestra, comprised of 40 Lions and conducted by Gregor Schmitt-Bohn. Gather in the Hamburg Messe und Congress (HMC), the LCI Exhibit Hall. Participants will receive a Strides pin and certificate of participation.

Sunday, July 7 1-2:30 p.m. (CH, JA, KO) Extend Our World of Service: How to Start New Clubs & Invite New Members

Membership is the key to providing high-quality service, but what's the key to building membership? This seminar will teach effective strategies for starting new clubs that will last, and it will help existing clubs boost membership in order to achieve their service goals.

2-3:30 p.m. Reading Action Program: Changing Lives Through Literacy

Literacy is the key to success in every corner of the world. Learn how the Reading Action Program can help open the doors of opportunity and improve the quality of life for underserved children and adults in your community. Interact with a panel of experts and fellow Lions to learn the latest global literacy developments and how to work with community partners. Share successful projects as well as important challenges. Join us to maximize your service through the Reading Action Program.

2-3:30 p.m. Engaging Women and Families in the Future of Lions

Learn about the findings of the Women's & Family Membership Development Task Force, which has been collecting information to help promote, advance and develop opportunities for women and family membership in Lions. Hear success stories, ideas from local German Lions, and the insights revealed by the two-year study conducted by the Task Force.

2-3:30 p.m. Lions Clubs International Foundation Coordinator Seminar

This seminar will examine the work of LCIF Coordinators while outlining action steps needed to achieve the Foundation's goals.

2-3:30 p.m. 2013 Zone Chairperson Training

Your role as zone chairperson is key to maintaining healthy clubs. Learn about your responsibilities as zone chairperson and get the resources to help you lead with confidence and purpose. Be a key member of your successful district team and help your team earn the District Team Excellence Award.

2:30-4 p.m. The Ibero-American Seminar

Learn more about LCI programs and resources and ways to strengthen districts and clubs in Spanish and Portuguese-speaking countries. Discuss opportunities and challenges for Lions in the Ibero-American region with current international directors from the area.

2:30-4:30 p.m. Council Chairperson Seminar

Complete your preparations for a successful year as council chairperson. Learn about the 2013-2014 international theme, goals and priorities. Discuss elements of successful teamwork and potential leadership challenges. Share ideas about maximizing

your positive impact as the key leader of your multiple district.

3:30-5 p.m. Lions Quest: Connecting Lions, Communities and Schools Worldwide

This seminar will feature information on LCIF's flagship youth program—Lions Quest. This social and emotional learning program is implemented in schools with the help of Lions, uniting the home, school and community to cultivate capable and healthy young people.

3:45-5 p.m. Certified Guiding Lion for New and Rebuilding Clubs!

The program has been expanded to support new and struggling clubs. This session will feature the latest in online training, how to develop a club officer mentor team and an assessment process to help struggling clubs. Attendees will also learn how to host and facilitate this interactive course so that the program is meaningful and fun.

4-5 p.m. Past International President/Past International Director Seminar

Monday, July 8 1-2:30 p.m. Youth Camp & Exchange Chairpersons Forum

Youth Camp and Exchange chairpersons will discuss the program and share practical information to promote successful camps and exchanges.

1-2:30 p.m. Strengthen Your Club through Satisfied Members and Growth

Each member is critical to achieving your club's service goals, and more members mean more service. This seminar will help you better define what your club is about, invite and retain members and develop and implement a club growth plan to ensure your club remains healthy and vital.

1:30-3 p.m. Melvin Jones Fellows and Progressive Melvin Jones Fellows Luncheon (ticketed event)

All Melvin Jones Fellows and Progressive Melvin Jones Fellows may purchase tickets to LCIF's annual recognition luncheon event, chaired by LCIF Chairperson Wing-Kun Tam. A Foundation video will be shown and awards will be presented to 100 percent MJF Clubs and Humanitarian Partners.

1:30-3:30 p.m. The Leadership Exchange

Back by popular demand, The LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE!

Come rock and roll with us as we celebrate the beginnings of the world's most critically acclaimed band, The Beatles. Hamburg is where the Fab Four honed their performance skills, and The LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE is where you can hone your leadership skills! During this lively interactive

session, you choose the topics of interest to you. Don't miss this chance to twist and shout with our international team of Lions leaders as they facilitate four discussion sessions focused on skills designed to increase your effectiveness as a Lions leader.

2:45 – 3:45 p.m.

Legal 101 – Club Legal Issues

This session is an overview of legal issues facing Lions clubs including legal liability for club level activities, use of the Lions registered trademarks, use of funds reporting and transparency, club elections, club constitution and by-laws and dispute resolution.

2:45-3:45 p.m.

Building Strong Communities: The Importance of Arts and Culture

Arts and culture are an integral part of our society and greatly contribute to the vitality and well-being of our communities. Learn why arts and culture are important for revitalization and strengthening of communities and how Lions can support these efforts. You will hear from a panel of experts and fellow Lions who will share project ideas, success stories and partnership opportunities.

2:45-3:45 p.m.

Energize Your Club with the Club Excellence Process

Make 2013-14 an excellent year with tools and exercises from the Club Excellence Process (CEP). Come to the seminar to learn how you can better serve your community, engage your current members and attract new ones. Self-guided and facilitator-led CEP options are both available.

3:45-4:45 p.m.

LCIF Reception/Melvin Jones Fellowship Pinning Ceremony

Donors who contribute US\$1,000 to become Melvin Jones Fellows or the next level of the Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow program during the convention will be presented with their pins by LCIF Chairperson Wing-Kun Tam.

3:45-5 p.m. (FR, GE)

Extend Our World of Service: How to Start New Clubs & Invite New Members

Membership is the key to providing high-quality service, but what's the key to building membership? This seminar will teach effective strategies for starting new clubs that will last, and it will help existing clubs boost membership in order to achieve their service goals.

4-5 p.m.

Legal 102 – District Legal Issues

This seminar is an overview of legal issues facing Lions districts including contractual liability for district conventions, partnerships with other organizations using the Lions name and logo, district convention rules of procedure, district elections, district ethical standards of conduct and privacy issues.

4-5 p.m.

Start a New Club and Extend Our World of Service

As a Lion, you know the difference a club can make in a community. That's why it's essential to extend our "World of Service" by starting new Lions clubs. Attend this seminar to learn key strategies for chartering and building a strong foundation for new clubs. This seminar is especially targeted for incoming

district governors, first and second vice district governors and GMT/GLT coordinators and current or prospective team members.

4:30-5 p.m.

Environmental Photo Contest Ceremony

Gather at the photo contest display to hear the winners of the 2012-13 Lions Environmental Photo Contest. All photos can be purchased through a silent auction. Funds will benefit LCIF. Or, purchase a 2014 photo contest calendar featuring many of the photo contest entries.

Lions Tours for the 2013 Hamburg Convention

Day Tours

2-Hour City Tour/1.5-Hour Harbor Boat Trip/3-Hour City & Harbor Tour

During the City Coach Tour, simply relax and enjoy the sights that highlight the very rich contrasts in the city. See the beautiful Alster Lakes area, the vibrant city center, St. Michaelis Church, the city's historic landmark, and the famous port area.

Prefer to see Hamburg by boat? During the Harbor Boat Trip on a chartered launch, you'll see the Speicherstadt, or warehouse quarter, which is the largest timber-pile founded warehouse district in the world as well as the modern container terminals. You'll definitely feel, see and appreciate the history, evolution and importance of this major shipping port.

Can't decide which one to take? We've made it easy for you as the 3-Hour City & Harbor Tour combines both of these above tours into one fun combined coach and boat sightseeing tour!

2-Hour Alster Lake Afternoon Boat Trip

This cruise crossing the Alster lakes in the middle of the town and the Alster canals shows Hamburg from a completely different perspective. Just a short step away from the city center you will find the romantic and green idyll of Hamburg's exclusive waterside residential areas.

2-Hour Speicherstadt & Hafencity Walking Tour

For more than 100 years precious goods have been stored in the warehouses on the waterfront. However, in the last few years new uses have been developed promising a different future for these grand old buildings. Directly next door to the Speicherstadt, one of the biggest urban development projects in the whole of Europe is the Hafencity, currently under construction. Here a former port area is being converted into a new residential and commercial area with innovative architecture and the well-known *Elbphilharmonie*, or concert hall, which is sure to become an iconic building in Hamburg.

2.5 Hour Tour of Miniature Wunderland – the Model Railway Museum

Located in the heart of the storehouse quarter, the world's largest digitally steered model railway plant is displayed. A realistic model railway is steered by a computer. A typical routine of the day is simulated every 30 minutes including the transitioning from dawn, to daylight and to nighttime. An impressive mini-world lets you discover millions of details, not only of the trains, but also the ships, cars and even the

planes that are moving. It has to be seen to be believed!

2.5 Hour Beatles Walking Tour

From 1960 to 1962, the Beatles regularly performed at different clubs in Hamburg. It was during this period that they honed their performance skills, widened their reputation and made their first recording. This walk offers a living impression of the rock n roll life of the Beatles in Hamburg using many pictures, amusing anecdotes and of course, early Beatles songs played live on the street. You learn everything about the beginning of the Beatles and this exciting history of music in the St. Pauli Quarter.

Half-Day Coach Tour with Lunch to Blankenese

This tour will take you along the Elbchaussee, Hamburg's magnificent avenue with a view of the Elbe river, to Blankenese. This is one of the most beautiful residential areas in the western part of Hamburg. Today the old fishing village of Blankenese is one of Hamburg's most noble living areas. Some of the oldest Hamburg families have lived here for generations. As you walk the many small stairs and lanes you will experience the almost-Mediterranean flair of Blankenese with its tiny houses and small gardens and terraces that overlook the Elbe. This tour includes a lunch on the Elbe banks for your enjoyment.

Half-Day Coach Tour to the BallinStadt Emigration Museum

Discover the Hamburg history of emigration into the United States. The award-winning conception of the BallinStadt recreates the emigration experience. The Emigration Halls were the last homestead to the European emigrants. Shortly before the departure, when the "New World" was within the grasp of the emigrants, the Emigration Halls were renowned as the "port of dreams." Located on historic grounds, the BallinStadt is dedicated to the 5 million emigrants who made Hamburg their gateway to the "New World." The museum features many historical documents and interactive exhibits that are both informative and inspiring.

Evening Tour

1.5 Hour Beatles Coach / Magical History Tour

"I was born in Liverpool, but I grew up in Hamburg." – John Lennon

What better way to experience Hamburg than through the eyes of the Beatles themselves? This Magical History Tour retraces the steps of the Fab Four themselves. Relive Beatlemania where you can experience artists performing the best known Beatles tunes in a rolling concert hall! Live music, live singing—it's as close as you can get to the Beatles without the Beatles! This tour also follows the steps of the Beatles as it will take you by the original places where the Beatles ate, slept and rocked their way into history. The tour retraces every step the Fab Four did in Hamburg. This tour surely hits the right note! Get a unique insight in their lives as it all comes together in this musical tour of Hamburg where sightseeing and sightsinging meets The Beatles. The tour includes live music, the stories and secrets of the band, special videos, tour footage and photos of the Fab Four. Bring yesterday to the present—and live with the Beatles!

Heavenly Hamburg

The lovely German city will showcase the beauty of Lions' service at the upcoming 96th International Convention

by Roger St. Pierre

Surprisingly green and architecturally beautiful, Hamburg is admired for its enormous port, historic, lovely downtown and village-like neighborhoods. It's a city full of quaint cobblestone alleys, centuries-old churches and vibrant nightlife. The city also will be full of thousands of Lions for a grand week in July as it hosts the 96th International Convention.

Hamburg will not be just a venue for Lions. The city will embrace Lions and integrate its charms with convention traditions. The Parade of Nations will start at the majestic Rathaus, the town hall and the city's symbolic heart, and then snake its way around the Binnenalster, an artificial lake bordered by a stunning array of buildings. At the march's end Lions will spill into a "market of nations," where 30 pavilions will serve international foods and highlight Lions' service around the world. The parade will not just display the diversity of Lions but also celebrate the diversity of our service.

The convention runs July 5-9. Future issues of the LION will detail the speakers and attractions. Here is what you need to know about Hamburg and why it's a wonderful place for Lions to gather to celebrate their service and move the association ever forward.

Berlin may be the capital of Germany, but Hamburg, the nation's second-largest city, resolutely refuses to accept a provincial label. It proudly sports all the airs and graces of a major player on the world stage, not just in commerce but also in culture, the arts, sport, the media and tourism. Hamburg feels like a capital in all but name – a fact reflected by the unusually large number of foreign consulates it hosts and the truly cosmopolitan make-up of its population.

A linchpin of the solid German economy, Hamburg is a thriving manufacturing center. Its role in the global aircraft industry rivals that of Seattle and Toulouse. Airbus employs 13,000 people here. The city also is a major banking center while tourism generates close to 10 million overnight stays annually and provides 175,000 people with full-time jobs.

As Germany's busiest port, Hamburg has always been an outward-looking city, its horizons stretching far beyond the broad, winding River Elbe to the big wide world beyond. It's an open-hearted place – quintessentially German yet a melting pot of many other cultures.

In earlier times a free city powerhouse of the Hanseatic League (the potent medieval trading precursor of the European Union's common market), Hamburg straddled the late 19th and early 20th centuries as one of the key gateways to a new life far away across the great Atlantic pond for millions of Central, Eastern and Northern European emigrants. These hordes may simply have been in transit, but they left an indelible mark on Hamburg. That story is brought to life at Ballinstadt, Port of Dreams, an

emigration museum that evocatively carries visitors back through the mists of time.

Today the bustling port is a haven for gigantic cruise ships and for cargo vessels of all shapes and sizes. Europe's second most important port after Rotterdam and the ninth busiest in the world, Hamburg handles nearly 150 million tons of goods annually. Though located 68 miles from the yawning estuary of the Elbe, the docks have enough depth of water to accommodate large oceangoing vessels—and to build them too at the renowned Blohm + Voss shipyards. The primacy of water and boats extends to the entire city. Extensive canals crisscross Hamburg, and no less than 2,300 bridges span this city of waterways.

Once you have your bearings, getting around is easy. Bus, rail and ferry companies are all independently owned and operated, but they sensibly operate a joint ticketing system under the HVV or Verkehrsverbund (Hamburg Transit Authority) banner, and recognize one another's tickets. The U-Bahn, the underground railway system, the S-Bahn and its nine mass transit rail lines, 600 different bus routes and the six ferry services plying the Elbe allow tourists to reach the main sights as well as the city's nooks and crannies.

On the other hand, if you like to amble, Hamburg is an eminently walkable place. There's simply so much to see you'll be constantly lured into exploring further down the street you're on and beyond. The harbor may be one of the world's largest, but most of the city's main places of interest are fairly close to the city's center.

However, to ensure you don't miss out on any of the major sights it's a good plan to kick off with an open-top sightseeing bus tour. Or head for the harbor and its 700-meter long floating dock that serves as Hamburg's floating boat station and take a rather slower paced

guided boat tour along the river and canals, passing the massive red brick warehouses of the Speicherstadt district, once abandoned relics of a pre-container ship past, now transformed into chic – and very expensive – loft apartments.

It's hard to believe that this now thriving area and much of the rest of the city was levelled by the all-

Five Must-See Sites

- **Rathaus:** Hamburg's imposing city hall was built in neo-Renaissance style between 1886 and 1897 and remains iconic. The lofty tower looks down on the Old Town while its ornate exterior and 647 rooms carry many references to the city's proud maritime traditions.

- **St. Michaelis:** There's been a church on this site since 1649, while the current edifice dates from 1907-12. In a city of churches and towering spires, St. Michaelis nevertheless dominates the skyline. Undergoing a lavish restoration, the interior features a grandiose 65-meter-high neo-Baroque altar.



St. Michaelis

- **Cap San Diego:** The world's largest museum ship still occasionally puts to sea but is usually found docked by the Überseebrücke. Launched in 1961 to ply the Hamburg-South America routes as a cargo vessel, she offers permanent displays and seasonal exhibitions and guided tours of the bridge, the living quarters and the engine room.

- **Planten und Blomen:** "Plants and Flowers" is an apt name for this delightful and tranquil retreat from the city bustle. A superb rose garden, a Japanese garden, masses of other seasonal blooms, water features and summer concerts all add to the charm. Clever planting ensures the gardens emit touches of color year-round.



A red powder puff at the Planten and Blomen

Photo by Thomas Strünkelberg

- **Hamburger Kunsthalle:** Hamburg has more than 80 first-rate museums and galleries. This massive collection doesn't come with fries but does offer the varied styles of a range of great artists, from the great masters to the modernists. Northern Germany's most important collection since 1817 became a gallery open to the public in 1869. The four-story extension is an excellent piece of modern architecture.



The Rathaus (town hall) is the symbolic heart of the city



The views are grand at Alster Lake in Hamburg

consuming fire storm created by the Allied “Operation Gomorrah” 1,000-bomber air raid of July 1943, when the heat was so intense that the waters of the canals reached boiling point. More than 42,000 civilians perished in a raid so devastating that Hitler refused to visit and never set foot in the city again.

The renaissance of Hamburg since the war has been remarkable. Today it boasts the highest per capita GDP in all Germany. That success can be put down to the resilience and industriousness of its citizens – people who work hard and play hard. This is, after all, the city renowned as the nation’s sporting capital, the jewel being the Hamburger SV soccer club. A guided tour of their massive 60,000-seat stadium and its trophy room and related facilities is a revelation. FC St. Pauli has now joined Hamburger SV in the league’s first division.

The twin man-made Alster lakes, created by damming the river, are prime strolling grounds both for first-time visitors and longtime residents. Prestigious homes and imposing hotels like the Atlantic Kempinski and the Vierjahrezeiten line the lake’s banks. An air of solid prosperity wafts over the nearby leafy avenues, and the Jungfernstieg is justly renowned as one of Europe’s great promenades.

It’s an easy walk from the lakes to the Altstadt—the old town. Its charming 16th-century ambience is somewhat illusory because this was another of the areas totally flattened in the war. In the first wave of Hamburg’s post-war rejuvenation this pleasant little district was faithfully rebuilt.

Buildings from various architectural eras were similarly recreated throughout Hamburg. The diversity of styles, many of them executed in a grand manner, should encourage passersby to look upward rather than just at often glitzy shop window displays. Fine examples of empire art nouveau, art deco and 21st-century style abound.

Culture vultures are drawn to the city’s magnificent State Opera House, 31 theaters, 10 cabaret rooms, six music halls and more than 50 museums and art galleries – both publicly and privately funded.

Another site worth a look is the Miniatur Wunderland, the world’s largest model railroad. Its seven miles of tracks are laid out in an old warehouse near the Landungsbrücken bridge.

The Reeperbahn thoroughfare in the St. Pauli maritime district is one of the world’s most famous red-light districts. Beware, some of the side streets are decidedly not family-friendly. The main street is a thriving entertainment district with pubs, bars and dance clubs, in many respects no bawdier than the French Quarter in New Orleans.

The Fischmarkt is an easy five-minute stroll from the St. Pauli waterfront. At each end of the market’s jam-packed hall there’s a stage on which bands play their raucous sets seamlessly, rock giving way to funk to old school rock ‘n’ roll to garage, to hip-hop to jazz. In the middle, a host of stalls offer all manner of food for eating on the hoof between swigs of well-chilled local beer. Holsten is the locally brewed “hair-of-the-dog” favorite. On chilly mornings, throat-burning schnapps find favor, as the smells of exotic herbs and spices float through the air. Outside the hall are stalls

selling clothes, tourist trinkets and mementos of Hamburg’s hippy past.

Hamburg has always imported and exported people as well as goods. In the early 1960s the city’s booming club scene drew certain mop-topped lads from Liverpool. The Beatles performed at clubs on Reeperbahn, famously honing their skills and emerging as the band that energized rock ‘n’ roll and an entire generation. John, Paul, George and original members Peter Best and Stuart Sutcliffe played night after night at the fabled Star Club, which burned down in the 1980s. The Beatles live on. At Reeperbahn and Grosse Freiheit streets are stainless steel sculptures commemorating the band. Feel free to hum your favorite Beatles song here.

Hamburg is a magnet for the country’s movers and shakers—and for the international set too, so it’s no surprise to find an abundance of world-class upmarket shops and first-rate restaurants, from the chic and funky to Michelin-starred havens of haute cuisine. There’s truly a global gourmet cookbook at play here.

Consequently, the smell of the city is a mix of taste-tempting aromas. Turkish kebabs, Thai noodles and Italian pizzas are as much a part of the local culinary scene as such tasty local delights as matjes (salted North Sea herring served on a bread roll), hearty fish stews and labskaus, a traditional seafarer’s hash made with minced beef, chopped herring, leek, celery and other vegetables and topped with a fried egg. The dish’s distinctive and attractive red hue comes from the addition of cooked beetroot.

Look for birnen, bohnen und speck on the menu. No, it’s not a firm of German lawyers but another unusual dish that’s worth seeking out. It’s an odd-sounding but delicious combination of pears, beans and speck ham.

In season, sharp-tasting kale is the local veg of choice, along with the ubiquitous potato, which is the anchor of classic North German cuisine. Tiny North Sea shrimp are another staple. For a genuine local dessert, try rote grütze – red forest berries simmered in red wine and served up with cream or a silky smooth vanilla sauce.

On the street, taste buds are tempted by sizzling bratwürst, currywürst and other styles of sausage plus the hamburger-like fricadelle patties and bratkartoffeln – the German-take on sautéed potatoes, prepared over an open flame in pans that can measure three-feet across.

Load up on the cuisine – there’s so much to see and do you’ll need the calories. Try to explore beyond downtown so you can sample some of Hamburg’s residential and working suburbs, which make the city



The Beatles are remembered at Reeperbahn, where they honed their chops

more a collection of strung-together comfortable villages than an unwieldy, amorphous big city. The Neue Stadt, Altona and HafnCity are all ready to bid you welcome, while Bremen, Hanover and even Berlin are but a short express train ride away.

London-based travel writer Roger St. Pierre has travelled in 130 countries and all 50 U.S. states but confesses to being a confirmed Europhile and has been a frequent visitor to Hamburg.

Digital Lion

Watch videos on Hamburg and last year’s convention in Busan at www.lionmagazine.org.

Five Dining Destinations

Rikmer Rickmers: Landungsbrüchen, Pontoon 1a. 49 040 3 19 59 59. www.rikmer-rikmers.de You will not be served any culinary masterpieces – snack-type meals being the order of the day – but what an atmospheric setting: between decks on an old, three-masted sailing ship that’s permanently anchored beside the harbour promenade. For many years a Portuguese training ship, she has now been lovingly restored.



A detail of the Rikmer Rickmers ship

Fairmont Vier Jahrezeiten Hotel: Neuer Jungfernstieg 9-14. 49 040 3494 0. www.fairmont.com/vier-jahreszeiten-hamburg Afternoon tea in the plush Wohnhalle or cocktails in the famous Doc Cheng bar – this is the place to see and be seen. When it’s time to eat you take your pick of the in-house restaurants and opt for classic French, exciting Euro-Asian fusion or traditional North German fare. The food is divine, service impeccable and ambience breathtaking. One of the world’s great addresses.

Daniel Wischer: Spitalerstrasse 12. 49 032 52 58 15. www.danielwischer.de Looking for an authentic taste of Hamburg and great value too? They’ve been frying straight from the boat fish here in the Old Town since way back in 1924. There’s a range of species available and portions are generous. Lovingly house-produced potato salad makes a welcome change from fries.

Old Commercial Room: Englische Planke 10. 49 040 36 63 19. www.oldcommercialroom.de A longtime tourist favorite in New Town, this is a good place to savor labskaus, the tasty fisherman’s hash, or hearty meat dishes served with dumplings and red cabbage. The plush décor is unashamedly traditional in its style.

Schönes Leben: Alter Wandrahm 49 040 18 04 82 680. www.schoenes-leben.com Head towards Speicherstadt and the docks for the original of this busy three-venue German equivalent to a French brasserie. It’s open for breakfast, there’s a lunchtime buffet and you can dine late when calorie-laden cakes and strong coffee are specialities.



Schönes Leben

Scenic City Lions



Lions Kandice, Kelly, Joy Ann, Karl and Ev volunteering at one of the many BINGO's we support in Owen Sound



Lions George, Ev, Kate, Joy Ann, and Lenora helping out at Mrs. Claus' Kitchen making cookies and celebrating Christmas in Owen Sound

Madawaska Valley Lions Club

Valentine's Day was made extra-special this year for hundreds of Madawaska Valley residents, thanks to a fundraiser for the Madawaska Valley Lions Club. With the help of a few local high school volunteers, the Lions assembled over 500 balloon heart flowers the day before Valentine's. They then sold them to six local stores, raising almost \$900 in a single day. The stores, in turn, gave them away to their customers as a Valentine's Thank-You gift. (Caution: Don't try this without a Lion who is also a balloon entertainer!)



Eight Clubs make generous donation

Hanover, Mildmay, Formosa, West Grey/Durham, Chepstow, Walkerton, and Neustadt Lions Clubs and Formosa Lioness made a significant donation. The eight Lions and Lioness Clubs in A9 came together to support the Canadian Mental Health Association with a donation of \$3,000.



submitted by
Brenda McRae-
Hanover Lions Club

Bewdley and District Lions

Bewdley and District Lions Club donated a new Smart Board to the North Hope Central School. Photo was taken at ribbon cutting. Submitted by Lion Wilma Bush



Lambeth Lions

This club delights in Ringing, ringing, ringing the bells for the Salvation Army kettles. This being our tenth year, we spent the day in Byron and Lambeth raising a record \$2945. In addition several of our members "worked" the kettles in the malls as independent volunteers. Way 2go Lions.



Lion President
Dawn and Matt

Lakefield and District Lions

Among many other local donations Lakefield and District Lions gave \$5,000 to Steven MacDonald, Manager Major Gifts for Peterborough Regional Health Centre Foundation toward Radiation Bunker in new Cancer Clinic as part of \$25,000 committed by the Club to this project.



Lion President Roy Fitton presents \$2,000 to Lorri Rork, Community Development Co-ordinator, for Community Care's 'empowering you to live at home'

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. 19 - 21, 2013	Overland Park, Kansas
Sept. 18 - 21, 2014	Puerto Rico
Sept., 2015	Grand Rapids



Deux nouveaux membres au Club Lions de Knowlton

Lors d'une cérémonie récente, sous la direction de **Gary Crandall**, deux nouveaux membres ont été admis comme membre du Club Lions de Knowlton. Souhaitant la bienvenue aux nouveaux membres, **Liette** et **Bill Taylor**, le vice président du Club, **Ron Gibbs**, a souligné qu'ils se joignaient au plus important Club social du monde, avec 46,000 clubs regroupant 1.35 millions de membres, partageant la philosophie que « La communauté est le reflet de nos actions ».



G à D : **Bill Taylor**, son parrain **Ron Gibbs**, **Liette Taylor** et son parrain **Howard Partington**

La clinique ophtalmologique mobile des Clubs Lions

La clinique ophtalmologique mobile des Clubs Lions sera à Knowlton le 5 mai prochain au Centre Communautaire de 9 h à 13 h 30.

La clinique mobile offre principalement un service de prévention. Toutes personnes de 50 ans et plus qui n'ont jamais consulté un ophtalmologiste ou qui ne l'ont pas fait depuis quelque temps sont particulièrement invitées à s'y rendre. Les personnes qui font du diabète, de l'hypertension artérielle ou qui ont une histoire familiale de maladies oculaires sont également fortement encouragées à se servir de la clinique mobile. La clinique mobile est un véritable bureau médical sur roues. Vous devez seulement présenter votre carte d'assurance maladie. Il s'agit d'une clinique sans rendez-vous. Ne pas se présenter pour une prescription de lunettes, ce service n'est pas offert par la clinique mobile. Du personnel de Diabète Brome-Missisquoi sera sur place pour effectuer des tests de dépistage du diabète. Pour info.: Bob Seymour (450) 263-5881



Newburgh/Camden Lions

At Newburgh-Camden's 5th Anniversary February 17, 2013, an afternoon of country music was enjoyed by 78 members and guests. Hors-d'oeuvres, punch and soft drinks kept everyone's hunger at bay 'til 5 p.m. dinner.

All Newburgh/Camden Lions performed a skit portraying club's history from beginning and guests each received a small mason jar of maple syrup.

A highlight was DG **Lion Mary Ann Smith** presenting President **Lion Steve Williams** with the International Flag set, a gift from Lions International, in recognition of membership growth. Only 26 are awarded to deserving clubs around the world. *Submitted by Lion Wilma Bush*



Nouveaux membres au Club Lions de Knowlton

Lors d'une cérémonie touchante, tenue le 27 mars, en présence notamment de membres du **Club Lions de Saint Romain**, trois nouveaux membres ont été admis dans le Club Lions de Knowlton. Les trois nouveaux membres sont **Louise** and **Donald Wing**, parrainés respectivement par **Gary** et **Bev Crandall** et **Marty Humphrey** parrainé par **Winston Mason**. Dans ses remarques de bienvenue le président du Club, **Winston Mason**, a souligné que les nouveaux membres se joignent à un organisme ayant 57 ans d'expérience de service à la communauté et qui fait partie du plus grand réseau de Club sociaux au monde, comptant plus de 1,340,000 membres regroupés dans plus de 46,000 Clubs et présent dans 207 pays ou entité géographique.



Sur la photo prise lors de la cérémonie on note de gauche à droite **Gary Crandall**, **Louise Wing**, **Bev Crandall**, **Donald Wing**, **Winston Mason** et **Marty Humphrey**

Clarence Creek Lions, Fund Raising Event

On January 19th, 2013, the Clarence Creek Lions Club (Ontario) organized a fund raising event for Mr. Jason Laframboise. He needs a transplant of both lungs. He will have to go to Toronto for a series of tests. He will have to remain within two hours from the hospital in Toronto. Residing in the Clarence Creek area being too far from Toronto for immediate surgery he approached our Lions Club to help pay for accommodation while awaiting for the transplant.

Lion Louis Charbonneau took it upon himself along with **Lion Miguel Lalonde**, **Lion Daniel Trottier** and **Lion Jean-Luc Jubinville** to organize a spaghetti supper. The event was a great success! It was estimated that a total of over 500 people attended the event and more than \$30,000.00 was donated for this good cause.



*Tanya and Jason Laframboise thank the event organiser **Lion Louis Charbonneau** and all the supporters*

U Waterloo Optometry Campus Club Coffee House Feb 2013

The School of Optometry Campus Branch Club held their second annual Coffee House on January 21, 2013, to raise money towards their next Canine Vision Dog Guide. The students entertained their audience and sold snacks and beverages on the side, raising approx. \$1300 for their cause.

The performances were excellent and thoroughly enjoyed by the audience who packed the house.



Delaware Lions Club Inducts 6 New Members

Delaware Lions inducted 6 (six) New Members to bring their Club Roster to 41 Members. District A-1 DG **Lion Wayne Cudney** officiated the induction on his Official Visit to the Club. Already these new Lions are involved by contributing to the fellowship within the Club and assisting with the current functions by providing the much needed manpower for the success of the events. Credit goes to their sponsors,

especially **Lion Mike Rombouts** for sponsoring 4 of the new members and initiating the drive to invite and welcome prospective members.



Chemung Lake Lions

Chemung Lake Lions **Gerry Armstrong** and **Harry Wheeler** at Peterborough Regional Health Care building fund dedication where a new room in Birthing Unit was named in appreciation for the Club's donations. Chemung Lake Lions were taken on tour of the new facility - the emergency department and diagnostic area.



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 | Lion Jennifer Boyce | email: bevwin@hotmail.com |
| A9 | Lion Al Leach PDG | email: adleach@hotmail.com |
| A12 | Lion Michelle Heyduk | email: fredheyduk@hotmail.com |
| A15 | Lion Nancy Ransom PDG | email: nransom@sentex.ca |
| 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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2848 Front Road

Vittoria, ON N0E 1W0

www.canadianraptorconservancy.com

thebirdnerd@on.aibn.com



References available from past Lions Club events

Marmora Crowe Valley Lions Club



At the May 1st Marmora Crowe Valley Lions dinner meeting, Brian Stevenson Fellowship Awards were presented to **Lions Charlie Murchison** (shown above) and **Bill Cole** by PDG President **Russ Mitchell** and 1st Vice Dist. Governor **Albert Munneke**.



Lions President PDG **Russ Mitchell** and A3 2nd Dist. Gov. **Linda Duffie** presented Helen Keller Fellowship Awards to **Lions Barbara Fisher** (shown above) and **Isobel Cole**.
submitted by Lion Wilma Bush

Orangeville Lions Club

David Ferrier is a recently recognized Melvin Jones Fellow by the Orangeville Lions Club.

David joined Orangeville Lions Club in 1970 and has served on several committees and was President in 1985-86. Lion David also served District A-9 as Youth Exchange Chairman and Youth Camp Director.

submitted by Lion Terry Sullivan



L to R Peter Robinson President Orangeville Lions Club, David Ferrier Melvin Jones Recipient, and Charles Liddle District Governor A-9

District A-9 Convention



District Governor Charles, Convention Chairs Bruce and Jane Blears of Amaranth Lions with Lions flag at District Convention flag D raising ceremony



Owen Sound Scenic City Lions dress for A9 Convention evening program at Opera House



Mayor Rob Adams of Orangeville, PIP William Biggs, Tree Carver Jim Menken and Governor Charles Liddle unveil Broadway Street carving for the 15th Anniversary of Amaranth Lions Club, hosts of A9 2013 District Convention in Orangeville

Scenic City Lions Club



Lion Kate Keeling being presented with a Melvin Jones Award, by Zone Chair Evelyn Barnes and Past Zone Chair Lenora Raby



Lion Dianne Madeod, Lion Karl Pilatzke and Lion Peter Arkell all received Helen Keller Fellowships

submitted by Lion Karl Pilatzke

Petrolia Lions Club

Lions Club of Petrolia honoured **Lion Ross Dyke** with the Helen Kellar Fellowship on March 4, 2013. Presenting the award was **P. D. G. Joe Madacsi**.



L. to r. Club Pres. Art Parkes, Lion Ross Dyke and P. D. G. Joe Madacsi.

Agreement Number is:
41805020*



We Serve