

# L I O N



M.D. "A" Edition April/May/June 2021

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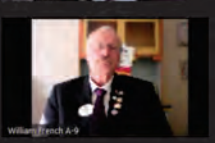
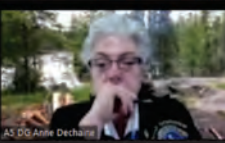
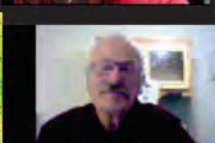
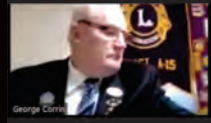
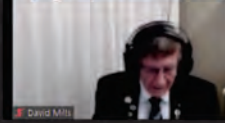
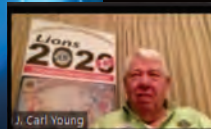
**We Serve**

## 2021 Lions in a Virtual World

MD-A CONVENTION BANNER PARADE



Click On This Image To View The Banner Parade.....



A young child with brown hair, wearing a blue long-sleeved shirt and tan overalls, is walking on a paved path. The child is holding a cane with a black handle and a red tip. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with greenery and a building.

Improving Vision.

Preventing Diabetes.

Protecting the  
Environment.

Eliminating Hunger.

Supporting Children  
with Cancer.

**The Lions Clubs  
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tackles many crucial  
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**We share your values. We're proud to have your back.**

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# THE Lion

Welcome to the April/May/June Edition of the LION.

To submit stories, photos, comments or suggestions, please utilize the services of your District Reporter. For photos, try to ensure your camera and/or smartphone is at the highest setting to provide quality images. The camera quality of most smartphones available today is excellent. A minimum of 300 DPI is desired. Images copied from the internet and/or Facebook or other social media are usually unsuitable.



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

Management Committee Lion Magazine  
Lion David Mills PDG • Lion Dave Hewitt PDG



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Agreement Number is:  
41805020\*

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**Immediate Past President** Gudrun Yngvadottir, Iceland;  
**First Vice President** Douglas X. Alexander, United States;  
**Second Vice President** Brian E. Sheehan, United States;  
**Third Vice President** Dr. Patti Hill, Canada.  
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Muhammad Adrees, Pakistan; Qazi Akram Uddin Ahmed, Bangladesh; Shoichi Anzawa, Japan; Billy J. (B.J.) Blankenship, United States; Gary F. Brown, United States; Rodolfo Espinal, Dominican Republic; Liao-Chuan Huang, MD 300 Taiwan; Jongseok Kim, Korea; Dr. Nawal Jugalkishor Malu, India; Geoffrey Leeder, England; Mark S. Lyon, United States; Heimo Potinkara, Finland; JP Singh, India; Steve Thornton, United States; Juswan Tjoe, Indonesia; A. Geoffrey Wade, United States; Dr. Walter Zemrosser, Austria.

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## Lessons from the Pandemic



**Dr. Jung-Yul Choi**  
**International President**  
**Lions Clubs International**

Greetings Lions,

Out of all the diverse talents Lions possess, one in particular seems to be consistent across clubs and constitutional areas: the ability to turn difficult situations into opportunities.

Now that we are well into 2021, more than a year since the first lockdowns began, many clubs have adjusted to a new normal. The rules of the pandemic no longer seem strange, they are simply a part of our life.

While we know it won't be this way forever, some of the adaptations clubs have made in the past year have been truly innovative. And it's worth looking at whether they just may have a place in our service beyond the pandemic.

For instance, we now have meetings without being in the same room. Virtual meetings have enabled Lions to serve safely during the pandemic, and they've also opened the door to new possibilities. I often hear parents or young people just starting out in their careers tell me that they would love to serve, but they can't find the time to attend meetings. But what

if those meetings were in their home? And all it required was an internet connection and an hour of their time? No rushing in traffic and no babysitter required.

We have the potential to radically change how we serve. This doesn't mean every club should move to virtual meetings. But it does mean that every club should examine what changes it has made over the past year that may be worth keeping.

Traditions are wonderful. Lions, especially, love keeping the familiar close at hand. But traditions can and do evolve, just as we do. Let's take this month, in which we focus on strengthening our membership, to discover how we can evolve and use the lessons of the past year as a guide for the future.

Sincerely,

*Jung-Yul Choi*

**Dr. Jung-Yul Choi**  
**International President, Lions Clubs International**

## Showing Up

Greetings Lions,

The two years that I have had the great honor of serving as your international president have been some of the most memorable and meaningful of my life. It's inevitable that one goes into this role with a set of expectations about how it will be, but I can surely say that my tenure in this role was nothing like I expected and far exceeded all my expectations.

While I never anticipated I would serve two full terms as your international president, the past sixteen months have been different than we all imagined.

This year has changed me. And I know it's changed you, too. We head into the 2021-2022

Lion year as new Lions, ready to take on anything. Because we have shown that we can take on anything. I have been amazed every day by the ingenuity and dedication I see from Lions. But even more, I've been astonished at how your kindness has always shone so brightly.

My experiences as your president have shown me that I, too, have so much still to learn about life. And I learned those lessons from you. From you, I learned what perseverance really looks like. From you, I learned what kindness really means. And from you I learned what service truly is – it's giving even when you have nothing. It's finding something in yourself to be of service to another no matter how hard your own life is. Because no

matter how hard our circumstances, Lions know there is always someone whose circumstances are more dire. There is always someone who needs us. And you, Lions, have shown me what it means to show up, truly, when everything is at stake.

I am humbled, as ever, to have served as your president. I thank you profusely for the honor.

Sincerely,

*Jung-Yul Choi*

**Dr. Jung-Yul Choi**  
**International President, Lions Clubs International**

## Adopt a Senior Program

Back in October, the **Batawa Lions** wanted to look for ways to help the community during the Pandemic and recognized that many of its Seniors could use support in dealing with the isolation and uncertainty that the Pandemic presented.

Lions Diane, Gwen and Ron spearheaded a discussion on how Batawa could develop a program that would provide much needed support and service to Batawa Seniors. They came up with a program that provided the opportunity to call on Lions for necessary items and services.

Eight seniors are currently part of the program and feedback has been incredibly positive. To date they have been provided with meals, transportation to

vaccine appointments, social interaction and safety checks. They have been delighted to receive flowers and plants, valentine chocolates, hand sanitizer and masks, as well as homemade frozen dinners.

The program has received thank you cards and expressions of gratitude from the participants.





# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Virtual On-Line Meeting, Oak Brook, Illinois, USA – April 12-21, 2021



### AUDIT COMMITTEE

- The committee received an update from Lions Clubs International Internal Audit including the scope, overall audit rating, and audit observations for completed audit projects. Follow-up on observations will be performed as part of the internal audit process.
- The committee received an overview of Enterprise Risk Management providing and understanding of the initial steps and approach taken in implementing an organizational risk management framework.
- The LCIF Grants Compliance Department provided an overview of the LCIF Grants Compliance process and an update on Grants Compliance priorities.

### CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

- Removed District Governor Cheng-Yu Lu from the office of district governor in District 300-C3 (MD 300 Taiwan) for breach of duty and failure to comply with the International Constitution and By-Laws and policies of the International Board of Directors. Directed the Changhua Yuan Ching Lions Club to revoke the membership of Cheng-Yu Lu for conduct unbecoming a Lion. Declared that Cheng-Yu Lu shall not be recognized in the future as a Lion or as a past district governor by Lions Clubs International or any club or district, and that he shall not be eligible for future membership in Lionism. Appointed Immediate Past District Governor Hsueh Chu Hsu to fill the vacancy in the office of district governor for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- Directed the Banska Bystrica Lions Club to revoke the membership of Pavol Mora and directed the Heart of Slovakia Lions Club to revoke the membership of Bohumir Kratky for conduct unbecoming a Lion. Declared that Pavol Mora and Bohumir Kratky shall not be recognized in the future as a Lion by Lions Clubs International or any club or district, and that they shall not be eligible for future membership in Lionism.
- Reviewed the background and received an update on the issues surrounding the undistricted clubs of Cyprus and requested Legal Division staff to continue monitoring the situation and provide appropriate communications to ensure compliance with board policy.
- Declared that former member Nebojsa Davidovski not be eligible for future

- membership in Lionism and that he not be recognized in the future as a Lion.
- Revised Chapter VI, Paragraph B.1. of the Board Policy Manual to correct an inaccurate reference.
  - Revised Chapter XVIII, Paragraph H.1. of the Board Policy Manual to remove unnecessary language.
  - Drafted a resolution to be reported to the 2021 International Convention to amend Article V, Section 4(a) of the International Constitution to authorize the International Board of Directors to approve alternative procedures for electing executive officers and international directors when an international convention cannot be convened.
  - Drafted a resolution to be reported to the 2021 International Convention to amend Article IX, Section 6(c) of the International By-Laws to amend the qualifications of the second vice district governor so that Lions who previously served as a district governor would not be eligible to be elected as second vice district governor.

### CONVENTION COMMITTEE

- Reviewed and approved plans for the virtual 2021 International Convention.
- Set registration fees for the 2022 International Convention.
- Continued to assess the viability of Delhi as the destination for the 2022 International Convention due to the ongoing pandemic.

### DISTRICT AND CLUB SERVICE COMMITTEE

- Approved revised requirements for the Club Excellence Award and the District Excellence Award.
- Approved the change to redistrict of District 300-C3 into District 300D-3 and District 300D-5 to create Multiple District 300D from the close of the 2023 International Convention to the close of the 2021 International Convention.
- Approved renaming the district names within Multiple District 324.
- Appointed Lion leaders to serve as the Coordinating Lions for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.
- Requested a constitutional amendment be placed before the delegates during the 2021 International Convention to make past district governors ineligible to be elected to the position of second vice district governor or fill

- the vacancy of a first or second vice district governor. If approved by the delegates, the revisions will take effect July 1, 2022.
- Approved an optional provision to provide a position for a Leo or Leo Lion to serve as an advisor to the Cabinet or Council in the district and multiple district Standard Form By-Laws.

### FINANCE & HEADQUARTERS OPERATION COMMITTEE

- Approved the FY 2020-2021 third quarter forecast, reflecting a surplus.
- Authorized Gloria Giri, Regional Manager of the ISAME office, to act as signatory on behalf of the International Association of Lions Clubs in India by approving the board resolution for Import Export Compliance (IEC).
- Recommended that due to the impact of the global pandemic and the effect it has had on Lions around the world along with the associations surplus resulting from reduced expenses and increased investment returns, the Finance and Headquarters Operation Committee recommends deferring the vote on the international dues increase to June 2022 with the increase to be effective in the July 2023, July 2024, and July 2025.

### LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- Confirmed the final preparations for the virtual 2021 First Vice District Governor/District Governor-elect (FVDG/DGE) Seminar Days 1-3, which will take place between the weeks of April 19-June 6, 2021 and Seminar Day 4, which will take place on June 25, 2021.
- Approved the proposed leadership institutes schedule for 2021-2022.
- Encouraged Multiple District 11 (Michigan, USA) to continue their pilot for another year to refine their support and accountability process for GAT coordinators.

### LONG RANGE PLANNING (JANUARY 2021 MEETING REPORT)

- Reviewed progress and provided input on the Lions International strategic plan, and expressed gratitude to LCI Project Team Chairperson, Past International Director Joyce Middleton, the entire project team, and staff for their hard work.
- Reviewed and agreed with recommended enhancements to the roles and responsibilities for District leadership. These changes aim to provide clarity, strategic focus and emphasize

plan development, team creation, goal achievement, and continuity from year-to-year.

- Received a presentation from First Vice President Douglas X. Alexander on his theme and messaging for 2021-2022 and wished him a very successful year as international president.

#### **MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

- Reviewed budget forecasts FY 2021-2022 division budget.
- Reviewed and approved updated PR Grants program profile and application updates.
- Reviewed a marketing award designed to incentivize clubs for recognizing achievements in marketing. A decision on whether to move forward with funding this new award will be considered at a future meeting.
- Reviewed and approved plans and funding for the 2022 Tournament of Roses Parade sponsorship.
- Reviewed updates on brand and visibility programs including social media, website enhancements, global advertising campaign, public relations programs, PSA pilots, and video center.
- Reviewed draft updates to protocol. The committee referred the matter to the Long Range Planning Committee for review and feedback.
- Reviewed plans to add “Nepali” as an official language of Lions Clubs International. Approved a change to the list of languages noted in Chapter XX., Paragraph J., Section 1. of the Board Policy Manual to include “Nepali” as an official language of Lions Clubs International.
- Revised Board Policy Chapter XIX to change the awards table to clarify the role of the LCIF Board of Trustees as a reviewer for LCIF Humanitarian Award candidates.

#### **MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

- Discontinued “Involve a Veteran” pilot program on June 30, 2021 at the conclusion of the pilot.
- Approved the Global Membership Approach to support membership development globally.
- Approved “Join Together” as a new program initiative.
- Reallocated Membership Development Grant funding by moving US\$5000 from CA I to CA VII.
- Updated language in Chapter III to allow Leo-Lion Board Liaisons to attend multiple Leo Forums.
- Updated language in Chapter XXI to allow a travel budget for Leo-Lion Board Liaisons.

#### **SERVICE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE**

- Received a report on service reporting, including the number of people served, the number of service activities, and the percent of clubs reporting service.
- Received an update on advocacy events, including Lions Day with the United Nations and Lions Day on Capitol Hill, both held virtually this year.
- Discussed enhancements to the Lions Representatives to the United Nations program.
- Received an update on LCI’s partnership with the Association of Diabetes Care and Education Specialists.
- Received an update on all service programs and discussed feedback from Youth Camps and Exchange chairpersons.
- Discussed enhancements to the Kindness Matters Service Award.

#### **TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE**

- The committee received an update on the status of supporting the upcoming virtual convention. The committee reviewed next steps and requested staff provide frequent updates on progress.
- Your committee was also updated on the status of planning for a virtual election. The committee had the opportunity to successfully test the electronic voting system and approved its use for the international election.
- The committee reviewed the draft Lions International Strategic Plan and was pleased with the comprehensiveness and detail. In addition, the committee specifically discussed the impact of the strategic plan on the Technology Division and planned priorities and awaits updates regarding additional requests that may come.
- The committee had a comprehensive discussion on product initiatives. The committee discussed the need to improve adoption of the digital products and instructed staff to continue their efforts with Marketing and Global Action Team (GAT) staff to identify ways to increase member awareness of the products.
- The committee reviewed updates from the Service Activities Committee on service reporting data. The committee requested a meeting with the Service Activities Committee at an upcoming board meeting to discuss ways to improve service data, including dynamic metrics based on the activity.
- The committee received updates on privacy initiatives and ongoing steps being taken related to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The committee approves

the security and privacy initiatives planned for the next three to six months.

- The committee reviewed the 2020-2021 third quarter budget forecast and the proposed fiscal year 2021-2022 budget for the Technology Division. The committee noted there was a negative variance between 2019 actuals and 2021-2022 budget, however, was satisfied with the explanation provided by staff on the factors contributing to the variance.
- The committee reviewed the 2021-2022 budget for eCommerce & Club Supplies. The budget had a positive variance compared with 2019 actuals, which was attributed to adjustments made to the headquarters allocation. The committee agreed with plans to launch a new eCommerce store front for Japan, currently planned for the fourth quarter.

***For more information on any of the above resolutions, please refer to the LCI Web site at [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org) or contact the International Office at 630-571-5466.***

## **District A-2 Camp Dorset**

Lions Camp Dorset was fortunate enough to be gifted 20 new Dialysis Machines to replace the outdated ones. Donated to the Camp by Fresenius Medical Care, a leading provider of products and services for individuals with renal disease, and which supports 3.7 million patients worldwide with lifesaving equipment like this.

The old machines have been refurbished and donated to a medical facility in Puerto Rico.



***PDG Russ Carroll (Camp Dorset Board President) PDG Bill MacKenzie (A-2 Lions Board Director) and Lion Jeremy Schumacher (Camp Dorset General Manager)***

## 2020-2021 PEACE POSTER CONTEST FINALISTS "Peace Through Service"



### Grand Prize Winner – Yue Zheng

13 years old;  
Sponsored by  
Dalian De Long  
Lions Club China



**Merit Award Winner – Leticia Coelho Vieira,**  
13 years old; Sponsored by: Tatui Lions Club Brazil

**Merit Award Winner – Victor Petrov,** 11 years old; Sponsored by: Russe Sexaginta Prista Lions Club Bulgaria

**Merit Award Winner – Ya Wen Cao,** 11 years old; Sponsored by: Beijing Star Lions Club China

**Merit Award Winner – Aimi Huang,** 12 years old; Sponsored by: Yi Jia Ren Lions Club China

**Merit Award Winner – Fangyu Qiao,** 12 years old; Sponsored by: Jilin Ren Ai Lions Club China

**Merit Award Winner – Jia Qi Qiao,** 13 years old; Sponsored by: Shaanxi Xian Qinhan Lions Club China

**Merit Award Winner – Yixin Sun,** 12 years old; Sponsored by: Qingdao Hexin Lions Club China

**Merit Award Winner – Tianyue Wu,** 11 years old; Sponsored by: China Guangdong Lingnan Lions Club China

**Merit Award Winner – Xinying Shao,** 11 years old; Sponsored by: Shenyang Ai Zhang Lions Club China

**Merit Award Winner – Qiuran Yu,** 13 years old; Sponsored by: Harbin Le Shan Lions Club China

**Merit Award Winner – Catherine Fan,** 13 years old; Sponsored by: Kowloon Beacon Hill Lions Club Hong Kong

**Merit Award Winner – Srushti Deshmukh,** 12 years old; Sponsored by: Satara United Lions Club India

**Merit Award Winner – Jashwith Thota,** 11 years old; Sponsored by: Panja Thampuram Lions Club India

**Merit Award Winner – Naura Keylasafa Putri,** 13 years old; Sponsored by: Jakarta Gading Cemara Lions Club Indonesia

**Merit Award Winner – Lorenza Iannelli,** 11 years old; Sponsored by: Formia Lions Club Italy

**Merit Award Winner – Wu Gin How,** 13 years old; Sponsored by: JB Centennial Lions Club Malaysia

**Merit Award Winner – Pei-Yun Tsai,** 12 years old; Sponsored by: New Taipei City Yung Ho Lions Club MD 300 Taiwan

**Merit Award Winner – Jhae Aubrey Nubla,** 11 years old; Sponsored by: Caloocan City Grace Park Lions Club Philippines

**Merit Award Winner – Daphne Kim,** 11 years old; Sponsored by: Los Angeles New Millennium Lions Club California, USA

**Merit Award Winner – Dakota Bennett,** 12 years old; Sponsored by: Galena Route 66 Lions Club Kansas, USA

**Merit Award Winner – Kate Hunkins,** 13 years old; Sponsored by: Rochester '76 Lions Club Minnesota, USA

### PEACE ESSAY WINNER

#### Joshua Wood, 13 years old

Australia  
Sponsored by the  
Brisbane Camphill  
Carindale Lions  
Club



**Merit Award Winner – Chloe Retuya,** 13 years old; Sponsored by: Cheshire Lions Club Connecticut, USA

**Merit Award Winner – Isadora Tomines,** 12 years old; Sponsored by: Miami Buenavista-Biltmore Lions Club Florida, USA

## Tillsonburg Lions

Local retired farmer and Tillsonburg Lions Club member, **Paul DeCloet** donated a 50-hectare parcel of land to Norfolk County in 2021, bringing to fruition his vision: that this sensitive area, very near to his heart, is protected in perpetuity. The 50-hectare parcel of land, to now be called "The Paul DeCloet Forest", is in the Clear Creek Valley, which is recognized as a "Significant Natural Site" in Norfolk County's Official Plan.

The two main branches of Clear Creek converge within the forest before emptying into Lake Erie, approximately seven kilometers downstream. There are 26 different species of trees located within the parcel. The Long Point area serves as an important passage and stopover location for migratory birds and waterfowl. Lion Paul started farming by continuing the family tobacco-growing tradition but soon diversified into Christmas trees, many of which were provided for Lions Club fund-raisers. This particular forest became his pride and joy. Through an agreement with the Ministry of Natural Resources, Mr. DeCloet intensively managed the forest, producing high quality timber.

As a Lions Club member, Paul spearheaded the District A-2 Lions tree

planting projects of over 30,000 trees since 2012 on Nature Conservancy of Canada properties. Trees are also a hobby for Mr. DeCloet. He raises tulip trees, which he happily shares with local residents. Over his life, he has planted more than 100,000 trees on the family farms.

The donation of the forest to Norfolk County through the Government of Canada's Ecological Gifts Program ensures that the lands are protected long into the future.

*Summarized from an article by Daniel G. Wiest in the publication "Around the Community."*





# Lions Club International

## Dr. Patti Hill

Vice President, LCI  
Edmonton, AB, Canada

June 2021

Dear Lioness Club President and Club Members,

As we approach June 30th, we all realize that we're coming to the end of a Lion year, as well as a Lioness era. During this 2020-2021 pandemic-challenged year, we have learned the importance of adapting and changing, even while serving safely in the communities in which we live and work. I hope that we all carry those lessons forward even as we find our restrictions being lifted and our lives moving onward to new service and new challenges.

I understand that on July 1st some of you valued and experienced Lioness members will choose to become Lions and continue to serve as part of the Lions family, while others will choose to continue to be valued volunteers in your own communities in alternative ways. In whichever way you go forward, I would like you to know that your past volunteer service is recognized and valued by Lions such as myself. You will always be welcome to serve in the Lions family. If you do not have a local club that meets your needs, please contact me, personally, by June 20<sup>th</sup>.

I wish you all health, success, and contentment, knowing that you have made a difference in your community, our nation, and in the Lions family.

Best regards,

VP Dr. Patti Hill

[Patti.Hill@lionsclubs.org](mailto:Patti.Hill@lionsclubs.org)



**We Serve**



# A Message from the LCIF Chairperson

At the outset of my term as chairperson of Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), I imagined the day I would write this message, reflecting on global progress made possible by LCIF during the year. What I never imagined is how incredibly full my heart would be today, as I finally pen this letter.

In a year like none before, I was so very humbled as LCIF empowered the humanitarian spirit, creativity, and tenacity of Lions and partners worldwide. Prior to a global pandemic limiting travel, I visited Lions across the world and saw the good work they do in their communities. I'll never forget the happy children at Zambia's Ndola Lions School for the Visually Impaired singing and dancing as we celebrated the school's new classrooms and dormitories. Another experience that will stay with me forever occurred in Australia, where I witnessed Lions' strength after the devastating bushfires. Though they themselves had suffered, Lions were selfless in their service. I marveled at these projects and so many others, as Lions shared their stories of life-changing work made possible by LCIF.

I also had the pleasure of joining Lions at their fundraising events for LCIF. Japan, Poland,

Mexico, Italy, Thailand, and Greenland are just a few places I visited where Lions showed fierce dedication to LCIF and embraced the notion of service equating to both doing and giving.

Then came the last half of the fiscal year. COVID-19 caused unparalleled fear, hardship, and change. Suddenly, it was difficult for Lions to serve as usual. But, where there is a need, there is a Lion...and there is LCIF.

With more than US\$5.1 million in LCIF funding for pandemic relief, Lions heroically navigated unimaginable challenges. In Canada, they provided meals to weary doctors and nurses staying at the hospital to contain the virus. Roughly 11,000 kilometers away, Bangladesh Lions also provided food, this time to families no longer able to afford nourishment due to lack of work. Serving their communities, Lions in Indonesia increased access to handwashing in public places, while those in France found ways to connect patients in medical isolation with loved ones.

Adjusting rapidly as social distancing took hold, Lions and Leos began harnessing the power of technology to continue supporting LCIF and serve safely. New Jersey, USA-based Leos held a

virtual fundraising concert. Lions leaders joined with LCIF staff to provide free webinars to Lions, discussing the future of service and the possibilities ahead.

As we navigate today's new normal, I recognize and applaud Lions and our partner organizations making progress in LCIF's cause areas. Together with LCIF, together because of LCIF, we continue our endeavors.

To Lions, partners, and friends of LCIF who showed such tremendous support this year, thank you for ensuring LCIF can continue empowering those serving to improve health and well-being, strengthen communities, and protect the vulnerable. And to all, I thank you for the honor and privilege of continuing my journey as LCIF chairperson.

In friendship,

**Gudrun Yngvadottir**  
**2019-2020 Chairperson**  
**Lions Clubs International Foundation**

To view the complete annual report, please visit [https://cdn2.webdamdb.com/md\\_sZMIZsPyQo90.jpg.pdf](https://cdn2.webdamdb.com/md_sZMIZsPyQo90.jpg.pdf)

## 2019-2020 LCIF Annual Report

### ***Rebuilding the Future in Southeast Africa***

Pummeling Southeast Africa's coast, Cyclone Idai delivered a devastating blow in 2019, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, and Malawi all suffering the storm's wrath and sustaining unprecedented damage and devastation. Nearly 1,100 people perished; hundreds of thousands more were left homeless. Idai caused a humanitarian crisis unlike any before in the region. With more than three million people in desperate need, LCIF responded swiftly, sending 200 tents providing much needed shelter and 700 water purifiers, vital to stemming the cholera outbreak that had begun. But there was more to be done.

With a focus on restoring children's education and everyday lives, Lions used US\$70,000 in LCIF Disaster grants to help rebuild three schools as well as damaged classrooms in so many more. Though destruction and debris made reaching worksites in the three countries treacherous, Lions persevered. Steadily, once-obliterated schools rose from the ground. Steadily, classrooms rendered uninhabitable became safe once again.

Together, LCIF and Lions had helped transform devastating reminders of the area's worst natural disaster into beacons of hope for more promising futures.

### ***Delivering a Brighter Future to Paraguay***

Not long ago, eye care was inaccessible, and often unaffordable, to many in Paraguay's rural Itapúa community. In 2018, local Lions began changing that, helping to fund and bring to fruition, Lions Club of Coronel Bogado Ophthalmology Clinic (LCCBOC).

Since opening its doors, LCCBOC provided low-cost basic eye screenings and care to residents of the area's poorest communities with an ophthalmologist travelling to the clinic periodically with his own equipment. However, these services were sporadic and patients needing further evaluation were referred to a more comprehensive clinic in Asunción, a daunting five hours away. LCCBOC could provide only basic eye examinations, meaning patients suffering with pain or vision loss due to issues such as diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, or macular degeneration, were still left without answers.

With US\$62,729 in LCIF grant funding, Lions seized the opportunity to equip LCCBOC, making more extensive, permanent care accessible close to home.

Today, the clinic has installed modern equipment for diagnosing refractive errors, cataract, diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, macular degeneration,

and pediatric eye diseases. The new machines and technology are helping LCCBOC increase patient capacity 30 percent annually over 60 months, to more than 3,400 consultations a year. Service is delivered by a full-time ophthalmologist, provided to the clinic by the Ministry of Health and Paraguay's national vision committee, and whose salary is paid by the government.

In addition to developing and delivering an eye health education program for LCCBOC, Lions help keep costs low and fund the cost of care for those unable to pay. Patients needing treatment beyond LCCBOC's capability are referred to the clinic in Asunción, with Lions funding transportation and care for those who cannot afford the cost. Affiliated hospitals provide accommodations and meals for the patients.

"We've made access to comprehensive eye care more convenient and more affordable," said Grant Administrator Lion Daniel Domínguez. "Lions and LCIF have given our neighbors a precious gift."

### ***Guiding More Productive Lives***

"Man's best friend." The common phrase describes loving and lovable dogs, who fill so many lives with companionship and sheer joy. For 20 residents of Argentina, these best friends do so

much more. For these residents, dogs guide the way to more productive and fulfilling lives.

An estimated 650,000 Argentinians live with blindness, yet until recently a scarce 22 had the invaluable assistance of a guide dog, the majority of which were trained in other countries. With the U.S. provider of these highly skilled, life-changing “friends” no longer exporting service dogs, Lions in Argentina developed a plan that, with support from a US\$100,000 LCIF Matching grant, helped the blossoming Argentinian Guide Dog School build a permanent home and increase the number of dogs trained for service.

When the school’s operations initially began, administrative offices were housed in La Colonia Quilmes Oeste Lions Club clubhouse, breeding occurred on a Lion’s farm, and a local amusement park modeled like a town served as the dogs’ training grounds. With LCIF grant funds, contributions and sweat equity from local Lions, and land donated by the Quilmes, Argentina, government, the permanent facility came to fruition.

Today, all Argentinian Guide Dog School functions – breeding, training, administration – take place efficiently under one roof. The facility also includes an operating room and has sent trained dogs to Chile, Ecuador, and Spain to help visually impaired residents there enjoy more independent lives as well.

### **Empowering Massive, Healthy Change**

“The magnitude of the problem is immense,” said Rajesh Kolarikkal, a past district governor of Lions Clubs International. “LCIF enabled us to help improve quality of life by preventing complications of the disease and helping prevent onset of type 2 diabetes.”

Diabetes has taken a severe toll on residents of Kerala State, considered the “diabetes capital” of India, Kolarikkal’s home country. With rates of the disease rising, and as many as 57 percent of cases going undiagnosed, Lions in 100 clubs began a three-year effort to create massive change in Kerala. They did so with help from a US\$71,610 LCIF Diabetes grant.

In collaboration with Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences and Research Centre (AIMS), one of India’s largest medical facilities, 150 Lions and accredited social health activists (ASHA) from the country’s Ministry of Health & Family Welfare are learning to measure blood sugar levels and perform diabetes screenings. Grant funds are also helping ASHA workers become adept at using cameras designed to detect diabetes-related eye issues, such as diabetic retinopathy.

Those identified as having undiagnosed diabetes or at high risk of developing the disease are referred to Lions’ diabetes events, where a 40-member medical team from AIMS provides potentially life-

saving counseling and care.

LCIF funding is also helping educate Lions on diabetes complications, basic foot care, and healthy lifestyle changes. Lions then share this knowledge with community members as they distribute materials during diabetes education and screening events they organize.

In the project’s first six months, 145 ASHA workers were trained, and 72,500 Kerala residents were screened during 33 events. Of those referred for diabetes-related care, 92 percent attended follow-up appointments, boding well for the health of Kerala.

### **Lions Quest: Delivering Social and Emotional Learning to the Classroom**

Since 1985, Lions Quest, LCIF’s world-renowned social and emotional learning (SEL) curriculum, has helped more than 19 million students feel safer and gain important social and problem-solving skills. The program has also helped educators become more skilled at addressing school challenges such as student fighting, bullying, and absenteeism, while becoming more effective at developing calmer, more thoughtful, healthier students.

Lions Quest’s age-targeted curricula and activities are designed to equip students from Pre-K through Grade 12 with skills and tactics to say no to drugs, tobacco, and alcohol; make responsible decisions; avoid and address bullying; and establish positive relationships. Character development lessons help students become adept at feeling and showing empathy, setting and achieving goals, and managing emotions. The value of helping others through service learning is yet another aspect of the program.

#### **Lessons for All Ages**

- **Skills for Growing** – Pre-K-Grade 5: Directs students’ energies into becoming capable, healthy young people with a sense of direction and strong commitment to family, school, community
- **Skills for Adolescence** – Grades 6-8: Helps students, parents, teachers address physical, emotional, social challenges of early adolescence
- **Skills for Action** – Grades 9-12: Capitalizes on belief that young people with strong character and who expect positive behavior can meaningfully address issues affecting their lives, their community, the world

#### **Lions Quest by the Numbers**

- Students served: 19,017,066
- Educators trained: 761,036
- Countries/geographic areas in which implemented: 109

#### **Building Better School Environments and Communities**

With newfound knowledge and life skills,

students are better equipped to do great things in their communities and lives.

In Merrick, New York, USA, students and teachers feel the positive effects of Lions Quest, LCIF’s social and emotional learning curriculum. Launched district-wide, Lions Quest is helping students develop confidence, self-esteem, and teamwork skills, while fostering a sense of community, through ongoing fun, team-oriented lessons and discussions.

Second-graders at Chatterton School enjoyed a lesson that required them to work together toward a common goal and then discussed what worked and what did not. “This is the kind of teamwork we expect from our students and value as a school community,” said Chatterton School Principal Dana Bermas. “Lions Quest reinforces the school philosophy of kindness and respect for all and gives us a common language among all students.”

In addition to benefitting students, Lions Quest is also positively affecting the community. Students at Birch School raised close to US\$3,200 for childhood cancer research after participating in the program’s service-learning lessons. Said sixth-grader Ryan, “Lions Quest has helped me be a better person. It taught us to put others first.”

#### **First Childhood Cancer Pilot Grants Awarded**

In January 2020, LCIF’s Board of Trustees awarded the Foundation’s first Childhood Cancer grants. Funds support Lions’ projects implemented in coordination or collaboration with existing government or charitable childhood cancer medical facilities and range from US\$10,000 to US\$150,000. Ongoing projects include:

- In Utrecht, Netherlands, a US\$150,000 Childhood Cancer grant is helping upgrade 87 patient rooms at Princess Máxima Center for Pediatric Oncology. An anticipated 4,350 families will benefit annually from the rooms, which enable family members to stay with children undergoing treatment.
- A US\$32,025 Childhood Cancer grant awarded to Lions in Kerala, India, is helping Malabar Cancer Centre establish a children’s library, a conference hall for youngsters, and a small theater to enhance quality of life for more than 60 children each year.

#### **Initial Hunger Pilot Grants Approved**

LCIF’s first Hunger grants received Board approval in January 2020. Awarded in amounts between US\$10,000 and US\$100,000, Hunger grants help Lions address chronic and episodic food insecurity through infrastructure development and equipment acquisition. Ongoing projects include:

- In Michigan, USA, LCIF awarded Lions a US\$45,000 Hunger grant to expand freezer space at the Hungry for Christ food pantry. The additional capacity will enable the pantry,

vital to community health and well-being, to serve 18,000 more people monthly, while increasing food quality and decreasing waste.

- A US\$10,000 LCIF Hunger grant is helping Lions establish a food pantry at Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital in Florida, USA. Centrally located in the area, the hospital-based pantry is slated to provide relief for 750 families annually.

### ***Committed to Reducing Food Insecurity***

Hunger is an everyday presence for some, stressful physically and mentally. Food insecurity is also detrimental to those trying to gain financial stability and forge more promising futures for themselves and their communities. It's all intertwined.

In Quebec, Canada's Argenteuil County, many families experience hunger, relying on local Center d'Entraide d'Argenteuil, which provides food and empowering social services for the community.

Vital to the center's ability to serve residents is a refrigerated truck that transports fresh food from providers to the center. When the truck broke down beyond repair, the lifeline many locals relied on was effectively severed, seriously limiting residents' access to nutritious food they get from the center. Understanding the critical impact on children and families, Lions acted swiftly.

With a US\$26,718 LCIF Matching grant, Lions purchased the community center a new truck and modified it with a refrigeration system. Because of LCIF and Lions, the center's 1,500 weekly patrons once again have access to a bounty of fresh, healthy food.

### ***Funding an Urban Oasis for All***

A rapidly growing problem, deforestation robs wildlife of their homes while also wreaking havoc on weather patterns, air quality, climate, and entire ecosystems. As forests are cleared to make way for development or unsafe farming, a dire situation is being created. Air quality is suffering for residents, and land animals, the vast majority of which live in forested land, are becoming extinct.

In urban Busan, Korea, Lions did their part to tackle deforestation and grow a healthier environment. Using a US\$34,103 LCIF District and Club Community Impact grant, they planted 1,000 trees in the Geumjeong Mountain area, where residents were seeking more open space to enjoy fresh air.

To rapidly transform the land into an urban forest oasis, Lions worked the land, dotting it with fast-growing fragrant cypress and colorful camellia trees.

With each new day, Lions Forest grows more lush, providing a much-needed home to wildlife and visitors with improved air quality, shade, tranquility, and abundant opportunity to enjoy

nature.

### ***Protecting the Vulnerable in Japan***

No country is immune to the global pandemic, the novel coronavirus proving itself an eager world traveler. While COVID-19 has not discriminated against any particular part of the world, it has seemingly put certain populations at greater risk, such as those who are vulnerable because of age, socioeconomic status, or underlying health issues.

When COVID-19 made its way to Japan, a wave of fear and uncertainty washed over the country. Lions there immediately volunteered to help protect the most vulnerable of their neighbors, figuring a way to serve while remaining safe themselves. In April, with a US\$100,000 grant from LCIF, Lions sourced and secured 200,000 protective facemasks, subsequently providing them to local authorities.

Through a strategic government-run distribution effort, Lions were ensured the masks reached local nursing homes for the elderly, facilities for underprivileged children, and Japan residents who are disabled.

### ***Paving the Path to the Bell of Bravery***

In sub-Saharan Africa, as few as 10 percent of children who develop cancer will survive. In developed countries, the average is 80 percent. This discrepancy is gut-wrenching.

In 2017, Texas Children's Hospital launched a major effort in Africa to tackle childhood cancer, which steals 90,000 young lives annually. The program, Global HOPE (Hematology-Oncology Pediatric Excellence), was strengthened in 2019 with formation of an innovative partnership with LCIF, which pledged US\$2 million over two years to help build long-term capacity and technical capabilities to treat and dramatically improve prognoses for children with cancer in sub-Saharan Africa. In Botswana, Malawi, and Uganda, Global HOPE and LCIF are together taking a unique and multi-faceted approach to saving young cancer patients' lives. Lions are critical to the effort as well, engaging with community members to drive positive outcomes and healthier futures.

Today, the first Global HOPE pediatric hematology-oncology fellowship program in East Africa enables local physicians across the continent to access advanced medical training without having to leave Africa. LCIF is extending critical resource access, funding the development of state-of-the-art clean pharmacies specialized for chemotherapy, vital to patient treatment and staff safety.

For their part, local Lions are raising awareness of childhood cancer in the community and dispelling common myths, such as those painting childhood cancer as untreatable or a disease of the wealthy, and therefore non-existent in sub-Saharan Africa. Lions are also raising funds to ensure patient care and community education continue,

and positive outcomes are celebrated.

Ring the "Bell of Bravery" is a joyous tradition Lions brought to fruition in one Botswana hospital. "The end of treatment can be anticlimactic," said Dr. Jeremy Slone, medical director of the Global HOPE Botswana program. "Lions funded the bell, which gives kids finishing treatment a cathartic ending to their journey and is equally meaningful to medical staff who work tirelessly to support the children and families." The bell symbolizes hope for the children and their journey ahead.

Global HOPE, LCIF, and Lions. Together, better. Together, stronger in the fight against childhood cancer.

### ***Responding to COVID-19***

Our decade began like no other, with healthcare systems stressed, economies halted, and more than a billion people worldwide staying home, staying safe. Answering the urgent call was LCIF, funding Lions' efforts to serve their communities while also staying safe. Through special COVID-19 grants, as well as its District and Club Community Impact grants, LCIF empowered Lions globally to deliver protection and relief during some of the world's darkest hours.

### ***Breathing Easier in Italy***

When COVID-19 first began its global spread, Italy was hit particularly hard. In March, seemingly overnight, it gained the dubious distinction of having the world's second highest rate of cases and deaths.

Overwhelmed with patients, hospitals rapidly depleted precious resources, including space; medical workers were stretched beyond their limits. Lions in Italy immediately began planning how to help. They determined they would fight a respiratory virus by protecting residents of Casa di Gabri, a residential home for children whose respiratory conditions and compromised immune systems require highly specialized, 24-hour care.

With a US\$13,000 LCIF District and Club Community Impact grant, Lions purchased a SmartVest, which helps clear lungs and airways, making breathing easier and less painful. With the vest donated to Casa di Gabri, the home was better prepared for a potential virus outbreak, easing the minds of those caring for its residents.

### ***Helping Lions in India Deliver Essential Supplies***

The situation was dire. As COVID-19 spread from India's cities to rural areas, where medical care is already difficult to access, hospitals were reaching capacity.

Adding to the challenges, personal protective equipment (PPE) was in dangerously short supply, forcing medical workers to reuse already well-worn masks – the only barrier between themselves and the deadly virus. They were the lucky ones... Some medical staff had no PPE at all.

Through 66 LCIF grants totaling US\$660,000, Lions throughout India provided frontline medical professionals with PPE, greatly increasing safety for them, their families, and patients. In Mumbai, Lions Club of Sion used a US\$10,000 LCIF Emergency grant to help supply six public hospitals – one for children – with 6,500 PPE kits, an equal number of N95 masks, 1,500 bottles of sanitizer, and 3,000 three-ply masks.

Lions were also instrumental in arranging logistics to safely deliver medical equipment and additional supplies to emergency management systems, medical clinics, and other hospitals.

### **Battling COVID-19 in Brazil**

When COVID-19 dealt a deft blow to their country, Lions throughout Brazil engaged with ferocity, determined to help frontline workers stay as safe as possible.

In densely populated São Paulo, local emergency response teams and healthcare facility staff were becoming overwhelmed by rising patient volume and dwindling personal protective equipment (PPE) supplies. Eager to support their local heroes, Lions in São Paulo (District LC-2) pioneered low-cost production of face shields. With a US\$10,000 LCIF grant added to funds collected locally, Lions produced more than 46,000 shields for hospitals, health centers, senior care facilities, and emergency responders. Local schools received 2,000 of the shields to use as they returned to normal activity.

LCIF then awarded 26 more grants totaling US\$315,000 to Lions across Brazil, who used funds to continue mass production of face shields,

distributing another 54,000 across the country. In total, Lions in Brazil produced more than 101,000 face shields – far exceeding their goal of 50,000 – as well as provided virus testing supplies; hand sanitizer; and PPE such as gloves, masks, and gowns.

### **Protecting Health in Senegal**

In lesser developed countries, where healthcare services and resources, and access to them, are often lacking, illness poses heightened risk to residents.

Senegal, in West Africa, is one such country. Whether access challenges stem from physical distance or affordability, end results can be bleak: More people struggle to overcome illness, and familial and community well-being suffer. In today's COVID-19 environment, it means those most vulnerable are at much higher risk of health complications, even death.

With US\$10,000 in Emergency grant funding from LCIF, and an understanding of the urgent and grave nature of the situation, Senegal Lions stepped in to protect their neighbors. Lions sourced and purchased 430 pieces of personal protective equipment (PPE), such as masks, gowns, and gloves, subsequently donating supplies to the Ministry of Health and Social Action for distribution.

In a time of great struggle and uncertainty, LCIF and Lions provided grateful Senegal medical workers peace of mind through desperately needed PPE.

### **Handwashing and Hope in Indonesia**

As COVID-19 continued to spread, so did education on methods of protection from the debilitating virus.

A particularly effective and simple practice is thorough handwashing. While scrubbing germs away at home may be relatively easy, what if ready access to soap and water is not available? What happens when life requires venturing into public places and away from sanitation?

To provide community members increased handwashing opportunities, Lions in and near Jakarta, Indonesia, used a US\$10,000 LCIF Emergency grant to build 11 sanitizing stations outside health centers and hospitals throughout the area. Each setup offers a refillable water tank, four sinks, soap dispensers, and paper towels. With remaining grant funds, Lions purchased and distributed invaluable personal protective equipment (PPE), providing local hospitals 180 boxes of gloves and surgical masks, 300 pairs of boots, 300 face shields, 350 hazmat suits, and nine thermometers. As many as 50,000 community members are estimated to have benefitted from the PPE.

Broadening its support, LCIF provided three additional US\$10,000 grants for COVID-19 relief efforts throughout Indonesia. Said one medical professional, “Thank you Lions Clubs for providing PPEs. They have been in short supply, and now our doctors can change their PPE according to the standard.”

## **Knowlton**

Another good example of Lions Service. Continuing with the effort to thank our front line workers during the Covid-19 pandemic,

*L-R: Jessica Fleury, Pearl Duquet and Amanda O'Brien of the Knowlton Medical Clinic and the Brome Lake Community Center*



*D à G : Jessica Fleury, Pearl Duquet et Amanda O'Brien de la clinique médicale Knowlton et du centre communautaire de Brome Lake*

members of the Knowlton Lions Club presented Tim Horton's gift certificates and coupons to the personnel of three local establishments: Familiprix

*Stephanie Hockhousen and Pat Panasuk of Jean-Marc Bélanger Uniprix Pharmacy*



*Stephanie Hockhousen et Pat Panasuk de la pharmacie Uniprix Jean-Marc Bélanger*

Pharmacy, Jean-Marc Bélanger Uniprix Pharmacy, the Knowlton Medical Clinic and the Brome Lake Community Center.

*Jean-Raphael Itoua, Familiprix Pharmacy with Lions members Sue Perkins, Bill Taylor and Roland Marners*



*Jean-Raphael Itoua, Pharmacie Familiprix avec les membres Lions Sue Perkins, Bill Taylor et Roland Marners*

Un autre bon exemple de service Lions. Poursuivant leurs efforts pour remercier nos travailleurs de première ligne pendant la pandémie

de Covid-19, les membres du Knowlton Lions Club ont présenté des chèques-cadeaux et des bons de Tim Horton au personnel de trois établissements

locaux : Pharmacie Familiprix, Pharmacie Jean-Marc Bélanger Uniprix, Clinique médicale Knowlton et Centre communautaire Brome Lake.

# LCIF Helps Save Lives in IP Alexander's Beloved Home Community

by Jamie Weber

Desperate need. That's one way to describe the situation in Brooklyn, New York's Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood, which happens to be home to International President Douglas Alexander.

Historically a disadvantaged neighborhood, Bed-Stuy, as it's known to locals, needed an ambulance, residents often waiting 45 minutes for help to arrive. With demand outpacing resources, people were dying.

Eager to help, emergency medical technicians (EMTs) James 'Rocky' Robinson and Joe Perez launched Bedford-Stuyvesant Volunteer Ambulance Corps (BSVAC) with a single used vehicle. Passionate about improving outcomes, the duo worked tirelessly to bring average emergency response time below four minutes. It's no wonder countless lives were saved through BSVAC, which provided service at no charge to those without insurance.

All was good – briefly. Then, the lone ambulance began needing costly repairs. As a volunteer squad, BSVAC could barely afford fuel, let alone a new ambulance. Enter IP Alexander's home club, Brooklyn Bedford-Stuyvesant Lions Club. Learning of BSVAC's mission, club members began buying gas and tires for the ambulance, but more was needed.

That's when the idea of a brand-new ambulance was talked about at a club meeting. But how would their club raise US\$50,000? "It got very quiet in the room," said IP Alexander. But then, members started to pledge US\$500, US\$1,000. Then they realized they could apply for an LCIF grant. A new life-saving ambulance that once seemed an unreachable goal could soon become reality.

LCIF awarded Brooklyn Bedford Stuyvesant Lions Club a US\$17,500 grant. "It was a very proud day in Bedford-Stuyvesant," said IP Alexander of

the day Lions presented the new ambulance to BSVAC.

With a modern ambulance and volunteer heroes dedicated to saving neighbors' lives, Bed-Stuy was suddenly safer. In addition to emergency medical services, BSVAC is a training facility, training first responders of all ages, from teaching children to how to administer first aid and perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation, to an EMT training program. More than 2,000 local residents have learned to deliver these critical services, hundreds going on to become professional EMTs, nurses, paramedics, and doctors.

"We started mainly to save lives," said BSVAC Commanding Officer Antoine Robinson, son of the late Rocky Robinson. "But we also wanted to change lives. People on welfare, who have no way out, no connections to plug into... We give them opportunity. BSVAC is now more of a life-changing, career-starting organization."

When we serve together, our hearts beat stronger," said IP Alexander. Together, LCIF and dedicated Bed-Stuy Lions have created deep and lasting change in a beloved community.

Learn more about LCIF grant opportunities at



[lcif.org/grants](http://lcif.org/grants), then empower Lions service in your community. Help Campaign 100 reach its US\$300 million goal by donating at [lcif.org/donate](http://lcif.org/donate).

## Painting makes a brighter day! Simcoe Lions Support Local Nursing Homes

In April the Simcoe Lions donated boxes of art supplies to the Norfolk Hospital Nursing Home and Norview Lodge.

*(L) Resident Lillian Walleyn with Cathy Squires and Erica Reicheld, Activity Co-ordinators at the Norfolk Hospital Nursing Home*



Hunger, a sad and pervasive issue worldwide, affects communities – especially children – in immeasurable ways. Chronic undernutrition leads to illness and delayed physical and mental development.

In India, four in 10 children face undernutrition or stunting .

There to support children in rural India facing food insecurity are government-run childcare center known as Anganwadies. In addition to receiving preschool education, children at the centers receive meals and learn about nutrition.

Thousands of children in rural Kerala depend on these Anganwadies for their meals, but many of these facilities had old equipment in need of repair. Hygiene was often lacking as well. While caring staff did their best with the challenging circumstances, the children suffered. Lions, knowing how important Anganwadies are to communities, took action. They turned to Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), which awarded a more than US\$84,000 Hunger grant and a District and Club Community Impact grant of over US\$11,000.

To ensure children had fresh, healthy meals, Lions used the LCIF funds to refurbish kitchen and dining facilities in 90 Kerala Anganwadies. Upgrades included stainless steel countertops and sinks, renovated plumbing, added worktables with stovetops, and new refrigerators. They also installed stainless steel dining tables and benches in the dining rooms for ease of cleaning and increased sanitation. Nearly 1,000 Lions helped install the upgrades and continue to monitor facilities for functionality.

Though the project took place during COVID-19, while Anganwadies were closed, Lions persisted, working with the government and teachers to receive and install the new equipment.

“The most modern and hygienic equipment, along with a refrigerator, were unimaginable to these centres without your support,” said V.P. Sajeendran, Kerala legislative member of Kunnathunad. “I appreciate LCIF for enabling Lions to implement such a project, which is a dire



need of the community.”

Through LCIF grant funding and Lions’ kindness and service, more than 2,200 children annually who depend on Anganwadies now enjoy fresh, nutritious meals in clean environments.

Campaign 100 exists in part to expand Lions’ service to new cause areas, such as addressing hunger. Give today at [lcif.org/donate](http://lcif.org/donate). To learn more about how LCIF empowers Lions to support their communities, visit [lcif.org](http://lcif.org).

## Burlington Lions Club

Despite limitation of fund-raising activities due to the Covid pandemic, the Burlington Lions Club is launching the Burlington Centre Lions Farmers Market for the 63rd consecutive year, and the second summer under pandemic restrictions. Lions and volunteers worked hard to develop comprehensive social distancing protocols, and last summer provided a needed sales outlet for forty-five local producers and welcomed over 114,000 patrons. Proceeds from stall rentals are distributed to various youth sports organizations and scholarships.



**F**or the Lions Family it's the time of year to think about recognizing key people in our clubs & communities. Consider presenting a Lions Quest Fellowship this year and support Canadian children & youth. To learn more about Lions Quest and the fellowship go to:

[www.lionsquest.ca](http://www.lionsquest.ca)

# MD-A Virtual Convention

The MD-A convention was held May 14th & 15th and of course it was a big success owing to the efforts of the committee which consisted of PDG **Evelyn Spiering** - Chair, PDG **Mike Tuxford** - Vice Chair, PCC **Dave Balmos** - Registration/Treasurer, PDG **Allister Cameron** - Sergeant at Arms, PDG **Mark Mahovich** - Pin Master, RC **Bruce Campbell** and PCT **Gerald Smith** - 50/50 draw, Lioness/Lion **Rosemary Kennedy** - Graphics and ZC **Rick Waite** - Secretary. It goes without saying there were numerous other volunteers that contributed to the cause. Thanks to all!

Council Chair **Debbie Dawson** oversaw the proceedings and was the ultimate congenial hostess for the weekend proceedings. PCC **Tim Cheung** and PCC **John Whyte** looked after the technical aspects of the virtual end of things with obvious expertise. PDG **JC Lagrange** did Yeomans work, creating and displaying slide shows and graphics. PID **Art Woods** conducted the traditional Memorial Service with the high level of respect for those Lions that are no longer with us. PID **Carl Young** and PID **Tom Gordon** provided the attendees the benefit of their experience and knowledge in Lionism and assisted in the awards portion of the event.

The highlight of the convention was the “over the top” address given by the International Guest PID **Phil Nathan**, he shared his thoughts in respect to Lionism and provided some of his poignant experiences as a Lion. In fact some of his comments and stories generated an obvious emotional response (a.k.a. “tearjerkers”) from the virtual attendees. Lion Phil was also involved in the awards presentations with his comments to the recipients.

There is a wealth of great information in Lion Phil’s Curriculum Vitae, his accomplishments are too vast to list, if you are interested in learning more you can go to Phil’s web site to navigate to his CV: <https://rb.gy/orzzmc>

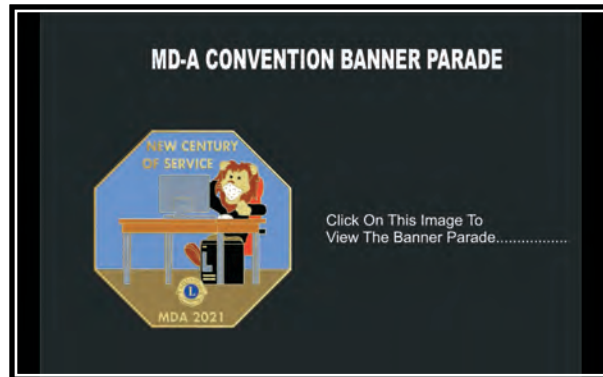
50/50 Draw: Thanks to the efforts of the 50/50 team, RC **Bruce Campbell** and PCT **Gerald Smith** an impressive total was raised, the draw was won by the Valley East Lions, their coffers went up \$7,033.00.

Banner Parade Link: <https://rb.gy/edt30h>

Awards Link: <http://tiny.cc/rg52uz>



**Phil Nathan**



# District A-2 Virtual Convention – March 19/20/21



is good to know everyone made it home safely.

Saturday was eventful with a Lioness Cabinet Meeting with Lioness Janie Carr presiding. There was also a A-2 cabinet meeting, PID Tom and CC Debbie and DG Fred contributing to both.

An impressive Necrology Service, put together by VDG **Holly Cavanaugh** was held, a link to that and a QR code are also included. The link is: <https://tinyurl.com/2tt9tkkt>

The last item was the election results and introduction of incoming District Governor **Geoff Crane** who was presented with his official black blazer.

A Great Job by all the Lions involved!

<https://tinyurl.com/cd7rf5ft>



The District A-2 virtual convention took place on the weekend of March

19th. PCC **Stew Patterson** was the Chair of the event for the weekend, standing in for PDG **John Harvey** who could not attend because of personal reasons. District Governor **Fred Arbour** opened the festivities with a welcome to all. As is a Lions tradition a resounding version of Oh Canada was sung. Next on the agenda was a Parade of Banners. Then welcoming remarks from Lioness President **Janie Carr**. PID **Tom Gordon** and CC **Debbie Dawson** offered their encouragement as well. Another recognizable guest was PDG **Allan Snider**, Canadian nominee for International Director.

Thanks to the efforts of Lioness Janie and PCC Chair **Bradd Anderson** there was a virtual salute to the A-2 Lioness that was second to none. The link to the video is:

<https://tinyurl.com/cd7rf5ft>  
A QR code for the salute is also included.

Friday night finished up with candidates speeches and voting. As per usual the Hospitality Rooms in a virtual format were popular and it







# District A-15 Convention Highlights



Hosted by The Thamesford and Ingersoll Lions. A great effort of the organizing committee. Several great presentations and activities were conducted virtually and there was some very interesting information shared.

Here is a link to two main highlights of the event thanks to the efforts of the organizing committee, the Banner Parade and the Passing of the Campbell ceremony. Click the link to view them: <https://tinyurl.com/7ss2e66b>

Also available on the same link as the Banner and the Campbell videos is a well done presentation of the Lioness history in A15, a very topical subject with the demise of the Lioness program. <https://tinyurl.com/7ss2e66b>

As well using the same link you can view the convention program to get a overall view of the good things that went on during the convention: <https://tinyurl.com/7ss2e66b>

There was a ton of great entertainment and information available, here is a list and a link several topics with accompanying videos and /or documents: <https://tinyurl.com/yxv2493f>

- Every Day Is a Family Day
- Everyone Likes Something Exotic

CLUB	AMOUNT
Guelph – to reach MODEL CLUB Status	\$13,000
Marsville & District – to increase their Model Club total	\$ 1,000
Thamesford	\$ 2,000
Woodstock – fulfills Maple Leaf Club status	\$ 2,800
Milverton	\$ 1,000
Elora – puts them into Maple Leaf Club status	\$ 2,000
Galt Cambridge	\$ 200
Kitchener Waterloo Community Spirit	\$ 550
Cambridge Highlands	\$ 1,000
Innerkip & District	\$ 500
Brantford	\$ 300
Glen Morris	\$ 500
St George	\$ 3,000
Kitchener – to fulfill their Maple Leaf Club status	\$ 4,500
<b>TOTAL CLUB DONATIONS</b>	<b>\$32,350</b>
PLUS	
34 Personal donations totalling	\$ 6,944
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$39,294</b>



- Develop a Plan for Peace - Peace Poster
- District A15 Pin Collector
- History of Melvin Jones
- What the Heck Is Lions Quest?
- L.C.I. Marketing
- Convention Opening
- Out of this World-Astronomy
- History of past District Governors
- News Diabetes Technology
- Kids Ability

A respectful memorial service for our departed Lions was led by P.I.D. Lion **Art Woods**, here is the link to the tributes: <https://tinyurl.com/5ak4feh7>

Both the Memorial Service and the Entertainment Links are also available on the A15 website.

One of the highlights from the event was the generosity of those attending and that of Woodstock Lion **Peter Oswald**, LCIF Chair and Past Cabinet Treasurer. LCIF updates were provided by Lion Peter, here is a final summary for the District to recognize clubs and private members that made donations totaling \$39,294.00.

*It goes without saying these events can not be as successful as they are without the strong support and efforts of the committees that put them together.*

**Great Job A15!**

## PARTICIPATING CLUBS FOR THE 2020-2021 CONVENTION

CLUB	MEMBERS	ROLE
11 Drumbo	Gerry Harmer	District A-15 Pins
12 Elmira	Art Woods	Opening of Convention & District Pin
13 Exeter	John Stevens	Directories
	Bill Carson	Introduction of Honourary Guests
14 Fergus	Brian Martin	Diabetes
15 Floradale Friends	Debbie Cserhalmi	Dog Guides
	Cheryl Bauman	Dog Guides
16 Galt-Cambridge	PDG Don Gamble	Introduction of FPID Art Woods
17 Guelph	Thom Herrmann	Elections & Credentials
18 Kit. Oktoberfest	George Patton	Elections
19 Paris	Gerry Runstedler	Music recording
20 Sheffield	Paul and Anne Stokes-Rees	Phone committee
21 South Wellington	Doug Smith	Nominations
22 St. George	Tony Davidson	Memorial Service
23 Stratford	Tracey Robinson	Protocol, PDG Session
24 Swesburg	Larry Sales	District Pins
25 Walton (Indiana)	Dr. Cary Green	International Guest Speaker
26 West London	Justin Lin	Zoom Training
27 Wilpington	Daniel Marney Elkins	International Virtual Lions Club
28 Woodstock	Peter Oswald	LCIF - Tele-a-thon
29 Woolwich	Diane Smith	Guest Speaker
30 Volunteer	Justin Boutilier	Opening feature
	Nick Zwarych	PPT Presentations
31 Volunteer	Carmen Lopera-Chaux	Saturday Luncheon Exercise Time
32 Volunteer	Robyn Owen	Memorial Service -music recording
33 Volunteer	Kara Shaw	Memorial Service -music recording
34 Volunteer	Crystal Gascho	Passing of the Campbell
35 Volunteer	Edwige De Souza	PPT Presentations
36 Volunteer	Emma Koenig	Bullying Session

## A15 CONVENTION COMMITTEE



CLUB	MEMBERS	ROLE
Cambridge Highlands	Victor Chaux	Marketing Chair
Copetown	Bob Pearson	Parade of Banners
Ingersoll	Paul Lalande	District Pins
	Bonnie Lalande	Parade of Banners
	MaryAnn Ward	Co-Host
	Lisa Visser	Master of Ceremonies
Kansas Lions	Jordan Glass	International Virtual Lions
Lynden	Elle Robillard	Directories, PDG, Cabinet PPT
	Kathy Vaillancourt	Presentations, Melvin Jones
	Kathy Vaillancourt	Facebook
Milverton	Doug Fyfe	Project Management/Treasurer
Paradise	Mark Koenig	Environment & Exotic Bird Sessions
	Ted Rypma	Information -Technology
Thamesford	Jim Keron	Sound and Co-Host Chair
	Jack Broadfoot,	Co-host Chair and Phone Coordinator
	Rebecca Haggarty	Movie Editor
	Brian Voight	Peace Poster
	Barb Corrin	Co-Host and Planning Coordinator
West London	Kyle Boutilier	International Guest Speaker, Virtual Team
Zurich	Cecilia Fulker	Passing of the Campbell
	Crystal Gascho	Passing of the Campbell

**DISTRICT A-15 VIRTUAL CONVENTION 2021**

Hosted by the Thamesford and Ingersoll Lions Clubs  
District Governor George Corrin

**FREE REGISTRATION**  
All District A-15 Lions are cordially invited

**Friday April 16 — 18, 2021**

FEATURING • Parade of Banners • Zoom Room Sessions • International Lunch • Lion Quest • Leadership Seminar • LCIF Telethon • Burmester Bar •

VOTING ELECTRONIC  
SAME PROCESS AS LAST YEAR

Virtual Platform  
Zoom

Lion Barb Corrin : 226-751-5925  
[barbcorri@lions.com](mailto:barbcorri@lions.com) or  
Lion Jack Broadfoot 519-215-2729  
[jacobroadfoot@lions.com](mailto:jacobroadfoot@lions.com)

**FRIDAY**  
7:00 am - 11:30pm

Spectacular Opening  
Honorary Guests  
Cabinet Members  
Candidates' Presentations

**SATURDAY**  
9:45am - 8:30pm

Activities Booklets  
Environment  
Exotic Birds  
Peace Poster  
LCIF Campaign Update

**SUNDAY**  
9:45am - 2:30pm

Memorial Service  
Awards Ceremony  
Election Results  
Passing of The Campbell  
Cabinet Meeting

# A16 Convention – “RISING ABOVE ADVERSITY”

The 45th Annual District A16 Convention was held virtually in May. It was an exciting time and the organizers hosted a fun filled and educational weekend. Friday night was devoted to welcoming words followed by fun trivia and a virtual Hospitality Suite. Saturday was a full day, starting with Opening Ceremonies, which included a virtual Parade of Banners, District and International Flags, welcoming words from District Governor **Glenn** and our Lions Pride.

A great Lions Foundation of Canada presentation brought everybody up to speed on the challenges faced by our Foundation. Included with the presentation was a photo of a recent litter of dog guide candidates.

A special heartfelt tribute to our Lioness Clubs was sad yet at the same time celebratory as we welcomed three new Lioness, Lions Clubs into the family. Past International Director **Sangeeta Jatia** gave an inspired talk about the importance of women in Lions. Past International Director **Tom Gordon** installed the officers of our new clubs.

The Main Session saw the awarding of District Contest Trophies, election results, announcement of our leaders for 2021-2022 and remarks by District Governor Elect **Barry MacDonald**. Our memorial service celebrated the tremendous contributions of the 45 members of our family who had passed away over the last two years.

A wonderful finish to the day was our virtual Governor’s Banquet where IPDG **Debbie Dawson** and District Governor **Glenn Conduit** could celebrate

the success of their years and present awards and certificates.

Two time Olympic Gold Medal winner, Heather Moyse, was our guest speaker and, through her own experiences, showed us we can turn challenges into opportunities where we can truly make a difference, not only in our own lives, but also in the lives of others.

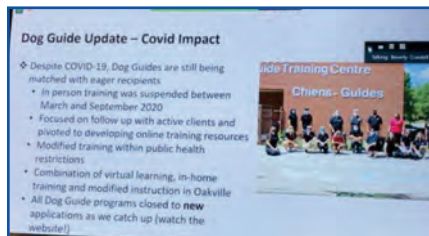
Throughout the convention, eight random draws for gift certificates as well as music videos from Reminisings kept everybody in the spirit of fun and fellowship. Between the planned sessions, the link was kept open so folks could chat, meet new friends and have some fun downtime.

Huge thanks to PCC **Tim Cheung** for mastering ZOOM and making transitions smooth, PDG **JC Lagrange** for making the ordinary extraordinary with his graphics and to Lion **Rick Lush** who was our talented backup. Host club **Haliburton** was disappointed that they were “skunked” from hosting physically two years in a row, but they are ever so proud of our A16 Lions Family!

*Submitted by Lions David and Betty Mills  
Host Committee Chairs*



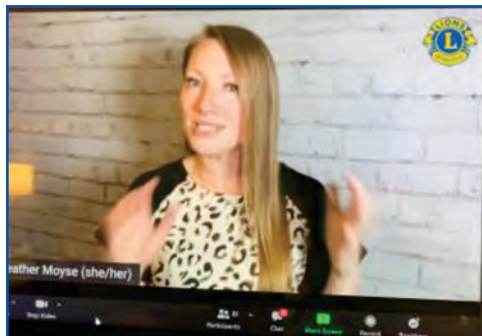
*The latest Litter*



*Update from Dog Guides*



*The PID's*



*Heather Moyes*



# District A711 Virtual Convention

The District A-711 Convention team assembled and delivered a mini-USA/Canada Leadership Forum as their District Convention, using all the features of the <http://www.hopin.com/event> platform. Our theme was “A Passion for Service”. We invited our eighty-one Lions Clubs, eight Leo Clubs and our Lioness Club to jointly collaborate together at this Convention to plan our 2021-2022 Lions Year.

Besides standard Convention elements: Business Meeting, Memorial Service, social gathering, and a speech by an International Guest. Our convention included far more...

Lions from around the world were invited to participate. In all four hundred and nine Lions, Leos, Lionesses, and guests attended from ten countries. The quality of our speakers was like no other convention we have held before. In addition to our own District Leadership, we had three Past International Directors, nine Past District Governors and current Vice District Governors from outside District A-711 as well as several celebrity guest speakers.

Attendees had the benefit of seeing and hearing the keynote speaker: Charles “Spider” Jones a local renowned sports personality, There is a wealth of information about him elsewhere in this article.

Six workshops were held on our Lions Service Causes and LCIF. An additional thirty-two Break-Out sessions on a wide variety of topics. Nine sessions for Leos involved Guest Leos invited from the USA by the ‘NJ Visionary Cyber Leo Club’.

Hopin.com has a built in speed networking facility which allowed attendees to meet on a one to one or group basis for introductions and to gather contact information for future communications. There were several Vendor, Sponsor, and Hospitality Booths.

This being our first virtual convention, we expected and had some issues by members adapting to the features of the platform. Though in summary the Average User Rating for our Event was 85% positive. Our attendees spent an average of over 9.25 hours engaged in our sessions during the proceedings. Our thanks to all of our participants and the convention Planning Team for braving this new effort.

*Submitted by: PDG Lion Jeffrey Friedman  
2020-2021 Convention Chair*

# District A711 Virtual Convention

continued

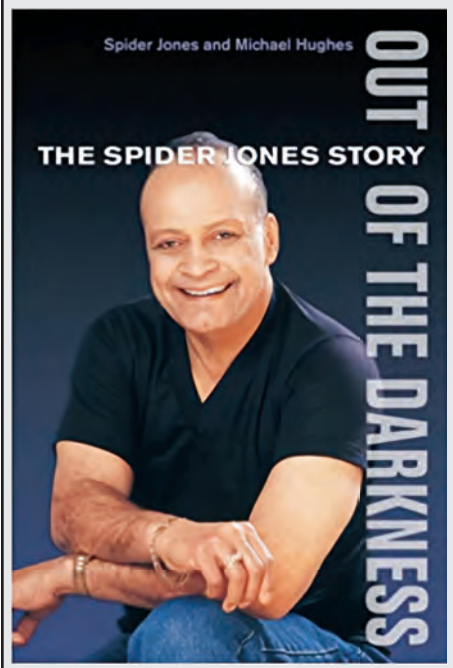


## Charles "Spider" Jones, Keynote Speaker

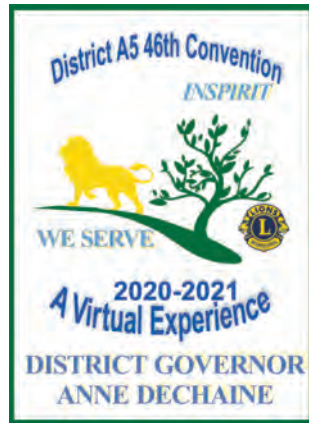
Aside from being a prominent radio talk show host Spider is a highly popular motivational speaker who is much admired for his diligent work among the youth. His inspirational life story "Out of the Darkness" reveals his amazing rise from the impoverished, gang infested, inner-city projects of Detroit and Windsor and how, as a grade five dropout, he eventually returned to school at the age of thirty to become an honour student. Spider's favourite activity thing is talking to his Nighthawk radio guests whether it be about sports, entertainment, or other hot issues.

Over the past 20 years, Spider has interviewed such notables as Muhammad Ali, Mark Wahlberg, Jesse Jackson, LL Cool J, Ron Howard, Scott Grimes, Doug Gilmour, Cito Gaston, Oscar De La Hoya, Roy Jones, Kris Kristofferson, James Brown, Guy Lafleur, Carlos Delgado, Jim Brown and countless others. Among his other achievements was to act as a sparring partner for such boxing legends as George Chuvalo and former World Heavyweight Champion Jimmy Ellis. Spider was also a member of Muhammad Ali's training camp back in the days when 'The Greatest' fought Chuvalo.

Spider's accomplishments are many – a complete overview of his career can be obtain by using Google and go from there, a wealth of information is available on his boxing career, musical talents and much more.



# Lions of District A5 Virtual Convention



District Governor Lion **Anne Dechaine** and the convention committee put together a very entertaining and informative program. 1VDG Lion **Carmen Portelance** produced a power point presentation highlighting the clubs and the different services they have provided for our communities in the past year. Use this link to view DG Lion Anne's remarks:

<https://tinyurl.com/DG-ANNE-DECHAIINE>



PID Lion **Carl Young** was the Keynote Speaker and spoke about Lions "Consistency in Chaos". He illustrated the situation we are all in the midst of the Global Pandemic and all things directly related not only locally but world wide. Lion Carl then reminded everyone that the Lions International have remained "Consistent" by continuing to fulfill our mandate with providing service to our local and world wide causes.



Lion **Gary Michalak** "Lions Superstars" – An entertaining video presentation of our young SUPERSTAR singers. More to follow in a future addition about this great Lions Initiative, for now follow the link in the next paragraph for a past show to view highlights from some of their shows that are posted on YouTube. Incredible exposure for

children, youth and LIONS everywhere. For further info email Lion Gary: [garyjm@sympatico.ca](mailto:garyjm@sympatico.ca)

The host for the Superstars competition is Café Heritage in Sudbury, their website is: <https://www.cafeheritage.ca/> from here you can view the "2020 Lions Superstars" competition. The video includes introductions from Lion Gary and 1VDG Carmen Portelance.



PDG Lion **Grace Kingsnorth** – Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF) – Lion Grace's presentation illustrated the use of monies raised by our clubs and the positive effect they have world wide. A classic illustration of how "We Serve".



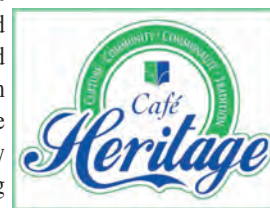
PDG Lion **Gerry Bertrand** – A long serving and dedicated Lion, PDG Gerry stressed the power and importance of communication.

ZC Lion **Robert Kerr** gave an interesting and informative presentation on the Lions Foundation of

Canada and the Lions support of their program.

The remainder of the program was comprised of the Parade of Banners, New Members Inductions and the Presentation of District Awards and the DG jacket presentation from DG Anne to VDGE Lion Carmen Portelance.

*A Great Job by A5!*



# District A1 Convention

## 46th Annual District A-1 Virtual Convention

A fine example of how Lions are prepared and continue to work to overcome the obstacles in our world today!

One of the many highlights of the event was the "Meet and Greet" session where Lions from all corners of the district were able to re-connect with other members since the start of the global pandemic. It was encouraging to see many Lions from other districts join in.

DG Lion **Dan Armstrong** and A-1 Lioness President Lioness **Kim Garside** welcomed the attendees and offered their words of encouragement and highlighted many examples of the tremendous service district Lions have provided to their communities.

The keynote speaker was PID Lion **Marvin**

**Chambers** of Fillmore Saskatchewan, an accomplished Lion to say the least as evidenced by his journey through Lionism. Lion Marv was at his finest when he and his committee were at their finest in a successful effort to elect Lion Dr. **Patti Hill** as 3rd International Vice President at the convention in Milan, Italy.

PDG **Mike Tuxford** conducted a respected, well received Memorial Service for those district members that have passed away, R.I.P. Lions.

Congratulations to the District A-1 Convention Committee and thanks to all who contributed in any way! WELL DONE! WELL DONE!!

Last but certainly not least the convention committee came up with a novel idea prior to the event they did what they refer to as "Porch Drops" where they went around and distributed

Convention Programs and Pins along with potato chips and craft beer of all things, imagine that!

### Message from DG Dan, Our Heartfelt Thanks!

On behalf of the Convention Team and Gayle and I, we want to thank you all so much for being a part of our District A1 Convention. We hope that you all learned something about Lions, Lioness, Swans and Leos and that you have a better understanding of why we all enjoying serving.

Personally, I had a blast and will be forever blessed to have met so many fine people, if only on a screen. Gayle and I look forward to being able to see you all face to face in the days ahead.

Blessings to you all and Kind Regards. **DG Dan and Lion Gayle**



### Welcome Lions, Lioness, Leos & guests Dan Armstrong, District Governor A1



A special A-1 "welcome" to Ontario from Fillmore, Saskatchewan to our Guest; Past International Director Marvin Chambers. As with many things in the past year, our 46<sup>th</sup> annual convention will be different from what we are used to. We will be going Virtual, and I have every confidence we Lions will have fun, no matter what. We know how to meet new challenges. Head On!

We are now into our 2<sup>nd</sup> Century of Lionism in Canada and just as our predecessors 100 years ago, we are now on the downside of a global pandemic. I am optimistic and look forward to new beginnings; new opportunities ..... Because after all ~ WE ARE ALL SERVANTS for worthy causes, not just for local communities but far beyond.

Serving District A-1 has been one of my most enjoyable and satisfying ~ and sometimes challenging ~ times during my adult lifetime. For the record.....those have been good challenges; satisfying challenges. My only regret is that I was not able to physically visit all the clubs and membership as originally planned. I have seen many of our members and clubs find new and innovative ways of serving throughout this year and an emphasis on Service where there was once an emphasis on Fund Raising. We have lived up to our motto of "WE SERVE" I commend each and every one of you for turning this CoVid 19 crisis into opportunities to Serve even more ~ Locally and Globally, When Where And As needed.

A special welcome, and thank you, to those Lioness who have chosen to join our Lions family and continue to serve as Lioness Lions. To those former Lioness who have chosen to become Swans I wish you every success and A1 looks forward to your continued service in partnership with your local Lions Club and hope that you will continue to Serve our communities Together. I invite you all to participate fully this weekend and partake in the meetings and social events as we come together to renew old friendships and make new ones. I hope you signed up for the Dorchester Hospitality Night too

Thank you all, each and every one of you, for your ongoing support and kindness this year and remember.

**KINDNESS MATTERS – WE SERVE IN UNITY**

### Welcome Lions, Lioness & Leo's DISTRICT A-1 PRESIDENT KIM GARSIDE

Welcome to the 46th District A-1 Convention. There are a few things I look forward to at these conventions every year. The fellowship and the motivational speakers are inspiring; not to mention the hospitality rooms. I have met so many new Lions and Lioness in the past few years that have become dear to my heart. I have had the privilege of experiencing a second term as District President due to COVID. I have enjoyed working alongside Immediate Past District Governor Barb Tuxford and DG Dan Armstrong. Thank you to all the Lioness, Lions and LEO Clubs for your untiring efforts and dedications to your Communities.



To those Lions & Lioness who are no longer with us, my heart is saddened, but each one of them has left an impression in our Hearts that will not be forgotten. In my lifetime, I have lived in many towns from the east to the west coast in Canada. In 2001, I planted my roots in Arkona, ON. In 2003 opened a pizza café where I eventually met my husband Lion Steve in 2006. Together we have 5 children and 11 grandchildren. I currently have a small spa nail salon business. Work at McPherson's restaurant and drive a school bus. I joined the Arkona Lioness in 2005, where I have held many positions both at Club and District level. I am an active member within my community and Chairperson for the Funtastic days in Arkona working tirelessly on organizing the parade & entertainment. I enjoy participating with the Lioness Christmas Caroling, baking cookies for the seniors and at all club fundraising. I have a personal interest in the mental health and well being of the people in my community, therefore choosing Mental Health as my project for these two years. I still truly believe more than ever, when you can tell your story without feeling or wanting to cry, you are finally past or on your way to feeling better mentally. You just never know how someone feels on the inside when it is not visible on the outside. I think everyone has, at one time or another, experienced some kind of mental illness or knows someone who has.

In 2014 I received the Helen Keller Fellowship from my club and in 2020 received a Presidents plaque from the District A1 Lioness. I will continue to serve my community with great pride as an Arkona Lioness or Arkona Swan. MY hope for the Lions and Swan future is to work together in Harmony for many more years to come; even as we separate from Lions Clubs International. **It is crucial that we endure, because we do make a difference, not just in our community but to the world.**

### International Guest PID Lion Marvin Chambers



Marvin Chambers, from Fillmore Saskatchewan, was elected to serve a two-year term as International Director of Lions Club in Seattle at the Association's 94<sup>th</sup> Convention on July 4—8, 2011

In recognition of his service to the association, he has received numerous awards, including the 100% Secretary award; 100% Presidents Award; Two International Presidents Certificate plus two International Presidents Awards. He is also a Melvin Jones Fellow, a Judge Brian Stevenson Fellow and a Life Member of both the Saskatchewan Eye Bank and the Saskatchewan Foundation. In addition to his Lions activities Past, Director Chambers has been active in numerous professional and community organizations. He currently serves as a member of the Fillmore Recreation and Cultural Board, a member of the Hospital Foundation for Fillmore District and a village representative for Saskatchewan Urban municipalities. In the past, he also served as a councillor for RM#96 (Fillmore), United Church Treasurer, councillor for the Village of Fillmore and President of both Fillmore's Donor Choice and the Fillmore Curling Club. Past Director Chambers and his wife Lion Lynne have five Children and five grandchildren.

*District A-1 Convention 2021 Report*

Voting Results – Out of 138 total possible votes 83 votes were cast.

2021-2022 DG Lion Valerie Burningham

2021-2022 1st VDG Lion Evelyn Spiering

2021-2022 2nd VDG Lion Sydney MacLean

Congratulations Lions!!

Convention Attendance:

118 participants registered for the convention this week.

Share the Wealth – Total Pot - \$730.00

Announced Winners – Received \$122.00 Per Winning Ticket

Rosemary Kennedy Kevin Storozuk Don and Mary Lou MacKinnon

Celebrating - Porch Drops for Convention Pins, craft beer, chips and program of the upcoming virtual convention.

Chair PDG Eric Dolansky

Vice Chair PDG Joyce Mahovlich

Registration PDG Mary Mahovlich

Voting & Credentials PDG Barb Tuxford

Celebration of Life PDG Mike Tuxford

Protocol Aide PCC John Johnston

Lioness Rep 1st Vice Kelly Pearson

District Governor Dan Armstrong

Lioness President Kim Garside

Secretary Cheryl Schleihauf

Entertainment Gayle Armstrong and Michelle Mundy

1st VDG Val Burningham

Lioness VP Kelly Pearson



**Convention Committee**

Chair

Vice Chair

Registration

Voting & Credentials

Celebration of Life

Protocol Aide

Lioness Rep

District Governor

Lioness President

Secretary

Entertainment

1<sup>st</sup> VDG

Lioness VP

PDG Eric Dolansky

PDG Joyce Mahovlich

PDG Mary Mahovlich

PDG Barb Tuxford

PDG Mike Tuxford

PCC John Johnston

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Kelly Pearson

Dan Armstrong

Kim Garside

Cheryl Schleihauf

Gayle Armstrong

Michelle Mundy

Val Burningham

Kelly Pearson



*Third Vice President Patti Hill and Marvin Chambers*

**MD "A" Accessibility News**  
**Lion Khristina Engel, Chair**



From guiding their handlers through their daily lives to getting help when it's needed most, Dog Guides play a crucial role in the lives of Canadians with disabilities. By supporting our team with a donation to the Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides, you are enabling Lions Foundation to fulfill their mission to empower Canadians with disabilities to navigate their world with confidence and independence by providing Dog Guides at no cost to them and supporting each pair in their journey together.

"Since Graduating from the Canine Vision program, I have had a chance to experience life like most people will not ever get. Losing my vision was the scariest thing that has happened to me.

Now I have Nutmeg by my side. We have taken long trips on the Go Bus and Go Train and travelled to see my boyfriend regularly in a town I did not know when I was sighted. I will try to navigate an area knowing Nutmeg will keep me safe and not be scared. Without Nutmeg, I would not be doing these things. I am not the person I was 4 years ago, or I was 6 years ago when I lost my vision. I am much a happier person. The first time my dad visited me and met Nutmeg while I was in training in Oakville was the first time, he saw me smile after I lost my vision and now that smile is there every day knowing my day is going to be a better day. I can get around independently and safely with my best friend Nutmeg by my side."

"Please help to change someone else's life like Nutmeg has changed mine, donate now and support us in our challenge!"

Lion Khristina has produced an excellent accessibility newsletter to see the full version go to: <http://mdalions.org/downloads/MDA-Accesibility-File.pdf>

Or scan the supplied QR Code.



## KW Community Spirit Lions

Lion **Marianne Steadman** a charter member of the KW Community Spirit Lions passed peacefully at Innisfree House Sunday May 2nd, on her 81st birthday. She was an active member of the Vision Screening team for many years, and lead the Lions TV Bingo until her health would no longer allow her to do so. She also served as the Lion Tamer for more than 20 years.

Prior to her passing Lion Marianne proudly presented a Lions Quest Fellowship to her good friend Cheryl Bews, Cheryl is not a Lion but she has worked tirelessly with seniors in the our community. She has worked at Central Park Lodge and Forest Heights Retirement Home. She has helped many young people in her community

and at the International Gospel Centre., obviously well deserving of the award.

*R.I.P. Lion Marianne.*



*In the photo Lion Janet Dawson Brock, a cousin of Lion Marianne shown in the centre and Cheryl Bews, on the right*

## St. Vincent Disaster Relief Fund by District A711 Lions

On April 9th of this year La Soufrière volcano in Saint Vincent erupted explosively forcing the evacuation of thousands of people. A series of volcanic eruptions has blanketed parts of the island of St. Vincent in heavy ash and smoke, and a strong odour.

Approximately 4000 people have left the island and those remaining without a home take shelter in private homes and government shelters.

District A711 Governor **Tebo Richards**, formed a Lions Task Force for St. Vincent Relief Fund, with RC Lion **Abdullah Gamandie** as Chair, PGMTCLion **Julian Austin** as Vice Chair and committee members

from various Lions Clubs in the district.

Lions from across our District of A711 came forward with clothes, blankets, sheets, shoes, masks, canned food, soaps, and cash donations. Lions Abdullah and Julian went down to the freight company KLC that was providing free shipments to St. Vincent and packed about 5 drum containers to be shipped. The following week of we had 6 barrels and a skid of goods to be shipped but this time we had to pay for shipping. Approximately \$9,000 was raised from Lions donations to be sent to the St. Vincent Lions Club for purchasing the needs of the people in shelters in St. Vincent.



## Pt. Carling Lions

Not to be outdone by Covid restrictions that originally cancelled the annual effective speaking contest, Glen Orchard Public School teacher, Ben Grimstead, partnered with Port Carling Lions Club to give his students the experience of public speaking. The grade 7 & 8 students presented to the Lions judges virtually and after much deliberation the winners were announced. First place went to Sydney Stevens, who talked about Perfection/Imperfection. Second place went to Sydney Van Kruistum whose topic was Natural Disasters. Sarah Orchard earned third place position with a presentation about Inequality. Kudos also to MacKenzie Bentley who spoke about Kobe Bryant and to Ryan Warwick whose topic of speech was Ants vs Mosquitos. The highly qualified judges were Lions **Barb Kenyeres**, **Tom Lascelles** and **Barb Ennis**.

Well done all!



## Killaloe Lions

Killaloe Lions Club made a \$1000.00 donation to the Killaloe Friendship Club. The funds were raised in partnership with Pembroke Delta Bingo and Gaming and The Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation. The donated funds will be used for senior programming in the Killaloe area.



# Calabogie Lions Club

Covid-19, by eliminating in-person events, has made fund-raising difficult for all charitable organizations. Catch the Ace, has been a successful fund-raiser for many organizations. The Calabogie Club have established a Catch the Ace raffle. Profits will be directed to the three organizations listed below. Three other Ottawa Valley charitable organizations will participate along with club to assist them with their community benefit programs, they are as listed as follows, more information can be found on their respective websites and/or facebook pages.

**Bernadette McCann House** works for change that will end abuse by providing safety, support and education to all those who experience abuse.

**Hospice Renfrew** provides a freestanding residential hospice to serve the palliative care needs in the community.

**Ronald McDonald House Charities** Ottawa provides an affordable and compassionate environment for families of seriously ill children receiving medical services.

**Calabogie Lions Club** raises funds and donates

to a wide variety of programs that support youth sports and recreation, families in distress, health providers and community events.

# Thamesford Lions - The South Park Pavilion

During the pandemic of 2020, the Thamesford Lions partnered with the Township of Zorra on a joint project to build a new timber frame pavilion in the Lions South Park next to the Splash Pad - this fulfilled a promise we made to Lions International to build something permanent in our local community to honor 100 years of Lionism in Canada. Our club was truly grateful for the financial support we received from the community to bring this project to completion. In addition, the project received a donation from Lions District A-15 and several Lions Club members made personal donations & helped with several other aspects of the project.

On December 12th, the Pavilion was officially opened by township Mayor Marcus Ryan, along with our remaining 60-year Charter Member **Joe Wallace** and pavilion committee chair **Glenn Ross**. During the ceremony, Lion Joe was

presented his International 60 Year Service Award certificate by A15 District Governor **George Corrin**. In turn, DG George was presented with a Melvin Jones Fellowship award for his service to Lions and the community by Lion Chief **Scott Barr**.



*(L)Charter Member Joe receives his 60-year Service plaque  
(R)DG George receives his Melvin Jones award*

# Knowlton

Winding up our campaign to honor our front line workers, the Knowlton Lions Club presents Tim Horton's gift certificates and coupons to all the teachers and staff at École St-Edouard and Knowlton Academy. The Lions also thanked our Volunteer Firefighters and First Responders. In all, over 200 certificates and coupons were presented. We thank them all.

**Lions Sue Perkins, Rolly Marners and Bill Taylor** in photos from left to right **France Bisson**, secretary, St-Edouard's School. **Alan Bowbrick and Ross Clarkson** from Volunteer firefighters and First Responders and **Catharine Spencer** from the Knowlton Academ



*Lions Sue Perkins, Rolly Marners et Bill Taylor en photos de gauche à droite France Bisson, secrétaire, École St-Edouard. Alan Bowbrick et Ross Clarkson des pompiers volontaires et premiers intervenants et Catharine Spencer de la Knowlton Academy*

Pour clôturer notre campagne pour honorer nos travailleurs de première ligne, le Knowlton Lions Club présente les certificats-cadeaux et les coupons de Tim Horton à tous les enseignants et au personnel de l'école St-Edouard et de la Knowlton Academy. Les Lions ont également remercié nos pompiers volontaires et nos premiers intervenants. En tout, plus de 200 certificats et coupons ont été présentés. Nous les remercions tous.

# MD A History Clubs in MD'A' from 1920 to 2020

This project is a labour of love and learning that taught me a lot more about the clubs that existed in MDA and the history of our Lions. This listing was put together from multiple sources from each of the Districts from A1 to A17 that existed in MDA since 1920. A listing of these sources is available online and has been cross referenced to each of the clubs.

I especially want to thank PID Lion **Gilles Melancon** of U1, Lion **Ray Charbonneau** of MDA, PDG Lion **Dave Durant** of A12, and PDG Lion **Vern Job** of A9 for the documentation over and above that from their own districts that helped me immensely to put together this listing. I would also like to thank my Immediate Past District Governor **Debbra Christiansen** who helped me with information and provided much needed encouragement to complete this project.

I have attempted to include every club that existed, but I may have missed some. In addition, the turquoise highlighted items are pieces of information that are missing and that could not be found yet. However, please note this is an evergreen product and if any clubs or members have any additional information, I would love to get this information so I can update the listing. I would also love little stories about your clubs that you would like to share. You can email me at [bmlsudbury@hotmail.com](mailto:bmlsudbury@hotmail.com) or let Lion Ray Charbonneau know and he will forward to me.

I hope the Lions enjoy seeing how many clubs we had in our MDA over the years, finding out what happened to them and maybe learn a couple of things also.

*Yours in Lionism*

Lion Brenda McLay Lalonde,  
Minnow Lake Lions – District A5

*Editors Note: Lion Brenda is the Lion Magazine District Reporter for A-5, her effort in compiling this feature was tremendous, the document is eighty-four pages and obviously too large for the magazine or to be sent via email.*

The entire version is available by following this link: <https://tinyurl.com/2fu6w3y8>



On April 11th Lions around the world participated in the first LCIF Telethon, the results were fantastic!

Approximately \$885,000.00 was raised. Using the included link and/or the Q.R. code view the wrap-up video produced by LCI, featuring LCI Vice President Lion **Doug Alexander**.

URL: <https://tinyurl.com/yhk9sqog>



## Orangeville Lions

Despite fundraising pressures being faced by all service clubs due to COVID 19, Orangeville Lions Club members were able to honour their Campaign 100 commitment to the Lions Canada Fund for LCIF for the second year in a row. The 2020-2021 commitment of \$7347.00 was comprised of individual donations from members and the balance from the Club's Activities account.



Orangeville Lion Chief Kris McBride and Vice President Mike Walker present Orangeville Lion PDG Wally Pugh, District A9 LCIF representative, the cheque and commitment to \$7347.00 for 2021-2022!

## A Heart Warming Story

from Grimsby Lions and District Reporter PCC Bradd Anderson

Complications from a recent surgery required that Grimsby Lion **Jane Franks** extend her stay at the Juravinski Hospital in Hamilton. Jane, a keen supporter of Dog Guides, and a member of the Grimsby Lions Walk for Dog Guides fund-raising team made a co-incidental connection with one of the hospital's nursing staff Skye Hobson. Hobson is fostering a Lions Dog Guide pup, a beautiful thirteen month old black Lab named "Saffron". On her day off from nursing at the hospital Skye brought Saffron to the hospital to visit with Jane, there was an instant connection. When Saffron visited a second time she gently placed her chin on Jane's lap as if to say "How is it going?" What a difference Saffron and other Lions Dog Guides will bring to those in need!





## Milverton Lions



Milverton Lions “Tree Of Light” was lit up at nights for the first week of Spring in memory of everyone in the local community who passed away during the COVID-19 pandemic, whether or not they suffered from the virus. The lights will also be on for the families of the deceased.

Normally the Tree Of Light, erected in 2017, is switched-on at a formal ceremony in mid-

November with Christmas carols sung by the local Guiding Unit, a blessing by a local minister, the reading-out of the names of those who were being remembered or honored (including children’s pets) that Christmas season, with coffee, hot apple cider and cookies available for the many members of the community who come to witness the lighting of The Tree.

Ironically the Tree Of Light being lit for this Spring includes the memory of recently deceased Milverton Lion **Pete Schellenberger**, whose inspiration created the Milverton Lions “Tree Of Light.” Each year, usually the Tree Of Light is dismantled in late March, reverting to a flagpole, and in early November each year the flagpole reverts to the Tree Of Light.

## Merritton Lions

The Lions Club Merritton held their 2nd Food, Clothing and Bottle drive of this Lions year on Saturday March 27, 2021. For five hours donations streamed in from the surrounding community, with most people dropping off all three items requested. Twenty-five Lions and family members collected 1100 lbs of food, 1500 lbs of clothing and over 20,000 empty containers.

All food and clothing were distributed to Community Care of St. Catharines & Thorold. The \$5000.00 netted from Bottle Drive and raffle will be distributed to organizations in our local community dedicated to helping others. Local organizations previously supported by our fundraising efforts this year include YWCA Oakdale Commons, Wellspring, Start Me Up Niagara, St Georges Breakfast

Program, Salvation Army, Community Care, United Way, St Vincent De Paul, and Westview Centre 4 Women.



*Merritton Lions President Samantha Robb gives two thumbs up to residents Tonya and Bobby for donating to our 2nd Bottle/Food Drive held on March 27th. Lion members (L-R) Jeff White, Jonathon Williams, Sandy Pyle, Sharon VanValkenburg, Sheena Magnotta, Dawn Bell, Keith Brown, Geoff Crane, and Bob Flynn were on hand to sort the 20,000+ containers collected*

## Fonthill Lions Help Find The Easter Bunny a Home!

The custom-made, 3-foot milk chocolate bunny was made by Nigh’s Chocolates in Stevensville and donated by Pleasantview Funeral Home. “The bunny was a huge hit” said **Steve Pellerin**, President of the Fonthill Lions.

“Thanks to the generous support of our community we raised far more than originally anticipated. People are happy to see some fun back in their lives and what is more fun than a giant Easter Bunny. We cannot thank our supporters enough.”

Like many businesses, service clubs and charity organizations, the Fonthill Lions’ fundraising efforts were hindered by COVID-19. Most of their funding sources were cancelled for reasons of public safety, so the Lions are finding new activities like raffles, bottle drives and drive-thru meals to raise money to continue to support local community service during the pandemic.



*Proud Winner Tammy Pettes with Lion Steve Pellerin*

## The London Central Lions Club is 100 years old!

And they are very proud of their Centennial project that has funded the creation of a Sensory Garden in Lorne Ave Park in Old East Village in London. A great way to celebrate and give back to the local community. The grand opening is uncertain at this time due to the Covid situation. The club had also planned a celebration and reception in June. That has been postponed as well. Until then, we wish all Lions and their families to stay safe and in good health.

The London Central club was sponsored by the Windsor Downtown Lions who celebrated their 100th Anniversary last year.



*Charter from 1921*

# 2021 MDA Environment Photo Contest Winners

Winner was the Monarch Butterfly and a Bee on an Echinacea flower photo, submitted by Lion **David Simpson, Port Dover Lions** of District A-2.

There was a three way tie for second: Pond reflection photo from Lion **David Bones, Kearney Lions** of District A-12. Canoe Sunset submitted by Lion **Brenda Newman, Southeast Manitoulin Lions** of District A-5 and the Wild Lynxes picture submitted by Lion **Paul Kelly** of the **Larder Lake Lions** of District A-5.

Honourable Mention to Lion **Jane Carr, Fonthill Lions**, Lion **Ronnie Wickens, Omeme Lions**, Lion **Atma Shivbarran, Blackearth Binbrook Lions**, Lion **John Smeets, Kearney Lions**, Lion **Fiona Shurjat, Omeme Lions**, Lion **Frank Sartor, King City Lions**, Lioness **Bonnie Moore, Temiskaming Shores Lioness Club**, Leo **Ruby Hopkins, Georgian Bay Leos**, Lion **John Harvey, Hagersville Lions Club**, Lion **Frank Sartor, King City Lions**, Lion **Colleen Schwehr, Formosa Lions**, Lion **Jennifer Batte, Formosa Lions** and Lion **Wayne White, Orangeville Lions**.

*Congratulations to all the entrants!*



PDG Randy Hargrave, M.D. A  
Environment Committee Chair



## Waterdown Lions

Waterdown Lion **Clive Sedgwick** with his Dog, Riley, did the virtual WALK FOR DOG GUIDES on Sunday May 30. He raised over \$1000.00 for Lions Foundation of Canada. All in all the Waterdown club raised over \$4,000.00. Here is a link to the Walk web site: <https://www.walkfordogguides.com/>

As well the Lions in Waterdown were busy planting trees in Joe Sams Park in town in a joint effort with the Halton Conservation Authority, shown in the photo are: L-R Lions **Bill Taylor, Andrew Haggert, Neil Stephenson** and **Ron Steepe**.





## Lake Joe Special Recognition CNIB Announces 2020/2021 Awards

CNIB is pleased to announce the 2020/21 Lions Club of the Year Award Winners. This annual award acknowledges the Club in each District that raised the most funds in support of CNIB throughout the year. It was a year unlike any other, with the COVID-19 pandemic making community fundraising incredibly challenging. With that in mind, CNIB gives special thanks and congratulations to:

- A-1: **Lucan District Lions**
- A-2: **Jarvis Lions**
- A-3: **Lions Club of Kingston**
- A-4: **Pembroke Petawawa Lions**
- A-5: **Sudbury Lions** (winner last year)
- A7-11: **Mississauga Central Lions** (winner last year)
- A-9: **Mount Forest and Ripley & District Lions** (tie)
- A-12: **Elmvale & District Lions**
- A-15: **The Lions of Rockton**
- 5M10: **Atikokan Lions**

The District of the Year award winner is District A-2, the top - contributing District in MDA! CNIB presented the award to District Governor **Fred Arbour** at the MDA Virtual Convention

Because of pandemic health and safety protocols, the award was presented virtually. Much to Fred's surprise, his wife Eleanor was enlisted by Lion **Bill MacKenzie**, Chair, Sight Conservation and MDA Lions/CNIB Committee, to hide the award at home and reveal it at just the right time. Fred was thrilled to accept the award on behalf of the incredibly dedicated Lions in District A2.



**DG Fred Arbour - District A-2**

"I was totally surprised when I got the award. It never even crossed my mind," says Fred. "I'm very thankful. I've been a Lion for over 50 years, and CNIB Lake Joe is one of the areas that I've most enjoyed in all my years of being in Lions." Congratulations to Lion Fred and all the hard-working members of District A2 who serve as Knights of the Blind to raise funds for CNIB in support of people who are blind or partially sighted.

Lion Bill MacKenzie has completed his second term as Chair of the MDA Lions / CNIB Committee. To thank him for his many years of service to CNIB Lake Joe, he was awarded the prestigious CNIB Knight of Lake Joe Award. "The MDA Lions and CNIB have a rich history and tradition of working together," says Monique Pilkington, Executive Director, CNIB Lake Joe.

"Under Bill's leadership, we have been able to strengthen and grow our partnership, reaffirming Lions' role

as Knights of the Blind. With our Lions committee partners, we are pleased to honour Bill with a CNIB Knight of Lake Joe Award to recognize his passion for CNIB Lake Joe and the community we serve." Bill was a founding member of this committee, starting in 2017 after becoming the MDA Sight Chair. The (late) Lion Peter Hammond invited him to work on a special CNIB Lake Joe project to strengthen and grow the Lions/CNIB Lake Joe partnership. This special project turned into the MDA Lions/CNIB Committee, a forum for sharing information and resources and celebrating Lions' contributions in their role as donors, volunteers, and advocates.

As CNIB Lake Joe celebrates its 60th anniversary, Bill shares his vision for the future.

"If we all work together, we can continue to ensure CNIB Lake Joe is the number one facility for people who are blind or partially sighted. There are lots of Lions involved, and the growth and improvements over the years have been phenomenal."

## Mountain Township and District Lions

The Mountain Township & District Lions Club donated \$3,000.00 to be a part of a project in obtaining a ramp for a resident in need in the community. Lions **Terry Foley** and **Ted Ceelen** in collaboration with Yves Labelle from Conval-Aid Inc. assisted in bringing the project to reality. As always, we thank the community for their support of our events.



**L-R: Sherri Helsdingen (CNIB), Lion Bill MacKenzie (Chair - Sight Conservation MD'A' Lions, Monique Pilkington (CNIB), Eugene Chong (CNIB) and Debbie MacKenzie at CNIB Lake Joseph Boathouse (photo from 2019)**



## Lions Quest

At a recent gathering of Canadian Lions prior to the LCI International Convention Lion **Joanne McQuiggan**, Executive Director of Lions Quest Canada presented a report about her organization. Here is the text from the well received presentation.

Take a moment to think about the special young people in your life – your kids, your grand kids – maybe even great grand kids. Or maybe they live next door or are part of your extended family.

How are they doing? The last 16 months have been very difficult for them (and us). Did you know there was a 25% increase in alcohol and legal marijuana sales in the pandemic? There was 120% increase in opioid-related deaths in the summer of 2020 vs the summer of 2019. One in five young people are struggling with their mental health, and suicide is now the leading cause of death for 10–14-year-olds.

Think about the special young people in your life. What do you want for them? I'm certain if we had time to hear your answers, you would share things like happy & healthy lives, safe places to live, learn & play, the ability to achieve their dreams. Of course, we want them to stay away from all the problem behaviours, but we also want much more than that for them. One of my favourite leaders in the youth development field says "problem-free is not fully prepared – and fully prepared is not truly engaged".

If we believe it takes a village to raise a child, Lions Quest Canada is helping to equip the villagers – with the tools and resources to make a difference. Our school-based programs are now used in well over 100 countries globally – it is

the Lions program with the largest impact and the greatest evidence that we are making a difference. Building social & emotional learning competencies in our young people is more important than ever – and the sooner we start the better. Having these skills as young as 5 & 6 years old is the greatest predictor of long-term success, and every \$1.00 invested, has a return of up to \$13.00.

It isn't just about what happens in the classroom – we need to engage families and the community as well. Through the service-learning component, students are putting their social emotional skills into practice, while also developing a sense of both personal & social responsibility. They are learning to be Lions.

Over the past year, we have modified and adapted all our training programs to be delivered virtually – it has allowed us to reach even more people in more places! We delivered 26 workshops – 11 at the community level and 15 for educators in nine provinces and one territory. Over 5,000 more students will receive Lions Quest programs thanks to the 170 educators that invested in the training. 100% of the participants indicated that the workshop was effective or very effective (81%).

Here's what one participant shared:

"Your team was well organized and inspiring! They are just what society in whole, needs right now and in the future. Thank-you for your service to our youth and future adult citizens.

Thank you – this would not happen without your investment in our work. We recognize it was a difficult year, and our donations revenues are less than 50% of our goal – with just over 100 clubs contributing. We can do better – we need to do better – our young people deserve

better.

You are the catalyst in your community. Talk to your fellow Lions – visit our website to learn more about our work. Follow us on social media – and share those messages. Reach out to educators in your network and encourage them to learn more about the programs. We have two school-based workshops coming up in August. We will be releasing a new workshop for a broader community-based audience later this summer. We can't do this without your help – budget for Lions Quest annually, present a Lions Quest Fellowship, join the Q-Bear Fan Club.

Let's go back to those special young people in our own lives – what would we like the "village" to look like for them? Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have at any time.

Most importantly – be a villager.

For a narrative clip of the presentation go to: <https://www.facebook.com/LionsQuestCanada/>

Joanne McQuiggan, Executive Director,  
Lions Quest Canada  
The Canadian Centre for Positive Youth  
Development  
PO Box 27016, Dundas McLaren RPO,  
Cambridge, ON N1R 8H1



## Sudbury Lions



Presenting the cheque is Lion Ron Lundgren to Lisa Long, Executive Director

The Lions Club of Sudbury are experts in practicing our motto "WE SERVE", and by funding organizations to allow them to do the important work they do, the Lions make an even bigger impact in the Community. This is illustrated by two recent donations to two very worthwhile causes.

\$5,000.00 was donated to the Samaritan Center and \$5,000.00 to Meals On Wheels - Sudbury Kitchen Project, from funds raised through Nevada Tickets in Sudbury.



Presenting the cheque is Lion Ron Lundgren to Crystal Ayers, Kitchen Manager



## Kindness Matters Service Award Winner (reprint from LCI Headquarters Magazine, Summer Edition)

### Stepping Up During Shut Down

**Orillia Lions** help local youth center keep tabs on at-risk youth during lockdown

*The Orillia Lions Club is one of the 2021 Kindness Matters Service Award winners. For more stories and to check out a list of all the winners visit <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/kindness-matters-service-award>.*

At-risk youth entered dangerous, uncharted territory when the world went into lockdown in the spring of 2020. Luckily, the Orillia Lions in Ontario, Canada, had their backs.

For more than 20 years the Orillia Lions have supported the local youth center through both financial and service support, but in the past few years they've become more involved. And when the pandemic shut things down and the center had to close, Lions knew it was time to up their involvement to keep those most at risk off the streets.

"Many of the youth experience mental health issues and/or homelessness," says Lion **Denise Naughton**, who is the club chairperson. The Orillia Youth Center (OYC) is a drop-in facility for children ages 11 to 17. They offer at-risk youth meals, opportunities for social engagement, workshops to support self-esteem and build life skills, mental health support, arts activities, and much more. A recent twitter post reminded kids to bring their laundry – including cloth masks – so staff could help them use the free washing machines (and even offered to do it for them if needed).

During the shut-down, OYC staff were laid off, but they continued to do their jobs anyway, knowing how much they were needed. "They continued to do their job via phone chats, virtual

meetings, working with school officials and [Children's Aid Foundation of Canada] workers to check in on high-risk youth, and distributing food, which was supplied by many local restaurants and the community," says Naughton. "The Orillia Lions felt the need to step up our support."

The center set up weekly meals for kids and their families. The meals were intended to provide food of course, but they were also a way to keep a watch over the kids they'd been working so hard to help.

"During the lockdown, these kids weren't in school and they didn't have a lot going on at home," says Lion **Jamie Mask**. "We needed a way to keep tabs on them and make sure they were ok. Having them come in once a week to get meals was a way to keep in touch." Lions and OYC provided enough meals for the kids and their families. Kids who didn't show up had meals delivered to them.

Lions bought gas cards for OYC staff, who had been using their own vehicles and gas to deliver the food, and began coming in weekly to help pack and sort the meals for delivery.

Their efforts really paid off when, during the summer, two kids hadn't been seen or heard from in a long time. "They weren't at home, they weren't showing up for virtual school. Nobody knew what was going on with these kids," says Mask.

So, during meal pickups, staff began asking other kids if they had seen the boys. "Turns out, they were living rough. They had found a tent somewhere outside of town and were living alone," says Mask. OYC staff went and picked them up and got them over to Children's Aid. As a former police officer and policy-maker for juvenile offenders, Mask knows how grave a situation they were in. "What could have happened to them down there?"

For many of these young people, the youth center provides the only guidance in their lives. "They've really turned a lot of these kids around who were sort of one the edge," says Mask. And having the Lions involved lets the kids and their families know that the community really cares about them and is there to support them.

"It's been good because we're getting to know the kids," says Mask.

"The youth are our future," says Naughton, who believes providing opportunities for young people will help foster partnerships between the community and its residents. And many of these same youth have already given back to the community by donating their time to Lions activities, like roadside cleanups. "I've seen them slowly come out of their shells," says Naughton. "Because they're giving back. They're doing something outside of themselves. It gives them a purpose. They feel proud to be out there picking up garbage and helping you out."

The lesson?

"Kindness is one of the few things that benefits both the giver and the recipient," says Mask. "It's a win-win for everybody. There's no downside to kindness."



## Sault Ste Marie Lions

A group of volunteers with some help from the Easter Bunny, set out in the downtown core of Sault Ste. Marie to clean up what spring's snow melt has revealed. The Sault Ste. Marie Lions were part of this crew to help clean up after a long winter to make the area safe again. Partnered with other local groups, they set out in teams and were armed with gloves and safety equipment. It is not just the main streets that need cleaning, but also the back laneways and out-of-the-way places where drug paraphernalia was found. The safe disposal of these items was completed and the area was much cleaner after all the hard work. The Lions are proud to support this annual event to make their community a cleaner and safer place.



## Norwood Lions

On Saturday, May 8th Norwood Lions Club completed their Tree Purchase Fundraising program. One hundred and twenty-nine trees were distributed from the Norwood Fair Grounds Horse Barn. Customers were able to safely drive

through the barn, get their tree loaded and never have to get out of their vehicle. Each tree came with good information about successful tree planting. The Fundraising program was led by a dedicated Norwood Lions Club Environment Committee. The

club also had rain barrels available for purchase. Special Thank You to Norwood Fair. Funds raised from this project will be used to support local community projects.



## Dog beds delivered to Chatham-Kent P.A.W.

Lions **Lorea** and **Rudy Boogerman** of the Chatham Lions Club delivered a dozen dog beds to the Chatham- Kent P.A.W. (Pet and Wildlife Rescue) to celebrate a 'Day of Service' campaign in honour of PDG **Chris Lewis** (of the Gravenhurst Lions - District A-12).

Usually held on May 1, the campaign was delayed to May 15 due to Co-Vid restrictions.

The material for the dog beds was donated by the Woodstock-Oxford Branch of Victoria's Quilts Canada – a Canadian organization of volunteers who make and donate lap quilts free of charge to cancer patients, helping them keep warm during their recovery from cancer treatments. Lion Lorea accepted the donation of scrap, unusable material and repurposed them for use in the dog beds. The dog beds, pending availability, are provided to every dog that is adopted by foster parents.



## Capreol Lions

Recently, the Capreol Lions celebrated International Childhood Cancer Awareness day in a special way. The Lions decided to help the children at our local Northeastern Cancer Centre. The Lions enlisted the children of C.R. Judd Public School and had them write cards of encouragement to children with cancer. Lions also wrote out cards, supplied work books for children having trouble with virtual classes and 3D printed goodies. Tim Hortons cards were purchased for the families to use while at the centre.

The club is pleased to have provided these small items of comfort to aid these brave children in their fight against cancer. The north east part of Ontario are fortunate to have the Cancer Centre in the area where children and their families can go for treatment, care, as well as some TLC from the wonderful doctors and nurses who work the front lines in the battle to defeat cancer.



# LIONESS TRIBUTE: Our golden girls and their amazing achievements

## Tony Fawcett takes a nostalgic look back at the end of a fabulous era of service and of new beginnings

For 45 years Lionesses have been a proud part of Australian Lions.



**PAIN OF PARTING:** Lionesses bid a sad farewell from the stage of the MD Convention in Canberra last month

From making turbans and shoulder bags for cancer patients to supplying sewing machines to ease the plight of women in a remote Timorese mountain village, they have been there.

They have knitted cuddle bears for children in hospital, joined with men's sheds to construct "buddy benches" for lonely school children, and displayed their artistic talents on bras to raise breast cancer awareness.

In a single quarter alone it was estimated Australian Lionesses contributed more than 24,500 hours of community service while donating more than \$177,000 to worthy causes.

When the Lioness flag was furled for the last time to a standing ovation at the MD201 Convention in Canberra last month, there was sadness and many tears.

All left Canberra filled with gratitude for the wonderful work these ladies had done.

Some Lionesses have become members of new Lions clubs (often with the name Lioness in the title), some have joined existing Lions clubs, some become part of auxiliaries of sponsoring Lions clubs, and sadly for various reasons some brought a close to their Lions connection.

Whatever, there will be many proud memories.

### LOOK BACK WITH PRIDE

For many Lioness clubs the association with Lions goes back decades.

Typical is Victoria's Yarrowonga club that began as a Lions Ladies Auxiliary, set up in 1964 when the males-only local Lions club formed.

The executives of this and other ladies auxiliary clubs generally comprised the wives of the respective Lions club's executive, with the aim of "assisting the men in raising money for their projects and to enjoy social functions together".

While in hindsight a male-only club might seem outdated, back then it was the norm in service clubs including Lions, Rotary, Jaycees and Apex.

As the Yarrowonga Lioness Club's history explains it, "It was also a time when women were excluded from the main bar in pubs and there were also regulations in some lines of work that excluded women once they got married, so it was a very different time to now."

### BOTH SIDES OF THE STORY

Jo Lynes can see the Lioness closure from different perspectives.

She has been a Lion for 20 years and a Lioness for 15 years.

Jo, a member of the former Cairns Lioness Club and a current member of the Cairns Barrier Reef club, has deep sympathy for her fellow Lionesses who have lost their clubs yet equally recognises that as an ageing organisation many of its member don't have the energy to form new clubs.

Many Lionesses, she says, "just don't want to go across to Lions, and it's not all about Lions. It's just that they're ageing and they don't have the energy to get in, of re-starting again.

"As you get older you get very settled. Look, I am 64 and was the second youngest person in my club, and the average age of my club would be late 70s.

"Those ladies have become the Cairns Lions Auxiliary, so they'll still be working for Lions under the banner.

"We have a club up on the Tablelands where their average age is 90. They just said 'Jo, we're too tired'. I guess they've done their time and they enjoy the fellowship, and they will still probably meet for coffee and company and things like that.

"The clubs that have picked it up (the invitation to become Lions) are probably the younger ones who have still got plenty of energy to go."

However, for Jo there are rich memories of what Lionesses achieved in their 45-year history.

A standout for her was the Lioness Club of Palm Beach Currumbin's Q1 project in assisting a Gold Coast family, with four of its five members suffering Myotonic Dystrophy, to demolish their unsafe shack to rebuild a purpose-built family home with wheelchair access.

It was just one of numerous Lioness projects awarded the organisation's prestigious Fonnies Treseis Premier Project Award honouring the wife of Lions Australia founder William Treseis.

Lioness clubs, stresses Jo, traditionally took on the grassroots projects Lions often don't.

"The closing of Lioness clubs is sad because those sort of projects are the ones communities, not anyone else, are going to miss out on" she says.

She hopes the slack will be picked up by the men and women of Lions clubs across the nation.

In her own case, she recalls, her Lions/Lioness journey began back in the late 1980s.

"At that stage I was down in Victoria and the club there wasn't taking women. They told me I could be a Lions Lady and I didn't want to be that, so I waited.

"We moved here (Cairns) in 1999 and my next-door neighbour was in Lions and she said it was good fun.

"One day I asked her where she was going and she said 'I'm going to Lions', and I said 'I think I'll come too'.

"It was the same with Lionesses. My neighbour was a Lioness as well and they seemed to be having way more fun, and I'd seen her at a few projects.

"So I asked them if I could join too."

Jo believes that under difficult and unenviable circumstances Lions Australia has done an excellent job in facilitating change.

### A LION'S VIEW

Ron Alexander, Q4's Region 1 Chairperson, is one of many Lions paying tribute to the long service of Australian Lionesses.

A Lion of 38 years, Ron watched the movement grow from its earliest days when many future Lionesses were Lions Ladies and later charter members of auxiliary clubs.

In many communities, he contends, Lions would not have been as effective without their Lions Ladies.

"For these ladies, their other role was to raise the family, as many didn't work in community employment.

"Despite their contribution, these ladies were given no higher status within Lions other than as Lions Ladies and their contribution in most cases was unrecognised, with all credit for community achievement being given to the Lions."

Ron recalls fondly the 1976 chartering of one of the first MD201 Lioness clubs, in the tiny Queensland outback town of Daringa, 111km west of Rockhampton.

Two of its charter members, Margaret Davey (Charter 2nd VP) and Leola Barclay, (President), he says, were part of that struggling club right up until its closure.

It was the last community service club in the area.

Many other Lionesses have given staggering years of service in the name of Lions, says Ron, instancing Zena Phillips, 94, an Apex lady before becoming a Lions Lady and then a Lioness with the Buderim club when it formed.

"Zena remained a Lioness and was the club's closing President following the LCI directive of 2019," he says. "What is remarkable about her community service is that it commenced in 1958 and continued until 2020 – 62 years! More than half a lifetime!

"All these ladies who joined to become Lionesses had a purpose to change the world in some way, for someone, somehow, somewhere, and to express the caring nature of Lions through their Lioness clubs.

"They built lifelong friendships, had fun sharing community and family in the process.

"In many cases, they complemented, supported and enabled the effective and efficient operation of their Lions club.

"That is certainly the case with Mooloolaba

Lionesses (closed in June) and my club, Mooloolaba Lions.”

Defiant and proud to the last, Mooloolaba Lionesses, says Ron, distributed in 19 years just under \$350,000 to community, state and national causes and to LCI. In 42 years, he says, the Lioness Club of Coolum Beach donated in excess of \$600,000.

“Some of these Lionesses have received OAMs for community service, citizens of the year awards from shire councils and certificates from LCI itself for service to Lions.”

According to this appreciative Lion, Lionesses are “ordinary women from all walks of life who saw the need for service to others, to give and care for others, to change or enrich lives in a gentle way through their many club projects”.

Always, he says, they upheld their motto of “We Serve Too”.

“To the Lioness Clubs of Q4 and to other Lioness Clubs throughout MD201, “ be proud of your achievements,” advises Ron.

“Hold your heads high, keep smiling; you have earned your record of success and we, Lions and community, are richer for your being.”

#### FUTURE BEYOND THE TEARS

Lioness of 22 years Cynthia Robinson, secretary of the former Lioness Club of Lakes Entrance and now secretary of the new Lions Club of Gippsland Lakes Lionesses, admits change has not come easily.

There have been tears, sadness and some angst but her club decided there was too much to lose if it didn't relaunch.

In a pep talk to members, Cynthia stated both they and their community would lose out if they closed.

She told them: “It's us that are getting out in the community, having get-togethers and weekends away, raising money, helping in the schools, making sandwiches.

“We do all that sort of work and we'll be the ones who will miss all that, and the community will miss our service.”

For Cynthia, a relief teacher and associated with Lions for 45 years through her husband, one of the hardest aspects has been consoling older Lionesses.

“For some ladies that was the only thing they have had in their lives for 40-45 years,” she says.

Positively, she reports many clubs in her V3 District have become Lions clubs, with others such as Bairnsdale Lionesses becoming members of the Bairnsdale Lions Club.

#### COVER GIRL LIONESSES

For then Sydney press photographer Lisa McMahon it was one of the most unusual jobs she had ever been given.

It was 2005 and she received a request from the ladies of the Lioness Club of Sutherland Shire in Sydney to photograph them for a Cover Girls calendar wearing a lot less than most Lionesses usually would.

“They wanted to raise money so they asked me,” recalls Lisa, now a commercial photographer.

“They organised it all and got themselves together. We went to one of the ladies' houses and after a few glasses of champagne they loosened up and we got all the photos of them.

“The ladies were posed with different things, so they all had what they wanted, whether they wanted to be cooking or in the bath or with an art work.

“It probably took only half a day.

“I was working for the St George and Sutherland Shire Leader which at the time was one of the biggest suburban papers in the southern hemisphere and they used it on the front page.”

The eye-catching calendar, inspired by the Calendar Girls movie popular at the time, raised \$17,000 for the Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick's Eye Clinic project.

It was just part of \$1.5 million the club donated to needy causes over its history.

Sadly, after 42 years the club has disbanded, with founding members Diane Weatherall and Helen Eastwood cutting a cake at their final luncheon to mark the its 42nd anniversary.

A highlight at the luncheon was a message from Prime Minister Scott Morrison in which he offered best wishes to the club's members.

“Today's gathering is an opportunity to reflect on the wonderful friendships you have formed and acknowledge your tireless work in serving our community for so many years,” he wrote.



#### SAME FACES, DIFFERENT NAME

After 30 years as Lionesses, members of NSW's Glen Innes club are back as members of the new Glen Innes Highlands Lioness-Lions Club. The new club was chartered in November last year, with N1 District Governor Kevin Thornton inducting members. In their 30 years as Lionesses, the club's members averaged 1000 hours of community service each month.

#### LIONESS HISTORY

December 1975: First Lioness Club formed in North Carolina, USA by 40 members of the ladies auxiliary of a local Lions club.

1975-6: About eight Australian Lions Ladies auxiliary clubs become Lioness clubs, with Brisbane Bardon Lioness Club PR Betty McGrath observing “the change noticed since changing their name to Lioness from Lions Ladies Auxiliary has been the extra enthusiasm of the ladies to help their fellow man”.

1987: Women accepted into Lions as full members and some Lionesses continue with their clubs while others move across.

October 1991: International Association of Lions clubs withdraws international support for Lioness clubs and Lioness clubs continue with sponsoring Lions clubs. In Australia, MD201 supports Lions clubs through expanded Multiple District Lioness Committee.

April 2018: Lions Clubs International announces ending of sponsorship of new Lioness clubs worldwide with incentives for members to become Lions.

June 2021: All Lioness clubs close.

## ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

### District Reporters

There is a reporter designated for each district, their function is to assist clubs and the magazine staff with submissions that include high resolution photos and a summary of the service activity. Please utilize their services. They can be contacted as shown:

A-1 Lion Michelle Mundy: michellemundy@live.com

A-2 Lion Bradd Anderson: b.anderson@a2lions.org

A-3 Lion Kim Carr: tater@sympatico.ca

A-4 Lion Bill Vermilyea: b.vermilyea@outlook.com

A-5 Lion Brenda Lalonde: bmlsudbury@hotmail.com

A-7/11 Lion Astrid Simola: a.simola@sympatico.ca

A-9 Lion Wayne White: wanda.wayne@rogers.com

A-12 Lion Jenn Rebidoux: jenn.rebidoux@sympatico.ca

A-15 Lion Paul Anstett: bulletin@a15lions.org

A-16 Lion Micheline Lush: governornews@lionsa16.com

Editor Lion Bob Pearson  
mdathelionmag@hotmail.com

*Editor's Note: Tony is an accomplished editor from Australia who produces the Lion Magazines for Australia, New Zealand and other parts of the South Pacific. I had the pleasure of meeting him at an editorial conference a few years back, not only does he look after the Lion Magazines but several other publications as well.*

Tony Fawcett





## St. Davids Lions Fight Hunger

The St. Davids club of Niagara on the Lake broke their casserole meal kit production record! The team of fourteen club members managed to build three hundred meal kits in about 2.5 hours. The initial goal was two hundred kits; however, with contributions from club members, a community group and the club's budget they were able to put together three hundred that will feed fifteen-hundred adults and children. The kits are donated to food banks in Niagara on the Lake, Niagara Falls and St. Catharines. Contained in each zip lock family meal kit bag is one of our five recipes plus all of the ingredients (including measured spices) to make a meal for five. When arriving at one of the food bank locations to drop the kits there was a line of women, men, girls and boys waiting for food. The club realized the stress that Covid 19 has placed on our food banks as they are catering to a different clientele. Clubs around the world were challenged by Lions Clubs International to work together and feed one million people by June

25th (the first day of our Lions International Convention). The St. Davids Lions are proud to be represented when the total is announced during our International Convention.



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## Knowlton Lions

The Knowlton Lions Club donated \$20,000.00 to the Brome-Missisquoi-Perkins Foundation so the ophthalmology department could upgrade their equipment to an autofluorescence module, which was not previously available. Patients had to be referred elsewhere to use this technology. In keeping with the mission of the Brome-Missisquoi-

Perkins Foundation, the request from the Ophthalmology Department is to improve the quality, safety and timeliness of care and services while providing medical procedures in a professional manner. This was made possible because of the involvement of the Knowlton Lion's Club's long-standing involvement in the program.



*L to R / G à D : Eileen Mason, Lions Club Treasurer; John Staton, Lions Club President; Winston Mason, Lions Club Past President; Francis Laramée, Executive Director Fondation de l'Hôpital Brome-Missisquoi-Perkins*

Le Club Lions de Knowlton a fait un don de 20 000 \$ à la Fondation Brome-Missisquoi-Perkins afin que le service d'ophtalmologie puisse mettre à niveau son équipement vers un module d'autofluorescence, qui n'était pas disponible auparavant. Les patients devaient être référés ailleurs pour utiliser cette technologie. Conformément à la mission

de la Fondation Brome-Missisquoi-Perkins, la demande du Service d'ophtalmologie est d'améliorer la qualité, la sécurité et la rapidité des soins et des services tout en offrant des actes médicaux de manière professionnelle. Cela a été rendu possible grâce à l'implication de longue date du Club Lions de Knowlton dans le programme.

## Charlton Englehart Lions

The Charlton Englehart Lions have helped their communities on an ongoing basis and recently it was with the donation of new playground equipment to the Charlton Beach. In the past the club has donated equipment to playgrounds in both Charlton and Englehart. The colours are Lions themes and keep the club in the forefront of the community. Also shown in the photo is 1st VDG Lion **Bob Beaven** presenting a certificate of appreciation from DG Lion **Anne Dechaine** to Zone Chair **Rhonda McCallum** for her ongoing service.



## St. Thomas Lions

The Lions Club of St. Thomas now have a Friendship Arch, recently placed in Pinafore Park to commemorate and celebrate the Lions strong standing dedication to the community. Because of the Covid situation they were unable to celebrate their 90th Anniversary. The Membership decided to purchase the Arch as part of their Centennial Project. Thanks to Adrienne at the Parks Department for finding just the right spot. Twelve un-named Lion Disciples shown in the photo.

