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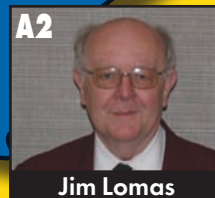
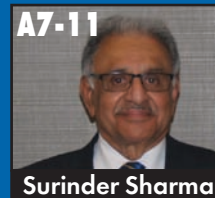
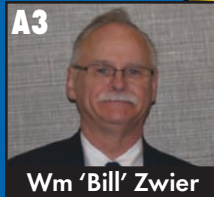


M.D. "A" Edition September/October 2017

[www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org)

*We Serve*

## Multiple District 'A' Governors' Council



# Congratulations to Lions Club International as you celebrate 100 years of vision, commitment and service



We salute Lions Club International on this special milestone anniversary. Over the past century your members have pooled their talents and resources to improve the lives of millions of people in local communities and in places of need around the globe.

Through your many programs – among them, sharing the gift of vision, protecting the environment, reaching out and engaging young people, alleviating hunger and raising money for worthy causes – you continue to make a vital difference. Where there is a need, there is truly a Lion!

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Wishing you all the best this year and in the years to come.

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# THE Lion



Welcome to the September/October Edition of *The Lion*.  
 To submit stories, photos, comments or suggestions, please  
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 highest resolution pictures.

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# A New Era Begins for Lions



**Dr. Naresh Aggarwal**  
**Lions Clubs International**  
**President**

Progress can come with a steep price. As people worldwide enjoy fast food and work non-strenuous jobs, diabetes has become a global crisis. My own nation, hardly wealthy, is a case in point. India is known as “the diabetes capital of the world” with a staggering 50 million people suffering from type 2 diabetes. The statistics in the United States are bleak as well. In New York, a city with access to fruits and vegetables, an estimated 800,000 adults—more than one in every eight—now have diabetes. Nationwide, the picture is even grimmer. One in three children born in the United States is expected to become diabetic in their lifetimes, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The toll on society will be enormous. Diabetes can lead to heart disease, stroke, kidney damage and nerve damage. It also causes blindness.

Lions Clubs International (LCI) will not sit on the sidelines as the disease mounts. We will be in the thick of efforts to prevent and treat the disease. At our 100th International Convention in July in Chicago we formally announced our new commitment to curtailing diabetes. Echoing Helen Keller’s appeal to Lions in 1925 at their convention to become Knights of the Blind, Keller Johnson-Thompson, Keller’s great grand-niece, urged Lions to take on this new challenge.

“Will you not constitute yourselves to continue to be Knights of the Blind in this crusade against darkness through your work with diabetes?” she asked tens of thousands of Lions near the end of the final plenary session.

The focus on diabetes is part of LCI’s new global service framework. We are directing our energies and resources toward vision, hunger, the environment, and pediatric cancer and diabetes. We’re building on our traditions but also giving Lions new ways to serve. Lions can continue to support their local causes, of course, but we ask clubs and districts to contribute to the five areas of focus.

Johnson-Thompson dramatically rung the bell that was struck at the 1925 international convention to ring in Lions’ work with the blind and visually impaired. For 100 years Lions have always answered the bell. I am fully confident that we will rise to the challenge and fight back against the modern scourge of diabetes.

**Dr. Naresh Aggarwal**  
**Lions Clubs International President**

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## We Need Lionism from Every Lion

Have you ever been on a great vacation where you did a lot and saw a lot? When you get back home, you are eager to tell family and friends all about it. But it’s hard not only to recount specifics but also to convey just how exciting it was or how you almost felt like a different person. Words can’t capture what you experienced and how remarkable it all was.

The same inadequacy of words confronts me now. I want to tell you about the centennial convention and how wonderful it was. But you needed to be there to appreciate it. It was a party, a celebration, a gathering of Lions from Alabama to Zimbabwe. That’s the main takeaway: the universality of Lions. We are nearly everywhere. And for a week we are in one place.

Believe me, it’s exhilarating just to walk down a hallway or get into an elevator to find yourself surrounded by Lions worldwide. And the beauty of that is that strangers quickly become friends. The bond of service we share enables Lions to look past obvious differences in cultures, customs and languages and to find instant camaraderie.

Lions who attend convention also find affirmation. It is great to be a Lion. It’s great to be part of a worldwide service association that makes the world a better place. It’s great to play a role in reversing blindness, feeding the hungry and improving the environment.

In Chicago we celebrated 100 years of service and charted our course for the next few years. We’ll do our traditional service regarding vision, but we also will focus on hunger, the environment, pediatric cancer and diabetes. Your contribution, however big or small, is appreciated. More importantly, it’s needed.

Thank you for embracing We Serve. Thank you for attending meetings, flipping pancakes and collecting eyeglasses. What you do as a Lion is invaluable. As Mother Teresa said, “I can do things you cannot. You can do things I cannot. Together we can do great things.”

So if you were not able to make it to Chicago let me affirm what you do as a Lion. Together, “We Serve”

over 100 million people each year. While this number is amazing, I want to focus on another number. This year, my deepest wish is that each of our 1.4 million Lions must serve. We need some Lionism from every Lion.

**Dr. Naresh Aggarwal**  
**Lions Clubs International President**



**David Mills**  
**MD'A Secretary**

# HIGHLIGHTS OF SEPTEMBER 2017 GOVERNORS' COUNCIL MEETING



## **Administration/Budget**

The Governors' Council approved the MD'A budget for the 2017-2018 Lions year. Of significance was cost saving by eliminating duplication of training

sessions for officers, requiring accountability for the use of funds from surplus for GMT/GLT activities and an increase in the Rules of Audit covering the cost of meals. Retroactive to July 1, Rules of Audit will provide \$8.00 for breakfast, \$10.00 for lunch and \$15.00 for dinner. Additionally, funds were provided to support a 2-day workshop for District Diabetes Awareness Chairpersons. This to help the Diabetes Awareness Chair effectively deliver the mandate of Lions Clubs International. Huge thanks to CT Dave Hewitt for his work in helping those participating in the process understand the various intricacies involved.

**Promotion** – Past Council Chair John Johnston provided detailed reports covering many aspects of the Chicago Convention. In spite of the high cost of operations and the exchange rate, there was only a slight deficit in the final budget. This Convention had the highest attendance in recent history with an attendance of 547 Canadian Lions with 303 of those coming from MD'A'. The MD'A' contingent in the International Parade was a wonderful and inspiring sight to behold. Huge thanks go to PCC John and his partner Lion Dianne. The final report of the MD'A' convention in Kitchener indicates it was a great success with lots of fun and wonderful hospitality. Thanks to great fiscal responsibility, the host club was able to deal with some challenging expenses and come out slightly in the black. Plans are well underway for the 2018 MD'A' Convention in St. Catharines, hosted by the St. David's Lions Club. Unfortunately, due to lack of past participation, the Stew O'Brien Golf Tournament will not be held but

there is provision for an alternate format. Keep tuned for details. St. Catharines has many family-oriented attractions so this could be a great family adventure. Plan to be there! At the moment there are no bids for future MD'A' Conventions and clubs/districts are encouraged to consider hosting. IPCC Stew Patterson encourages anyone attending the LCI Convention in Las Vegas to register while the early bird registration rate still is valid. Good news is that the MD'A' Hotel has cheaper rates than most.

**Special Olympics** – PDG Harold Hobson reported that the Summer Games held in Peel Region in July were an outstanding success. Thanks to the financial support of all, but especially to Districts A711, A15 and A3, MD'A' qualified for Platinum Sponsorship and received great public recognition. Well done to all those who volunteered their time and efforts!

**Global Action Team** – This team is coordinating efforts to bring quality leadership to MD'A'. Cost sharing and the elimination of duplication of services will provide more efficient delivery of the program. Global Membership has shifted its organization from "Geographical" to Specialist Areas which include Women and Family Membership (PDG Diane Smith), Campus and New Club Development (PDG Paul Baker) and Retention (PDG Gord Taylor). MD'A' Coordinator, PDG Len Day is excited to be working with this new format. GLT Coordinators, PDG Eleanor Colwell and Lion Dennis Lougheed have already begun to deliver quality training for our 1st VDG's, with plans for more to come. PDG James Johnston and Lion Dianne Pigott have taken on the new Global Service portfolio and are excited about how MD'A' is integrating all three streams into one coordinated effort. Once again, MD'A' is in good hands and leads the way.

**International Advisory** – PID Carl Young, PDG Paul Brand and ID Tom Gordon made presentations surrounding the highly successful Chicago Convention

and the campaign to elect PCC Tom Gordon as International Director for Canada. PDG Paul spoke of the successful campaign and thanked all who helped make it successful. PID Carl spoke highly of the quality that ID Tom and Lion Gillian bring to the world stage. PID Carl also recognized the tremendous work done by PCC John Johnston and Lion Dianne Piggott. ID Tom spoke of his upcoming travels and exhibited strong emotion when recalling the sight of 100 flags and hundreds of MD'A' Lions marching down State Street.

**Research and Long Range Planning** – PDG Jim Hiltz' committee brought forth several recommendations to Council. The Governors' Council has voted to cancel the Travel Accident Insurance policies as they are not cost effective and are of little use. Council also voted to formalize the costume to be worn at future LCI Convention Parades and recommend we work to improve the design of the Safari shirt. Work is now in progress to have the dress code for participating in the LCI Convention parade enshrined within the Policy and Procedures Manual.

**New MD'A' Secretary's Comments** – Over the past two years I watched PDG John Stewart as he skillfully guided the management of Multiple District 'A'. He made it look easy. Now having been in the role for two months and a bit I understand not only the complexities of the role but have an even deeper appreciation of the extraordinary work PDG John did in his tenure as MD'A' Secretary. Thank you, Lion John for all you have done and thank you for your continuing support and advice. I am currently shopping for bigger shoes. Thanks also to CT Dave Hewitt who is the anchor for a new Council Chair, a new Council Secretary and a new Governors' Council. Let no one ever doubt that MD'A' has the strongest leadership one can hope for.

**For information, questions or concerns relating to these highlights please contact MDA Secretary David Mills at email: [secretary@mdalions.org](mailto:secretary@mdalions.org).**

## Intro to Council Chair John Whyte

see his address on page 20

Lion John is of Austrian origin. His family left Austria in 1938 and relocated to Bombay, India where he was born. The family moved to England when he was two years old. Lion John moved to Canada in 1985 and became a Canadian citizen in 1987.

Prior to taking semi-retirement he spent 46 years in sales, marketing and business management in Canada, the USA, Europe and North Africa. He now works part-time in the tasting room/boutique at Sandbanks Estate Winery in Prince Edward County.

His involvement in community service began in 1973 when he joined the Round Table of Britain and Ireland where he was a member for many years. He

joined Scarborough Cedarbrae Golden Mile Lions Club in 2006, where he served as Leo Advisor, Peace Poster Chair, Youth Chair, Vice President and three terms as Club President. He also served as District A-711 Peace Poster Chair for two years

Lion John transferred to the Wellington District Lions Club in 2013. He has served District A-3 as Peace Poster Chair, Zone Chair, 1st Vice District Governor and is currently District Governor. He was recently elected Multiple District 'A' Council Chair for the 2017-2018 Lions Year.

Lion John is the recipient of two Club President's Appreciation Certificates, a Lion of the Year Award,

an International President's Extension Certificate and an International President's Letter of Commendation. At our District Convention in April he was granted a Life Membership of The Lions Foundation of Canada. He is a Certified Guiding Lion. He is also a graduate of the Advanced Lions Leadership Institute and a graduate of the Lions University Bachelors & Masters Program. He was a session presenter at the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Omaha, Nebraska in September 2016.

Lion John and his partner Lion Kathy Marchen live in the beautiful village of Wellington in Prince Edward County and have a blended family of 7 children, 8 grandchildren, 3 cats and 2 dogs.

# Tackling Trachoma Takes Teamwork

by Cassandra Rotolo

Lions have saved millions from blindness from trachoma, a bacterial infection leading to scarred corneas. Lion Kelly Callahan is director of The Carter Center's Trachoma Control Program.

**LION Magazine: When did you know you wanted to dedicate your life to humanitarian work?**

**Kathy Callahan:** I grew up knowing I wanted to help. My mother taught this from a very young age. Actually she lived it, and I was a witness to the joys of helping others. I didn't know if I wanted to help animals or people, so I spent three summers during my undergraduate degree assisting studies on orcas (killer whales) in British Columbia and then I went on to volunteer in the U.S. Peace Corps. The Peace Corps was a way to test the waters on helping people.

I was assigned to Côte d'Ivoire in 1996 to work on Guinea worm disease, a painful parasitic infection spread through contaminated drinking water. On my second day, a man lifted his shirt to show me the Guinea worm growing just under his skin in his abdominal area. I could see the entire worm just beneath his skin. In that moment I was struck with the notion that that no one should have to suffer from such a horrible disease.

**LM: How did you get involved in the fight against trachoma?**

**KC:** During my time in the Peace Corps, we created a filter frame that proved to be extremely useful; we saw a 47 percent reduction in cases of Guinea worm disease the first year. Then we saw virtually zero new cases. I met representatives from The Carter Center at a conference. I fell in love with the possibility of helping millions of people rather than tens of thousands. In 1998, I accepted their offer and began working on Guinea worm and onchocerciasis [river blindness]. In 2001, I saw a young boy about 5 years of age who needed surgery in both eyes from trachoma. It was absolutely horrendous. I knew I could help. The Carter Center was willing to assist the people of South Sudan, not only in Guinea worm eradication and onchocerciasis control, but also toward controlling

trachoma. So we started interventions to control trachoma in Sudan in 2001. I later transitioned to The Carter Center offices in Atlanta and eventually became director of the trachoma program.

**LM: What do you think have been the biggest barriers to overcoming this disease?**

**KC:** The hardest thing to do is to change our own behavior. Imagine you grow up a certain way, with no access to water or sanitation. These concepts are later introduced to you, but you don't understand why they're important. We need to help people overcome barriers to changed behaviors so they wash their faces, wash their children's faces, build and use latrines.

Beyond that, these are environmentally challenging areas. Piped water and sanitation are huge challenges for governments. How do these infrastructure developments take place? How are these large-scale systems funded in very challenging areas?

**LM: What has been the most pivotal advance in fighting trachoma?**

**KC:** I think partnership has made the biggest difference. In 1999, we were the single entity looking at this in a big way. Our partnership with the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) and local Lions clubs in endemic countries helped us move into more countries, expanding our scope. The International Coalition for Trachoma Control was created, and this brought partnership into greater focus. These partnerships and their formation have been pivotal in advancing a global program.

**LM: LCIF and The Carter Center first teamed up in 1999. What is your fondest memory of Lions and The Carter Center working together?**

**KC:** I have so many! There are two that really speak to me. First, the Lions clubs of Uganda have a very strong female presence. The neglected tropical disease coordinator for the Federal Ministry of Health, Dr. Edridah, is a Lion. The Carter Center country representative, Peace Habomugisha, is a Lion. Being with these women and other Lions, including Lion Night Ndyarugahi, is unforgettable—

seeing them strategize on controlling trachoma. These are empowered women working toward ending blindness.

Second, in 2016, I attended a mass drug administration launch ceremony of Pfizer-donated Zithromax®, the antibiotic used to control trachoma, in Amhara, Ethiopia. Past International President Joe Preston was there. His face just lit up when he saw how a single dose of medicine makes so much difference. Preston even sang to the joy of the crowd. I cried.

**LM: Trachoma is one of the oldest known infectious diseases. How close do you think we are to eliminating it?**

**KC:** The elimination of blinding trachoma is within reach. However, because of the scope of the problem in Ethiopia and some other few countries, like South Sudan, we may need a few more years, but I'm more than confident that together with the Lions we will reach our goal.

**LM: Is there anything else you would like to share with Lions?**

**KC:** President Carter became a Lion when he left his U.S. Navy service. His desire to help the poorest of the poor, coupled with Lions' desire to be Knights of the Blind and look at diseases over the long-term, have made a lasting impact on me. I look at what we can do through the noble efforts of Lions-Carter Center partnership and I am energized. What an effective partnership! Over 400 million treatments and over 600,000 sight-saving surgeries. I'm honored to be part of this.

## St. George Lions

Congratulations to Lion **Kevin Hewitson** on receiving the Governor's Centennial Award. The award identifies Kevin as a Pillar of Lionism and recognizes his outstanding service to his club, the community and Lionism. District Governor **Wayne Litt** presented the award at the A15 convention.

### SightFirst and Trachoma

- LCIF's SightFirst program has awarded more than US\$29 million to The Carter Center, a leader in combating trachoma for 23 projects in Ethiopia, Mali, Niger, and Sudan.
- 538,000+ trichiasis surgeries completed
- LCIF and local Lions have helped to distribute more than 152 million doses of Zithromax® (donated by Pfizer)
- 3 million latrines and water wells have been built in Africa.



*Living with her infant son in a refugee camp in South Sudan, Nyaking Galwak, 30, endured poor sanitation and lack of access to clean water. She lost her vision in both eyes because of trachoma. Lions supported the outreach clinic that provided Galwak's sight-saving surgery. She now understands the importance of washing her hands and face using clean water*



# Service Abroad



Two orphans in Ghana wear dresses made from old pillowcases

## New Dresses Save Girls from Dire Fate

ENGLAND – Pillowcases in England likely to be discarded end up saving girls in Ghana from being molested or abducted.

**Cheadle Lions** and other Lions clubs support Little Dresses for Africa in which pillowcases are recycled and sewn into dresses. Girls in shabby clothes in Ghana are at particular risk of abuse because it's assumed there is no one to care for or protect them.

Nicole Watson, wife of Lion **Nick Watson**, is the UK coordinator for Little Dresses for Africa. She recently distributed to orphans in Ghana 480 dresses, 94 pairs of shorts, 90 T-shirts, hundreds of pants, books and toys. "It really makes you appreciate what we have here in the UK," says Watson. "In Ghana there is no social assistance. If you are ill, there is no NHS [National Health Service]."

Members of the all-male Cheadle club, other clubs and other groups donated pillowcases or sewing supplies, paid for shipping or made the dresses. Cajoled by his wife, Nick, the president of the Cheadle club, ran a half-marathon and raised 400 pounds (US\$500) for the project.

Watson's trip focused on the Holy Heart Foundation orphanage near the capital of Accra. Some of the children are orphans while others were homeless because of abject poverty in their family.

## Hungary's Got Talent

HUNGARY – Talent shows for schoolchildren invariably are crowd pleasers. But what happens when you bring together children in regular schools with children with disabilities and Roma children in one of the poorest regions of Hungary?



On a scale of 10, the cumulative effect of a day of music, dancing and painting soared to a level of 11. "There were lots of tears," says Lion **Attila Jeles** of the **Nyíregyháza Elso Lions Club**, which co-sponsored the unusual event. The children learned the lesson that they share things in common with people different from themselves. "We wanted to strengthen the feeling in them that we are all different, but dance, music and culture bring us closer to each other," says Jeles, an English teacher. "Dissimilarity embodies an enormous amount of qualities."

The 4th Lions Talent Day was held at the Vikár Sándor Music School in Nyíregyháza. The children with disabilities who took part attend special schools and grapple with Down's syndrome, autism, blindness and other challenges. The musicians were Roma children (known—often pejoratively—as gypsies) from the Dankó Pista Secondary Grammar School in Biri. The other children attend various schools.

The event also was sponsored by the National Talent Points, a nonprofit that encourages gifted children. Leos pitched in as well. "Talent Day is always an unmatched, astounding experience," says Jeles.

## A Twiddlemuff Triumph

NEW ZEALAND – Restless hands are a hallmark of people with dementia. A twiddlemuff, a thick hand warmer with buttons, buckles or other easily-fingered objects attached inside, are often given to those with dementia to provide a comforting distraction.

The all-women **Palmerston North Heartland Lions Club** set a goal to knit 100 twiddlemuffs in 100 days (ironically, the project was not a centennial project). The 43-member club easily surpassed its goal by coming up with 160 twiddlemuffs.



The 4th Lions Talent Day in Hungary showcased youths' artistic skills

"Every Lion probably knows someone unfortunate enough to have dementia. It can strike every walk of life, color or creed," says President **Jeanette Izod**, whose sister-in-law and brother-in-law have the disease.

Members used donated wool, buttons and assorted items to sew the twiddlemuffs. One woman donated her mother's 100-year-old buttons, and another provided a suitcase of wool. Some donors took it upon themselves to knit the twiddlemuffs on their own.

A red heart was sewn on to each twiddlemuff, given to care facilities. Staff told Izod that patients are "reluctant to take them off and just want to sit and twiddle." One woman who had not spoken for weeks held her hands up and said, "These are lovely."



Jeanette Izod (left), 2016-17 president of the Palmerston North Heartland Lions Club, and Lion Ann Dowds have some fun with the twiddlemuffs sewn by the club

# Lions and Special Olympics Team Up for Beach Games in Brazil

by Jamie Konigsfeld

If you were to walk down the sandy shores of Brazil in last November, you would have witnessed a celebration. The Special Olympics Beach Games, a new games model that takes place by the seaside, was held on Santos Beach in São Paulo, Brazil's largest city. Along with 130 Lions and 30 Leos, more than 320 Special Olympics athletes competed for the gold!

Celebrating both differences and similarities, the Beach Games are a part of Special Olympics' Unified Sports program. Unified Sports promotes inclusion through team sports worldwide. The competition includes players both with and without intellectual disabilities. Through playing together and competing, athletes of different backgrounds begin to better understand one another.

The Beach Games began with a stirring opening ceremony. The delegations marched, officials from Special Olympics Brazil, Lions and local authorities gave inspirational speeches and, of course, athletes did a torch run. Competitors and referees then took an oath, and the crowds enjoyed lively music and cultural performances. The flags of Special Olympics

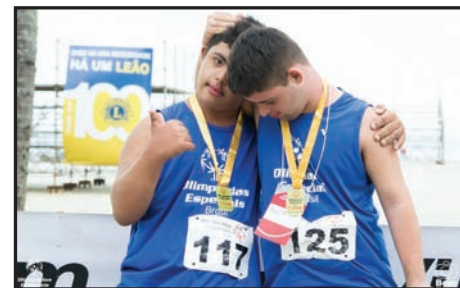
International and Lions Clubs International (LCI) waved proudly in the center of it all.

Over a span of three days, athletes took over the beach, competing in bocce, beach soccer, swimming, beach volleyball and other sports. Lions and Leos were partnered with Special Olympics athletes in every sport. Other Leos volunteered at the Beach Games. Helping athletes stay hydrated, Leo **Pedro Almeida da Silva** of Itanhaém Praia, Brazil, enjoyed watching the proud athletes. "The best thing of this tournament was to see athletes of different levels of ability competing," says Almeida da Silva. "It was fantastic to see how proud they were when they received the medals."

Created by Lions **Kester Edwards** and **Christian Guiralt**, members of the Special Olympics International team, the Beach Games in Brazil proved to be a great success. Now being developed in regions around the world, the Games are expected to be part of Mission: Inclusion. A facet of the Special Olympics International-Lions Clubs International partnership, Mission: Inclusion promotes inclusion through sports and service. Some

of the other sports that may be included in future events are paddle boarding, kayaking, sailing and triathlon. The sports offered will depend on the region in which the Beach Games take place. In some cases, a region's popular sport may be adapted for the beach.

Keep your eyes open for future Beach Games in your area. LCI and Special Olympics International have a strong partnership that is creating positive change for those with intellectual disabilities, and it is only getting stronger.



Two athletes at the Beach Games in Brazil share a moment of camaraderie

## Ready To Launch – Lions Take On The Diabetes Epidemic

The only living descendant of Helen Keller, Keller Johnson-Thompson stood before 15,000 Lions near the end of the 100th International Convention July 4 in Chicago. Aside of her was the very same bell Helen Keller stood next to at the 9th International Convention in 1925 in Cedar Point, Ohio. Keller had rung the bell after her speech, a historic, game-changing call to action for Lions to be Knights of the Blind.

Johnson-Thompson, Keller's great grand-niece, a Lion from Tusculumbia, Alabama, vigorously struck the bell to ring in a new call to action for Lions for their second century.

"Will you not constitute yourselves to continue to be Knights of the Blind in this crusade against darkness through your work with diabetes?" she asked Lions.

"We Lions always answer the bell," responded Centennial Chairperson and Past International President J. Frank Moore III, an Alabama resident. "And we'll do so with diabetes."

This past year Lions Clubs International (LCI) announced its new service framework: vision, hunger, the environment and pediatric cancer. In Chicago, Lions learned that diabetes also will be a fifth main focus for the next 5 to 10 years.

LCI adopted diabetes as a central cause after consulting with Lions. Lions leaders since then have built a global technical diabetes working group, funded pilot programs and developed step-by-step guides to easily walk Lions and Leos through the planning and delivery of diabetes projects.

Enlisting the support of 1.45 million Lions to curtail diabetes can't come too soon. Diabetes is a rapidly growing worldwide medical crisis that affects people both in developed and developing nations. The number of people with diabetes around the world quadrupled between 1980 and 2014, from 108 million to 422 million. And in the U.S., where the prevalence has increased 50 percent during the last decade, one in three children will have diabetes in their lifetime, according to the World Health Organization.

Over time, diabetes can damage the heart, blood vessels, eyes, kidneys and nerves. Adults with diabetes have a 2-3 fold increased risk of heart attacks and strokes. Diabetic retinopathy is a leading cause of adult blindness, and diabetes is among the leading causes of kidney failure. Diabetic neuropathy also increases the chance of food ulcers, infection and the eventual need for limb amputation.

Being physically active, maintaining a healthy weight, avoiding alcohol and eating a healthy diet can prevent it.

Lions pledge to make a difference by:

1. Enhancing existing programs or beginning new community outreach programs. That includes diabetes and vision screenings, educational programs, provision of medication and supplies for those in need and supporting camps and foundations.
2. Furthering the Strides Program that enables Lions to engage and empower communities in the fight against diabetes by encouraging physical activity like walking, cycling, running and dancing.
3. Observing days that promote awareness of diabetes. World Diabetes Day is November 14.



Speaking at the centennial convention in Chicago, Keller Johnson-Thompson urges Lions to fight the diabetes epidemic



# Diabetes – Lion Camp

Until 2002, **Rhonda McDavid** knew little about diabetes and nothing about Lions.

But then her son, Matthew, introduced her to both. Now she's a Lion and executive director of Camp Seale Harris, a Lions-supported diabetes camp, serving more than 600 diabetic children each summer in Alabama, one of the states hardest hit by the disease.

At age 4, Matthew McDavid, now 18, was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes, and at age 5, he begged to go to summer camp. Through his doctor, his mom found Camp Seale Harris, and inadvertently, Lions.

She went to camp, too, first as a volunteer. She watched firsthand as Lions bestowed kindness sweeter than pecan pie on the children who wake up every day with diabetes. She saw Lions sweat behind the stoves on those late summer days in the South, making sure the children got nutritious meals—a key to keeping diabetes in check. And she met children—many of whom would have never made it to camp without the Lions who financially and physically helped them get there.

McDavid made camp friends:

Lion Dora: **Dora Hartsock**, a Lion from Gulf Shores who 20 years ago lost her 8-year-old daughter Bridget to diabetes complications, then turned around and poured her heart into fighting the disease and helping the children who have it. For one week every summer, she goes to the camp in Mobile, and among other things, teaches line dancing to get kids moving because exercise is important. And if she didn't, there'd be a mutiny.

Lion Gus: Past District Governor **Gordon Gary** from Mobile who runs the kitchen on site serving healthy meals to more than 100 hungry campers every day because good nutrition is crucial to keeping blood sugar in check. And because Lion Gus's scrambled

eggs are the best way to start the day after you've checked your blood sugar.

Lion Anne: Past District Governor **Anne Shumaker**, a Centre Lion and retired teacher who, before the schools had nurses, kept her desk stocked with tiny packages of orange juice, candy and sugar cubes for the students with diabetes. She now helps families fill out camp paperwork and leads her club's support in getting kids to camp—all the way down to buying swimsuits for them and gas for parents.

"These Lions are making a profound difference in the lives of children with diabetes," says McDavid.

And those are just a few Lions.

And that is at just one camp.

There are estimated 220 diabetes camps serving 22,000 to 25,000 campers in the U.S., and 22 camps in Canada—possibly 500 to 600 camps worldwide serving 40,000 to 50,000 children with diabetes, says Indiana Lion **Terry Ackley**, executive director of the Diabetes Education and Camping Association.

And there are 1.4 million Lions who now vow to fight this epidemic. Among them is Lion **Matt Knaff**, 19, of Grantsville, Maryland, who says Lions have been part of his life since he could walk.

Unfortunately, so has diabetes.

Knaff, 19, was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes at age 3. At age 6 he attended his first diabetes camp at Lions Camp Merrick in Nanjemoy, Maryland. His tuition was paid for by the **Grantsville Lions** in his hometown, a four-hour drive from camp. Although he got homesick, he went back the next year, and for many after. For 14 years he has been going back to camp. Now he's a counselor.

Just a few days after his 18th birthday, Knaff also became a Lion like his dad and his grandparents.

"I love it," he says of Lions Camp Merrick. "It

gives children a chance to not be the weird kid on the block. At camp, you're not different anymore."

McDavid says, "If you ask a child what they like about diabetes camp, they'll say 'I'm not alone, and I found out I can still do things.'"

"Camp helps kids become independent with their care," she says, and "it helps families access support."

"What's most difficult about diabetes is that you wake up every day, and you still have it. You can't take a day off from it," says McDavid. "And you will continue to have it for the rest of your life."



Children at the Lions Camp Merrick in Nanjemoy, Maryland, enjoy a summer day



Children at the Lions Camp Merrick in Nanjemoy, Maryland, play a game

## Goderich Lions Legacy Project

Prior to 2017, all Lions clubs were encouraged by Lions International to come up with a project to honour the 100th anniversary of Lions International and ways that it would benefit the local community as well.

A committee of Goderich Lions was headed up by Lion **Ken Hunter** to see what they could do. Several ideas were forthcoming. The committee decided on two. The "Welcome to Goderich" sign and improvements to Lions Harbour Park.

Lion **Roy Mason** suggested the design and it was approved by Council and the Lions Legacy committee. Peter Payne of Willow Lake Design in Bayfield provided the final design and with the help of Town Works Dept had it built and erected at

its current location. The Lions Club partnered with the Town of Goderich and the Federal Government, under the 150th Celebration umbrella, to provide the funds to build this attractive and unique structure.



Recently, a group of Lions, dignitaries and community members gathered in front of the sign to perform a "Ribbon-Cutting". Seen here in front of the sign (L-R) is Lion Doug Bundy, Goderich Mayor Kevin Morrison, District A-9 Governor Dennis Favell and past District Governor B.J. Finlay

# Living with Diabetes

On the endocrine floor at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, pediatric nurse Jamie Connelly aims to be like “that nurse”—the nurse who stuck her head in Connelly’s hospital room back in 2005 when she was 11 and diagnosed with Type I diabetes.

“I just wanted you to know that I’m working today,” Connelly recalls the nurse saying to her. “I also have diabetes and I was diagnosed when I was 11, and I was at this hospital.”

In that moment, Connelly, the granddaughter of Maryland Lions Jack and Joan Magee, knew she was not alone in the disease and that she wanted to be a nurse like that one. She wanted to help other children live with a disease that often begins in childhood but lasts a lifetime.

She learned to manage. But at age 11, that meant checking her blood sugar was as much a part of her routine as practicing her flute. Counting carbs was sixth-grade math that other kids didn’t have to do. Sleeping in was never an option because her blood sugar had to be checked every morning whether it was a school day or a Sunday.

For years, at home, at school or during her much-loved summer days at Lions Camp Merrick—for which she thanks the support of the Cecilton Lions—she endured eight shots a day. Although she still has to regularly check her blood sugar and count her carbs, her newest “really cool regiment” has her taking only one shot every two or three days to insert her insulin pump site, she says with glee.

“It’s always hard, but with the very young children who don’t quite grasp it yet, it’s harder for the parents because they know that this is a lifetime thing,” Connelly says. “Nobody wants to see their kid get diagnosed with something like this.”

While the cause of Type I diabetes (characterized

as the body’s inability to produce insulin) is not known, Type II results from the body’s ineffective use of insulin—largely the result of excess body weight and physical inactivity. And more than 60 percent of adults and 30 percent of children in the U.S. are overweight or obese.

One of three adults in the U.S. has prediabetes, and 9 out of 10 don’t know it, according to the World Health Organization. That’s where the need for screenings becomes evident.

Around the world, Lions are promoting awareness and offering screenings that alert individuals to their need for medical care or a lifestyle change. In Florida, Lions have screened more than 140,000 people and trained another 10,000 to do the same, says Past District Governor Dr. Norma Callahan, president of the Lions Diabetes Awareness Foundation in Multiple District 35.

“Out of every screening we have at least 10 percent that need to be referred,” says Callahan. “People come back to us and say, ‘You’ve made such a difference in my life.’”

And there is the promise to do more. In June, Lions Clubs International Foundation approved \$750,000 in pilot projects aimed at decreasing diabetes’ impact. The 25 approved projects (of 160 proposed) cover everything from screenings and support groups to camps and community health initiatives.

Lions in Kenya, Africa, where one of every 17 Kenyans has diabetes, are undertaking a screening initiative and establishing support groups. Earlier this year Kenyan Lions worked with the new Lions Diabetes Care Centers in M.P. Shah Hospital and Lions SightFirst Eye Hospital on a five-day camp. They screened 1,000 people for diabetes, diabetic retinopathy, blood pressure, body mass index and foot problems. Diabetes is a major cause not only of

blindness, kidney failure, heart attacks and stroke but also lower limb amputation.

In Angul, India, Lions are improving a jogging track at a local stadium and establishing a jogging group that is part of a diabetes awareness program.

In Arizona, three clubs are coming together to create support groups. In Michigan, Lions are putting up billboards that advertise a hotline where people can call and arrange screenings. In Texas, Lions are partnering with a Lions clinic, targeting the low-income and uninsured population in need of diabetes care.

Lion Steve Schuelke would have loved to see all this happening, says his wife of 38 years, Sue, a Lion in Oelwein, Iowa.

Schuelke died from heart disease and diabetes complications in April at age 62. He was 18 when he was diagnosed with Type I diabetes, and after many years and many struggles, “his body gave up, but his spirit never did,” she says.

He led an active life despite heart disease, kidney disease caused by diabetes, and diabetic retinopathy. He volunteered at local schools and a diabetes camp for kids, was always willing to share his story if he believed it helped one person, introduced others to his diabetes service dog, and also took his job as tail twister at Lions meetings seriously, so seriously that he would spend the day of a meeting doing research.

Schuelke served as a natural role model for one of their two daughters who was diagnosed with Type I diabetes at age 11.

“He wanted to show her how you live with this,” says Sue Schuelke. “He didn’t have a choice with Type I. Life couldn’t be too spontaneous for him, but he never let it stop him. He never said, ‘I can’t do this because I have diabetes.’”



We Serve

## Lynden and Copetown Lions A15 YOUTH EXCHANGE INTERNATIONAL NIGHT



On July 30th the Lynden and Copetown Lions co-hosted the A15 Youth Exchange International Night, 23 Youths from all over the world attended along with host families and guests. The Lions provided the meal and members from both clubs pitched in and helped with the event setup, cooking and the cleanup. A “Great” team effort, thanks to all the Lions that helped out. Lions **Allison** and **Mark Henkell**, YCEX Committee Chairs once again did a great job

with the entire experience and spoke about the future plans for the program. PDG **Karen McNeight** from **St. Marys Lions** paid an emotional tribute to deceased PID Lion **Bruce Murray** who started the program in 1975. The

youth group put on hand crafted displays about their homelands and provided some great entertainment.

<http://a15lions.org/pages/Programs/Camp>



PDG Karen McNeight  
St. Marys Lions

Lions Allison &  
Mark Henkell  
Oxford Lions



# Our Kind of Town

## The Centennial Convention in Chicago returns 30,000 Lions to their roots.

by Jay Copp

It was a performance that for thousands of Lions captured not only the splendor of convention but also its significance. Grinning widely and clearly enjoying themselves, the 19 boys and girls of the African Children's Choir pounded the stage floor with handheld metallic percussion cans. Then swaying in a charming unison, they sang. Their high-pitched voices reached the farthest corners of the crowded convention hall at the plenary session.



Lions gathered in Chicago, where it all began

Joining the choir on stage for their finale was opera tenor Edward Lee, an Englishman who lives in Germany. After Lee and the choir performed the inspirational "You Raise Me Up," the young performers quickly encircled him for a tight group hug. The message was unmistakable: it's a small world, we're in this together and let's take care of one another. "It was so fitting, so beautiful," said Sylvia Hain, the 2017-18 president of the Lone Tree Lions Club in Iowa.

No one was actually counting, but there had to be at least 100 such inspiring moments at the centennial convention of Lions Clubs International (LCI) in Chicago June 30 to July 4. An international convention is inevitably a grand affair with its lengthy parade, star-studded entertainment and renowned speakers, not to mention important Lions' business such as electing a new international president. But in the city of Lions' birthplace the 100th convention played out as a five-day party, a celebration of a century of service.

Lions mingled with old friends, met new ones, marveled at the parade, applauded the exhortations of speakers and enjoyed bands such as Chicago and the Beach Boys. Most of all, they soaked it all up, happy to be part of the historic occasion. "It's just joy. There's just so much emotion and energy," said parade spectator Jessie Duvall of the Topeka Sunflower Lions Club in Kansas. The convention was proof of the value of Lions in a world in need of service. "There is so much negative news. You see the good in humanity here," said Elaine Uhlman of the Meadville Lions Club in Pennsylvania.

More than 30,000 Lions and guests from 151 nations attended the convention at McCormick Place,

the largest convention center in North America. Clusters of Lions drew up chairs at the Campfire Stage to hear Lions talk about a project or passion. Crowds flocked to the MyLion booth to learn about the new app for Lions. Many waited in line to pose for photos on a pedestal flanked by statues of lions. Others paused at the Lions of India booth to enjoy the sitar played by a cross-legged musician.



The exhibit hall was a place not just to wander through but to stop and enjoy or learn. Campfire Sessions hosted Lions or other speakers who talked about topics of interest to Lions. Lions appreciate a display that focuses on donating eyeglasses

The centennial was front and center at McCormick. Mounted on lighted columns, multitudes of black-and-white photos told stories of a century of worldwide service from Australia to Zimbabwe. In another spot, the faces and names of 100 international presidents filled a towering wall. McCormick Place, which typically showcases glittering new products such as cars or houseware gadgets, stood as a sprawling testament to humble service—10 decades worth.

Displays were interactive. Lions could press a touchscreen and, presto, a projected cartoon image of Melvin Jones, the garrulous Lions' founder, cheerfully answered a set of predetermined historical questions.

Lions revel in the pomp and pageantry of a convention but especially appreciate the moments of quieter, sudden solidarity. "It's right here," said Tim Wilson of the Fort Dodge Evening Lions Club in Iowa, gesturing at the Lions seated at tables near him in the café at the exhibit hall when asked why

convention is worthwhile. "You meet so many people from other countries and states."

Moments of connection and coincidence invariably occur at convention. "You hear stories from other Lions about what they do, and you take those ideas back home," said Wilson. For many Lions, new technology unveiled at the convention brought far-flung Lions closer together. Wendy Hartmann downloaded the MyLion app and delightedly discovered that when she sent a message to a Lion overseas it was translated for her and the Lion's message back to her was translated into English. "This [convention] is leading us toward the next 100 years. All this technology will help us into the next century," said Hartmann of the St. Nazianz Lions Club in Wisconsin.

Convention also is a matter of Lions just being Lions. There was the unknown Lion who saw the long lines at registration and volunteered on the spot to help LCI staff—and stayed half a day. A Lion in a purple shirt who stood along the parade route high-fived fellow marcher after marcher and affectionately mimicked the sing-songy chants of delegations—"Nay-paul," "Pay-rue" and "Eck-waa-door."

The centerpieces of the convention are the three plenary sessions. The preshow of the first of the three plenary sessions featured American English, a Beatles tribute band, and the quartet closed with—quick, only one guess allowed—"Birthday." President Chancellor



Assisted by past international presidents and other Lions representing the seven Constitutional Areas of Lions, 2016-17 President Chancellor Bob Corlew lights the centennial torch; to the right is Past International President J. Frank Moore III, centennial chairperson. 2017-18 President Naresh Aggarwal displays the president's ring, given to him by Corlew

## A Parade Unlike Any Other

The mammoth Lions parade on State Street in the heart of downtown Chicago took more than five hours. It included 26,868 Lions from 83 nations, 25 marching bands and innumerable moments of levity and camaraderie, as marchers waved, shook hands and gave the thumbs-up sign to throngs of spectators. "I've worked parades, but I've never seen anything like this," said a uniformed traffic official stationed near Madison Street.

Indeed, what else in the world can compare to a Lions parade at international convention—what other group can claim such a widespread membership and turnout on the streets? "I think this is the one organization in the world like this. Maybe the Red Cross? I don't know," said Susan Skinner-Roy, a teacher who traveled from Madison, Wisconsin, to watch the parade. She collects school supplies for Lions and contributes to club projects in other ways, but the main reason she came to Chicago was to cheer on her marching parents, Selwyn and Huldah Skinner of the Kissimmee Lions Club in Florida. The noise along the parade route at times was cacophonous, but Skinner was certain her parents would spot her. "I'll yell. My daddy always hears me," she said.

The parade was a spectacle of sights and sounds. Scandinavian Lions, dressed in old-fashioned ethnic garb, marched smartly in neat lines and sang their ear-worm song: "oh-lah-dee, oh-lah-dah/ha, ha, ha." Iowa Lions wheeled in loops around the Loop on a bicycle-built-for-10. Australian Lions pulled their towering inflatable kangaroo, and row upon row of Chinese Lions strolled behind their pouncing, lurching dragons.

Everyone loved this parade, especially Past District Governor Kevin and Kay Adams of Monticello, Iowa, whose presence demonstrated that Lions' personal lives often are inextricably tied to their Lions identity. The Lions couple marched with the Iowa delegation. A half century ago they paraded down the streets of Chicago with their Monticello high school band at the 50th International Convention.

In 1967, parade officials warned the Iowa band not to march in cadence but instead to gently walk over a less-than-solid bridge. "We saw that bridge, off in the distance," said Kevin.

"Last time we had to pay attention to our music. This time we paid attention to the crowd," adds Kevin. "I'm involved with Lions maybe more so than most. So it meant a lot to me. It was cool, interesting."

Kay wore on her hat the band parade ribbon from 1967. It was her birthday, too, and the Lions of Iowa sang to her before the parade began. "I've marched in other Lions' parades, and my husband was a DG. So this time the focus was more on me," said Kay with a smile. Such a moment won't come again for them. "I don't think we'll make the 150th!"



*Marchers fill State Street downtown*



*Always out and about as zone chairperson, Janis Marcinkowski of Alaska does not live in a bubble*



*Iowa Lions know how to balance fun and service*



*A Peru Lion spreads her wings*



*Lions from China show pride in their nation*

Bob Corlew of Tennessee, who led the plenary, quickly noted the appropriateness of the host city for the convention. "Just a few blocks from where we are now, Melvin Jones and the first Lions pioneered a new idea: clubs dedicated to service," he told Lions. Then he and seven Lions, representing each of the constitutional areas of the Lions' world, helped light the centennial torch, ceremoniously lowered from the ceiling.

In his farewell address, Corlew gratefully cited the accomplishments of Leos and women and revealed that a few weeks before convention an all-time membership high of 1,449,987 Lions was achieved. Keeping and adding members is critical, he noted. "Because for every Lion who joins us, on average we serve the needs of 70 more people. That's 70 people who won't go hungry today, 70 children who will receive an eye screening at school, 70 people who will regain their sight through a Lions' sponsored cataract surgery," Corlew said.

The second plenary session featured the rollicking Blues Brothers Revue, who played the preshow, and boyishly handsome pop star David Archuleta, who took the stage twice. He sang the invocation with Lee (the son of Past International Director Howard), later performed John Lennon's gentle peace anthem "Imagine," and, to the delight of the many Lions from Latino nations, sang a lovely traditional Spanish love song.

The second session also detailed Lions' accomplishments through their foundation, LCIF, and throughout the three-year centennial celebration. LCIF recently reached the \$1 billion grant mark since it began in 1968, declared LCIF Chairperson Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada of Japan. In the past year LCIF and Lions particularly made strides in helping refugees, halting measles and beating childhood cancer.

Joining Yamada on the stage was six-year-old Ava Marilyn Bell of Sydney, Australia, whose cancer is in remission. Ava provided a light moment in a segment highlighting a deadly serious matter. Her father asked what she liked best about Chicago. "My daddy wanted me to say, 'Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls,'" she told Lions. "But I like the pizza, the ice cream and the museum with the dinosaurs."

Past President J. Frank Moore III of Alabama, the centennial chairperson, announced that Lions easily surpassed the goal to serve 100 million people for the Centennial Service Challenge. "You did that two years ahead of schedule," Moore told roaring Lions. The current number of people served is 166,294,782—and counting.

The final plenary session kicked off with a playful announcement: "Lions and Leos, we went with the devil down to Georgia and came back with the Charlie Daniels Band." After the band fiddled its way into the heart of Lions, the Lions Humanitarian Award was presented to Stan Brock, who founded Remote Area Medical, which provides medical care to the underserved.

Next up was Patti LaBelle, who sang and then

chatted amiably with Corlew about her struggles with diabetes, a core concern of Lions going forward. Years ago, LaBelle collapsed on stage in Albany, New York. “I assumed it was because I was tired. The doctor said, ‘Did you know you had diabetes?’ I said, ‘No way.’ I knew I had to change my way of living,” said LaBelle, whose mother had her legs amputated because of diabetes and whose aunt lost her sight due to the disease.

The third session also featured the traditional transition of leadership: the 2017-18 district governors took the oath of office, as did 2017-18 International President Naresh Aggarwal of India, the third Lion from that nation to lead LCI. Aggarwal’s speech was highlighted by crowd interaction. “What are the two most important words for Lions?” he asked. “What is the most important first word? What is the second most important word?” Right on cue each time, the thousands of Lions in the hall loudly shouted “We Serve,” “We” and “Serve.”

The plenary—and convention—ended with the extinguishing of the centennial torch. The torch was passed to several Leos, symbolic of how the impulse to serve surely will live on after the centennial party fades into history.

### Service Part of the Convention

Lions came to Chicago to celebrate the centennial, see the sights—and to serve. The dozen service projects coordinated by headquarters sold out. More than 450 Lions, Leos and friends packed 11,000 school meals, cleaned up 40 pounds of garbage from the Chicago River banks and fed 75 homeless guests.

Lions also packed 15,000 pounds of food for a food bank, assembled 1,700 hygiene kits and, in a partnership to beautify a neighborhood with the Heartland Alliance, planted flowers, hosted a bingo party and worked with a graffiti artist to paint a colorful mural on the side of a drab building. Lions paid \$25 for the privilege of serving others (the fee paid for transportation and a T-shirt).



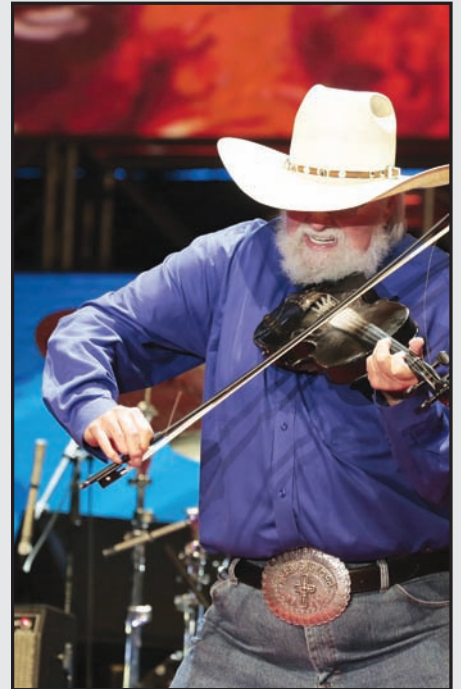
Lions and Leos paint a mural on a wall in a Chicago neighborhood

### Music—and More Music

The Chicago convention featured star after star.



Chicago



The Charlie Daniels Band



Blues Brothers Revue



Patti LaBelle



The Beach Boys



David Archuleta

## Keynote Speakers at Convention

### Al Gore, former U.S. Vice President

A recipient of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize for his environmental efforts, Gore focused on the climate crisis. "There are only three questions remaining. Must we change? Can we change? Will we change?" he asked. "Must we change? For a long time the scientific community told us the answer is yes. Now Mother Nature is telling us in no uncertain terms."

Gore cited a long list of woes resulting from climate change: soaring temperatures, more powerful storms and fires, deadly air pollution, drought, raised sea levels—threatening coastal cities, crop failures and food shortages, and millions of climate refugees, leading to political instability.

Can we change? Gore pointed to the substantial gains in wind and solar power. "We have the solutions to the climate crisis. We can solve the crisis," he said.

Will we change? People worldwide are determined to do what's needed, he said. "Nobody can stop the sustainability revolution. We will solve the climate crisis," he said. "All the great moral movements in human history have met with a series of no's—ferocious resistance: the abolition of slavery, the women's movement, the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa. The late Nelson Mandela said it's



only impossible until it's done. ... We do have the will to change. Always remember, Lions and Leos, the will to change is a renewable resource."

### Ban Ki-moon, former U.N. Secretary General

Moon praised Lions. "More than 65 million people are refugees, fleeing disasters, wars and abuses of their human rights. These are the largest number since the end of the Second World War. Xenophobia, terrorism and other man-made catastrophes are destabilizing our world. In this dangerous environment, we need people who care. I have been urging world political leaders not to erect walls but build bridges among people. We need the Lions International, which is breaking down barriers and building bridges of trust and friendship."

He also urged Lions to work against climate change. "The science is real and plainly clear. Climate change is approaching much faster than we know. The threat is growing. And we have the power to stop it. ... Climate action means more jobs, not fewer. It means greater opportunities and potentially unlimited advances. It means a cleaner environment and healthier people. ... We cannot negotiate with nature. Nature goes its own way. We have to have wisdom to live harmoniously with nature. I ask and urge Lions International to be champions of climate action."



## MD'A' Teamwork



On June 1st the Lions of M.D. "A" lived up to their commitment of \$75,000.00 to fund a "SENSORY GARDEN" at the Canadian Deaf Blind Association in Paris. It began as a three year commitment but this cooperative effort fulfilled their task in two years.

Shown presenting the cheque is Lion **Gary Eves** A15, **Tina Young** from Barrie, Lioness **Janet Dawson-Brock** A5, Lion **Sue Flanigan** A3, Lion and Executive Director **Cathy Proll** A15, Chair Lion **Zoltan Dohar** A2, Lion **John Lackey** A9, Lion **John Pepper** A15, Lioness **Mary Lou Krestel** A2.



Shown in the second picture with the dedication plaque is Lion and Executive Director Cathy Proll and Chair Lion Zoltan Dohar. The plaque information is also in Braille. The inscription says, "Thank you Lions Homes for Deaf People for bring life to our Sensory Garden."



Lions Homes for Deaf People is a committee of M.D. 'A' Lions, Lionesses and interested individuals in Ontario who believe in Helen Keller's challenge "to become the knights of the blind." The club works to improve the lives of people who are blind, deaf or deafblind.

## Bridgeport, KW Community Spirit and St. Jacobs Lions



The Kitchener Waterloo annual Walk for Dog Guides was held on May 27, 2017 at Waterloo Park. The committee, including members from Bridgeport Lions, KW Community Spirit Lions, and St. Jacobs Lions, have raised over \$23,500 this year. The new national Walk sponsor is Pet Valu.

Manager of the new Pet Valu store at Fischer Hallman and Erb, Waterloo, Cassy and friend, were in attendance to support the event. They handed out doggie treats and gave away a free goodie basket draw for Walk participants.



## Lakefield Lions

It was a steady stream of happy Canadians & friends as Lions of Lakefield served up mouth watering Burgers, Fries & Onion Rings at Isabel Morris Park, Lakefield as entire town celebrated CANADA DAY.



We have inherited so much from so many who have served before us. As Lions, we have the honor to continue that legacy of service, but we also have the responsibility to build on it.

The Long Range Planning Committee was charged with charting a course for the future of Lions. With input from Lions around the world, the committee developed a strategic plan called LCI Forward that provides a new vision for Lions and a new way forward. We have been fortunate to help develop the implementation plan in coordination with our full International

Board and Lions worldwide. We would like to recognize the contributions and visionary leadership of the Long Range Planning Committee, and we are honored to support their work and present LCI Forward to you.

Sincerely,

The LCI Forward Project Team: PID Svein Berntsen (Chairperson), ID G.S. Hora, ID Bruce Beck, PID Eric Carter, PID Karla Harris

LCIF

LCIF

## The Evolution of Service HOW LIONS ARE PLANNING TO MEET

### THE SECOND CENTURY OF SERVICE THROUGH LCI FORWARD

By the 2015-17 Long Range Planning Committees: IP Chancellor Bob Corlew, IPIP Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada, 1st VP Dr. Naresh Aggarwal, 2nd VP Gudrun Yngvadottir, 3rd VP Jung-Yul “Yul” Choi, PIP Joe Preston, PIP Joseph L. Wroblewski, ID G.S. Hora, PID Eric Carter, PID Claudette Cornet, PID Douglas A. Lozier

The spirit of service that Melvin Jones shared with the world 100 years ago lives on, but the world of 1917 would be largely unrecognizable today.

Horse and buggies still roamed the streets, radio and print drove mass communication, and social connections were made face-to-face in local communities. Now driverless cars are on the horizon, the Internet has created a global information-sharing network, and people around the world are connecting through social media and mobile technology. The Industrial Age has given way to the Digital Age, and it's changing the way people serve.

People are donating in new ways—10,000 text donations were sent every second in the aftermath of the devastating Haiti earthquake. They're using mobile technology to find opportunities to serve—80 percent of the world will have a smartphone by 2020—and turning to social media like Facebook, with 1.7 billion unique visitors every month.

People are volunteering in new ways. Episodic volunteering—periodic rather than ongoing volunteering—is now the most common way people volunteer worldwide due to changing lifestyles and growing support for causes over organizations. And volunteers are needed now more than ever.

Technology has not only changed the way people serve, it has also given us a clearer picture of our growing global needs. It helps the world collect and share data in real time to assess current and emerging humanitarian needs. It takes us into impacted communities through cellphone images, video and social media, and it shows us the faces of the men,

women and children who are struggling. And their struggle is a plea for the world—and Lions—to respond.

#### Defining our second century

So how do Lions adapt in the face of an ever-changing global landscape? How can we meet the growing needs of our communities and the world? How do we want the world to see us and how do we see ourselves?

As Lions, we have served like no one else for 100 years. To honor that century of service, we knew we would have to dream bigger than we ever have before. And to meet the growing needs of a changing world, we knew we would have to set an ambitious goal for the future.

Imagine what the world would look like if Lions doubled our humanitarian impact. Or tripled it. Imagine how many millions more could be saved from blindness and lifted out of poverty. Imagine how many more children could grow up free from preventable disease or be given the opportunity to learn, to smile, to hope, to thrive.

But Lions don't just imagine change. We achieve it.

That's why we have set a goal of improving the lives of more than 200 million people per year by 2021—tripling our humanitarian impact—through expanded service. It requires strategic planning. It will take collaboration at all levels of Lions. And it will require innovation to meet the challenges ahead.

After spending the past two years gathering input from thousands of Lions around the world, our International Board of Directors has developed a new strategic plan to help us achieve that ambitious goal of serving 200 million people per year. We are proud to present the new **LCI Forward strategic plan**.

#### Introducing LCI Forward

**LCI Forward** was developed as a road map for Lions to plan, implement and achieve our vision for the

future. It includes strategies to significantly expand humanitarian service to meet the growing needs of the world. It's designed to improve operations, use new technologies and make the member experience second to none. It will create new ways to promote the Lions brand, produce new service products and innovations, and unite more people in service.

LCI Forward includes four areas of focus that will guide our action plan for the next five years:

- Enhance our service impact and focus
- Reshape public opinion and improve visibility
- Pursue club, district and organizational excellence
- Improve membership value and reach new markets

#### We will enhance service

Our humanitarian service can evolve and our impact can increase with a focused service platform. Lions will continue to meet local needs just as they've always done, but there are new needs in our communities and around the world, so we need to expand our current service and identify new ways to serve. We'll continue our storied tradition of service and build on it to reach our goal of serving 200 million people a year by 2021.

#### How we'll achieve it

We launched an updated global service platform at the 2017 Centennial Convention in Chicago. Lions will continue to support sight and their local community needs, but we'll offer new ways to serve, best-in-class service programming that can be implemented all over the world and tools for tracking and measuring our service impact in local communities and around the world.

#### We will reshape public opinion and improve visibility

Many recognize the Lions logo, but not our work. The world needs to know who we are, what we do and how they can serve humanity with us. Public relations, global advertising and enhanced communications provide high-profile ways to share

WE HAVE SET A GOAL OF IMPROVING THE LIVES OF MORE THAN 200 MILLION PEOPLE PER YEAR BY 2021—TRIPLING OUR HUMANITARIAN IMPACT.

our life-changing service stories to inspire hope, change and new volunteers. Our goal is to become the best-known brand for voluntary service around the world so that civic-minded men and women will join us in taking on the biggest humanitarian challenges facing humanity.

**How we'll achieve it**

We are rolling out a global strategic marketing plan that's culturally relevant and audience-focused. We're building a digital marketing platform to reach new markets in new ways to drive civic-minded people to clubs, and we'll deliver new technologies like mobile apps to give Lions more on-the-go tools to serve, track and connect. Technology drives innovation and innovation will drive Lions into the future.

**We will pursue club, district and organizational excellence**

We are committed to helping Lions and Lion leaders around the world achieve excellence. District and club excellence requires new resources, enhanced technology and better support. It takes bold leadership in order to get there. It means that we will have to work collaboratively and strategically on every level of Lions to ensure we remain the global leader in humanitarian service.

**How we'll achieve it**

We will strengthen clubs and districts worldwide through a Quality Improvement Program. We'll do this by streamlining operations at every level of Lions by making it easier to become a Lion and start a club, and by using technology to increase global access to leadership and training opportunities.

**We will improve membership value and reach new markets**

To achieve our goal of serving 200 million people a year, we'll need new members to join us. By focusing on the value of being a Lion and enhancing the member experience, we can reach new markets and engage a new generation of volunteers. In addition to attracting younger members to join us, we also need to recognize that the way people volunteer is changing.

**How we'll achieve it**

Develop new products and innovations that allow more people to engage in service through LCI. We're

creating new models to attract episodic volunteers, and we're creating complementary products and partnerships with businesses seeking to expand corporate social responsibility programs.

**Looking Forward to Our Next Century of Service**

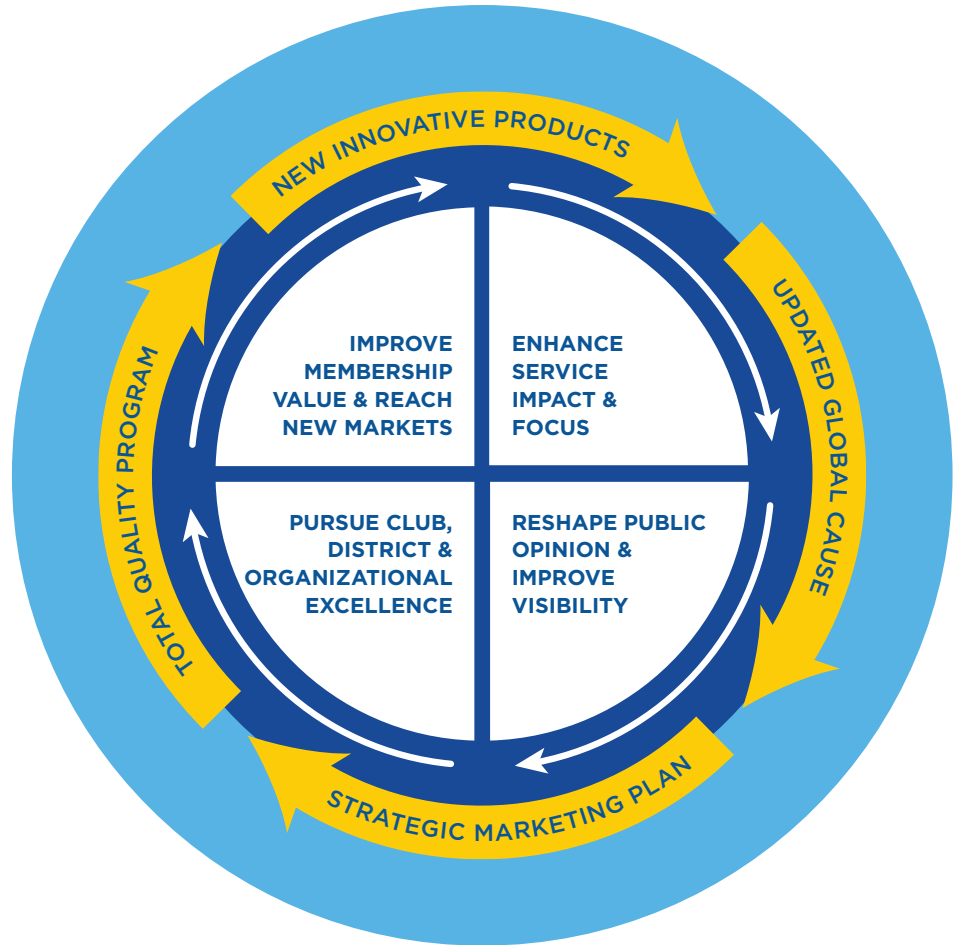
Throughout our first century of service, Lions have always embraced the challenges that faced them. By setting this new goal of serving 200 million people annually, Lions will remain at the forefront of global humanitarian service. We will be part of the conversations, and solutions, for the big issues facing humanity. And we will literally change the world.

Let's continue to look back and celebrate our achievements throughout our Centennial, and let's

also look forward to what we can achieve in our next century of service.

Because 100 years is only the beginning.

LCI FORWARD WAS DEVELOPED AS A ROAD MAP FOR LIONS TO PLAN, IMPLEMENT AND ACHIEVE OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE. IT INCLUDES STRATEGIES TO SIGNIFICANTLY EXPAND HUMANITARIAN SERVICE TO MEET THE GROWING NEEDS OF THE WORLD.



**Serving in a Changing World  
WHY LIONS MATTER MORE THAN EVER**



**For 100 years, Lions have served.**

We save the precious gift of sight and feed families struggling to put food on the table. We provide life-saving vaccines to children and rebuild communities devastated by disaster. We bring help to the most vulnerable and hope to those who struggle. We care. We matter. We serve.

Service is the reason we exist. It's why we become Lions, and why we remain. Year by year, country by

country, we have increased our global impact, saving lives and helping millions more around the world through the efforts of Lions and the support of our Foundation. And the world needs us now more than ever.

That's why we've set a goal of serving 200 million people a year by 2021—tripling our current humanitarian impact. It means we have to increase our service impact so we can help even more people around the world. It requires that we find a way to

honor our first century of service while meeting the needs of the next. And it gives us the opportunity to develop a new global service framework that will complement all of the great ways Lions serve locally and guide us into the future.

To develop a new global service framework, we looked at our history and the causes we have supported. We surveyed Lions and Leos around the world to identify the causes that are important to them and their communities. We looked at data to identify



urgent global humanitarian needs and determine if Lions could help address them.

After this comprehensive global assessment, we confirmed the need to continue supporting our long tradition of saving sight, fighting hunger and protecting our environment. But we discovered emerging needs that also require the help of Lions and Leos.

SERVICE IS THE REASON WE EXIST. IT'S WHY WE BECOME LIONS, AND WHY WE REMAIN. YEAR BY YEAR, COUNTRY BY COUNTRY, WE HAVE INCREASED OUR GLOBAL IMPACT, SAVING LIVES AND HELPING MILLIONS MORE AROUND THE WORLD. AND THE WORLD NEEDS US NOW MORE THAN EVER.

organ functioning, physical development and their ability to learn.

**A new service vision for the future**

To ensure that Lions are ready to meet the needs of a changing world, we will formally launch our new global service framework in 2017 that prepares Lions for our second century of service. It will bring Lions together to

launch the full service platform for diabetes, including new service programs, partnerships and LCIF grant opportunities.

Lions Clubs International Foundation will be there to support our service, aligning the efforts of Lions with the work of our charitable arm to create large-scale, lasting change where it's needed most.

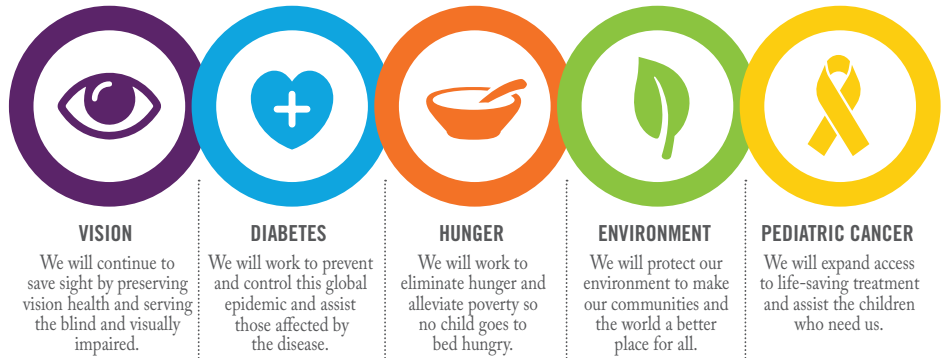
The new global service framework gives Lions and Leos new opportunities to serve, new ways to unite our members and other service-minded people around the world, and new ways to ensure that we meet the challenges of our next century of service.

**Facing new global challenges**

Diabetes is one of the largest global health emergencies of the 21st century. One in 11 adults has diabetes, leading to kidney disease, pregnancy complications, nerve damage and other major health complications, including sight. More than one third of all people affected by diabetes will develop diabetic retinopathy and risk severe vision impairment. It's the eighth-leading cause of death in the world, resulting in more than 5 million deaths in 2015. And the number is expected to rise significantly by 2030 without increased awareness, new education initiatives and expanded screening and treatment programs around the world.

The outlook for pediatric cancer is similarly grim. Cancer is the second leading cause of death in children. Worldwide, a child is diagnosed with cancer every two minutes, yet more than 60 percent of the world's children have little or no access to effective care. In developing nations, barriers at all levels of cancer care have led to survival rates as low as 10 percent in some countries. And children who do survive cancer are often left with debilitating effects that can impact

address global humanitarian challenges:



We will continue our long tradition of supporting children, and build on it by developing new ways to engage youth as volunteers and service leaders in these five areas of service.

Each of the service areas in the framework is essential to serving local and global needs, but we announced diabetes as a new global service focus at the 2017 centennial convention in Chicago. At the 2018 international convention in Las Vegas, we will

Service is the reason we exist. It's why we become Lions, and why we remain. Year by year, country by country, we have increased our global impact, saving lives and helping millions more around the world. And the world needs us now more than ever.

DIABETES WAS ANNOUNCED AS A NEW GLOBAL SERVICE FOCUS AT THE 2017 CENTENNIAL CONVENTION IN CHICAGO.

**LCIF** **LCIF**  
**Sowing the Seeds of Growth**  
**ENSURING SUCCESS BY EMBRACING TODAY'S GLOBAL VOLUNTEER**

***It all started so small, so long ago.***

From a single idea planted by Melvin Jones a century ago in the city of Chicago to our growing global network of 46,000 clubs and 1.4 million men and women in more than 200 countries and geographic areas around the world, Lions have done what few others have for the last 100 years: we have endured.

That achievement cannot be taken for granted.

Lions are still here today because what we do matters so much to so many. We have made great progress as Lions, but we have so much more we can achieve and so many more lives we can change. So where do we begin? By responding to the global changes facing Lions and every service organization today.

***The volunteer landscape is changing***

And it's changing in profound ways. People today have more choices in how they give back to their communities than ever before. Millennials

and Generation X have different attitudes about volunteering than the generations before them. Busy lifestyles mean there's less time for everything, including volunteering. And globalization is changing the demographics of communities around the world, bringing in people of all ages, genders, races and faiths.

And we need to ensure there's a place for everyone in Lions.

To make sure we're positioned for long-term growth and success, we will focus on key issues that are driving global change in volunteerism:

**Episodic Volunteerism** – Episodic volunteers—periodic rather than ongoing volunteers—are the most common volunteers around the world. This means that we'll have to provide greater flexibility to get volunteers engaged and keep them motivated to serve.

**"Causes" versus "Organizations"** – Through the 1970s, people commonly joined an organization and

became long-term members. But that's changed. More and more people want to support a particular cause rather than an umbrella organization, unless it's widely known for the particular cause or mission they want to support.

**Power of Technological Changes** – The greatest trend affecting volunteerism is rapidly changing technologies. People can now find volunteer opportunities on smartphones, support a cause online and even raise money and awareness virtually. Technology must play a key role in connecting people through service.

***Responding through LCI Forward***

Responding to global change requires vision. It requires the ability to see the Big Picture, to anticipate change and adapt to it. It takes a strategic plan like LCI Forward.

LCI Forward is introducing marketing strategies and building new service models that will appeal to

new markets and new generations of service-minded individuals. Some of the key strategies include:

- **Creating a new service model** to complement the club model, focusing on episodic volunteers and how people contribute today.
- **Continued global expansion** in strategic areas that offer opportunities to grow and bring new service to more people who need us.
- **Developing and promoting specialty clubs** such as clubs centered on a social cause, profession,

culture or sporting activity to give people new ways to connect and serve.

- **Forging service-focused corporate partnerships** to engage employees and Lions in corporate social responsibility initiatives that benefit our communities and introduce Lions to men and women looking to serve.

We know the only way to grow is to adapt. And the only direction to go from here is forward. We have been a global leader in service for a century, and we

can continue this proud tradition by responding to the changing world around us.

Nurturing the seed of service planted by our founder requires us to nurture the needs of today's global volunteers. When we do, we can do more than endure for another century—we can thrive.

DON'T JUDGE EACH DAY BY THE HARVEST YOU REAP BUT BY THE SEEDS THAT YOU PLANT.

~ Robert Louis Stevenson

LCIF

## Leadership Drives Excellence

### WHY IT TAKES GREAT LEADERS AT ALL LEVELS TO SUCCEED

LCIF

Some say leaders are born. Others say leaders are made. But the undeniable thread that defines all great leaders is the drive for excellence.

Excellence isn't a destination, it's a journey. It takes relentless focus to achieve it. It requires a total commitment to improvement in order to maintain it. It requires that we change, we listen and we adapt to ensure that our vision of excellence continues to reflect the vision of our members and a changing world. And when we do these things, we can achieve something astonishing that touches everyone who is a part of it.

That's the vision for Lions.

#### **Embracing a total quality initiative**

Organizational excellence requires a passionate focus on quality and a commitment to a total quality initiative at all levels of Lion leadership—club, district and organization. These guiding principles can help us achieve it:

- **Clubs should thrive** by being flexible, inviting, service-focused and willing to grow.
- **Districts and multiple districts should guide** by nurturing clubs and collaborating with one another to achieve service impact goals.

- **Our International Board should drive** our association forward by creating innovative strategies and building a culture of success.

- **Operations should support** all levels of Lions through efficient and effective practices to better serve our members so they can better serve their communities.

#### **Leading the way to excellence**

The drive toward excellence starts with our leadership at every level of Lions, and each has a key role to play.

**Association** – We need to continually evaluate internal operations to make sure we're innovating, creating efficiencies and responding to our members' needs. That's why we launched Finance Forward, a program designed to drive organizational efficiencies in our critical processes. We're moving club chartering online, streamlining awards fulfillment, enhancing our member support center, simplifying expense reporting, increasing staff training and creating efficiencies in translation services.

**Districts** – District leaders guide and inspire clubs to help keep them on track for growth and success. To prepare them for these critical roles, we will provide expanded training to develop leaders and build their

capabilities so they can lead more effectively. This means more training opportunities, more online training tools to increase access and more emphasis on training as a key component of excellence. Multiple district leaders will also play a central role in regionalizing content and creating culturally relevant programs for Lions and those looking to serve.

**Clubs** – The way people serve is changing, so club leaders need to be willing to adapt. Clubs should be flexible, open to change, willing to listen and ready to embrace the evolving needs of today's volunteers. We will provide new resources delivered in new ways to give clubs the tools to better organize, support and serve their members.

#### **Change starts from within**

It takes great leaders to achieve greatness. The focus on improving our organization from the inside-out will make our association, our districts and our clubs stronger, and it will help us create a world-class member experience that will keep Lions coming back year after year.

If we embrace a commitment to quality at all levels of leadership, then achieving excellence won't just be the vision for Lions.

It will be the future of Lions.

LCIF

## Melvin Jones Was Right

### REINVENTING AN OLD FORMULA FOR SUCCESS WITH A NEW DIGITAL TWIST

LCIF

Melvin Jones was a visionary leader who changed the world, but even our founder could not have envisioned how technology would fundamentally change the world today.

So how do we ensure that the Lions tradition—that of community, service, connectedness, local impact and relationship-building—doesn't get lost in this transformational shift to a globally connected digital world?

The answer lies with our founder. In 1917, Melvin Jones laid the foundation for the world's largest service organization by uttering these words to a group of men's clubs from around Chicago:

"What if these men," Jones asked, "who are

successful because of their drive, intelligence and ambition, were to put their talents to work improving their communities? You can't get very far until you start doing something for somebody else."

Melvin Jones knew a lot about service. But he also knew something about people. He built strong relationships. He leveraged key community influencers to engage and recruit Lions around the globe. Most importantly, he used his understanding of people—what they need and want—to connect people around the world with similar ideals, empowering the global service movement we enjoy today.

And connecting people today is easier than ever. There are 4.8 billion mobile devices and scores of digital communications channels that reach even the

most remote areas of the planet. Every sixty seconds there are more than 2.4 million Google searches, 700,000 Facebook logins and 2.78 million YouTube video views.

#### **Technology will drive the future of service**

We have a tremendous opportunity to harness these digital technologies to inspire new generations of Lions and help our current members reach new heights. So how are we going to do it?

We're incorporating the traditions of Melvin Jones into LCI Forward—think of it as Melvin Jones 2.0. Here's what you can expect:

- **Digital marketing platform** – We're building a best-in-class digital marketing platform that will

help us understand the interests of our members and those who haven't yet discovered Lions. It will play a key role in our advertising and PR strategies, extending our reach, amplifying our message and creating new ways to connect with people looking to serve.

- **Lions mobile app** – We're developing mobile apps and member applications to give Lions new ways to serve, connect and share their service on-the-go. Technology will empower the global service movement, expanding our impact by making service opportunities available to more people in more places around the world.
- **MyLCI 2.0** – MyLCI is being rebuilt to make it simpler and more valuable for Lions, and new features are already available. Club charter

applications can now be processed through MyLCI, and a new Message Center enables communication among clubs and Lion leaders. In order to make MyLCI a destination, we're making it accessible to Leos and Lions, not just officers. Look for increased access and tools in the future.

- **Digital LION Magazine** – Every international edition of LION will have a digital magazine by January 2018. It gives readers a great mobile magazine experience, a new way to share service stories on social media at the press of a button and a great tool to show new members that Lions are innovative and poised for success in the digital age.

If Melvin Jones were with us today, he'd say what

he said in 1917, with a new twist on his words of inspiration:

“What if these **people**,” Melvin asked, “who are successful because of their drive, intelligence and ambition, were to put their talents to work improving their communities **no matter where they live and whenever they had time**? You can't get very far until you start doing something for somebody else. **Let's connect online and start now.**”

And that's exactly what we're asking today to inspire the next generation of Lions.

**EVERY SIXTY SECONDS** THERE ARE MORE THAN 2.4 MILLION GOOGLE SEARCHES, 700,000 FACEBOOK LOGINS AND 2.78 MILLION YOUTUBE VIDEO VIEWS.



## Second Century Ambassadors LEADING LIONS FORWARD



The LCI Forward strategic plan prepares Lions to meet the challenges ahead by introducing a new vision, new innovations and new ways to serve to achieve our goal of serving 200 million people a year.

To achieve the ambitious goals of LCI Forward, we will need to invest in innovative programs and cutting-edge technologies that can drive our association forward. You have a special opportunity to support LCI Forward as a Second Century Ambassador.

### Second Century Ambassadors Invest in Innovation

Second Century Ambassadors are progressive Lions ready to move Lions Clubs International forward. They are visionaries willing to invest in the innovations required to launch our new global service framework and lay the foundation for the next 100 years by:

**Investing in technology** to build data management systems, develop smartphone apps and achieve digital integration to achieve our goals and impact more lives.

**Introducing a new global service framework** to meet emerging needs, expand our service impact and offer Lions new ways to serve.

**Expanding global marketing** to increase brand awareness and attract new Lions from all areas, ages and backgrounds.

**Enhancing the member experience** through training, leadership development and supporting service initiatives to create a world-class service experience.

### Become a Second Century Ambassador Today

Second Century Ambassadors invest \$5,000 in LCI to fund the innovations of LCI Forward and help us impact more lives than ever before. And \$500 will go to LCIF as an MJF-eligible contribution to enhance the life-changing work of your Foundation.

Join other passionate Lion leaders investing in the future of Lions. Create your own legacy in Lions history by becoming a Second Century Ambassador.

**ENROLL TODAY!**  
**SECONDCENTURYAMBASSADORS.ORG**

Second Century Ambassadors receive special benefits including:

- Special Ambassador Pin
- Custom metal Ambassador Card
- International dues credit for lifetime of the ambassador and one new member
- Permanent recognition at LCI headquarters

Includes a \$500 MJF-eligible contribution to LCIF



## Rockton Lions Annual Fish Fry

The Rockton Lions held their 12th Annual “ALL You Can Eat” Fish Fry on June 3rd at the Beverly Community Centre in Support of the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides and other community projects.

It was a huge success, their biggest crowd ever, almost 900 people.

Not only was the food great there was a 50/50 draw worth almost \$1500 to the winner ( who donated \$500 back to the Club!) plus a terrific Silent Auction table supported by local businesses and individuals.

Special thanks to the **Lynden Lions** who ran the bar and the **St. George Lions** who fried up almost 600

pounds of potatoes to make delicious fries to go along with the 800 pounds of fish. St. George United Church donated their time to help clean up. The Rockton Lions will reciprocate in the fall by frying their fish for their event!

A Great Community Event! Next Year's Fish Fry - June 2/18



## International Director Tom Gordon Thank you to the Lions Family of Multiple District 'A'



Gillian and I would like to thank you for the trust you placed in us to represent you and the members of the Lions family in Canada on the Board of Directors for Lions International.

It's a long campaign, from when we were endorsed at our district conventions, to the MD'A' convention in North Bay, and then to the International Convention in Chicago a year later. It takes a lot of planning, organizing, fund-raising, and to run effective campaigns. Many thanks to Lions PDG Jim Prenger and PCC Bradd Anderson and their teams for putting in the time and effort that made the 2015-2016 Lions year and the MD'A' convention so exciting.

The hospitality we were shown on the campaign trail, the turn-out at the MD'A' convention in North Bay in 2016, and the hundreds of correspondences since have been fantastic. And the 250 MD'A' Lions who registered at the International Convention in Chicago (I think we met you all), made up an awesome marching contingent in the Parade! We had some time to meet up with you at the reception on July 3 and thank you for signing the sesquicentennial flag as a souvenir. A great big thank you to PCC John Johnston and Lion Dianne Piggott, Promotion Chair and Administrative Assistant extraordinaire, for all the arrangements in Chicago. The Canadian dollar, hotel requirements, and working with Dr. Patti Hill's campaign team combined to make this an onerous job.

For those who have asked and for those who have wanted to know - yes, we heard you as we walked across the stage.

We had a short get-to-know each other International Board meeting right after the convention closed and many thanks to IPID Rod Wright for meeting us at the door, and showing us where we should sit. The meeting was quite impressive. I have been appointed to the Leadership committee, and I got to meet the

committee members and the chairperson at the very first session.

That afternoon, we were immediately whisked off to Oak Brooke for the International Directors Orientation. Gillian and I met all the other 1st-year directors and their spouses. It is quite an impressive group of Lions. We also met the association's different department people that we will be working with over the next two years. What followed was two full days crammed full of information about what to expect as a Director and all the new programs coming up.

I am willing to lend my assistance wherever it is needed during the next two years. I plan to make available to all Lions the new initiatives and materials that I become aware of in this position. There are some fascinating programs, including a Canada Council of Lions in the works. Stay tuned to [tomgford.ca](http://tomgford.ca) for updates and links starting September 1.

Thanks again for your confidence and for making this an experience that Gillian and I will never forget.

## Council Chair John Whyte



**John Whyte**  
MD'A' Council Chair

Welcome to the first year of the 2nd century of Lionism. What an exciting time to be a member of our great organization!

You know, when I first joined Lions the thought that I might one day be a District

Governor never entered my mind. In fact, I can remember about 6 years ago the then sitting Governor of A-711 saying to me that one day I would run for DG....and I told him not to hold his breath.

So, go figure, not only have I just completed my year as DG of District A-3, but I am now your MD 'A' Council Chair for 2017-2018. How the heck did that happen?

Lion Kathy & I recently got back from Chicago where we attended the Lions Clubs 100th International Convention. As a young boy, growing up in London

England, what Chicago meant to me was the black & white TV series about Elliott Ness & Al Capone. Wow, how things have changed since then!

I have visited Chicago a number of times over the past 30+ years, but none so memorable as this one. To hear such dynamic speakers as former US Vice President Al Gore, former US President Lion Jimmy Carter and former UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and to experience live concerts by the Beach Boys and Chicago – how cool is that!

But, the most memorable, and emotional, moments for me were to walk in the parade in front of the Lions of MD 'A' carrying a huge Maple Leaf Flag as we paraded through the streets of Chicago on Canada Day, our 150th birthday, singing O Canada and hearing all the spectators from around the world shouting out "Happy Birthday Canada". I am so proud to be a Canadian and to be your Council Chair for 2017-2018.

During the closing plenary session the Canadian contingent was very vocal as our own PCC Tom

Gordon was elected as the incoming International Director for Canada. Congratulations ID Tom!

We, all of us, have the unique privilege, and huge responsibility, of serving our clubs, our districts and our multiple district in this first year of our 2nd century of Lionism. We need to continue to focus on our motto "We Serve". We need, both individually & collectively, to channel our efforts into putting those words into action so that they become a reality and not just empty words.

And remember, everything that we do from here on is also a dress rehearsal for 2020 – the 100th anniversary of Canadian Lionism!

*CC John*



# MD-A 2018 - NIAGARA

May 11 to 13, 2018

Holiday Inn and Suites Parkway Conference Centre  
327 Ontario Street, St. Catharines, Ontario

Your Host: St. Davids & District Lions Club  
[www.stdavidslions.ca](http://www.stdavidslions.ca)



## CONVENTION REGISTRATION – Page 1

### A. Name Badge Information (Please Print)

Lion  Lioness  Leo  Partner  Guest

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Badge: \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Office: \_\_\_\_\_ Present  Past

District: \_\_\_\_\_ Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### B. Name Badge Information (Please Print)

Lion  Lioness  Leo  Partner  Guest

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Badge: \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Office: \_\_\_\_\_ Present  Past

District: \_\_\_\_\_ Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

#### PLEASE NOTE:

- Every Lion, Lioness, Leo or Guest must be registered by using this form with payment made payable to **“St Davids & District Lions - Convention Account”**
- Registration payments must accompany this form and be forwarded to the Convention Registration Chair at the address shown on Page 2.
- Registrations will be confirmed to e-mail address provided. Payments will not be refunded after April 10, 2018.
- Ticket sales at the convention must be authorized by the MD-A 2018 – Niagara Convention Committee.

**CONVENTION REGISTRATION – Page 2**

	A	B	Total
REGISTRATION Fee .....	___ x \$ 25.00..	___ x \$ 25.00 ....	= \$ _____
LEO Member Registration .....	___ x \$ 00.00..	___ x \$ 00.00 ....	= \$ <u>0.00</u> _____
CONVENTION Pin/s .....	___ x \$ 4.00..	___ x \$ 4.00 ....	= \$ _____
FRIDAY PID/PDG/DG/DGE - Dinner .....	___ x \$ 48.00..	___ x \$ 48.00 ....	= \$ _____
FRIDAY Social Event .....	___ x \$ 10.00..	___ x \$ 10.00 ....	= \$ _____
SATURDAY – JJ Kapps (Buffet Breakfast) ..	___ x \$ 16.00..	___ x \$ 16.00 ....	= \$ _____
SATURDAY - International Luncheon	___ x \$ 24.00..	___ x \$ 24.00 ....	= \$ _____
SUNDAY – JJ Kapps (Buffet Breakfast) ...	___ x \$ 16.00..	___ x \$ 16.00 ....	= \$ _____
VENDOR Table (each table + registration fee) .....	___ x \$ 35.00..	.....	= \$ _____
Sunday Registration \$10 Cash		Total Deposit	= \$ _____

*PLEASE ADVISE SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS: Diabetic, Vegetarian, Gluten Free or Specify*  
 For A \_\_\_\_\_ For B: \_\_\_\_\_

Room Reservations

Contact the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites St. Catharines Conference Centre

*( use of 3rd party reservation systems for your reservation will void our room agreement)*



Toll Free: 1-877-688-2324 — Direct Phone Number: 905-688-2324

*State Your Room Night Requirements (Thursday, Friday or Saturday)*

**Holiday Inn**  
& Suites

Lions Hotel Rate per night: \$130.00 (plus tax and fees)

Reference Code: **MDA** (Beginning May 23, 2017 – Ends April 10, 2018)

**Hotel Terms and Conditions**

1. Any reservation within our group can be modified or cancelled **24 hours prior to arrival** (by 4pm hotel local time).
2. You may cancel additional nights at least **24 hours prior to your departure** (by 3pm hotel local time). Cancellation after this time will be subject to an early departure fee of 50% of the room rate.
3. Check-in time is after **3:00 pm** - Early Check-in is not guaranteed but may be requested.
4. Checkout time is **11:00 am** . Late checkouts are subject to a 50% room rate fee.

Forward this Form with Cheque or Money Order  
 Made Payable to “**St Davids & District Lions - Convention Account**”  
 PCC Bradd Anderson, 8138 Fatima Court, Niagara Falls, ON L2H 2Y8  
 Phone: 905-353-0175 Email: [mdacon2018@gmail.com](mailto:mdacon2018@gmail.com)  
 Visit [www.stdavidslions.ca](http://www.stdavidslions.ca) for additional information.

# The Power of We

## Going forward to strengthen our Family and Women's membership.

PDG Diane M. Smith District A-15

Every Lion's year brings change. It provides an opportunity to improve and to build on what has gone before. This year the GLT/GMT framework is restructuring to include a Global Service Team [GST]. These teams will fall under the umbrella of the Global Action Team [GAT]. At the International level, the GAT Chair is Past International President, Wing-Kun Tam.

At our MDA level, the GMT component will be modified to reflect areas of focus rather than geography. We will have a coordinator in such areas as Leo clubs, ethno-centric clubs and Family and Women's membership. I am happy to represent you in the area of Family and Women's membership. In sociology there is a term, "critical mass", that has come to mean the point at which a minority begins to change the tone and the policies of the institution it has begun to integrate\*. In most organizations that point is thought to be 20-30%. In Lions, as it applies to the number of women members, we have reached that point. The chart reflects the membership numbers for Family and Women as of July 31, 2017.

We are doing well, but we can do better. We need more women to bolster our overall membership numbers to serve more people in need; we need more women to balance out ideas and we need more women to influence results and aid in bringing about effective outcomes.

My immediate goals for this portfolio in MDA are:

- Have a Family and Women's membership coordinator for each of our ten Districts
- Increase overall Women's membership in each District by a minimum of 2%
- Have each club plan a meeting for this Lions year that will focus on a program that will be of particular interest to women for e.g. - Caring for elderly parents; women's health fair; an international dinner highlighting a particular third world country with money raised dedicated to educating girls in that country.

If we all work together, we will see an increase in the growth and participation of women in Lionism.

Achieving this goal is critical to the overall health of our association.

CURRENT				
Dist #	WOMEN	WOMEN	FAMILY	FAMILY
	TOTAL	%	TOTAL	%
A1	274	22.10%	208	16.77%
A2	155	12.27%	127	10.06%
A3	473	37.04%	352	27.56%
A4	351	23.85%	225	15.29%
A5	502	40.45%	237	19.10%
A7/11	478	33.64%	215	15.13%
A9	327	26.94%	232	19.11%
A12	359	34.92%	246	23.93%
A15	372	25.60%	162	11.15%
A16	373	29.14%	320	25.00%
<b>MD A</b>	<b>3664</b>	<b>28.43%</b>	<b>2324</b>	<b>18.03%</b>

\*Jay-Newton Small Washington correspondent for TIME magazine

## Les Lions aident des enfants avec leur retour à l'école

À la demande de La Maison de la famille Vallée-de-la-Lièvre et le Centre Actu-Elle, Le **Club Lions de Buckingham** s'est joint, comme partenaire - à ces organismes communautaires qui visent (via leurs programmes et leurs activités) à l'épanouissement des familles de leur territoire.

Le Club Lions de Buckingham est fier d'agir comme partenaire du programme retour en classe, qui permet aux familles à faible revenu d'obtenir des fournitures scolaires à un rabais du prix courant.

Sachant que de nombreuses familles vivent une période des plus stressantes à la rentrée scolaire,

le Club Lions veut aider ces familles afin que les enfants puissent commencer l'école sans souci. Il est important que nous puissions unir nos efforts afin d'améliorer la qualité de vie des jeunes étudiants et leurs parents. Le soutien des Lions aide à améliorer la qualité de vie des enfants de notre collectivité.

Le Club Lions a remis un don de 2000 \$ pour aider à réaliser ce projet.

Il est important que le Club Lions se préoccupe du bien-être des familles de notre secteur. Avec l'appui de la population, le Club Lions pourra continuer son implication et son soutien afin qu'ensemble nous

puissions améliorer la qualité de vie des enfants de notre collectivité.

Cette activité a eu lieu jeudi le 17, et vendredi le 18 août dernier – au Centre communautaire de Buckingham.

**Lion Ed D'entremont (trésorier), Lion Roger Payette (secrétaire), Mme Claude Harvey (Formatrice), Mme Servane Chesnais (Directrice générale-Centre Actu-Elle) et Lion Richard Chartrand (président du Club Lions)**



**Lion Ed D'entremont (treasurer), Lion Roger Payette (secretary), Mrs. Claude Harvey, Mrs. Servane Chesnais and Lion Richard Chartrand (Club president)**

life for the children of our community.

This event took place on Thursday, August 17th, and Friday, August 18th - at the Buckingham Community Centre.

## The Lions Club helps families and children for their back to school

At the request of two family organizations La Maison de la famille Vallée-de-la-Lièvre and the Centre Actu-Elle, the **Lions Club of Buckingham** joined, as a partner with these community organizations which aim (through their programs and activities) to the flourishing of the families in their area.

The Buckingham Lions Club is proud to be a partner in the back-to-school program, which allows low-income families to get school supplies at a discounted price.

Knowing that many families are experiencing a most stressful time at the beginning of the school

year, the Lions Club wants to help these families so that children can start school without worry. It is important that we can work together to improve the quality of life for young students and their parents. Lions support helps improve the quality of life for children in our community.

The Lions Club donated \$2,000 to help carry out this project.

It is important to the Lions Club about the well-being of families in our sector. With the support of the public, the Lions Club will continue to be involved to support so that together we can improve the quality of



# Multiple District "A" Historian

Planning a convention, learning weekend, workshop, seminar, club charter or an anniversary we have several presentations to consider:

- Royal Order of Lions
- How Lions International Began
- Melvin Jones Biography
- District "A" History
- Harry Newman Biography
- Helen Keller Convention
- Symbols In Lions
- Who Put the "L" In Lions?
- 100 Years of Lions Milestones
- History of Lions In Canada
- Walking with Melvin in Chicago



Do you have a club history, documents or memorabilia that you would like to share? Has someone passed and left Lions things that aren't needed anymore? Do you need information regarding Lions history?

We may have some answers and solutions, contact Ray Charbonneau [razart@rogers.com](mailto:razart@rogers.com) or 416-261-8037 and let us help..

## MDA Directory Information

### Council of Governors' Meeting Dates

- Council Meeting - September 8-9, 2017
- Council Meeting - November 3-4, 2017
- Council Meeting - February 23-24, 2018
- Council Meeting Convention - May 11-13, 2018

### District Conventions

Dist	Location	Date
A1	Four Points by Sheraton, Wellington Road, London	April 13-15, 2018
A2	Holiday Inn & Suites Parkway, St. Catharines	March 23-25, 2018
A3	Ambassador Hotel & Conference Resort, Kingston	April 13-15, 2018
A4	Navcan Centre, Montreal Street, Cornwall	April 13-15, 2018
A5	TBA Sudbury	April 20-22, 2018
A711	Holiday Inn Intl. Airport, 970 Dixon Road, Toronto	April 20-22, 2018
A9	Marriott Town Suites Hotel, Kincardine	April 27-29, 2018
A12	TBA	
A15	Holiday Inn, Scottsdale Drive, Guelph	April 13-15, 2018
A16	Pinestone Resort & Conference Centre, Haliburton	April 27-29, 2018

## IMPORTANT DATES

### MDA Convention

2017/18	Holiday Inn & Suites Parkway Conference Centre, St. Catharines, Ontario	May 10 - 13, 2018
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### International Conventions

101st	Las Vegas, Nevada, USA	June 29 - July 3, 2018
102nd	Milan, Italy	July 5 - 9, 2019
103rd	Singapore, Singapore	June 26 - 30, 2020
104th	Montreal, Canada	June 25 - 29, 2021
105th	New Delhi, India	July 1 - 5, 2022
106th	Boston, Massachusetts, USA	July 7 - 11, 2023
107th	Melbourne, Australia	June 21 - 25, 2024

### USA - Canada Forums

Sept 21 - 23, 2017	Portland, Oregon
Sept 20 - 22, 2018	Columbus, Ohio
Sept 19 - 21, 2019	Spokane, Washington
Sept 15 - 16, 2020	Louisville, Kentucky



# Renfrew and Bancroft Lions Districts A-4 & A-3 and Lions Foundation of Canada

In May, Katie and Jewel Keca set out from Mahone Bay, Nova Scotia to ride their horses Lux and Ora, across Canada. In early July, they stopped to feed and water their horses in Renfrew where the Lions made a donation to their project.

Along their route, they are raising money and awareness for the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guide Program with a goal to raise \$25,000, the cost of raising and training a dog guide for a visually impaired Canadian. The two sisters from Grimsby, ON are calling their journey the "Two Sisters on Horseback Ride across Canada 2017". Their older brother is accompanying them taking pictures and video and helping out wherever he can. Shown in the Renfrew photo are Lions **John Bromilow** and **Doug Headrick** with Jewel and Katie Keca and Lion **Don Goulet**.

The trio are making their way through MD'A' and



Renfrew Lions

also made a stop in Bancroft for more support. Shown in the photo are the girls and Bancroft Lion **Laverne Stapley** with guide dog in training, Balta. Such a Great Initiative!

Donations can be made through their "Shop Now" at the top of their FB page:

[facebook.com/kecingcanada](https://www.facebook.com/kecingcanada).



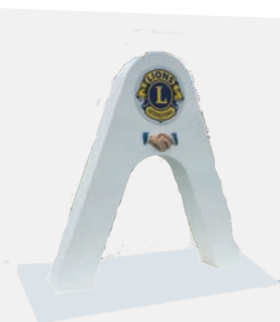
Bancroft Lions

# Shelburne Lions

The Lions of Shelburne were up front and centre in the parade in conjunction with the Heritage Music Festival in Shelburne recently. They are proudly displaying the Lions Centennial flag. The festival was formerly known as the Canadian Open Fiddle Championship.



## FRIENDSHIP ARCHES



MD "A" clubs are encouraged to consider purchase of an Arch.

They are symbolic of a successful Lions Club and as an ongoing reminder to the communities that support them and care about the great work Lions do.

Both concrete and fibreglass are available. They are the same size. the fibreglass model requires decals that can be purchased through the Lions Store. Thorndale Lions are now distributing both models. Prices are \$3000.00 for concrete and \$3,200.00 for fibreglass.

Further information is available by contacting the Thorndale Lions, contact is PDG Lion Eric Holmden, 705-653-3075 or [eric.holmden@eastlink.ca](mailto:eric.holmden@eastlink.ca)

## District A-1 Teamwork

Lions from Strathroy, Mt. Brydges, Poplar Hill, Ilderton and Lucan all helped to purchase a new van for the Middlesex-Elgin VON in June to replace their old one that was no longer serviceable. Great Work Lions!



## WINDSOR DOWNTOWN LIONS



Do you know what's happening March 21, 2020 ?  
You might need an old calendar to figure it out, more to follow...

**HOW TO GET INTO THE LION**  
**Contact your District Reporter**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**District Reporters**

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.

- |             |                        |        |                           |
|-------------|------------------------|--------|---------------------------|
| <b>A1</b>   | Lion Barb Tuxford      | email: | lionbarbtuxford@gmail.com |
| <b>A2</b>   | Lion Wayne Scott       | email: | w.scott@a2lions.org       |
| <b>A3</b>   | Lion Wilma Bush        | email: | wilma.bush@sympatico.ca   |
| <b>A4</b>   | Lion Sandra Baldwin    | email: | sbaldwin@rogers.com       |
| <b>A5</b>   | Lion Brenda Lalonde    | email: | bmlsudbury@hotmail.com    |
| <b>A711</b> | Lion Ilkka Ahola       | email: | iahola02@gmail.com        |
| <b>A9</b>   | Lion Mike Murphy       | email: | Mmike45@gmail.com         |
| <b>A12</b>  | Lion Kierstan Hargrave | email: | kier4290@gmail.com        |
| <b>A15</b>  | Lion Gerry Haliburton  | email: | bulletin@a15lions.org     |
| <b>A16</b>  | Lion Micheline Lush    | email: | mlush@lionsa16.org        |

**Lion Bob Pearson, Senior Editor** email: mdathelionmag@hotmail.com

**Charlton Englehart Lions**

The Charlton Englehart Lions Club is proud to present their Lion of the Year for the centennial year, Lion **John Craig**. Lion John has been a dedicated member of the Club for the past 10 plus years. NO is a word that has never been in his vocabulary. He has helped out on every function the Club has ever had, including setting up halls for rentals, delivering wheelchairs, parking for the Steam Show, Christmas Seniors supper, Highway clean-up, selling tickets for the Treasure Chest, and many many other activities. He has worked tirelessly behind the scenes, an unsung hero. Although not seen, his work has spoken volumes in all of the help he has given to his community.

Let's join the Charlton Englehart Lions Club in congratulating Lion John Craig for this well deserved honour. Lion John is shown receiving his award from Lion Chief **Betty Warren**.



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**Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842**

or e-mail the info below to:  
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*(include all code numbers)*

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City: \_\_\_\_\_

Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Club #: \_\_\_\_\_ Member #: \_\_\_\_\_

Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**To cancel delivery please contact your club secretary. All changes may take one or two issues to become effective.**

**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](http://www.mdalions.org) and clicking on "**Lions Resource Centre**" on the left side of the page.

**UNDELIVERABLE LION MAGAZINES**

Each issue that is mailed results in a large number of returns because of incomplete address information.

Your assistance is requested in that if you know of any of your members that are not receiving their magazine to contact their club secretary to ensure the members info on file at LCI is accurate.

The most common reason is lack of a proper street number, name and/or postal code.

## Campbellford Lions

Campbellford Lions held a grocery lottery draw as a fundraiser for their Centennial Community Legacy Project. Proceeds were directed to 'Lions For Sight' campaign to purchase cataract surgery equipment at Peterborough Regional Health Centre. Co-chairs Lion **Eric Holmden** on left and Lion **Fred Lee** on right with winners of draw.



## Fowlers Corners and District Lions Club

A wonderful evening of laughter, fellowship and presentation of awards was held at our Annual Year End Dinner and Awards Night on June 9th, 2017.

District Governor **David Mills** was present to present the awards along with our Past President **Scott Mason** and President **Carl Young**. The club has now purchased new shirts, this is a group of those in attendance sporting the new shirts.

A great year at Fowlers Corners and now on to a new year under the leadership of President **Donna Harrison**.



## Madoc Lions

Don Fitzgibbon was very happy to receive his mobility scooter from Madoc Lions Club. Part of the funds were generated from a successful golf tournament put on by the Madoc Lions and the Moira Lake Property Owners Association.



L-R Lions **Lee Bowman, Pauline Bowman, Tom Simpson, Larry Bradley**



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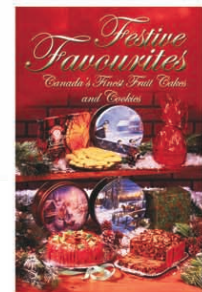
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# POPLAR HILL LIONS LEAD THE PARADE!!!



The Poplar Hill Lions and the crew of the “Hillbilly Float” made history for their clubs and MD “A” by coming first in the Chicago convention parade, the following is a synopsis of an article submitted by Lions **Rick Castle** and **Barb Tuxford**.

The “Hillbilly Float” has been part of the Poplar Hill Lions Club for a long time, it was originally conceived by Lion Rick Castle and was a source of entertainment in the community and created well deserved recognition for the club. Lion Rick moved from the area and the float found its way to the back burner for a period of time. Rick moved back to Poplar Hill in 2012 and rejoined the Lions. The float was stored under the grandstand in the park. Rick received support from the club to resurrect the float. With the help of Lions **Jeff Zavitz** “Cletus”, **Bert Vanderwal** “Cousin Bert” and **Jerry Bergsma** “Jim Bob”, Lion Rick “Uncle Buck” and the Poplar Hill Hillbillies rose again in 2013, Lion **Barb Tuxford** “Barbara Ann” (**Ailsa Craig Lions**) joined and since that time many awards have been received. In 2015 **Shirley Livingston** “Grannie” came on board and has since joined the club.

This float has been a labour of love for everyone, evolving over the years with new decorations and features. The float was rebuilt to go to Chicago, lumber was an issue when crossing the border. Lion Rick and the crew rebuilt it using tin. After setbacks that included an almost overwhelming amount of paperwork and in conjunction with financial assistance from District A 1 and Poplar Hill Lions amongst others the float arrived in Chicago.

It was reassembled from the ground up in about two hours. An amazing morning for everyone



involved. Lions **Rob** and **Pam Harbottle** of the **Hyde Park Lions** joined us in Chicago to carry our Poplar Hill banner and are now part of our Hillbilly Family.

The float will continue to be part of local festivities but on behalf of all of our crew, there was no feeling like the Lions 100th International Parade. The love and response received from spectators and other parade participants, was overwhelming and winning **BEST FLOAT** overall certainly topped off a great Lion’s experience.

Thank you to everyone who believed we could do this!



L-R: Lions Rick Castle, Jeff Zavitz, Jerry Bergsma, Barb Tuxford, seated is Lion Shirley Livingston, not present is Lion Bert Vanderwal. One of Chicago’s finest is in the foreground

Following the induction of the District Governors from all over the world, our group from MD‘A’ are shown in the photo.



Agreement Number is:  
41805020\*

