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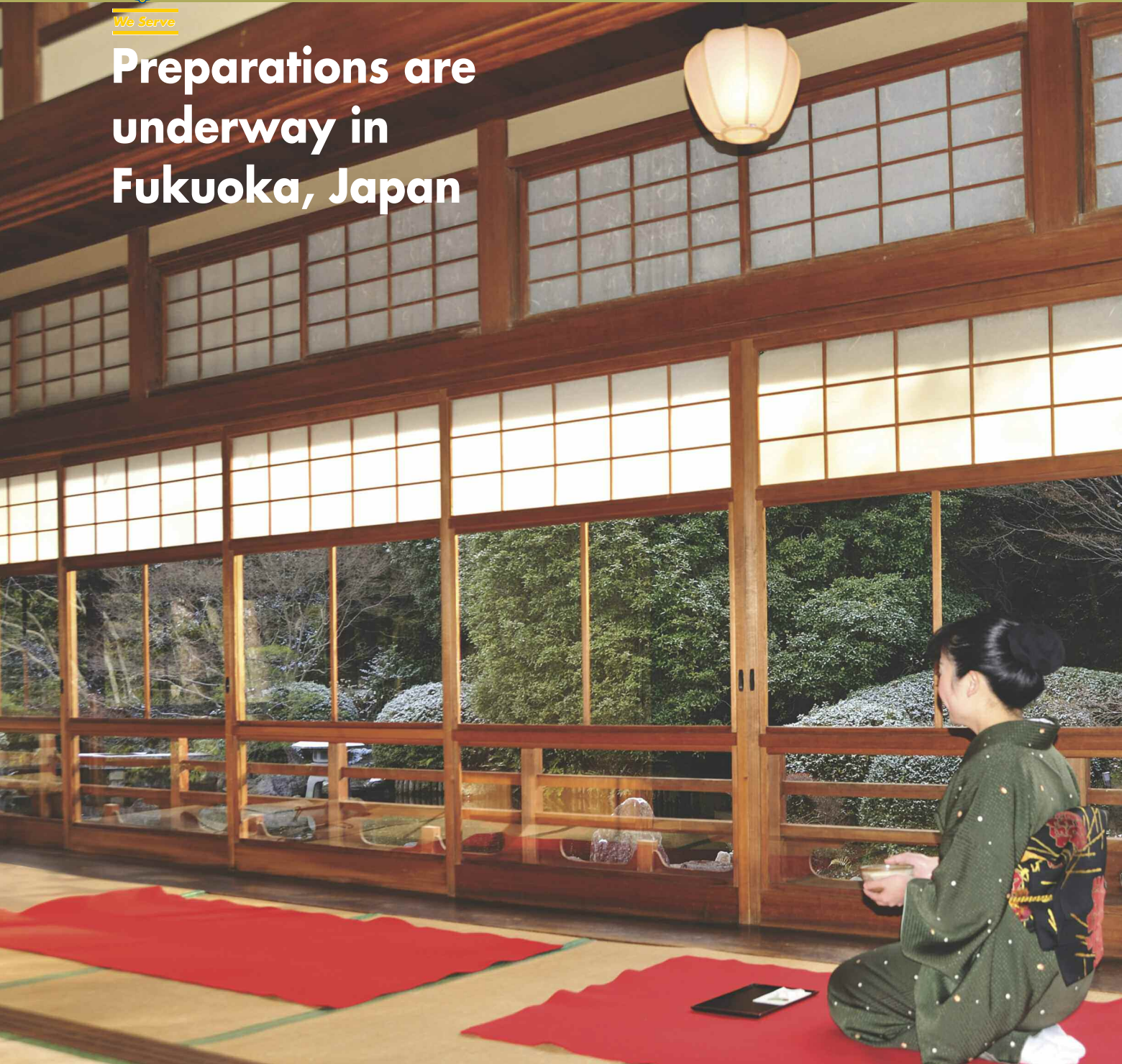


M.D. "A" Edition May/June 2016

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We Serve

Preparations are underway in Fukuoka, Japan



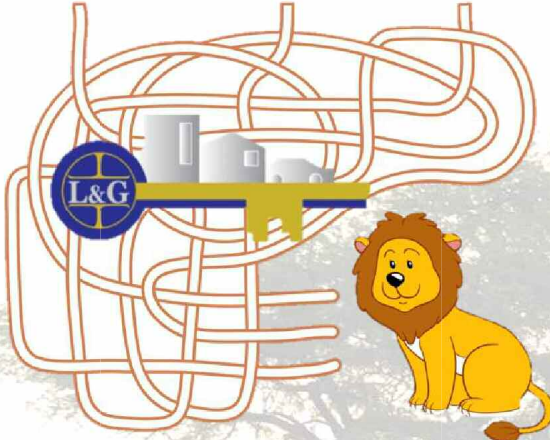
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THE Lion



We Serve

On the cover:

The 2016 International Convention begins on June 24. For more information, see pages 4 and 14.

*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
Lion John Stewart PDG
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Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada
Lions Clubs International
President

We're Lions – People Who Matter

As a neurosurgeon and a hospital director, I always have had a deep dislike of bureaucracy, hierarchical institutions and anything that stands in the way of patient care. I try to put patients at the axel of a wheel, and professionals in the medical field are the spokes that drive patient care.

This teamwork among medical professionals is a great lesson for Lions. Lions clubs are remarkable because they pool talents and resources. The more we

collaborate in clubs and among clubs, particularly through LCIF, the more service we can provide. As our founder Melvin Jones said, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

There is another lesson I have carried with me from medicine to Lions. In operating rooms I saved lives. Perhaps I saved 100 lives per year and maybe in the course of my career I will save 4,000 to 5,000 lives. But think about LCIF's measles initiative. In the past several years, tens of millions of children have been protected from a disease that is potentially fatal. You and I as Lions have made that happen. As proud as I am of what I do as a doctor, I am immensely satisfied and fulfilled to know what we accomplish as Lions.

So let's renew our commitment to teamwork as

Lions. Our harmony translates into saved lives, opportunities for children and restored vision. And let's cherish our membership. How else can you so wonderfully impact the world than as a Lion? As one who wields a scalpel as loved ones anxiously await and who understands how important a day's work can be, I also deeply appreciate the importance of Lions clubs. Thank you for all you do as a Lion and please continue to serve for years to come.

Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada
Lions Clubs International
President

Take a Bow, Lions, for Incomparable Service

Many Japanese admire the teachings of Confucius, particularly his thinking about Onko Chishin. This means "he that would know what shall be must consider what has been." Though elegantly expressed in the writings of Confucius, the concept is simply common sense, a sentiment appreciated by people worldwide. In fact, the idea is even incorporated into the longstanding Lions logo. One of the Lions on the logo looks back while the other looks forward.

As I enter the last month of my presidency, I find myself looking both back to the past and forward into the future. This year we built upon the success of Lions in the past. We continued to save lives through the measles campaign. We kept saving sight. We improved our communities in countless ways.

Lions also continued to be great champions and protectors of children. At the start of the year I urged

Lions to reach out to children as part of my theme to promote Dignity, Harmony and Humanity. Sadly, the waves of refugees are a human tragedy the world has not seen in decades. Lions are responding with vigor, supplying food, water, necessities and kindness after kindness.

Looking to the past to prepare for the future has been especially meaningful for Lions this year as we near our centennial. Lions have made great progress toward achieving our Centennial Service Challenge of serving 100 million people by June 30, 2018. I don't want to jinx us, but I am utterly confident we will easily surpass that goal.

We also need to have the courage to change and sometimes even need to end longtime traditions. Our association needs to evolve to stay relevant to the needs of society. It may come with pain, but we must

always have the next generation in mind.

It's been a great privilege to serve as international president. On our frequent journeys Toshiko and I have met thousands of warm and gracious Lions who exemplify the best of the human spirit. We Japanese take pride in our hospitality, but Toshiko and I learned that nothing tops Lions' hospitality. We also have been deeply impressed and inspired by Lions' dedication to service and their importance and accomplishments in their communities. Please continue to serve—the world needs us as never before in the last 100 years.

Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada
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 2016 International Convention. Our 99th International Convention will be held in Fukuoka, Japan. It begins at 10 o'clock June 24 and ends June 28. The purpose of the convention is to elect a president, a first, second and third vice president and 17 members of the International Board of Directors and to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Fukuoka is a charming, graceful city that marvelously balances the old and new. Fukuoka is the home of the oldest Zen temple in Japan yet it is celebrated for its cutting-edge gourmet food. This city has an abundance of fresh seafood, traditional festivals and the most *yatai* (street food stalls) in all of Japan.

Historically, it is the merging of two cities: the picturesque castle town of Fukuoka and the bustling port city of Hakata.

The five days will feature inspiring speakers, world-class entertainers and native music, dance and food. Lions also will enjoy convention traditions such as the grand parade, the swearing-in of the new international president and three plenary sessions that demonstrate the amazing range and scope of Lions' service. Kailash Satyarthai of India, a human rights activist and the 2014 Nobel Peace Prize winner, will give the keynote address. Doctors Without Borders will receive the 2016 Lions Humanitarian Award. Another highlight is the announcement of the Peace Poster and Essay Contest winners.

Convention Week is a wonderful, remarkable

experience packed with fellowship, fun and learning. The Lions of Japan will embrace visitors with *omotenashi*, the spirit of hospitality. I strongly encourage Lions to strengthen their commitment to Bring Dignity to Others by joining tens of thousands of your fellow Lions in Fukuoka.

Signed by me in Oak Brook, Illinois, United States of America, this 2nd day of May 2016.

Warmest regards,

Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada
Lions Clubs International
President



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Savannah, Georgia, USA

March 1-4, 2016



CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

1. Established the Ad Hoc Committee to Review Third Vice President and International Director candidate requirements with seven (7) members appointed by the Executive Officers and requested further review by our successor Constitution and By-Laws Committee.
2. Empowered the Executive Committee to fix by contract the duties, term of office and compensation of a treasurer.
3. Revised the District Governor Suspension Policy in Chapter XV of the Board Policy Manual to require a majority of the clubs in good standing in the district to request review under the policy.
4. Revised Chapter III, Paragraph E.6. of the Board Policy Manual to reflect the new LCIF Board of Trustees structure.
5. Revised Chapter XV, Paragraph C and Paragraph L of the Board Policy Manual to remove unnecessary language.
6. Revised Chapter XV of the Board Policy Manual to make it consistent with previous changes related to the reinstatement of the office of International Third Vice President.
7. Revised the District Governor and First and Second Vice District Governor Elections Procedure in Chapter XV of the Board Policy Manual to allow for more flexibility in who may file a complaint and to allow for the formal complaint documents to be filed by electronic means.
8. Revised the definition of good moral character and reputation in one's community in Chapter XV of the Board Policy Manual to allow clubs to decide if a member of their community meets the requirements to be a member and, in certain circumstances to preserve the image of the association, to authorize the Constitution and By-Laws Committee and the International Board of Directors to review club membership.
9. Adopted a resolution to be reported to the 2016 International Convention to amend the International By-Laws to change the name of the Public Relations Committee to the Marketing Communications Committee.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

1. Revised convention bid policy to allow the association to select the convention site seven (7) years in advance.
2. Selected Montreal, Quebec, Canada, as the site of the 2021 Lions Clubs International Convention.

DISTRICT AND CLUB SERVICE COMMITTEE

1. Extended protective status to the Tabubil Lions Club of District 201-Q2 (Australia) through September 4, 2016.
2. Extended District 351 (Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq) to include the State of Palestine.
3. Approved an amendment to the redistricting proposal submitted by Multiple District 3 (Oklahoma), which was approved on October 5, 2015, to change the names of the new districts to District 3-E, District 3-SW and District 3-NW and delay the redistricting one year so that the new districts take place at the adjournment of the 2017 International Convention.
4. Approved a resolution to merge District 305-S1, District 305-S2 and District 305-S3 to create District 305-S (which will take effect at the close of the 2016 International Convention) and instructed the members within these districts to hold an election to elect a district governor to serve during the 2016-2017 fiscal year.
5. Approved the Lion leaders who were recommended by the local Lions from the provisional districts to serve as district governors for the provisional districts for the 2016-2017 fiscal year.
6. Revised the Board Policy Manual by amending the Standard Club Constitution and By-Laws to include a club LCIF Coordinator.
7. Revised the Board Policy Manual to include the State of Palestine and the Republic of Kosovo as official countries of Lions Clubs International.
8. Revised the Board Policy Manual to allow the International President to deny expenses for the International Convention if the District Governors-Elect does not attend the full District Governor-Elect Seminar.

FINANCE AND HEADQUARTERS OPERATION COMMITTEE

1. Approved a change of General Fund Investment Policy to match the asset allocation of the Emergency Reserve Fund Investment Policy.
2. Approved the FY 2016 3rd Quarter Forecast, reflecting a deficit.
3. Approved amendment to the Defined Benefit Plan Funding Policy.
4. Approved amending the General Fund Investment Policy Statement contingent upon the adoption of the proposed resolution at the 2016 International Convention to amend the International Constitution related to the Emergency Reserve Fund.
5. Approved additional funding for the combined budget of the October/November and March/April 2017-2018 board meetings and

approved an exception to the Executive Officer Travel and Expense Reimbursement Policy allowing up to two additional days for added travel time.

6. Approved increasing New Member Entrance Fees and Charter Fees to US\$35 each effective July 1, 2017.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. Approved funding, beginning in 2016-2017, in the amount of US\$2,000 per year for the next three years to support club level training for the Lions of Papua New Guinea.
2. Contingent upon approval of the 2016-2017 proposed budget, approved curriculum and limited funding to support two Emerging Lions Leadership Institutes (ELLI) during 2016-2017 for qualified Lions of Africa. All planning and implementation will be handled by the GLT of Africa.
3. Contingent upon the approval of the 2016-2017 proposed budget, approved the addition of one Faculty Development Institute (FDI) to the 2016-2017 Lions Leadership Institute schedule for qualified Lions of the ISAAME area.
4. Contingent upon approval of the 2016-2017 proposed budget, approved the addition of one Faculty Development Institute (FDI) to the 2016-2017 Lions Leadership Institute schedule for qualified Lions from the USA, its affiliates and Canada.
5. Contingent upon approval of the 2016-2017 proposed budget, approved the design, development and implementation of a new Certified Lions Instructor Program beginning in 2016-2017.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. Revised the Leo to Lion and Student Membership board policy to remove the language to support the change of respective applications being a dependency on the acceptance of either membership type.
2. Revised board policy manual to include the word "Awards" in the title to be "Membership Awards Programs."
3. Revised board policy manual related to Key Awards to remove the language specific to award reporting and processing details.
4. Removed the GMT District Coordinator Extension award from board policy.
5. Removed the award requirements listed in Chapter X of board policy for the Charter Monarch and Monarch Milestone Chevrons.
6. Revised board policy to add the new section related to Chevrons in Chapter XVII.

7. Revised board policy to remove the countries that will be affected by the sunset provision.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

1. Approved Second Century program with changes recommended by the LCI marketing team and Public Relations Committee to be reflected in the final program draft for review by the Executive Committee.

2. Proposed amendment to change the name of the Public Relations Committee to “Marketing Communications Committee.”

SERVICE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

1. Awarded the 2014-2015 Top Ten Youth Camp and Exchange Chairperson Awards.
2. Updated Chapter I to reflect current practices.
3. Updated Chapter XXII to reflect current practices.

4. Discontinued the Lions Environmental Photo Contest at the conclusion of 2016-2017.
5. Adjusted the Leo Club Program Advisory Panel Term.

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



Official Notice

2016 International Convention, Fukuoka, Japan

The following proposed amendments to the International Constitution and By-Laws will be reported to the delegates for vote at the 2016 International Convention.

ITEM 1:

A RESOLUTION TO REMOVE THE PROVISION RELATED TO THE EMERGENCY RESERVE FUND TO ALLOW FOR MORE FLEXIBILITY IN FUNDING PROGRAMS AND SERVICES. (THIS AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION REQUIRES A 2/3 VOTE TO ADOPT)

SHALL THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION BE ADOPTED?

BE IT RESOLVED, That, effective beginning with the 2016-2017 year, Article IX of the International Constitution shall be deleted in its entirety and the remaining Articles renumbered accordingly.

ITEM 2:

A RESOLUTION TO REVISE THE DESIGNATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS. (THIS AMENDMENT TO THE BY-LAWS REQUIRES A MAJORITY VOTE TO ADOPT)

SHALL THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION BE ADOPTED?

BE IT RESOLVED, That, effective beginning with the 2016-2017 year, Article III, Section 3 of the International By-Laws shall be amended by deleting the phrase “senior executive administrator and/or executive administrator, treasurer and secretary, and such other” and replacing it with the term “administrative”.

ITEM 3:

A RESOLUTION TO RENAME THE PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE TO THE MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE. (THIS AMENDMENT TO THE BY-LAWS REQUIRES A MAJORITY VOTE TO ADOPT)

SHALL THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION BE ADOPTED?

BE IT RESOLVED, That Article IV, Section 1(i) of the International By-Laws shall be amended by deleting the phrase “Public Relations” and replacing it with the phrase “Marketing Communications”.

Our Ride Has Arrived!

Community Living Cambridge is the proud owner of an absolutely beautiful wheelchair accessible van that replaces the van stolen in the summer of 2014. Community Living Cambridge provides services and supports to those with developmental disabilities. Many of those individuals also have mobility challenges as well and that van was a critical need for many people to access the community, health care, day programs and just be able to live a full life in their community. Replacing the van was going to be an overwhelming challenge and was only possible due to the generosity and kind donations in our ‘Trick Our Ride’ campaign. The turning point to achieving success was a large donation of \$20,000 from the **Galt Cambridge Lions Club** in addition to \$30,000 from private citizens and business and the insurance money received for the stolen van. The new van is the top of the line and a proud addition to our fleet. It is also the first (but not the last) of our vehicles to have the agency name on it, along with recognition and thanks to our donors.

A rainy March 23 was the day the van was officially

christened by members of the Galt Cambridge Lions Club, the CLC Board of Directors and Executive Director, Denise Gruber.

All who have seen it or driven it are thrilled with the new model and style. It is easy to use, comfortable to drive and utilizes a ramp out the rear door to load passengers. No lift!



“Wheelin’ Lions” Multi-Lions Club

A joint venture of lions participated in the Toronto Wheelchair Relay Challenge on September 20, 2015.

The challenge takes place this year on Sunday, September 18, 2016 -9:00am to 1:00pm.



Henry Dharmadason (Leaside Centennial Lions Club), Tanzeem Saleha and Rubaidur Rahman (Toronto Bangladesh Lions Club), Sandy Heeralal-Judhan, (Toronto Netralya Lions Club), Don Price, Carol McCague, and Nolly Haverhoek (Toronto Beaches Lions Club), Slava Tsvetkov (Toronto Central Lions Club)

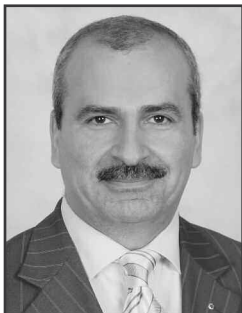
Candidates for Second and Third Vice President

As of press time, there were three candidates for the office of second vice president and six for third vice president. The election is scheduled for June 28 at the 99th International Convention in Fukuoka, Japan.

Second Vice President Candidates

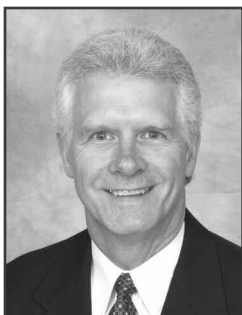
Salim Moussan

Salim Moussan of Beirut, Lebanon, served as an international director from 1997 to 1999. A member of the Beirut St. Gabriel Lions Club, he has twice been a board appointee and group leader and has chaired several leadership forums. He is fluent in three languages, has visited 91 countries and has attended 27 consecutive international conventions, 62 area forums and more than 40 regional conferences.



Walter R. "Bud" Wahl

Walter R. "Bud" Wahl of Streator, Illinois, served as an international director from 2003 to 2005. A retired risk manager and foundation coordinator in the health care field, he is a charter member of the Streator Hardscrabble Lions Club. A Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, Wahl is also active in many professional and community organizations. He has served as chairperson of the 2011 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, as a national coordinator for Campaign SightFirst, as chairperson of the 2012 Elections Committee and has been a presenter at LCI national and international seminars.



Gudrun Bjort Yngvadottir

Gudrun Bjort Yngvadottir of Gardabaer, Iceland, served on the international board of directors from 2010 to 2012. A member of the Gardabaejar Eik Lions Club, she is the vice director of the Institute of Continuing Education at the University of Iceland and has served as a faculty member and presenter at many Lions Leadership Institutes and international conventions. A Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, she is active in several



community and professional organizations and has received many LCI awards.

Third Vice President Candidates

Jung-Yul Choi

Jung-Yul Choi of Busan, Republic of Korea, served as an international director from 1996 to 1998. The president of a real estate company, he has been a member of the Busan Jaeil Lions Club since 1977 and was host committee chairperson of the 95th International Convention and chairperson of the 39th OSEAL Forum. He is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow with a humanitarian partnership and the recipient of the Ambassador of Goodwill Award and has been a director of the Busan Sports Association and vice chairperson of the Dong-A University Alumni Association.



Patricia 'Patti' Hill

Patti Hill of Edmonton, Canada, is a psychologist and a member of the Edmonton Host Lions Club. An international director from 2007 to 2009, she has been a committee member of the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, a multinational coordinator for Campaign SightFirst II, a past director of the Lions Eye Research Institute of Northern Alberta and a presenter at multiple forums and conventions. A Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and GLT Constitutional Area 2 Leader, Hill received the Inspiring Woman Award and is active in many professional and community organizations.



Rosane Teresinha Jahnke

Rosane Teresinha Jahnke served on the international board of directors from 2008 to 2010. A member of the Jaraguá do Sol Lions Club in Brazil, she was a teacher and is a lawyer. A Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and a Helen Keller Knight of Sight recipient, she has participated in 18 international conventions and 13 FOLAC forums. Active in many



community and professional groups, Jahnke promotes the rights of children with special needs and cancer prevention awareness.

Carolyn A. Messier

Carolyn A. Messier of Windsor Locks, Connecticut, served as an international director from 2011 to 2013 and a board appointee from 2014 to 2015. She is the retired executive director of the Lions Low Vision Centers and a low vision therapist who joined the Windsor Locks Lions Club in 1990. A Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, she has presented or moderated at six USA/Canada forums, is active in the New England Lions Council and is the recipient of the Ambassador of Goodwill Award as well as numerous other professional and LCI recognitions.



Fabricao Oliveira

Fabricao Oliveira of Catolô do Rocha, Brazil, served as an international director from 2006 to 2008. He is a businessman and business administrator, and has been a member of the Catolô do Rocha Lions Club since 1985. He is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and has received the Global Vision Medal Award, the Ambassador of Goodwill Award and 10 International President's Awards. Twice a District Governors-Elect seminar group leader, Oliveira is also active in many professional and community organizations.



Steven D. Sherer

Steven D. Sherer of New Philadelphia, Ohio, has been a member of the Dover Lions Club since 1980. A licensed public accountant and retired finance officer/CFO of New Philadelphia Public Schools, he is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and has received numerous Lions and professional accolades. Sherer served as an international director from 2006 to 2008, was a GMT area coordinator for four years and currently serves on the LCIF Quest Advisory Committee.



by Cassandra Rotolo

Social-emotional learning has been proven to decrease problem behaviors such as bullying and substance use and increase positive behavior patterns such as self-discipline and conflict resolution. Lions Quest is LCIF's social-emotional learning program (SEL), and the Lions of Multiple District (MD) 107 in Finland have successfully implemented Lions Quest. The Finnish government has recognized MD 107's program as a leader in educational curricula for children, and the Ministry of Education and Culture even awarded MD 107 a grant to conduct teacher training workshops.

Local Lions' involvement is key to Lions Quest's success, and over the last 20 years Finnish Lions have raised more than US\$6 million to support and grow Lions Quest. Since the first workshop in 1991, more than 16,000 teachers have been trained to implement the program in Finland. Eight certified trainers host teacher training workshops throughout the country. Teachers are trained to work in multicultural classrooms, focusing on diversity and addressing the educational needs of refugee children.

Finnish Lions have expanded Lions Quest beyond the traditional classrooms to focus on youth sports. Trained in much the same way teachers are, coaches encourage good sportsmanship, teamwork and conflict resolution.

Understanding that the needs of today's students are ever-changing, the Lions also created a guide to Internet safety and cyber-bullying prevention. "Responsibility is Mine" teaches children not only how to keep themselves safe online but also discourages them from hurting others.

Taking the program even further, Finnish Lions have become global leaders in the research of SEL. In collaboration with the University of Helsinki, MD 107 conducted a study that showed that Lions Quest training is effective at building teachers' ability to develop social and emotional skills in their students. This research was published in the European Journal of Social and Behavioural Sciences.



In Finland, youth hockey coaches bring Lions Quest lessons alive on the ice

Lions leaders in Finland work with local Lions on Lions Quest, serving as an example of what can be achieved when Lions are committed to a goal.

A Message from Our Chairperson

A recent visit to a large school in Quito, Ecuador, reminded me of how powerful Lions Quest can be. It was amazing how Lions Quest has improved the attitudes and performance of the students there.

A key to their initial success is the unwavering support of the school board. All of the teachers have been trained. What is unique about their approach is that they also trained all their counselors and school nurses and some administrators. They even trained some parents, which means the lessons continue at home. When a problem surfaces, everyone involved can effectively deal with the situation.

One of the greatest things about Lions Quest is its flexibility. The curriculum is grade-specific, and can be taught with other subjects or on its own. It can be taught daily, weekly or occasionally. Lions Quest can be adapted to meet each school's needs.

In my opinion, this flexibility is also the program's greatest weakness. It is taught sporadically while other classes are ongoing and build upon previous lessons. It might be implemented only for a year whereas other subjects are taught in every single grade. I worry that, when used on a part-time basis, the program does not reach its full potential.

I am grateful to schools, no matter how they choose to teach Lions Quest. But for maximum impact, please encourage your schools to make a longer term commitment to teach Lions Quest on a regular basis and at multiple grade levels.

As Lions, we should be proud of Lions Quest. We just need to spread it to more schools and classrooms so that we can reach and positively impact more of our young people. I hope reading this story about Lions Quest in Finland inspires you to become more involved in your local programs.

Joe Preston
LCIF Chairperson 2015-2016
Immediate Past International President

U.N. Day Focuses on Gender Equality

The largest attendance in its history, more than 700 Lions, Leos and others gathered at the 38th Annual Lions Day with the United Nations in March in New York. Speakers focused on promoting peace and gender equality, and International President **Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada** signed a memorandum of understanding between Lions and the UN Women department to work together to ending gender-based inequalities and discrimination. Other speakers included Thomas Gass, an assistant secretary-general of the U.N.'s Department of Economic and Social Affairs who spoke on the U.N.'s Sustainable Development Goals; Past International President **Jim Ervin**, who detailed Lions' partnership with The Carter Center; and Syed Mahmood Kazmi of Pakistan, a youth and human rights activist. The winners of the Lions International Essay and Peace Poster contests were announced: Joel Greek of Cape Town, South Africa, and Yumo Zhu of China, respectively. Hosting the event was Past International President **Al Brandel**, the Lions' representative to the United Nations. In 1945, Lions helped formulate the non-governmental section of the U.N. charter.



Recording artist Tennile Amor sings at U.N. Day. One of her songs was "Lion."

Serve Youth in your Community this August

Lions worldwide will help children in their communities by hosting service projects Aug. 8-14 during Lions' Worldwide Week of Service for Youth. From health and education initiatives to helping friends and neighbors meet children's basic needs, there are countless ways to impact youth in your community and around the globe. It's also a great way to help achieve the Lions' centennial goal to serve 100+ million people.

Learn more by visiting the Worldwide Week of Service for Youth page at Lions100.org.



Lions on Location – Service Abroad

Everything But a Kitchen Sink

MOROCCO – A club in Casablanca pulled out all the stops in traveling from its city to serve villagers in a remote rural area. Members of the **Casablanca Arc en Ciel Lions Club** formed a “medical caravan” to provide diabetes screening and education and distribute medicine to people living in the Jakhma Berrechid region. But the Lions also handed out toys, clothes and sweets to 140 children, passed out clothes to 120 adults and gave pasta, sugar, oil and other food items to 20 families as well as holding creative workshops on drawing and singing for children. The effort was led by President **Meriem Dahrat** and 416 District Governor **Salwa Abourizk**.

Women Trained to Defend Themselves

INDIA – Women in Bhubaneswar, a city of 650,000, are learning martial arts to defend themselves against predatory men in classes taught by the police. The self-defense classes are sponsored by the **Bhubaneswar Premium Lions Club**.

Violence against women has drawn increased attention in India. Chartered in August 2014, the Bhubaneswar Premium Lions Club has three women among its 24 members.

Held at police stations, the three-week training classes will help shatter “the perception of women that they are weak and defenseless,” according to the club. The classes include strength training and boxing.

Where the Out-of-Ordinary is Commonplace

NEW ZEALAND – The entrance fee is a \$1 gold coin. The items for sale are just as quirky: piglets, calves, fencing wire, yachts, chairs, motorbikes, even kitchen sinks and vintage freezers. For 35 years, the **Ashhurst-Pohangina Lions Club** smallholders auction has catered to small landholders with something to sell and curious customers looking for a bargain.

“Originally it was set up for people like me, who have a smallholding, to be able to sell their livestock—one or two sheep, a calf, chickens, whatever, because it wasn’t possible, at the time, to sell small numbers at the big auction places,” according to a local blogger who is a farmer.

Last year the club raised \$10,000 from sales and



An auctioneer takes bids for a stuffed emu at the Ashhurst-Pohangina Lions Club smallholders auction

another \$2,000 at the gate, which was designated for the Palmerston North Rescue Helicopter. The auction is held at MacDonald’s farm in Pohangina Valley. In keeping with the offbeat flavor of the event, an office for the auction is set up in a scruffy woolshed.

Textile Workers’ Vision Studied

SOUTH AFRICA – Textile workers in South Africa such as machinists, cutters and button sewers perform close-up tasks that become more difficult as eyes age and vision declines. Yet a study done in the Durban area showed that 93 percent of people who reported difficulties in reading or seeing parts of objects near them lacked eyeglasses.

An LCIF SightFirst project is studying the problem with the hope of showing workers the value of eye screenings and adequate vision, persuading employers that vision screenings and vision corrections at the workplace would increase productivity and convincing government leaders of the need to include eyeglasses as part of national health insurance. The project also aims to develop eye health materials such as pamphlets and posters.

SightFirst approved a grant for \$89,315 for the African Vision Research and the Brien Holden Vision Institute to examine the vision of 600 KwaZulu-Natal textile factory workers. The study will identify what workers suffer from vision problems, provide them with eyeglasses and then assess the change in their productivity.

The decline in vision happens progressively to people as they age. The lens becomes less flexible, and near vision becomes blurred. The inevitable aging of the eye is called presbyopia.

Anecdotal evidence exists that uncorrected vision decline decreases work productivity, but published evidence is lacking. According to the grant proposal, “For many, a simple pair of spectacles could significantly improve their lives and increase their full potential to perform everyday near-tasks, improve educational opportunities and increase their economic productivity.”

Youth Camp Houses Refugees

SWEDEN – A Lions youth camp in Sweden was recently canceled. But there were few complaints. Lions decided the camp was needed to house refugees from Syria and Afghanistan.

As many as 80 refugees will live at Lions Green Camp, located about 75 miles southwest of Stockholm. The living quarters are spacious and clean with a kitchen, dining room, showers and a washing machine and dryer.

The Swedish government had urged its citizens to accommodate the stream of refugees pouring into Sweden, which welcomed 160,000 refugees in 2015. “It gave Sweden and its towns an enormous challenge,” says Lion **Mats Granath**, chairperson of Youth Camp and Exchange in Sweden. “We don’t

know how long they will stay [at the Green Camp]. It depends if they get permanent permission to stay in Sweden.”

Fifty youths from 29 nations were scheduled to stay at the camp. Most youths should be able to sign up for another youth camp elsewhere, says Granath.

“We’re sorry for their situation, but Swedish Lions are convinced we are doing the right thing,” says Granath. “This is Lionism—helping people.”

Imagine There’s No Need

BELGIUM – Thirty-six years after his death, John Lennon remains beloved across Europe and especially in Brussels, where people are proud of their independent spirit and creativity. The **Brussels Imagine Lions Club**, named after the ex-Beatles anthemic hit, enjoys doing untraditional projects – such as its recent collaboration with artists who painted and sculpted using old doors and window frames.

Fifteen artists created, well, it’s open to interpretation what they depicted. There was a Madonna-like mother and child (a refugee family?), a bundle of sticks and wood and an iron woman made from discarded brass and steel. Displayed at an old warehouse, the art fetched US\$12,000. Typically, Lions split the selling price with the artist.

Two years ago, partnering with the club, artists created paintings on old beer barrels. Proceeds from both fundraisers went to a home for adults with disabilities.

The club was formed in 2010, the 30th anniversary of Lennon’s death. None of the 11 members are artists: there are lawyers, an insurance agent, an entrepreneur and a firefighter. But the club does meet at an interesting place: the Youkounkoun Palace, a restaurant named after the world’s biggest diamond.



An artist created this work of art for Lions to sell

Teamwork Blooms Between Clubs

SWITZERLAND – For 60 years, until it ended in 1957, the Fête des Narcisses was an iconic spring event in the Riviera District. The Feast of Narcissus celebrated the blooming of the narcissus, known as the “May snow” for its brilliant appearance on hillsides. Last year, with the help of two disparate Lions clubs, the festival returned after a hiatus of 58 years.

The **Montreux and Riviera-Chablais Lions Clubs** entered a flower-strewn float in the colorful parade and hosted a food booth. Founded in 1951, the Montreux club, located where the famous jazz festival is held, is all-male. The Riviera-Chablais club, chartered just two years ago, is all-female.

The clubs worked side-by-side to help make the festival a success. They served croissants and Highland beef raised in the heights of Montreux and roasted on a spit for 14 hours. More than 500 patrons dined on the beef.



The Lions' float was decorated with 13,000 flowers

Mysterious Donor Helps Hospital

INDIA – The mysterious caller never disclosed his identity. Or explained why he wanted to provide the Lions' hospital with several dialysis machines. He even became angry when a Lion suggested he should be the special guest at a ceremony unveiling the machines; instead the unknown benefactor berated Lions for not planning to immediately use the machines as a fitting end to the ceremony.

The donor's last contact with Lions about his initial

donation in 2012 was just as mysterious as his first. When Lions emailed him photos of the ceremony, a response came back: "I thank you for giving me a chance to be of service of mankind. This email will be deactivated today."

The LNM Lions Hospital in Bhuj has the motto "for the people, by the people." Thanks to the 11 donated new dialysis machines, worth more than an estimated US\$1 million, the hospital is able to meet patients' needs. It has done 57,500 dialysis treatments since 2006.

The telephone calls from the unknown benefactor four years ago came to Past District Governor **Bharat Mehta**, the hospital administrator. Mehta told the caller five machines were needed. He had agreed to forward the reports on the hospital's dialysis treatments even while the two spoke on the phone. "He was impressed that it took less than a minute," recounts Mehta. "He observed that this meant we hadn't edited or altered the reports to our advantage in any way."

The hospital began with two dialysis machines in 2006 and eventually acquired 27, but 12 were discarded as they aged. Mehta said the Lions "would have been overjoyed to receive even just one more dialysis machine" from the unknown benefactor. Instead, five machines were delivered from Germany within 15 days of the benefactor's call. Three years later, in 2015, after another brief phone call from the benefactor, six more machines arrived.

"This is true story," says Mehta, who shakes his head in wonder at how odd and wonderful the story is. He still knows nothing about the donor, other than he is religious. The last email from him read: "God bless you all. May God bless you and your team with the strength to continue to be of service to the poor and needy."



The dialysis machines at the Lions' hospital are in constant use

Satirist Draws a Crowd

POLAND – Polish Lions elicited laughter, auctioned several paintings and raised funds for its charitable causes. **Sopot Lions** hosted Andrew Poniedzielski, a popular satirist, poet and songwriter.

Lionism began in Poland in 1989. The country has 1,057 Lions in 56 clubs. Sopot is a seaside resort town on the southern coast of the Baltic Sea in northern Poland with a population of nearly 40,000. Chartered in 1996, the Sopot Lions Club has 20 members.



Satirist Andrew Poniedzielski entertains the crowd

TOUCHSTONE STORY

Brooms, Pancakes and Fruitcakes: Lions Are on the Prowl

Jim Ervin was just a few weeks into his career as a Lion in 1977 when fellow members of the Albany Lions Club in Georgia tapped him for an important job: selling brooms and mops to raise funds for the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation.

"We'd go around knocking on doors," recalls Ervin, who became international president in 1999. "It was advertised through the radio and TV when the Lions were coming. So many people would wait until that time to buy their brooms and mops."

Community spirit flourishes as neighbors come together at Lions' fundraisers from pancake breakfasts and barbecues to fish fries and sausage roasts. Some local Lions projects have developed into full-scale national programs that raise millions of dollars annually. Consider the humble fruitcake, which entrepreneurial Lions in Australia, Canada and South Africa have turned into gold.

Selling Lions fruitcakes during the Christmas season began in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, in 1951.

Initially baked at home and sold to family, friends and neighbors, Canadian Lion fruitcakes are now produced by large commercial bakeries, packaged with holiday colors and the Lions emblem, and marketed over the Internet.

Starting in 1965 with the Lions Save-Sight Christmas Cake, Australia's program has become a cherished holiday tradition. Under the direction of the National Cake Committee, the product line has expanded to include Christmas puddings, and annual sales have grown to more than 6 million Australian dollars.

From raffles to rubber duck races, Lions have also shown a flair for special events that bring communities together and keep the fun in fundraising. Lions held a benefit elephant soccer tournament in Nepal and dressed up as Smurfs—donning blue face paint and fuzzy blue coveralls—for a canoe race in Epping, New Hampshire.

Selling items that people need, such as brooms,

mops and light bulbs, not to mention items that people crave, such as mints and candy bars, has been a staple of Lions' local fundraising efforts for decades.

"Like they say," says Ervin, "where there's a need, there's a Lion."

Read the rest of the 100 Touchstone stories written for Lions' centennial at Lions100.org.



Children pile high the pancakes at a Lions' breakfast in East Weymouth, Massachusetts, in 1964

A Best Friend – In Multiple Ways

by Anne Ford

Say “service dog,” and most people picture a guide dog for the blind. Truth is, service dogs can make life easier, bigger and brighter for people with many types of health conditions, from peanut allergies to post-traumatic stress disorder. And Lions are very much involved. Here are eight Lions-supported dogs that are making a difference.

Joint Base Andrews and Brad

When U.S. Navy Senior Chief Petty Officer Brad suspects that something’s not right with a person under his command, he takes the appropriate military action—putting his head in their lap.

Brad, a facility therapy dog, is trained to detect emotions that humans might not notice. As he makes his rounds at the medical clinic of Joint Base Andrews in Maryland, he’s on alert for any patient who seems especially sad or troubled. If he finds one, he rests his head in their lap and looks at his handler, Chief Petty Officer Bobby Long.

“Then I say to them privately, ‘Maybe there’s something you’d like to talk about,’” Long says. He’ll then refer the person to a behavioral health care provider. Since the base has begun employing a facility dog, its suicide rate has dropped.

Brad was trained by Southeastern Guide Dogs, a Florida nonprofit that counts both the Lions Club International Foundation and many individual Lions clubs among its supporters. In addition to detecting emotions, Brad helps patients perform physical therapy exercises (by playing fetch or tug-of-war), helps them get in and out of wheelchairs (by standing firm like a crutch) and generally lowers blood pressure throughout the base (by wagging his tail and being petted).

“We have a psychiatrist who tells everybody that Brad does his job better than he does,” Long says with a smile.



Brad is a soothing presence for Navy Captain Patrick Mcgroarty as he visits the dentist at the Naval Health Clinic Patuxent River’s Dental Clinic in Maryland
photo by Bobby Long

Sage Bowles and Peppermint Patty

To 3-year-old Sage Bowles of Auburn, California, the family dog is just a good-natured playmate. But to Sage’s parents, Patricia and Luke Bowles, that sweet Labradoodle is what stands between their daughter and potential death.

The dog is Peppermint Patty, trained by the Colorado nonprofit Angel Service Dogs to check Sage’s environment for traces of peanuts and tree nuts, to which the little girl is terribly allergic.

“Once my cousin was eating mixed nuts and kissed his mother. Then his mother kissed Sage, and that’s how we ended up in the hospital,” Patricia says. “Now that we have Peppermint Patty, she can check a person’s hands and clothes and breath, and she can check environments like grocery stores and amusement parks. If she senses something, she’ll sit and point with her snout to where it is.”

The Bowles were able to raise the \$20,000 needed to bring Peppermint Patty home with the help of the Foresthill Lions Club, which held a pancake breakfast and a raffle to raise funds.

“I am so grateful for all of the Lions’ help,” says Patricia. “This never would have happened without them.”



Sage Bowles and Peppermint Patty

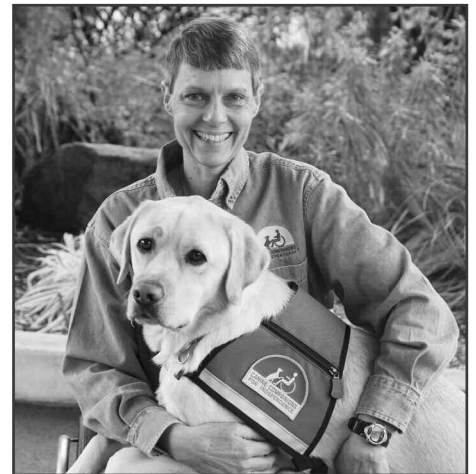
Buddy Hayes and Andy

A decade ago, due to the effects of multiple sclerosis, Lion Buddy Hayes’s body decided to, as she puts it, “sit down for the rest of its life.”

Now a wheelchair user, Hayes, a member of the Santa Fe Capital City Lions Club in New Mexico, also works with a service dog, Andy. Provided by Canine Companions for Independence, Andy can do everything from help her get undressed and take the recycling bin to the curb to turn down her bed linens and vacuum. (If you’re having a hard time picturing that last one, it’s a stick vacuum he holds in his mouth.)

Andy’s latest skill: fetching a tissue when Hayes sneezes. “Now he wants me to sneeze all the time,” she says. “If he could learn something new every day, he would.”

Without Andy, “I’d have to ask people to help me, which I absolutely detest,” Hayes says. “Like dropping my car keys. If they go underneath my wheelchair, it’s hard to back up, not run over them, get them and pull myself back up. To call someone for every little thing like that, I wouldn’t feel right.” With Andy at her side, she doesn’t have to.



Buddy Hayes and Andy

Christine Goodier and Raylene

Many people with hearing loss isolate themselves. Christine Goodier of Cedar Point, North Carolina, can empathize.

“It’s exhausting, struggling to hear all day,” says Goodier, a semi-retired travel writer who lost nearly all of her hearing to auto-immune inner ear disease as an adult. “It becomes easier to just stay home.”

Easier, that is, before 2014 when she got Raylene—a black Labrador trained by the Oregon-based, Lion-supported organization Dogs for the Deaf to alert Goodier to important noises such as door bells, microwave and smoke detector beeps, and ringing telephones.

Raylene also helps Goodier avoid hazards: “If the two of us are walking down a sidewalk and her head suddenly jerks to the right, I know I’d better stop walking too, and notice the garage door opening and the car about to back out in front of us.”

Goodier has traveled with her husband, Bob, in their RV as she tackled writing assignments that took them from Yellowstone National Park and the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta to the Florida Keys and the Maine coast. “Raylene is a good traveler and a great conversation magnet, which is always helpful for a writer,” says Goodier.

Not only that, but Raylene's presence helps people realize that Goodier has a disability and may need additional assistance. Raylene and her service-dog vest serve as what Goodier calls "a visible symbol of an invisible disability." It's all part of why she is able to say: "I feel happier, safer, friendlier and more like my old self since she came into my life."



Christine Goodier and Raylene

Jason Corning and Niko

Both profoundly deaf and legally blind, Jason Corning of Baltimore works for the federal government, serves as president of the Metro Washington Association of the DeafBlind, will receive his master's in management information systems in May from Johns Hopkins University and has traveled overseas.

Corning's companion in all these adventures? His yellow Labrador guide dog, Niko, with whom he communicates using hand signals.

"Niko guides me around and makes sure I stop at curbs, avoid poles and am not surprised by skateboarders or bicycles passing by," Corning says. "Also, he's a great travel companion, since having a personal guide or a friend to travel with me can be expensive. Since getting a dog, I am more independent and have more confidence in traveling on my own." Indeed, Corning took Niko's predecessor, Spencer, with him on a trip to Ireland several years ago.

Spencer and Niko were given to Corning by Leader Dogs for the Blind, a Michigan nonprofit founded by



Jason Corning and Niko

three Detroit-area Lions in 1939. Since then, thanks to donations from thousands of Lions clubs and other organizations and individuals, it has provided more than 14,500 guide dogs to clients all over the world—free of charge.

Abbi Roman and Palua

In the old days, the Roman family didn't go anywhere together—not to the store, not to a restaurant, not to church, not on vacations.

That was because Eric and Christine Roman's 18-year-old daughter, Abbi, has autism. Abbi is easily overwhelmed by things that most people tune out, such as the noise of a shopping cart or the hum of an air-conditioning system. "We could be in a store for maybe 10 minutes and then she would completely melt down," remembers Eric of Antioch, California.

In an effort to block out external stimuli, Abbi also often kept her head down and refused to engage in conversations. Then one day Eric noticed her chatting away to the family's pet dog—and got an idea.

Thanks to Canine Companions for Independence, the Roman family now includes Palua, a Lab-retriever mix whose presence helps Abbi stay calm in difficult situations, fall asleep at night, refrain from self-harming behaviors such as hair plucking and even engage in friendly conversations with others.

"She's not the kid with autism now. She's the kid with the dog," Eric says. "Palua acts as a social bridge. She lets people see Abbi as a person.

"Now the dog goes everywhere with us, and Abbi can go everywhere with us," he adds happily. "Service dogs are supposed to be liberating for the recipient, but really, Palua gave our whole family independence."



Abbi Roman and Palua

Alette Coble-Temple and Reddy

Cerebral palsy may keep Alette Coble-Temple in a wheelchair, but it doesn't keep her from much else, thanks in part to her service dog, Reddy. A professor of clinical psychology at John F. Kennedy University, Pleasant Hill, California, Coble-Temple has worked with service dogs since her own college days. All of them have been supplied free of charge by the nonprofit Canine Companions for Independence (CCI), which is funded in part by the Lions Project for CCI. That group has donated \$3 million to CCI.

"It's been life-changing," she says. "Before I had a dog, I was eager to be social, but very self-conscious

about my speech. [Like many people with cerebral palsy, Coble-Temple has some speech impairment.] But when I got my first dog, he was all about making connections, and he really worked to invite people in. He loved to shake; if anyone walked by, he'd extend his paw."

Like her previous dogs, Reddy is more than just a sociable, furry face. Among his many jobs are retrieving items Coble-Temple drops, acting as a physical support to help her transfer in and out of her wheelchair, and occasionally even pulling her in the chair (via a vest with a handle).

"Being able to navigate airports with my dog pulling me feels so independent and exhilarating," says Coble-Temple, who is a frequent traveler. "Having a dog makes this a happier life."



Alette Coble-Temple, who was named Ms. Wheelchair America 2016, and Reddy
photo courtesy of Andrew Zhou

Morgan Watt and Foley

As a Desert Storm veteran, a former bomb-dog handler for the Secret Service and an airline pilot, Morgan Watt was used to challenging situations. But in 2013, he began facing new, even more formidable enemies: post-traumatic stress disorder, migraines, vertigo, anxiety and depression.

"That's when I started having an existential crisis," Watt says. "Things got really dark for a while."

Enter Foley, a golden retriever-Labrador mix trained by Canine Companions for Independence to assist Watt in several ways. If Watt is experiencing vertigo, he can ask Foley to retrieve items, so that he doesn't risk falling. Foley often knows before Watt does when a migraine is coming on, and will lick Watt's head to cue him to take his medication. If Watt feels claustrophobic in a crowd, Foley will block people to keep them away.

And when Watt wakes up disoriented from a



Morgan Watt and Foley

nightmare, “there’s nothing more comforting than having a dog right there with you, snuggling and breathing real slowly right next to you to help ground you,” he says. “I feel like I have a furry psychiatrist right here.”

Anne Ford is a Chicago-based journalist and radio producer who makes her living asking a lot of perfectly nice people a lot of very nosy questions.

A Quick Service Dog Primer

Can any dog be a service dog? No. Service dog organizations typically breed their own dogs, so that they can select for crucial traits such as confidence, intelligence and work ethic. The most common breeds are Labrador retrievers, golden retrievers and German shepherds. Some organizations may source their dogs from shelters instead.

What sort of training does a service dog undergo? As puppies, potential service dogs are generally raised in the homes of volunteers, who socialize them and get them acquainted with different environments such as restaurants, sidewalks and parks. At about 15 months, the dogs return to the organization for several months of formal training. If they’re found to have health or behavioral problems that disqualify them from working as service dogs, they may become therapy dogs, agility dogs, search-and-rescue dogs or simply happy household pets. If they do become service dogs, they are carefully matched with their users according to needs, strength, size and temperament. Each user then undergoes several weeks of training in tandem with his or her dog.

How can Lions help people who need service dogs? It can cost upward of \$20,000 to train a single service dog. Lions clubs can raise funds for service-dog organizations such as Leader Dogs for the Blind, Canine Companions for Independence, Dogs for the Deaf, Southeastern Guide Dogs and many others. Some organizations also maintain “wish lists” to allow supporters to donate material goods such as dog food or dog toys. Lions can serve as volunteer puppy raisers or provide homes for breeding dogs. Lions also can help spread the word about service dogs by inviting guest speakers to their clubs, too.

South African Boy Wins Essay Contest

The grand prize winner of this year’s essay contest for blind youth lives in a backyard in South Africa and lost his sight as a result of a brain tumor discovered when he was 6 months old. Joel Greek, 12, is the winner of the 2015-16 Lions International Essay Contest for visually impaired youths. A sixth-grader at the Athlone School for the Blind, he wrote a 500-word essay on the importance of sharing peace by eliminating inequality and discrimination. “I myself am a young boy with a disability, the only one in my family. Yet they accept me knowing I am capable of anything. We have an opportunity to change the world,” he wrote. Joel, who is blind in one eye and has partial vision in the other, will receive \$5,000 and be honored at the 99th International Convention in June in

Fukuoka, Japan. The award was announced in March in New York at Lions Day with the United Nations. The ceremony was attended by Joel, his mother, a secretary from his school in Cape Town and **James Lang**, president of the sponsoring **Gordons Bay Lions Club**.



Joel Greek reads his essay at Lions Day with the United Nations in March

Sweet Dream

Art is open to interpretation, but Yumo Zhu, 14, of China, seems to suggest that, like a cake oozing with delights, peace is a sweet deal—that comes with cherries on top. In any case, Yumo was named the grand prize winner of the 2015-16 Lions International Peace Poster Contest. The contest’s theme was “Share Peace.” The theme of the 2016-17 contest is “A Celebration of Peace.” Students ages 11, 12 or 13 on Nov. 15 are eligible to participate. For more than 25 years, millions of children from nearly 100 countries have participated in the contest, sponsored by Lions clubs at schools and youth groups. For more details visit lionsclubs.org.



Multiple District A (all Ontario) Effective Speaking Finals

Held in Ottawa at Algonquin College.

41 speakers from around the province impressed and entertained 150 adults with their speeches.

The following were the winners.

Junior English –

- 1st – Ethan Smolders A711
- 2nd – Jaclyn White A12
- 3rd – Wake Purdy A16

Junior French –

- 1st – Naomi Hackner A15
- 2nd – Malcolm Carr A3
- 3rd – Andrea La Penna A9

Intermediate English –

- 1st – Claire Allen A12
- 2nd – Sara Liaghati A16
- 3rd – Johann Liveta A15

Intermediate French –

- 1st – Jemima Nsenga A4
- 2nd – Bruce Hackner A15
- 3rd – Olivia Cyr A2

Senior English –

- 1st – Ashtyn Ribble A4
- 2nd – Kelly Wilks A1
- 3rd – Rosa Chen A16

Senior French –

- 1st – Rostam Kjeddi A16
- 2nd – Tobi Dadjo A4
- 3rd – Arjun Pandey A15

As the MDA Effective Speaking Chair I was so proud and impressed by all these amazing speakers. Listed are the ones who placed. Such a great program!

submitted by Lion Barb Ennis

Convention in Japan Rounds into Form

Year after year, the international convention is Lions writ large—crowds of Lions, a spectacular parade, gala shows and, woven into events and meetings, exuberant expressions of Lions' spirit and service. This year promises to be more of the same—and then some.

Nearly 31,000 Lions, Leos and guests are already registered for the 99th International Convention June 24-28 in Fukuoka, Japan. That figure dates from early March. Registrations are running far ahead of registrations from the same date for the conventions in Honolulu in 2015 (15,123), Toronto in 2014 (14,061) and Hamburg in 2013 (19,087).

A great part of the appeal of convention is the energy, fellowship and sharing of ideas that accompany a gathering of Lions. Expect Fukuoka to be a memorable experience for Lions, who will enjoy time-old traditions such as the parade and experience entirely contemporary Lions' events such as the continuing celebration of the impending centennial of Lions Clubs in 2017.

The Parade of Nations promises to be particularly celebratory. Assembled by U.S. state or nation and in many instances accompanied by a marching band, upbeat Lions stroll in formation while singing, chanting and amiably chatting with spectators, Lions and non-Lions alike. The diversity of Lions Clubs is on full display. This year, not always the case, the parade will occur on the city's main street, Meiji Dori. Lions will pass curious office workers and onlookers, cross

a river and end in scenic Tenjin Park, the site of a Lions festival. More than 80 stores and food vendors will provide a broad array of dishes.

Lions in Fukuoka will feel especially welcome by the Japanese, who take great pride in their sense of hospitality—*omotenashi*. At department stores attendants in well-tailored uniforms sometimes welcome customers at an elevator bank with a bow and polite greeting. Staff at nice restaurants often stand in a line and bow at the end of the meal and escort diners to the sidewalk. The graciousness stems from *omoiyari*, an acute sensitivity to other people.

A charming, relaxed city, Fukuoka promises to be an ideal venue for Lions. Like Lions, it's traditional yet also encompasses the new and the modern. The city is the home of the oldest Zen temple in Japan, yet it is celebrated for its cutting-edge gourmet food. This city has an abundance of fresh seafood, traditional festivals and the most *yatai* (street food stalls) in all of Japan.

The three plenary sessions will be packed with world-class entertainers, inspiring speakers and Lions' business and updates. The entertainment includes the Joy Club, a renowned disabled performing troupe; a stirring drum show; a 1950s singing and dancing show; and a musical celebration of Lions' centennial. The first plenary will include the farewell address of International President Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada, a segment on the centennial and end with the traditional flag ceremony and a military flyover. The second

plenary includes speeches by candidates for the international board and a segment on LCIF. The final plenary includes the announcement of the election results, the swearing-in and inaugural speech of the new president and the oath of office by 2016-17 district governors.

A highlight of the plenary sessions will be the keynote speech of 2014 Nobel Peace Prize winner Kailash Satyarthi of India. Satyarthi, 62, is a human rights activist. His group, Bachpan Bachao Andolan (known in English as "Save Childhood Movement"), describes itself as "the largest grass-roots movement against child labor, child trafficking and child servitude." He shared the Nobel with Pakistan teen-ager Malala Yousafzai, who was shot by a Taliban gunman.

The international show will be held at the spacious Yahuoku! Dome, a baseball stadium that has hosted Michael Jackson, the Rolling Stones and Madonna. The headliner is Shini Tanimura, an acclaimed Japanese singer-songwriter. The Kyushu Symphony Orchestra will accompany him. A fast-paced taiko drum show featuring Drum Tao also is part of the lineup.

A convention highlight will be the presentation of the 2016 Lions Humanitarian Award to Doctors Without Borders. Born during the protests in Paris in 1968 amid a group of young doctors, the organization has treated more than 100 million people. With offices in 29 nations and employing more than 30,000 people, it operates on the belief that all people have the right to medical care regardless of gender, race, religion, creed or political affiliation and that medical needs outweigh respect for national boundaries. A \$250,000 grant from LCIF accompanies the Humanitarian Award.

Another convention highlight is the announcement of the Peace Poster and Essay Contest winners. If present, the contest winners are recognized during a plenary session, and a presentation and reception is held later. The humility and joy evident in the young winners are memorable moments.

Three service opportunities will be available at the convention. Lions can take part in a graffiti removal project, visit the Fukuoka Children's Hospital and donate art supplies to the hospital.

Leos will find a warm welcome at the convention. Besides marching in the parade and otherwise taking part in regular convention events, Leos can attend skill-building workshops and enjoy numerous networking opportunities.

The seminars at the convention focus on LCIF, Lions Quest, Leos, the centennial and other aspects of Lions. The seminars enable Lions to return to their clubs with knowledge and skills to take their club to a new level of service.

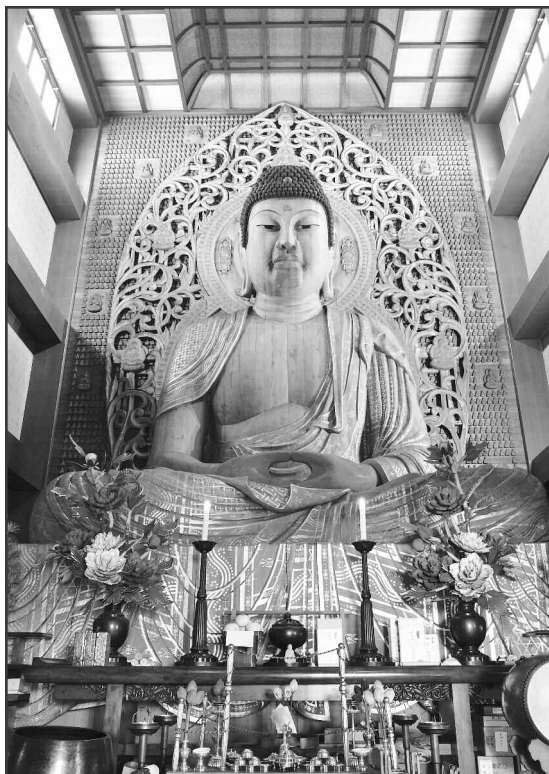
This year's tours are especially appealing. Scheduled are a bus tour that includes Japan's longest and tallest suspension bridge, gorgeous Beppy Bay and a Japanese set lunch; a bus tour of the sweeping Kusasenri Plain and its wild horses, majestic Mt. Nakadake, an animal park and Laputa Road, the "road in the sky"; and a tour of historical Karatsu Castle, the former Takatori Estate and Hikiyama Exhibition Hall and its whimsical giant floats. The tours are a great opportunity to appreciate the culture and history of Fukuoka and Japan.

Never ones to be unprepared or outworked, Japanese Lions are diligently preparing for a successful convention. Japan is a place where Lionism is particularly strong. Lions here are among the first to respond to any disaster worldwide; their service projects in Japan are reliably efficient and effective.

A convention in Japan will fall into a similar groove: well-run, organized and distinguished by attention to detail and earnest courtesy. Lions can expect five days of unparalleled fun, fellowship and fruitful learning.

Digital LION

- **Get a complete list of the convention's seminars, tours and service opportunities at lionmagazine.org.**



The Tochoji Temple in Fukuoka dates from 806. The carving of the seated Buddha statue, one of the largest of its kind, began in 1988 and took four years

Fostering a Life Partner

by Janet Marissen

"I don't know how you let them go." "I could never do what you do." "I would love them too much to be able to give them back". These are statements that foster families for the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guide puppies hear wherever they go. No matter how often you foster a puppy or where you take them, there are always people who cannot understand how anyone would/could raise a tiny 6-7 week old puppy until it is 9-14 months old and then take it back to the Foundation when the call comes in to say it is time for "college" training to start. While I cannot speak for all foster families, I do believe that most of us share a passion for dogs and puppies in particular, and a desire to do something that will make a difference in the life of someone which that person cannot do for him/herself.

Maybe if I tell you about what we do from the point of view of our latest foster puppy, you will gain some understanding of our role in the provision of a "life partner" for some Canadian child or adult who will become the "forever person" for Ivan, if all goes well.

"I was born on May 10, 2015 at Breslau, the breeding and training facility of the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides. Although I never met him, they tell me that my dad was Petro. My very busy Mom was Fame. There were 10 Puppies in my litter. All of us were named with names starting with the letter "I". Apparently that way they can keep track of who we are related to and when we were born. For the first 4 weeks we just slept, ate and played with our litter mates. Sometimes we were able to play with some Labrador retriever puppies too. There are a lot more of them than there are of us poodles! Guess we are special!

When I was six weeks old, my first foster mom came and picked me up. She tried hard not to fall in



This is my foster family's favourite picture of me

love with me because she told me I would not be staying with her very long. She did not succeed and soon I had my way with her. When I was 7.5 weeks old she took me back to Breslau and another man and lady picked me up. They were very happy to meet me. It was a very long drive to their home. When I got there I met three other big poodles who thought I was a new toy. I showed

them. The lady said I was "feisty".

After a few days when I settled in and had my own crate and toys and was just thinking life was going to be easy, out came a leash and jacket! What dog wears a coat in the summer? Apparently I do. The lady took me everywhere she went. She didn't seem to realize that my legs were much shorter than hers and I have four to move. If she went shopping, so did I. If she went out for coffee, so did I. If she went dragon boating, so did I. I didn't get to go in the dragon boat though, just watched from shore with my foster Dad.

Wherever we went, people would stop us and ask questions about me. My foster Mum told them that I was learning to behave properly wherever I went because some day I would be a service dog for someone with a disability and that I needed to know all I could about places and things. She deliberately looked for things that might frighten me and surprise me. I was a cool dog though and not much bothered me. Air brakes of big trucks driving by were a little unnerving but soon even they didn't worry me.

I was introduced to the staff at the local shopping malls who were pleased to meet me and be a part of my training. Sometimes we went for a big car ride to Kingston where I learned to go up and down on something called an escalator. I think it should be called a "cookie machine" 'cause when I walked right on and off, I got the best treats ever!

Every few months, we would drive to Pickering or Oshawa and meet a lady named Allison who works at the Foundation. She was checking to see how I was progressing. Of course I was perfect! Allison would talk to my foster Mum about new things to do and would check that I could walk properly beside a shopping cart, go up and down on escalators and elevators and steep steps and that I could ignore distractions. I was not very good at that. I love children and if they are crying or unhappy I was always worried about them. I know that I could have helped a lot if they would have let me.

When I first arrived at my foster home, I was always put in a crate when my foster family could not keep a very close eye on me. Once I was a little older and I knew that I had to do my "business" outside, they let me have more freedom in the house. That way I could play with my foster brothers. We loved to run outside and play tag and chase the ball. Inside we were expected to be more quiet. I did not have to wear my jacket in the house - I was just a dog, one of the family, at home.

When I was about 7 or 8 months old, I was trusted to sleep outside my crate if I wanted to do so at night. My crate was always open for me if I wanted the comfort and security of it but I soon discovered that I could really stretch out if I slept on the floor like my foster brothers did. I was not permitted to get on the

furniture though. I still don't know why the cat gets to sleep wherever he wants and we are relegated to the floor.

When I was just over 11 months old, my foster Mum got what I heard them call "That" phone call. Boy did she get mushy for the next three weeks! We went around to all the places we have been and she kept telling all the people about my going to college. She even let them pat me and snuggle me when I had my jacket on! I knew something was about to happen!

On April 18, 2016 we took another very long drive together. My foster Mum was very sad and kept wanting to cuddle me on her lap. That isn't very easy when you realize that I now weigh over 60 lbs! We arrived at Breslau. It smelled vaguely familiar. My foster Mum and Dad took turns taking pictures with me in front of the sign for the Lions Foundation. After that, my foster Mum slowly walked with me into a big building. I heard lots of dogs barking and I saw a cat. The nice young lady put a new collar and leash on me and gave the other one back to my foster Mum. She did not seem very happy and turned and walked out the door. She had lots of tears in her eyes, I think.

I haven't seen my foster Mum since that day. My life now is very different but my trainer whose name is Sarah says that I am doing really well and she thinks I will be a great Autism Assist Dog Guide. I am not sure what that means but I do like Sarah. I have a kennel mate and lots of other dogs to play with sometimes. We are practising lots of things that I learned with my foster Mum but we are also learning some new things that Sarah says we will need to know when we meet our "forever person." I don't know what that is either but she says it with a smile in her voice so I think it is good.

Sarah also tells me that I will see my foster family one more time when I graduate. I think that is a good thing. I would like to see my foster family again though the "forever person" sounds even better!



My foster Mum giving me last minute instructions before I headed off to college

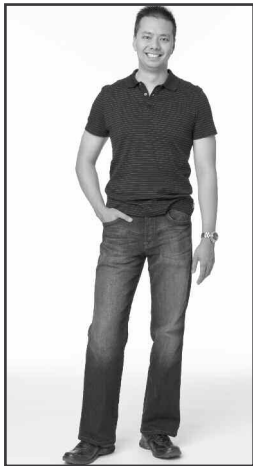
Lions on Lions

Lions—and Leos—riff on the joys and challenges of membership.

Aaron Madar, 41

Markham Lions Club, Ontario, Canada

Madar has the rare distinction of having been both the oldest and youngest member of his club. He started out with a group of young professionals in the Toronto Trillium Lions Club and then transferred to the more traditional Markham Lions Club. “With my former club, we had a lot of new ideas and events for a younger crowd, like an all-day sports charity event.



Meetings were informal, and we would go out to dinner afterward if people wanted to. My current club is more traditional, with a lot of longstanding events and more formal dinner meetings. It took time to adjust to the differences,” says Madar, a marketing manager. Active on social media since the '90s, he has 4,000 Facebook friends and 1,000 Twitter followers. He believes there’s a lot of untapped potential in millennials. “If LCI really wants membership to go up, we need to start more new clubs for young professionals,” he says. “Lions have got to be more active on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook. It takes a lot of practice to build a following and figure out the types of posts they respond to, but it’s the best marketing for the younger generation.”

—Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt

Amanda Gehring, 30

Kerrville, Texas, US

Gehring was the youngest member of her club in Delaware by far when she joined at age 23. But the transition was smooth. She had attended Lions events in New York with her father, David, since she was 5, and as a speech therapist, she was accustomed to interacting with people older than her.



Besides, Lions immediately put her to work. She ran the pancake breakfast and served as eyeglass collection chairperson. “I did all the things Lions 30 years older than me do. They made me feel confident,” she says.

Gehring recently moved to Kerrville, Texas, where there are four Lions clubs from which to choose. She’s met Lions from all over Texas at a cleanup of the Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville. She was so enthusiastic about Lions and the camp that a work colleague has already asked about becoming a Lion.

—Pamela Mohr

Anthony Martinez, 51

Parlier Lions Club, California, US

It took only one incident, just one year after becoming a Lion, for Martinez to become irrevocably committed to Lionism. On an eyeglass mission to Mexico, he translated for an elderly woman who was overcome with emotion at being able to see clearly for the first time in her life. He also was moved at witnessing her joy.



“And that’s when I ‘earned my whiskers’ and became a Lion for life,” says Martinez, a Fresno police lieutenant. That sort of inspiration was not exactly what he expected when he joined in 1997. “What’s a Lion?” Martinez had asked. “My sponsor said it was a bunch of old guys that got together, drank beer and ate tri-tip.” Martinez soon discovered that was a joke. The service component of membership complemented his dedication to police service—he’s delivered twins on the job and received an award for risking his life saving someone trapped in a burning car. He’s proud of Lions’ teamwork and cohesion. “No one dominates the group. Everyone is encouraged to give their input,” says Martinez, an immediate past district governor. “They made my year as governor run as smooth as possible.”

—Pamela Mohr

Claire Davies, 16

Hood River Valley Leo Club, Oregon, US

Davies is a self-described risk taker. She is a freestyle and alpine skier. For her school, she competes in track and field. She commutes 60 miles to Portland four to six times a week to play for two soccer clubs. “I’m extremely happy and outgoing. I’m not afraid to embarrass myself in front of a



group. I like to have fun,” she says. But being a Leo still has lent a little edge to her game. “The leadership opportunities I’ve had as a Leo have helped me become a leader on my soccer teams,” she says. “If it wasn’t for Leos and Lions, I wouldn’t have met some of my best friends I have today.” Her proudest moment as a Leo is a project she created and chaired to collect 800 pairs of shoes for Soles4Souls. Her Leo meetings now draw at least 25 youths. “For our small town, that’s a huge turnout!” she says. Lions may be older than her, but she can relate well to them. “I love working with them because they’re always so funny and cheerful. I’ve already learned so much,” says Davies, who wants a career either in medicine or soccer. “The Leo club is such a good fit for me.”

—Pamela Mohr

Curt Wentzell, 60

Sackville Lions Club, Nova Scotia, Canada

A 40-year veteran of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Wentzell finds that volunteering gives his life balance. “Volunteering helps me keep a positive perspective about the general population,” he says. “If any police officer doesn’t want to serve others in a civilized society, well, then, they’d better seek different employment.” But it took two years of arm twisting by a friend to get him to join in 2008. “He kept telling me about all the projects they’d done and how proud he was to be a Lion. The only thing I knew about Lions was that the club provided free meeting space for my sons when they were in Cub Scouts,” he says. Now Wentzell is the one being persistent in recruiting. “I rocked my club by sponsoring three new members in one evening—all ladies!” he proudly says. His favorite project is supporting Camp Brigadoon, a new camp in District N 2 for children with chronic health problems. He’d like to see more clubs use social media. “Too many clubs are afraid or reluctant to embrace this opportunity,” he says.



He’d like to see more clubs use social media. “Too many clubs are afraid or reluctant to embrace this opportunity,” he says.

—Pamela Mohr

Darnell Little, 66

Spennard Lions Club, Alaska, US

Little’s wife, Yvonne, a fellow Lion, likes to tease him: “You can’t save the world.” His retort is: “Yes, you can—one person at a time.” He feeds homeless veterans, screens children’s vision, dresses up in a pink suit to raise funds to fight breast cancer and helps victims of domestic violence. He’s walked in the cold and rain to raise money for the hungry. “I’m always trying to show people that tomorrow’s a better day than today,” he says. Little is a born adventurer. A native of Montgomery, Alabama, he’s long since left the Lower 48 behind and never looked back. “Alaska is my

everything. It's beautiful, bold, wild, exciting and free. It takes a certain type of person to live here. It was the spot that God put me, and I'm loving it." Little says he's only been tested by Alaska's brutal winters once—"the winter of 1980 when I rode a bicycle to three jobs. But I truly enjoyed it."

He became a Lion shortly after his wife and mother-in-law did because he saw how they made a difference in others' lives. "Now I dress up as Santa and deliver the gifts and get to see the smiles on their faces. I'm the only 150-pound Santa for miles around!" He is a Lion to help others, but he fully understands what it has meant in his life. "I've learned to love people more because my club has expressed love to me and our community," he says.

—*Pamela Mohr*

Greg Simpson, 53

Hood River Lions Club, Oregon, US

Simpson is not one to vent about the "good old days" or worry about the next generation. He mentors 60 Leos, and he's convinced the future is in good hands. "These Leos are top-rung. I sit back and watch them problem-solve and refine their ideas into a first-rate finished product. I think these young adults are capable of a lot of great things on their own," says Simpson, a firefighter/paramedic. He's willing to walk an extra mile or two for Leos—literally. While in Hawaii last year for the international convention, he and Lion Tom Schaefer twice walked the parade route, once with Leos and then with Oregon Lions. "I told myself I wouldn't do that ever again, but I'm sure I'll forget that by Chicago 2017," he says with a smile. Simpson was once asked by a past international director when he became a Lion. "I piped up and said April 1999. He said, 'No, I mean when did you feel in your heart that you were a Lion?'" It was when he first began screening children's vision. "Without us, these kids might have been left behind, embarrassed because they just didn't understand something," he says. Service runs in his blood: he's a second-generation Lion. "Even before my parents were Lions, they were a great example of service to their community," he explains. "I think you get out of a club what you're willing to put in, maybe even a little bit more."

—*Pamela Mohr*



Greta Salsbury

Springfield Gardens Lions Club, New York, US

Originally from St. Kitt's in the West Indies, Salsbury moved to New York in 1986. She learned about Lions through her church, joining in 1992. "Being a Lion has opened up so many doors for me to be able to help people," she says with a soft, lovely island lilt. "I just like helping people." Salsbury says her favorite club project is supporting a shelter for women and children who are victims of domestic violence. "They need to know that people care about them. We tell them that when you come upon hard times, it's not the end of the world. You can still rise up. And many of them do." says Salsbury, whose own life is testament to upward mobility. A retired statistician for the United Nations, she first received a degree from Elmira University in upstate New York and then earned her MBA in international business from Rutgers. Salsbury also mentors Leos, some of whom she hopes will eventually become Lions. "We need young people. They learn from us. Leos help at the shelter, too. We're there to guide them and help them, but we also learn from each other. I think we need to realize that if we work with others, we can just get more done."

—*Pamela Mohr*



Janet B. Quinto, 73

San Diego Executive Lions Club, California, US

Quinto relishes being a Lion because she can help her homeland. A clinical laboratory scientist, Quinto traveled on three Lions medical missions to the Philippines. Then fate steered her to schoolchildren in dire need. On a trip to visit family with her husband, Lion Alex, also from the Philippines, they met a teacher. The encounter was pure happenstance. The school was so remote that the teacher rarely left his village but happened to be on a break at a gathering with the Quintos. So in 2014 the Quintos made an arduous trek to the island of Castilla. "We traveled by plane, boat and by land with the aid of a walking stick to climb a mountain until we reached Dulangan elementary school. It was really challenging to walk through the rain and on such slippery roads," Quinto recalls. A crowd of excited children, parents and



teachers greeted them. "They were all so emotional and joyful," she says. Lions brought donated backpacks brimming with school supplies and sandals for the barefooted children. The 81 students learn in classrooms with no electricity, but that may change someday. Now retired, Quinto says supporting the school will be an ongoing club project.

—*Pamela Mohr*

Lorne Beaudette, 62

Salt Spring Island Lions Club, British Columbia, Canada

A retired supervisor in the oil industry, Beaudette finds Lions to his liking—and his wife's. "I learned leadership and public speaking skills on the job—invaluable when it comes to coordinating the efforts of a bunch of 'Type A personality' volunteers," says Beaudette, twice a past president. "My wife says that I need to be the boss of something, and she's just happy it's not her." Beaudette joined Lions in 2010 after his retirement. He and Charlene were out enjoying a cup of coffee and noticed a Lions emblem on a couple's car. "I asked them what Lions were all about. They invited us to a couple of meetings," he says. Beaudette is proof you can be a Lion after a career and still ride off into the sunset. With Charlene riding on the back, Beaudette has piloted his motorcycle all over North America. "We're a motorcycle club of two," he says.

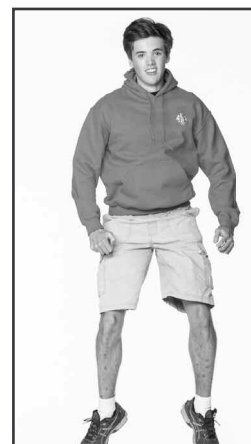
—*Pamela Mohr*



Mason Romero, 19

Hood River Valley Leo Club, Oregon, US

Studying kinesiology at Oregon State University, Romero says being a Leo changed him in an unexpected and deeply personal way. "I've become much more aware of the amount of need we still have in this country, and I've become more compassionate as a result," he explains. He's fed the hungry, participated in environmental action projects, provided water filtration systems to poor families in Nepal, collected money to fight cancer and participated in dozens of projects that help people and the planet—all as a teenager. "Leo clubs offer so much to anyone who participates. When you're young, there's no better way to help others than as a Leo," says Romero, a



windsurfer, kite boarder, rock climber and hiker who also enjoys photography. He believes his club's diversity is what makes it successful and engaging to members. "So many people of different backgrounds are able to come together and help the community," he says. "Our club has a fairly casual atmosphere, so nobody feels scared to contribute at meetings."

—Pamela Mohr

Pamela Williams, 62

Marietta Lions Club, Georgia, US

Williams attributes her can-do spirit as a Lion to her 21 years in the Army providing logistics support for troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. "I just jump right in there and try to get things moving. I don't stand around waiting for orders," she says with a laugh. She retired from the Army, but not from service. She works at the Centers



for Disease Control in Atlanta, sending medical personnel overseas. She treasures her two rescue dogs, Dozer, a big Husky, and Max, a little Pomeranian. "They travel with me everywhere I can take them," she says. She became a Lion after learning more about them from her uncle, Lion Clarence. Her biggest hope as a member is to see more women as well as people of color in leadership positions. "What Lions do is critical to a healthy society," she emphasizes. "But we need to reach out to more people."

—Pamela Mohr

Parveen Sandhu, 34

North Delta Lions Club, British Columbia, Canada

Sandhu has a very special reason for being a Lion. Every summer from the age of 6 to 18 the Lions sponsored her at the Easter Seals Camp in Squamish, British Columbia. Born with spina bifida, she uses a wheelchair. "I could forget about being disabled and just have fun with the other kids and teenagers," she recalls. Her husband,



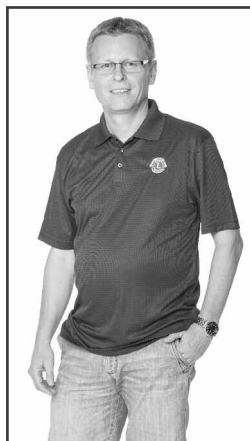
Malcom Jones, has been a Lion since 1987, and Sandhu took the oath three years ago. As a Lion she helps feed the hungry. "At the end of the day, I'm just feeling proud to have done something for my community and help put a smile on people's faces," she says.

—Pamela Mohr

Soren Stensgaard, 55

Greve Lions Club, Denmark

A district governor now, Stensgaard may have very well quit Lions if his club had not been flexible. Both he and his wife, Helle, work demanding jobs at a major European bank, and their two girls were teenagers when he became a Lion in 2002. "We were an active family and had limited free time. My club knew I had to prioritize and couldn't participate in all the activities," he says. "Members should know that sometimes everyone, for various reasons, can't make the same effort." Hawaii last year was his first international convention. "It was overwhelming. It was a true experience of diversity to see so many people from different parts of the world," he recalls. He liked it so much that he plans to attend the 2017 international convention in Chicago to celebrate Lions' centennial.



—Pamela Mohr

Judith Witter, 51

Tropical Gardens Lions Club, Grand Cayman

Witter's club is atypical. When she helped charter her club in 1993, the membership was composed solely of women. "We welcomed our first male Lion three years ago, and now he's club president," she says. He's one of three men in the 44-member club. Priorities haven't changed. The club's signature project remains breast cancer awareness. A campaign runs the entire month of October. Members issue about 500 vouchers every year for mammograms to women not covered by insurance and also organize a Memorial Walk/Run, Dress Down/Dress Pink Day and a breakfast for breast cancer survivors. Witter says she loves being a Lion because she gets to meet new people and has made so many friends—"not just locally, but internationally as well. And I get to make a difference in so many lives. If I wasn't a Lion, I wouldn't have the opportunity to be involved with projects that touch so many lives in my own community and beyond."

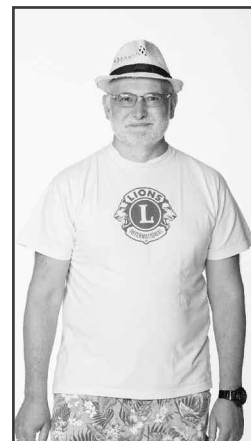


—Pamela Mohr

Ian Hill, 57

Plymouth Lions Club, England

Hill says he's so involved in Lions activities that Dawn, his wife, complains she never sees him. She's only kidding—he thinks. A zone chairman, he also is second vice president of his club. He still works full-time helping people with learning disabilities after spending 24 years in the Royal Navy, sailing the world. But he flew 8,000 miles to Hawaii last year for the international convention. The best thing about it was meeting Lions worldwide. "Lions are the friendliest group. Some people are just born to care. Those are the people who become Lions," he says. His best moments as a Lion are helping to feed the homeless, a project he suggested to his club four years ago. "This is one reason I became a Lion, to help people. You can't beat the friendships in this club, either." He believes that the biggest challenge to clubs today is attracting younger members. "We're an aging organization," Hill maintains.



—Pamela Mohr

Barry Allen, 69

Manchester Lions Club, Michigan, US

Twenty years as a Navy pilot followed by an 18-year stint flying with United Airlines drew Allen to Lions. "My eyesight is extremely important to me, so I know how important it is to others. Having seen much of the world, I understand the poverty and hardships people face," he says. Since 2007 he has rotated through all of his club's leadership positions, but found serving as charter president to be the most rewarding. "In most cases, the president is handed the reins and can adjust the direction of the club. But as charter president you need to envision where the club will be in five to 10 years," says Allen, a past district governor. As the district centennial coordinator, Allen visits clubs with his wife, Peggy, the district governor. "I've read several books on Melvin Jones, and I've worked up a presentation on him," Allen says. His Lions family has grown over the years through hosting 29 youths from nine countries through LCI's Youth Exchange program. They stay in touch through a Facebook group



Allen created, and he and Peggy visited several of their “kids” in Australia and New Zealand. “Every student is special to us. We treat them like grandkids. Unless you’ve done it, you don’t realize what an honor it is to show young people our wonderful country.”

—Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt

Dan Goodwin, 52

Sacramento Senator Lions Club, California, US

Goodwin played rugby in college, but now he gets his exercise as a Lion. He rakes bamboo leaves, trims trees and paints a shed in helping to maintain the sensory garden for the visually impaired at the Sacramento Zoo and a nearby Japanese garden. “It’s great to be outside, enjoy the company of other Lions and have a sense of accomplishment,” he says. A vice president of health and human services systems, Goodwin is his club’s membership chairperson. “We’re a hands-on club, so the best way to let someone know what being a Lion is like is to have them work alongside us,” he says. A recent experience exemplifies this approach. “A friend from work would come to fundraisers but never showed interest in joining. He finally came to a Japanese garden workday—he joined after that.” Goodwin also takes an active approach toward recruiting younger members. “We Lions have to get out into the community and make sure young folks are aware of who we are. And once they join, we’ve got to get them engaged and really listen to their ideas,” he says. “Some clubs and districts aren’t willing to change or try something new. That can deter new Lions from becoming leaders. In my club, a lot of people who joined in just the past couple of years are taking on leadership roles.”



—Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt

Helene V. Thompson, 52

Satellite Beach Lions Club, Florida, US

Lionism is all about the fellowship for Thompson. She felt awed carrying the Florida state flag in the parade in Hamburg, Germany, at the international convention in 2013. “There was such a tremendous sense of camaraderie on the parade route. To be in a city with 20,000 Lions is amazing. You feel like you’re all



friends, even if you haven’t met yet,” she says. She joined the Danbury Lions in Connecticut as a young mother of two daughters in 1999. Her club was family-friendly. “I could serve the community and be a parent. My club found projects I could do with my children, like bell ringing for the Salvation Army. And as my children grew, I grew as a Lion,” says Thompson, a region chairperson. Now that her children are older, Thompson keeps the family atmosphere alive in her club. “I find the constant pressure to add members to sometimes be counterproductive. I think the focus should be on keeping and building what we already have.”

—Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt

Hilary Wickenhauser, 18

Cologne Leo Club, Minnesota, US

Although her mother, Cologne Lion Anna Wickenhauser, helped sponsor a new Leo club, Hilary Wickenhauser, then 13 years old, was reluctant to join. Participating in her first service project changed her mind. “Being a Leo became one of the most important parts of my life,” says Wickenhauser, a



college freshman. “In a world with so many problems, Leoism has helped me be optimistic because I can see the ways to help people.” She is passionate about the power of books, and her favorite project was a Lions’ book drive that collected more than 20,000 books. “Something as simple as providing someone with a book can be a key to success,” says Wickenhauser, who helped launch a summer reading program. “The children are excited to have teenagers interacting with them, and the Leos love encouraging reading and also being silly with the kids,” she says. Becoming a Leo changed her life. “In high school I struggled with depression and anxiety. Being a Leo provided me with a positive outlet to do good and friends to rely on. I saw the joy we brought to others and redirected that back to myself, helping me to be motivated and thrive—even when I didn’t think I could. I can honestly say I would not be the person I am today had I not been a Leo.”

—Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt

Nigel Malkin, 51

Ambleside Tiddlycove Lions Club, British Columbia, Canada

Malkin isn’t a Lion for the recognition. “At multiple district conventions there’s a little too much back-patting and not enough discussion about service. Starting a few years ago, I refused to accept any more awards. It’s nice to have recognition, but that’s not what it’s about for me,” says Malkin, who runs businesses including a commercial laundry company and a dry cleaning store.

Malkin also believes clubs need to move away from old ways to draw and retain members. “New members don’t seem to stay longer than a few years because they don’t like formal meetings and the older members don’t let them get involved enough. I hope this changes,” he says. A “roll-up-your-sleeves



Lion,” Malkin has an affinity for his club’s more intimate projects. “My favorite projects are the smaller ones, like our barbecue. But we raise the most funds through our big projects like our Christmas tree sales.”

Stefan Kaufmann, 52

Rüsselsheim Lions Club, Germany

Kaufmann reveres his club’s 54-year history. “Our club has a legacy, which makes us all proud. I get to work with Lions who can look back on 40 years of Lionism,” says Kaufmann, club secretary. But he also envisions how Lions will advance into the future. An IT consultant for more than 20 years, Kaufmann is co-chair



of Lions SMiLE (Social Media Including Lions Everywhere, lionssmile.org), a global, volunteer-led project that helps Lions use social media. “Despite some progress, Lions still need to improve on embracing the Internet. Online tools are today’s platform for sharing news, attracting new members and supporting collaboration among Lions,” he says. Through SMiLE, Kaufmann leads seminars at forums and conventions to take the guesswork and fear out of the Internet. He loves connecting with his “global community of friends.” At one convention he assisted an 80-year-old Lion who wanted to use social media to improve her club’s fundraising for a diabetes project. “It was fantastic to see a senior Lion open to new ways to serve and reach her community,” he says.

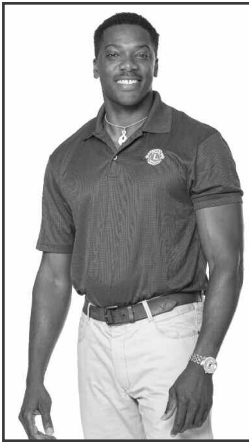
—Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt

Steve Anthony Simmonds, 40

Brooklyn Metropolis Lions Club, New York, US

His motto is “Metropolis Rocks!”—and Simmonds is a big reason for his club’s energy. With an infectious enthusiasm for life and serving, Simmonds finds joy in giving back and sharing camaraderie with his 55-member club. “My club is a great mixture of people who love to work together and socialize. The older members keep us grounded, and the young make sure

to keep the club busy. We have a great connection,” says Simmonds, originally from Jamaica. His favorite project is the club’s Thanksgiving dinner. Members meet the night before to prep the food, decorate the hall, play music and enjoy one another’s company. “The next day, we’re ready to serve—350 people. Their smiles



are priceless. It’s a great feeling to see the faces of people I gave my heart to,” he says. “Growing up in Jamaica, my mom fed and clothed everyone she came into contact with. That’s where my passion to serve stemmed from,” says Simmonds, who is teaching his 5-year-old son about the value of service.

—Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt

Tom Garriss, 68 and Lynne Garriss, 65

Coppell Lions Club, Texas, US

Married for 40 years, Tom and Lynne readily admit they approach service differently. He typically thinks about the big picture, and she often focuses on the details. But they claim the same favorite project: their club’s holiday toy and food drive. Students in local schools make blankets, and classes compete on collecting the most food. “It’s kids helping kids,” says Tom, a Global Leadership Team member. Adds Lynne, “We’re able to directly help people rather than just making a monetary contribution.” Tom is active in building Lions leaders through the annual District 2 X1 Lions University. He sees a need to improve membership recruitment. “We need a flexible approach for each



district,” says Tom, who spent his career as a construction manager. “We may need to form more branch clubs that are less traditional for millennials or consolidate smaller clubs.” Meanwhile, Lynne stays busy with club activities. “That way, as a family, we can make sure we’re active in the club as well as the district,” she says. Adds Tom, “And it gives us room to do our own thing and not stumble over each other.” After 14 years as an “unofficial” Lion, Lynne took the oath last year. “I joined because I retired from teaching and also because a female Lion encouraged me to join her. But really, Tom made it happen—he filled out the membership form for me!”

—Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt

Zsolt Istvan, 47

Miskolc Lions Club, Hungary

Every holiday season, Istvan staffs his club’s small, wooden hut at the city’s Christmas Market, talking with passersby and selling mulled wine. “It’s great to meet people and tell them about what Lions do in this festive atmosphere,” says Istvan, a district governor. “We raise money for the blind and have a lot of fun. We don’t notice how cold it is when we drink warm wine.” A mechanical engineer in waste management, Istvan loves that as a Lion he can help people directly, alongside friends who feel the same way. A club outing with 20 blind people to a vineyard embodied his favorite aspects of being a Lion. The group picked more than 1,500 pounds of grapes for wine, later sold at an auction. “It was a great day because most of the blind people had never experienced a grape harvest before. We got to know them and learned about their daily life. That helped me be a better Lion.”

—Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt



Temagami Lions Club – Project Seeing More Clearly a Clear Success!

During the summer and fall of 2015 the Temagami Lions Club conducted a Raffle contest with three prizes, the first prize being a built Cabin/Storage Shed, donated in part by a local business in Temagami – Peacock Woodcraft & Ez Log Structures. This Shed is made of a pine board interlocking material and is very new and unique to the Northeastern Region.

The proceeds of this Raffle draw, which was held on Sunday January 31st, 2016 at our annual Men’s Hockey Tournament, went towards the Temagami Lions Club continuing pledge to the North Bay Regional Health Centre (Hospital) Foundation for the *Seeing More Clearly* campaign (Ophthalmology Dept.) for an MRI machine and more. This pledge, made over a 5 year period, was for a total of \$25,000 and the Raffle in 2015 raised a final tally of \$4,611.00 to complete this pledge. This pledge was matched by an equal pledge (\$25,000) over this same period of time to the Temiskaming Hospital in New Liskeard to purchase various medical equipment over the years (e.g. during a Radio-Thon held on February 13th, 2016 at Riverside Place, New Liskeard, raising funds towards a new diagnostic Ultra Sound machine – Temagami Lions Club gave \$2,000).

The Cabin/Storage Shed was won by Andy Chaisson of Temagami. The second and third prizes - a 3 day weekend Vacation package at Bay-Lee-Mac Camp (won by Laurie Hartley of New Liskeard) and a Framed Art Print (won by John O’Sullivan of Temagami) completed the Raffle program.

For a small Club of currently less than twenty members we are very proud of our achievements in the Temagami Community, as the only service club in town.

This year marks the 62nd anniversary of this Club, first formed in 1954. In 2015 this Raffle was one of 10 such events and fundraisers we worked on, proving that volunteerism and community spirit is alive and well in Temagami!



L to R: Lion Bob Sykes (Past President), Peter Nieltispach of Peacock Woodcraft, Shari & Andy Chaisson, Raffle Winner, Lion Brian Koski (Treasurer) and Lion Ike Laba (President 2016)

Centennial Project

The Leader **River Hills Lions Club** tackled a step in their centennial service challenge. A cleanup at Millennium Park was completed May 6, 2016, where several members and volunteers came out to give a helping hand. The Park was overhauled getting rid of those piles of leaves, garbage picked up, trees and shrubs trimmed and perennials resurfaced to grow another year. The gazebo was stained as well. All this work, improving the overall appearance and environmental state of the park, making it a cleaner

and healthier place for people to enjoy!



Where do all those used eyeglasses go?

by Dick Peel

Each year Lions from the US visit (at their own travel expenses) Puerto Vallarta in Mexico to hand out free eyeglasses to those who cannot either afford nor have access to new ones. They bring with them each time anywhere from 5-8000 used eyeglasses that have been repaired if necessary, cleaned and tested to identify each pair's prescription information.

The visiting Lions include one or more Ophthalmologists and often plus one or more Opticians; this year was no exception when approximately twenty Lions, from different clubs in North Dakota were hosted by the local Puerto Vallarta Lions for 5 days and distributed glasses to over 800 people.

Each individual goes through a structured eye examination which includes a test for both distant and reading for each eye, a visit to the Ophthalmologist if these earlier tests indicate serious problems, and then a visit to the Optometrist for determining which of the eyeglasses on hand best suit the patient. The patient is

then given one or more appropriate glasses to try on for both fit and determine if they enable them to see both at a distance and/or for reading.

As in previous years both Monica and I had the privilege again this year of helping for two days and, as in the past, came home with several stories to tell – perhaps the most moving was when a lady, appearing



to be in her 60's, put on a pair of glasses and when shown a page to read her whole face lit up – apparently she had been a teacher up until about 15 years ago when she had to stop teaching because she could no longer read the textbooks and now, after all that time, regained the ability to enjoy reading. Now that, I think you will agree, is what Lions is all about.



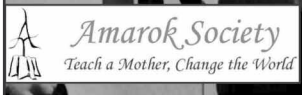
St. George Lions Club

On February 24, our club was treated to a presentation given by Lion **Barbara Melara**, a member of our club. She has been to Bangladesh numerous times and is involved with an organization called the Amarok Society. This organization has devised a program to teach the mothers to read and write in Bengali and English. The mothers commit to teach children these skills. Education reduces vulnerability and gives them the opportunity to attain better jobs and a higher education.

Lion Barb touched us all by telling us about the school she supports, "Libby Women's School", named in honour of her mother. This school and her work with

Amarok Society is Lion Barb's way of honouring her parents while satisfying her need to be of service.

Many thanks Lion Barb for reminding us all of the need for service beyond our community.



Cambridge Highlands Lions

The Cambridge Highland Lions have completed another successful and rewarding year helping with the District A15 Vision and Hearing Screening Program in Cambridge Public Schools. This program was a featured event at the recent Cabinet Meeting on February 9th. Dr. Daphne Maurer from McMaster University spoke on how important it is to keep this program going in our schools.

Lion **Richard Green** organizes the Monday and Tuesday screening programs. Along with other members and their wives, time is given willingly for the welfare of the young JK and SK children.

Parents are alerted for any early vision or hearing problems. It is then up to the parents to take their children to their Optometrist or doctor.

Of the 1,521 students screened for vision in 2015-2016, 265 were referred (17%). Of the 1,566 screened for hearing, 120 were referred (8%).



Lion Jim Harris and wife Peggy, Lion Richard Green, Lion Ted Strepel with wife Marlene and Lion Marg de Boer

St. George Lions

At our January 27th meeting we were fortunate to have Lion **Joanne McQuiggan**, Executive Director of Lions Quest Canada, speak to our membership. Lion Joanne, a member from the **K-W Community Spirit Club** has deep roots in St. George. Her grandfather, Lion **W.D. Taylor**, was our charter president and her father, Lion **Bob Taylor**, was Club President in our 25th year. Lions Quest's mission is to foster the positive potential in all young people. Joanne related real life stories about the impact our everyday actions can have on young people.

You can check out the Lions Quest Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/LionsQuestCanada/?fref=ts>

The website for Lions Quest Canada is <http://www.lionsquest.ca>



Rockton Lions

Recently, four members of the Rockton Lions Club donated their time and cooking expertise to serve a ham dinner with all the trimmings to guests at the Mark Preece Family House in Hamilton.

The facility provides a "home" for those families who have loved ones at any of the Hamilton area hospitals and need a place to stay that is a welcoming, affordable residence during such a difficult time. The House serves people from all over the province. We've met people from Thunder Bay, Fort Francis, Chatham, Bracebridge, Niagara and many more. Our efforts were very much appreciated! The Rockton Lions have identified the Mark Preece Family House as a local charitable organization that needs our help. Even though members from our community would probably not use their services, we feel it is important to support such an important service in our community. The

House can accommodate up to 50 people and often it is full. It does not receive any government funding and relies totally on charitable donations to survive. Guests pay a nominal fee.



L to R Lions Joanne Nichols, Doug Cassan, Pat Evangelisto, Ryan Judd

Lynden Lions

Four Lions were recognized at a recent Lynden Lions Meeting. Lions **Amanda Renton**, **Rosie Brooks**, **Eldon Mannen** and **Jack Brooks** received perfect attendance awards for the 2014-2015 year. All have contributed significantly to the club as well as showing their dedication by their attendance. It is Lions such as these who keep our club healthy and active.



Knowlton Lions Club

Community wide Garage Sale

Once again this year the Knowlton Lions Club will be holding their very successful annual garage sale. This community centered activity has become a tradition since its inception in 2004. It's spring cleaning time; think of us.

The sale will take place Saturday June 4th, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Dépanneur Rouge, 483 Knowlton Rd. We will be accepting donations at our trailer located on the parking lot behind the Dépanneur Rouge on Fridays May 20th and 27th from 2 to 8 p.m. and Saturdays May 21st and 28th and June 2nd and 3rd from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For those who wish to encourage us, we accept just about anything in good condition: toys, curios, crockery, sporting and gardening equipment etc.



A sample of the items that were at a previous sale

Health Fair in Knowlton

The first Health Fair in Knowlton was on April 9th at the Community Centre. One hundred and fifty people took part in this daylong event organized by The Brome-Missisquoi, Haut-Richelieu Diabetic Society (DBM-HR) in cooperation with the Knowlton and the **Cowansville Lions Clubs** and the Town of Brome Lake. The free event's objective was to inform the participants about various health topics such as diet,



Part of the information booths

screening for colorectal cancer and diabetes research. They had access to 14 information booths manned by bilingual health professionals, all are members of a professional Association or Order. Seven conferences, on subjects relating to recent health studies were given by Health professionals.

Dr. Bob Seymour, head of the committee for the Knowlton Lions Club said "It is important to inform people about a healthy lifestyle and the health services available in the region should be known." According to him, health information, evaluation and screening tests have evolved considerably in recent years and people should be informed. He illustrates his point with the fact that today we recommend colonoscopies much less frequently than before.

Diabetes Brome-Missisquoi and Haut-Richelieu had already organized this type of event before in the Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu Shopping Centre, and offer services in the region with

nurses and nutritionists from the office in Bedford, but wanted, according to its president, Robert Fontaine to reach further. "We wanted to extend health information and to involve other associations, says Fontaine. He added that the goal was more than achieved. There were several other speakers who wanted to participate and other health care providers, who requested booths as well but there was not enough space available.

The Knowlton Lions Club will consider repeating the event next year and would like to thank all those who helped make this event a success.

Brome County Historical Society

At a recent meeting the members of the Knowlton Lions Club agreed to give a contribution to the Brome County Historical Society (BCHS). Incorporated in 1898, the Society's objectives are to preserve the past for future generations. The Board, Volunteers and Staff are to be commended for their excellent work.

The local Lions Club has been a regular supporter of the institution over its sixty years of service to the community.



At the cheque presentation, from left to right Donald Gray-Donald, president of the Board BCHS, Lion member Bev Crandall, Arlene Royea, managing director BCHS and Lion member Errol Fréchet

Plattsville Lions

The District Governor visited the Plattsville Lions Club on February 18th.

During the meeting, DG **Dianne Smith** presented Lion **Gabrielle Paff** with a certificate in recognition of her twenty years of service.



Keene Lions Club

Cordwood Bonspiel held at Keene Arena, was first organized 48 years ago and held annually by Keene Lions Club. 170 elementary school children from Otonabee South Monaghan Township participated in a day of curling March 26th, 2016. Every child received three games of curling, lunch and snacks for a nominal entry fee. Trophies were awarded for High 3-game, High 2-game, High 1-game winners and most Sportsmanlike teams.



Campbellford Lions

Zone Chair Lion Peter Armour inducted 2 new members into the Campbellford Lions Club.



New Lions Erin Caron and Mike Caron, sponsoring Lion PDG Eric Holmden, Campbellford Lions President Carol Lee and Zone Chair Lion Peter Armour

New Hamburg Lioness

The New Hamburg Lioness hosted a bake table at the Interfaith Counselling Centre's Silent Auction, April 30th. Lioness Chair Karren Faulkner announced we raised \$1,326 for Interfaith.



Lioness Joan Bilinsky, Tricia Miller, Erma Godber, Marjorie Heimpel, Jenny Neubauer and Reta Klaassen

District A5 Lions

District A-5 Lions purchased a \$106,000.00 RetCam for Health Sciences North Sudbury's Neo Natal Intensive Care Unit. This standalone system takes images of premature and full term infants' eyes for physician evaluation of Ocular Disease. No longer will families in the North have to travel to major centres to have this type of imaging done. District A-5 is committed to continue being "Knights Of The Blind".

Great Job Lions of District A-5

Galt Cambridge Lions

On February 26, the Galt Cambridge Lions Club 25th Annual Lions Curling Bonspiel was held at the Galt Curling Club in Cambridge.

The local club was joined by seven teams from the surrounding vicinity. Although not all of the participants were experienced curlers, they enjoyed the day both on and off the ice. A delicious lunch and dinner were provided by members of the Galt Curling Club. Prizes were awarded to all the curlers.



Lions McInnes House

Lions McInnes House is a unique community program in Brantford, Ontario. The building was completed in February 2000, thanks to the generous fundraising of Lions & Lioness of Ontario.

The building is a one-level accessible apartment setting, specifically designed to meet the needs of persons with deafblindness.

The house provides a continuity of services for the

individuals residing here, as they meet further physical and aging challenges.

Lion **Zoltan Dohar** (Chairman) and Lion **John Lackey** (Treasurer) of Lions Homes for Deaf People presented **Laurie Marissen**, Executive Director of Lions McInnes House in Brantford with a cheque for \$45,000.00 to pay for the renovations and enclosing of the summer

pavilion. The pavilion will now be a four season space that will be used by the 13 Deaf and Deaf/D/Incl residents of Lion McInnes House.

There are three members from A15 on the Board: Lion **Gary Eves**, **Burford Lions Club**, Lion/Lioness **Janet Dawson Brock**, **New Hamburg Lioness**, and Lion **John Pepper**, **Lydon Lions Club**.



Pavilion from outside



Lioness Mary Lou Krestel A2, and Hearing Chair A15 Lion John Pepper, Lynden Lions



Members of the Board for Lions Homes for Deaf: Executive Director Laurie Marissen, Lioness Sue Flanigan A3, Lioness Janet Dawson Brock A15, Lion Gary Eves A15, Lion John Lackey A9

Le Club Lions de Knowlton

Salon santé à Knowlton

Le premier salon santé à Knowlton a été tenu le 9 Avril au Centre Communautaire. Près de 150 personnes ont pris part à cet événement d'une journée organisée par L'Association Diabète Brome-Missisquoi et Haut-Richelieu (DBM-HR) en coopération avec les Clubs Lions de Knowlton et de Cowansville et la Ville de Lac-Brome.

L'objectif de l'événement gratuit était d'informer les participants sur divers sujets se rapportant à la santé tels que l'alimentation, le dépistage du cancer colorectal ou de la recherche sur le diabète. Les visiteurs avaient accès à 14 kiosques d'information tenus par des professionnels de la santé bilingues, tous sont membres d'une association ou d'un ordre professionnel et à 7 conférences, sur des sujets relatifs à des études récentes sur la santé donnés par des professionnels de la santé.

Dr. Bob Seymour, responsable du comité pour le Club Lions de Knowlton a déclaré: « Il est important d'informer les gens sur un mode de vie sain et je pense que les services de santé disponibles dans la région doivent être connus »; Selon lui, la santé et les tests d'évaluation sur celle-ci ont considérablement évolué au cours des dernières années et les gens doivent en être informés. Il illustre ses propos avec le fait qu'aujourd'hui, on recommande des colonoscopies beaucoup moins souvent qu'auparavant.

Diabète Brome-Missisquoi et Haut-Richelieu a déjà organisé ce type d'événement à sept reprises, mais ceux-ci se déroulaient généralement à Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu et offrent déjà des services dans la région avec les infirmières et les nutritionnistes de leur bureau à Bedford, mais il voulait, selon son président, Robert Fontaine aller plus loin. « Nous voulions étendre notre

porté, d'impliquer d'autres associations. Il y avait d'autres conférenciers et professionnels de la santé qui voulaient participer sauf que la salle ne le permettait pas ».

Le Club Lions de Knowlton examinera la possibilité de répéter l'événement l'an prochain et voudrais remercier tous ceux qui ont contribué à faire de cet événement un succès.



Une partie des kiosques d'information

Le Club Lions de Knowlton appuie la Société Historique du Comté de Brome

Lors d'une récente réunion, les membres du Club Lions de Knowlton ont convenu de remettre une contribution à la Société Historique du Comté de Brome (SHCB). Incorporée en 1898, la société a comme objectif de préserver le patrimoine pour les générations futures.

Le conseil d'administration, les bénévoles et le personnel doivent être félicités pour leur excellent travail.

Le Club Lions a appuyé régulièrement cette précieuse institution pendant ses plus de soixante années au service de la communauté.

Lion Harry Newman

Lions **Jim** and **Raymond Rohrbach** of the **Fisherville District Lions Club**, both Past District Governors and both recipients of the Harry Newman Award from the CDA, are seen with a unique pin.

This pin originally belonged to Lion **Harry Newman**, the first Canadian LCI President, of Pickering. He passed it on to his son, Bill Newman, former MPP and Minister of Agriculture of Ontario. After Bill passed away, his wife Molly gave this pin to the late Lion **Andy Dashner**, who was a roommate of Bill Newman at the Ontario Agricultural College and a charter member of the Fisherville District Lions Club. Bill's wife roomed with Beverly Dashner while studying at MacDonald Institute in Guelph for 4 years. This pin has now been passed to Lions Jim and Raymond Rohrbach, both PDGs from District A-2. Lions Jim and Raymond are shown with the unique pin and the Harry Newman Award.



Lors de la présentation du chèque, de gauche à droite : Donald Gray-Donald, président du c.a. BCHS, Bev Crandall, du Club Lions, Arlene Royea, directrice générale BCHS et Errol Fréchette du Club Lions .

MDA Directory Information

Council of Governors' Meeting Dates

- Council Meeting – Convention - May 26-29, 2016

IMPORTANT DATES

MDA Convention

2015/16	North Bay, ON	May 26 - 29, 2016
2016/17	Kitchener, ON	May 11 - 14, 2017

International Conventions

99th	Fukuoka, Japan	June 24 - 28, 2016
100th	Chicago, Illinois, USA	June 30 - July 4, 2017
101st	Las Vegas, Nevada, USA	June 29 - July 3, 2018
102nd	Milan, Italy	July 5 - 9, 2019
103rd	Singapore, Singapore	June 26 - 30, 2020

USA - Canada Forums

Sept 15 - 17, 2016	Omaha, Nebraska
Sept 21 - 23, 2017	Portland, Oregon
Sept 20 - 22, 2018	Columbus, Ohio

International President's Award

On April 16th at the District A4 Convention in Cornwall, Lion **John Musgrove** was presented with an International President's Award, the second highest award presented to a Lion by Lions Clubs International.

Lion John joined the **Shawville Lions Club** in 1972, is a great supporter of the community, and a leader and mentor to many Lions in the Shawville Lions Club and District A4.

Lion John was not able to attend the Convention for health reasons, so a group of Lions including Carl and Elizabeth Young, Jerry and Karen Cockwell and James Johnston decided to venture up to Shawville, Quebec to present the award to him. Lion John was delighted by the visit of friends and was totally surprised with the presentation of the award.

Congratulations Lion John!!!



Lion Jerry Cockwell, Past District Governor A4 1984-1985; Marion Musgrove; Lion John Musgrove; Lion Carl Young, Past International Director; Lion Karen Cockwell; Lion James Johnston, Past District Governor A4 2006-2007

Lakefield and District Lions

Lakefield and District Lions receiving certificates for 70 years of service from District Governor Lion Janet Marissen - (left to right) **President Lion Bob Elliot, District Governor Lion Janet & 3 Vice Presidents Lions Gord MacLeish, Barry Hunt & George Payton.**



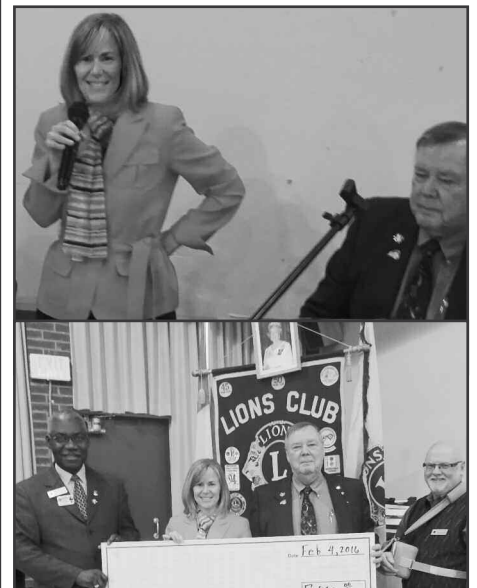
Lucan Lions Club



At a meeting early this year, Lucan Lions Club inducted nine new members: Bruce Jackson, Jerome Macko, Rick Heywood, Dean Van Arentals, Steve Wickens, Marty Van Praet, Shawn Morrison, Shawn Smith, and Mac O'Neil. Welcome guys!

Markham Lions Club

On February 4, the Markham Lions presented a cheque in the amount of \$7,000 to Donna Doherty of Markham Stouffville Hospital.



Lions Mark Carrington, Donna Doherty, President Bryan Gray and VP Barry MacDonald

St. George Lions

St. George Lions Cheryl and Kevin Hewitson and Roy Steedman recently attended the Dog Guides graduation ceremony, at the Lions Foundation of Canada, in Oakville.

With them, is the Canine Vision dog Meg, and her grateful recipient Angela. The St. George Lions Club were the sponsors of the dog.



Our Own Good Samaritan

Lion Barry Ames of the **St. George Lions Club** joined a group from First United Church of Cambridge on a trip to the Dominican Republic. It was not an ordinary trip south. Barry and the rest of the crew worked with The Samaritan Foundation to build a home that will house those who are struggling with addictions. They also took school supplies, clothing and food to the poorest of the poor.



Lion Barry shovelling fill into the wheelbarrow

West Coast Lions

The West Coast Lions Club recently donated five Osmos tablets to the Grand Bend Public School. Principal Lynn Douglas and 3 students with Lions **George Jenkins, Marg Steadman, Peter Bourgoeis, Charles MacDonald** and **Jodie Chernowak** made the presentation.



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 or the Lion Magazine.

Lion John Daniels, Editor Lion Magazine email: mdathelionmag@hotmail.com

- | | | |
|-----------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| A1 | Lion Barb Tuxford | email: lionbarbtuxford@gmail.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 Ilkka Ahola | email: iahola02@gmail.com |
| A9 | Lion Mike Murphy | email: Mmikey45@gmail.com |
| A12 | Lion Lety Dudgeon | email: lionlety1946@gmail.com |
| A15 | Lion Bob Pearson | email: bobpearson50@gmail.com |
| A16 | Lion Mark Carrington | email: mark.carrington@sympatico.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
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(include all code numbers)

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Club #: _____ Member #: _____

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**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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Lynden Lions

On March 17th a Helen Keller Award was presented to Lion **Eldon Mannen**. He has an enviable attendance record and is always available for club functions. Lion Eldon is a strong member as was recognized for his contribution to the local club and Lionism in general. He is shown accepting the award from Lion **John Pepper**.



Belwood Lions

Two Melvin Jones Fellowships were awarded at the February 16 dinner meeting of the Belwood and District Lions Club at Belwood Community Centre. Past Council Chair **Todd Wilson** of Elmira and Belwood Club President **Julian Vines** presented the worthy recipients, **Gordon Hufnagel** and **Linda Vinette**, with their Melvin Jones plaques and pins. Both Lions are past presidents and have been very instrumental in the many successes of the Belwood Club. They are well known in the community for their caring and compassion to others.



L to R: Lions Julian Vines, Linda Vinette, Gord Hufnagel and Todd Wilson

Lakefield and District Lions Club

District Governor Lion **Janet Marissen** thrilled Lakefield & District Lions Club by presenting a certificate from District A3 and one from MDA with congratulations and in celebration of the Lakefield & District Lions Club's 70th Anniversary.





THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
LIONS CLUBS
MULTIPLE DISTRICT C
Alberta, NE British Columbia, & the Northwest Territories
Council Chair Bill Baux
82 Wentworth Landing, SW, Calgary, Alberta, T3H 5X1
403-238-0491
E-Mail: bill.baux@shaw.ca



May 4th, 2016

Lions of Multiple District C, Canada and our Lion Friends in the United States,

As I am sure you all realize, the wild fire disaster in Fort McMurray continues. At this point over 1,600 buildings have been destroyed or damaged and the entire population of 60,000 have been told to evacuate.

In this time of need I ask all Lions and Lions Clubs to help whichever way they can. Presently, the Lions of Alberta Foundation (LOAF) is accepting donations to assist in the ultimate rebuilding of some of the facilities lost in this deadly fire.

Donations can be made to Lions of Alberta Foundation at:

c/o PDG Margaret Young
#403, 2528 Bowness Road NW Calgary, AB T2N 3L9.
403-460-6448 and e-mail is youngmargaret@shaw.ca

Those wishing to make a personal donation online may make that donation at drpattihill.com using Paypal and specifying #YMMfire in the **Add special instructions to recipient line.**

Canadian tax receipts are available for individual donations.

Thank you for your consideration and help for the citizens of Fort McMurray.

Yours in Lionism;

Bill Baux
Council Chairperson MD C

PDG Fred Walters
LOAF Chair

Agreement Number is:
41805020*