

L I O N



M.D. "A" Edition July/August/September 2021

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MD'A' WELCOMES NEW COUNCIL

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International President,
Lions Clubs International



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A young child with dark 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 white shaft. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with greenery and a building.

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THE Lion



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Welcome to the July/August/September 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.

Contents

M.D. "A" Edition

July/August/September 2021

Aldershot Lions Club.....	30
Angus Glen Lions Club	29
Batawa Lions Club	30
Charlton Englehart Lions Club.....	32
Copetown Lions Club.....	26
Dorchester Lions Club	4
Durham Lions Club.....	24
East Peterborough Lions Club.....	32
Fenwick Lions Club.....	26
Gananoque Lions Club	31
Goderich Lions Club.....	28
Grimsby Lions Club	33
Iroquois-Matilda Lions Club	28
Keene Lions Club	29
Kerns Central Lions Club.....	32
Kincardine and District Lions Club.....	29
Lakefield and District Lions Club.....	28
London Central Lions Club.....	27
Mississauga Central Lions Club.....	21
Morrisburg and District Lions Club.....	29
Odessa Lions Club	30
Orangeville Lions Club	4
Russell Lions Club.....	29
St. Davids Lions Club.....	34
St. Joseph Island Lions Club.....	30
Stayler Lions Club	34
Thistletown Lions Club.....	27
Wilmot Lions/Lioness Club	31

President's Message	4
President's Story.....	5-16
Kindness Matters.....	17-18
Pioneering Geneticist Named	
Honorary Lion.....	18
Feel Good Moments.....	19
LCIF: A Foundation of Lions,	
a Foundation of Service	20-21
Campaign 100 Update	22
Lions Camp Dorset	24
District A-9 Eyeglass Recycling 2021.....	24
Unconventional – LCI	
Convention Highlights	25-26
Dog Guides.....	27
MD'A' District A-4 Vision Chair Update.....	31
Lions Foundation of Canada.....	32
MD'A' History – Clubs in MD'A' from	
1920 to 2020	33
District A-2 Camp Dorset.....	33
Congratulations to PDG Allen Snider	34
District Reporters	34
Lions Quest Canada	OBC

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We Serve

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The Secret of Service

Dear Lions,

For my first message to you in LION Magazine, I want to talk about the small things. When Lions Clubs International was started more than 100 years ago, it was founded on the idea that those who can help, *should*. It was that simple.

I grew up with those same values. I was raised in Brooklyn, where most families worked hard and came home tired at the end of the day. But they saw the value in supporting one another. They knew they were stronger together. And they knew that as tired as they were, or as steep as their own struggle seemed, they still had something to give. So, they did.

It's so easy to make a difference. That's the secret that so many Lions already understand and what I wish more people knew. You don't have to end all suffering for humankind—not on your own. But you can ease one person's struggle. You can pick up their bag and carry it for a while. And when you think of service in little moments like this, it becomes easier to see just how many ways there are to give back. And it gets even

easier when each one of us invites a new member to join our club. That gives us more helping hands. And more service from the heart.

I know we are all busy, and we all have heavy loads—these days especially. But remember that the small things you do as Lions are as important as the big things. The way you serve may look different than how I serve or how your buddy down the street serves. And that's a good thing. That give us balance and diversity. That makes us Lions.

I am honored to embark on the next year as your International President and look forward to serving from the heart with you.

Sincerely,

Douglas X. Alexander

Douglas X. Alexander
International President, Lions Clubs International

Awards Presented

Orangeville Lions

In July the Orangeville Lions had the pleasure of presenting well deserved awards. Club President **Mike Walker** and Lion **Wade Neal**, presented Kim Delahunt, President and CEO, Headwaters Healthcare Centre, with a plaque on behalf of Orangeville Lions to recognize, acknowledge and thank all frontline and essential workers for their sacrifices, risks and commitment to our community throughout the COVID-19 crisis.

At the same time Tania Domuracki Alexander and Kelly Jenkins-Young received Melvin Jones Fellowships in recognition of the exceptional care provided by the Dialysis Unit during the challenges of COVID 19. Lions Mike and Wade did the presentations.



Dorchester Lions Member Recognition



Lion **Rob** (R) was being presented with a cast of Helen Keller presented by MD'A' Council Chair and IPDG Lion **Dan Armstrong**. This cast is a replica of the Helen Keller statue in Windsor at The Lions Manor, commemorating the Lions of Windsor's 100th Anniversary. Lion Rob was not only our President for the last two years, but he was also the Sight/Hearing Chair for the District. Lion Rob does a great job and Lion Dan thinks so as well.



Lion **John** (R) was presented the Presidential Leadership Award by Immediate Past District Governor and Current MD'A' Council Chair, Lion Dan. Congratulations Lion John, well deserved in recognition of your contribution to Lionism.

Thames Centre Mayor Alison Warwick presented Lions **John Leal**

and **Ken Clement** with certificates and gifts for their 60 years of service within Lions. What an Accomplishment!

Thank you gentlemen for your years of service.





We Serve

We serve with love and compassion in communities around the world. The selfless giving of our time and effort is precisely what makes Lions so special. When we give, we expect nothing in return. Yet we gain so much. Our service offers hope and connection in the face of great need and also extends an invitation to the world to join us. We embrace the joy that comes with

Service From The Heart.

A heart for service.

International President, Douglas X. Alexander

Lions are a family. A very big, global family — one in which the only requirement is pure and simple: a heart for service. These are the feelings of our 105th International President, Douglas X. Alexander. And who better to lead our international family of service than a decorated Lion of 37 years, who just so happens to have eight siblings of his own?

Born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, International President Alexander has been serving his community as a member of the Brooklyn Bedford Stuyvesant Lions Club since 1984. Like many Lions, his love for service began at a young age. Working at a local grocery store, he would help community members before and after his shifts, earning no money but something far more valuable — their appreciation and respect. It was this selfless service that felt the most rewarding, and that led to a belief that he still holds closely today. Service from the heart, selfless and without expectation, offers humanity the greatest gift of all: The opportunity to make a difference in someone's life.

His journey from Lion Alexander to International President Alexander in many ways mirrors his success as an international businessman. Beginning his career in finance as a bank teller, he understood that if he was patient, worked hard and let his passion shine through, it would all work out in the end. Decades later, he retired as a vice president of J.P. Morgan Chase.

These same qualities — patience, dedication and passion — along with his family-first mentality have made him a remarkable Lion, and the right person to lead our great association forward this coming year.







The heartbeat of service.

**Connecting to communities
through impassioned giving.**

What makes our family of service so unique is that we never stop growing. Our door is always open, an invitation to those who want to be a part of it.

We are a place where people answer the calls of their hearts to serve and are welcomed with open arms. We offer everyone the opportunity to participate in something bigger than us all: the selfless service of others.



Yet, what is sometimes lost in our depiction of our international association are the individuals behind the collective. We are certainly proud of our 48,000 clubs and 1.4 million members, and we use these numbers to showcase the sheer magnitude of our service and global community.

This year, let's remember the most important element of our success: you. You, and each individual Lion, are absolutely critical to our

collective success. You are the heartbeat of service. This year's message, Service from the Heart, is a call to all districts, clubs and Lions to be sure we are always leading with what brought us to Lions International to begin with – our hearts. If we let our passion for service shine through, there is absolutely nothing we can't accomplish together.



The heart of a Lion.

On becoming truly devoted to service.

Every life has its defining moments. Ask any Lion about when they became a Lion and more often than not, they won't tell you the date they joined a club. Instead, they'll tell you the time that service rooted itself into their heart for good.

In the late 1980s, a young and promising financial professional decided to join his local Lions club. He had been repeatedly invited by a coworker, and eventually decided to take part. He was a man of action and liked how Lions were actually making a real difference in the community. And so, month after month, he attended meetings and supported projects.

When November came and Thanksgiving neared, his club held its annual holiday food delivery service to local families in need. As he knocked on the doors, one after another, passing out baskets of food to neighbors, the smiles on their faces and the joy they experienced began to transform him in a way that felt both familiar and new.

And then it happened. He walked down the hallway of a neighborhood apartment building, food basket in hand. He knocked on the door. It opened to reveal a mother, nearly brought to tears by the gesture and the food being offered to her family by the Lions.

"No one has ever done anything like this for us," she said softly. "Thank you."

From then on, this man was still everything he was before that moment — a son, a brother, a father. But he also truly became a Lion. And now, over 30 great years of service later, he is our 105th International President, Douglas X. Alexander.







Plan on success.

Our 2021-2022 Global Priorities

Membership growth and engagement

The growth of our association means we're always ready to serve. To grow, we must not only bring in new members, we must also keep our current Lions engaged and active. Every time we lose a Lion, we have to recruit two more people in order to grow. More importantly, we must engage every member so that each person is able to truly live out the service that's in their heart.

Support our Foundation

We are in the final year of our most ambitious giving campaign ever, Campaign 100. The generosity and support of LCIF is empowering our service around the world, and bringing hope. Let's put our hearts into action by supporting our global foundation so we can achieve our goal of raising US\$300M.

Compassionate service

As communities around the world seek to find a sense of normalcy once again, Lions have a new and great opportunity to lead by example. We can help the world recover in this time when so many are still struggling. We must keep up our innovative service efforts of the past year and expand on them to address the needs of our current situation, with the knowledge that things can change at any moment.

Communication

Transparency and open lines of communication are essential to great service, and therefore have always been key to Lions clubs. We must continue to focus on our connections to one another, those we serve, and the organizations that support us. As Lions, we have a powerful and global community of peers we can learn from and assist. Now is as good a time as any to lean into our network of service.



Our hearts will lead the way.

Serving in this moment.

The world has been through a lot in the past year. As Lions, we helped communities find safe ways to serve in unprecedented times. Just as we've always done, we acted as beacons of hope for countless people and communities in need, responding with new and innovative ways to serve.

As the world continues to change, we must learn from our recent past. We've experienced firsthand the importance of placing the health and safety of our members and those we serve above all else. But last year also showcased the ingenuity and innovation within our clubs. Virtual meetings, webinars, safe service and so much more — Lions spent the past year



developing new ideas and ways to connect. Let's continue to serve safely, but let's also continue to use the innovations and new technologies that can help us achieve stronger connections and greater success.

Lead with Heart. If each of our more than 1.4 million Lions recruited just one person a year to join us in service, we could do more than just double our membership in a single

year. We could double our impact too. While that's an ambitious goal, it all starts by engaging each and every club member. This means offering opportunities to lead and contribute in meaningful ways. When members are happy, they'll want to invite others to be a part of it. Our Lions come to our association with a passion and fire within them to serve. Let's do everything we can to keep that passion for service burning strong for years to come.

Service from
the heart
will guide our way



Lions Clubs International

Kindness Matters

Presenting the 2019-2020 Kindness Matters Service Award Winners

The Kindness Matters Service Award is given annually to a handful of Lions and Leo clubs for performing an outstanding service project in one of the global cause areas.

Intended to recognize and encourage innovative and creative service projects that leave positive impacts on their communities, The Kindness Matters Award recipients are clubs who have shown just how meaningful a Lion or Leo club can be.

The 2019-2020 winners are:

Sacramento Antelope Lions Club | USA, California | “Antelope Feeding Antelope and Beyond”

Fraser River Valley Lions Club | USA, Colorado | “Diabetes Education Kitchen”

Jericho-Brookville Lions Club | USA, New York

Seneca Lions Club | USA, South Carolina | “Golden Corner Food Pantry Emergency Generator Project”

Fairfax Host Lions Club | USA, Virginia | “Food for

Others — Mobile Emergency Food Pantry”

Visionary Cyber Leo Club | USA, New Jersey | “Together We Can Food Drive and Sculpture Competition”

Orillia Lions Club | Canada, Ontario

Quilmes San Francisco Solano Lions Club | Argentina | “Por Una Vista Mejor — For a Better Eye Sight”

Guarulhos Maia Lions Club | Brazil | “Construcao Centro Comunitario”

Yaguaron Lions Club | Paraguay | “Calidad de Vida y Diabetes”

Puira Ignacio Merino Lions Club | Peru | “Punta Arenas Recycling”

Paramaribo Central Lions Club | Republic of Suriname | “Supporting Mangrove Project Weg Naar Zee”

Mercato San Severino Lions Club | Italy | “Helping Families in Need for a More Free and Just Society”

Adana Yuregir Leo Club | Turkey | “Pediatric Oncology”

East Anglia New Century Lions Club | United Kingdom

Megusa Mesarya Lions Club | Undistricted Cyprus | “Diabetes Activities: Strides for Diabetes, Blood Sugar Screening & Educational Awareness”

Nishinomiya Ebisu Lions Club | Japan | “Diabetes Prevention Awareness Presentation to the General Public”

Kuala Lumpur City Lions Club | Malaysia | “River of Life — Community Garden”

Mangalore Tulunadu Lions Club | India | “Online Diabetes Awareness Campaign”

Berekuso Ashei Leo Club | Ghana | “Type 2 Diabetes Awareness and Health Screening”

To read more about all the winning projects visit <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/kindness-matters-service-award>.

Kindness Matters Service Award Winner

Managing Mangroves

Cultivating these coastal trees could help save Suriname

Perched atop the Northern coast of South America, Suriname is the smallest country on the continent, yet the Lions there have taken on a big role in fighting climate change.

Loss of the natural mangrove forests has led to erosion of Suriname’s muddy coastline. Fed by silt washed from the mouth of the Amazon, the land should be growing, not disappearing. But dikes erected in the 1960s to build a highway connecting the east and west coasts of the country cut straight through wetlands where fresh water and saltwater mix. The mixed water – called sweet water – is where mangroves thrive. Without the trees’ roots to bind the silt, much of the fertile soil is washed away.

One of the most important and productive ecosystems on earth, healthy mangroves can not only provide coastal communities with a sustainable living, but they protect coastlines from natural disasters and, according to the Mangrove Action Project, are capable of capturing more carbon per hectare than any other type of forest.

The Paramaribo Central Lions Club has been supporting the Mangrove Project of the Anton de Kom University of Suriname under the direction of the Hydrologist Professor S. Naipal since 2015.

“The erosion of the coastline infringes on the agriculture land,” writes club chairperson Glenn Tewari. “Planting mangrove trees prevents the rich soil from being washed away by the oceans.” Residents of Suriname rely on the fertile soil for agriculture to produce food, but the constant

flooding due to erosion has made farming difficult.

Professor Naipal has been on a mission to save the coastline – and thus preserve the livelihood of Suriname’s resident farmers as well as the precarious ecosystem that depends on them. And Lions have stepped in to help. Naipal’s rescue mission to repair the damage caused by human development involves constructing scaffolding in the muddy waters to trap sediment so that there is enough mud for the mangroves to take root. Once the newly planted mangroves are established, they prevent the ocean from washing away the soil.

The plants are grown in special greenhouses from seeds gathered along the coast. Once ready, the seedlings are planted in the mud with splints to protect them from the waves.

Lions donated the specific kind of water-resistant wood required to build the scaffolding and ensure that it makes its way to the building site. They also donated the wood to build the greenhouses where the seedlings grow and assist in planting

the mangroves. “We work with nature, for nature,” writes Tewari. The wood comes from the hinterland to help restore and protect nature in the coastal plain. The club is hoping their work will provide better protection for endangered species such as the Flamingo and Scarlet Ibises, birds that thrive in the brackish coastline waters.

Once the coastline is stabilized, the land can be farmed again, and the people of Suriname can have a more dependable local food source.

Lions of Paramaribo Central have taken on the project because they know how important a healthy coastline is to their community. More than 90 percent of Suriname’s population lives along the coast. And they’ve partnered with many local organizations, including lumberjacks, in addition to the University in order to properly carry out the replanting.

“The only know-how is in constructing the infrastructure required for saving the soil,” says Tewari. “Nature does the rest.”



Kindness Matters Service Award Winner Canned Goods Make Great Sculptures Leos envision project that brings people together

Your mother always told you not to play with your food. But today's youth clearly haven't gotten that message. In late 2019, Leos in New Jersey put a twist on an established service project by tasking participants to not just donate food, but to make art with it.

The New Jersey Visionary Cyber Leo Club based in Edison, New Jersey, had a vision to bring together like-minded local organizations to achieve the goal of providing nutritious food for all members of their community – all while encouraging young people in the visual arts.

Leos advertised to students in the community, asking them to collect food and bring it to the Edison, New Jersey, municipal council chambers where the sculpture competition would take place.

Local students then formed teams of two to six (ranging in ages from kindergarten to college students) and used the food donations to assemble sculptures. There was no theme, just the collective goal of working together to do something unique and for a good cause.

“[They could build] anything they wanted to bring to life. Our main focus was the actual teamwork aspect of it,” says current leadership

chairperson Ojas Chitnis. “We had all sorts of things, one of them was a football field, one group made an octopus, there were all sorts of things that revolved mostly around animals or sports.”

The sculptures remained on display for two weeks until the council's next meeting at which the winners were recognized. The food was then delivered to three different area food pantries.



The project brought together Lions, Leos, and other community groups to address a cause in a truly collaborative and fun way. In fact, one of the student organizations they partnered with, the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), was

so inspired by the project that they created the “Together We Can” initiative, a campaign to bring awareness to the issue of hunger and to promote student collaboration.

As it turned out, the idea seemed to be especially prescient.

“During the pandemic we saw that a lot of our Leos and Lions were struggling so much,” says Chitnis. “And in retrospect, that theme of bringing people together was so important.”

In this way, it seems the Leos are living up to their name. While they inherited the name from their sponsoring club, they are embracing their role as visionaries.

“We want to be the future of service,” says Chitnis. “We are an older district, but we want to be the next wave in service.”



Pioneering Geneticist Named Honorary Lion

As part of their annual Tribute Day, Arthur Riggs, Ph.D was invited by the Lions Club of Montebello to be an honorary member for his extraordinary contribution and incredible advancements in the fight against diabetes.

In 1978 Riggs co-led the team that laid the groundwork for the development of the first synthetic human insulin with Diabetes.

Currently the Samuel Rahbar Chair in Diabetes & Drug Discovery at City of Hope, a comprehensive cancer care center in California, Riggs has been working on better treatments for diabetes since joining the renowned cancer center in 1969.

Ironically, “I did not intend to study diabetes,”

Riggs admitted in a 2018 interview. “The early work was an accident. Really, we were trying to make genes. We asked ourselves, ‘What useful gene can we make?’ The gene that we decided to make that we thought would be useful was human insulin.”

Riggs' nomination was approved by the board of directors of the Montebello Lions Club and he will be officially entered into LCI's club roster as an honorary member.



Feel Good Moments

The new face of Lions is all about feeding your soul through service

by Joan Cary

In early May, in the midst of all the interviews, pictures, and meetings that precede the announcement of a new President, VP Doug Alexander walked out of the Dollar Tree, heading across the street to complete his errands, when he found a wallet on the ground.

Inside was a woman's ID and \$140 in cash. Alexander saw from her address that she lived only a few blocks away, so he went there to return what belonged to her. But she wasn't home, someone said. She was at Dollar Tree, looking for her wallet. We all know how that feels.

When the two eventually met and Alexander gave the woman her wallet with all her money, she wanted to give him some of that cash back as a reward. What the woman didn't know was that she was face-to-face with the kind-hearted man who was about to take over as President of the world's largest service organization. "Oh no," he said. It made her feel good to have it back. "And it made me feel good to give it to her. That's what we do as human beings," he says.

Alexander calls these "feel good" moments and he says they quietly come back to him when he serves. It's these moments, which began as a child growing up in Brooklyn, NY, when he helped neighbors with their groceries, that reinforced in him the desire to keep serving.

Doug Alexander was born the middle child of nine children. Three sisters, Cleo, Doris, and Sandra preceded him, two brothers, Andra and Stanley, came after him, and then three more girls, Gladys, Verna, and Yolanda followed.

It can be easy to get lost in the middle of a big family, but he didn't. They were a religious family, spending all day Sunday in the Baptist church, he remembers. Dad was a truck driver. Mom stayed home with the children. Sometimes money was tight. Sometimes you had to put cardboard in the bottom of your shoe because you had worn a hole in it. But they always had a roof over their heads and food to eat.

When the children were grown, his mother went back to school, earned her high school diploma, and became a registered nurse. Alexander says he is proud of her.

"My siblings always said I was my mother's favorite," says Alexander with a chuckle. "I don't know where that came from." But when he was about 12, out of the blue a neighbor said, "We always knew you were going to do well." He has not forgotten that.

As a young boy, Alexander made his first money at the grocery store helping shoppers carry their bags home. Some people gave a \$1 tip, and others, a quarter. Quickly the boys at the store, including Alexander, determined which people were which and hoped they would get to help the folks with more money. But, says Alexander, "It also felt good when you helped somebody who didn't have the money. I remember that, too. You just do it because it's the right thing to do."

That same desire to help and do the right thing continued into his young adult years. As a branch manager at the bank, eager to get more involved in his community, Alexander was invited to a Lions meeting. That evening he walked into the McDonald's Dining Room, a family restaurant not connected to the franchise, and saw a group of men, members of the Brooklyn Bedford Stuyvesant Lions Club, discussing projects that would benefit their community.

"I knew I wanted to be a part of that," says Alexander.

On October 1, 1984 he became an official Lion, but it wasn't until a little later that he actually felt like one. He volunteered to be part of the club's Thanksgiving basket program bringing food to needy families. At one house a woman answered the door. "This is for your family," said a Lion, handing

her a basket of food. Another behind him carried the turkey and a jug of cider.

Alexander remembers what she said in response: "Thank you so much. No one has ever done anything like this for my family."

"I walked down those stairs feeling so good about that experience," he says. "That's the day I became a Lion, knowing we were truly making a difference."

Our new president has many more memories just like these. But for now, Doug Alexander is focusing on the future, which includes growing membership and bringing even more diversity to Lions.

As the Lions' fourth African American International Director, from 2010 to 2012, and the first African American man to lead Lions, he has seen firsthand the importance of diversity. In North America, he says, "I think there's a lot of room for improvement. There are few places where I've gone in my years of serving where I've looked out and seen a true melting pot of all denominations of people. I think there's an opportunity to change that for our organization."

When given the opportunity to run for president, Alexander says he thought long and hard, praying over the decision.

"And I kept coming back with the same answer," he says. "*Go for it.*"

"People always say to me, 'you speak from the heart.' But this isn't about me. It's about us, and what we can do to make a difference in this world. That has served me well and I will continue in that way. It's not about me."

That is what so many who have come across Alexander's kindness have learned. Alexander promises to lead Lions the way he leads his life: with courage and kindness. Straight from his heart.



Join LCIF as we enter the final year of Campaign 100: *LCIF Empowering Service!*

LCIF Magnifies Service During Disaster

What's more powerful than a pandemic intensified by wildfires, hurricanes, typhoons, and earthquakes? Lions. Magnifying their service through LCIF.

To support communities through the COVID-19 pandemic, LCIF awarded Lions across the world more than US\$5.3 million, which they used to protect frontline medical workers, provide food for people out of work, increase handwashing opportunities, and connect patients in isolation with loved ones.

At the same time, the world's other challenges never stopped. Disasters continued to deliver devastating blows, even as COVID-19 shut down the world as we knew it.

Hundreds of wildfires raged throughout the western United States, burning more than 10 million acres, destroying more than 13,000 buildings, and causing more than US\$19.8 billion in damage.

An explosion in Beirut killed more than 200 people and injured more than 7,500 others.



Typhoon Haishen pummeled Japan, causing more than US\$118 million in agricultural damage and disrupting power for hundreds of thousands of people.

A 6.4 magnitude earthquake rocked Croatia, killing 7 people and causing more than US\$6 billion in damage.

Uncontrollable bushfires in Australia scorched more than 46 million acres of land.

Hurricane Eta and Hurricane Iota, Category 4 and 5 storms, caused unimaginable destruction in Central

America, taking a total of 272 lives, with 161 people still missing.

To magnify the disaster relief Lions were providing their communities, LCIF awarded Lions worldwide a total of another US\$5 million from January 2020 through April 2021. Lions were able to provide support, comfort, and hope through clean water, food, blankets, shelter, medicine, and more.

Together, LCIF and Lions are helping the world make one of the greatest comebacks in human history.



Voices from Leadership – Why We Support LCIF

Lion leaders from around the world tell us why our Foundation is so important, and what compels them to give. As we begin Campaign 100's final push, supporting LCIF is vital.

"Because of our Foundation and the generosity of our donors, even though the challenges we face may change, our service will remain the same. Our goals are ambitious, and it will take all of us working together to make a difference." – Past LCIF Chairperson *Dr. Jung -Yul Choi*



"By myself, I can do a little. With my club, I can do even more. With our Foundation, my service is limitless. I support LCIF because together, we can do so much more." – Past International President and International Vice Chairperson of Campaign 100, *J. Frank Moore III*



"In this campaign, we are making an investment that is strengthening our ability to serve over the next 50 years." – Trustee *Aruna Oswal*



"100 percent of every gift, of every size, given in support of Campaign 100 returns to a community in need." – Past International President and International Chairperson of Campaign 100, *Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada*



"I am honored to be a part of LCIF. Our Foundation is a light to so many people in my own backyard and on the other side of the world. Together, we accomplish what so many others are afraid to even try." – Past International Director *Alexis Gomes*



"If you put your money in the bank, you can get interest. But, if you put your money in LCIF, you can save the world. LCIF is using our donations to serve the world and make a big difference." – Past International Director *Magnet Lin*

The Power of YOU and LCIF!

100% of your gift to LCIF and Campaign 100 creates moments and milestones like these.

Vision

- LCIF Grant: \$69,000
- 25,000 children in Colombia receive vision screenings through 10 new screening devices

Youth

- LCIF Grant: \$100,000
- Cameroon schools expanding social and emotional learning program Lions Quest; 360,000 students throughout Africa benefitted to date

Disaster Relief

- LCIF Grant: \$870,000 (\$210,000 from partner Manappuram Finance)
- 120 Kerala, India, homes reconstructed after devastating floods

Humanitarian Efforts

- LCIF Grants: \$5.3+ million
- COVID-19 relief efforts spread globally; nearly \$1.7 million awarded to CA IV alone

Diabetes

- LCIF Grant: \$10,400+
- 21 Australian teens with diabetes enjoy week-long camp highlighting nutrition, healthy lifestyle, and fun

Childhood Cancer

- LCIF Grant: \$57,000
- 300 cancer patients annually enjoy new Teen Zone in pediatric oncology unit of Ontario, Canada, children's hospital.

Hunger

- LCIF Grant: \$45,000
- Capacity expanded at Michigan, USA, Hungry for Christ food pantry; additional 18,000 people monthly fed

Environment

- LCIF Grant: \$3,000
- Japan's Hyogo prefecture cleaner thanks to Lions' clean-up event



Campaign 100's Final Year
Help Campaign 100 reach its goal of US\$300 million
by June 30, 2022

Doing + Giving = Service

Take your service from good to great. Donate to LCIF today.

100% of your donation supports Lions service and magnifies your community impact. lionsclubs.org/

Did You Know?

You can create your personal Lions legacy by including a gift to LCIF in your estate plan. lcif.myplannedgift.org

MD'A' and A-711 and Mississauga Central Lions Peace Poster 2020-2021 Winner



As witnessed by the image from the winning design a presentation was made to the artist George Liu who was sponsored by the Mississauga Central Lions, George is thirteen and is a student then at

the Dolphin Senior Public School. He is seen receiving the A-711 plaque, the MD'A' plaque and the winner's cheque for \$1,000.00.



L-R Lion Goretti Noronha, winner George Liu, PDG Jeffrey Friedman and Lion Lynn Friedman

Campaign 100 Update

Lion Peter Oswald, LCIF Chair for A15 was a keynote presenter at the A15 Virtual Convention, the following is a summary of his report to the A15 Cabinet and the progress of Campaign 100 since. Take special note of where A15 fits into the total picture. A Great Job deserving of a big LIONS ROAR!



Lions All:

I have been watching our District totals grow in monthly reporting coming from LCIF. YOUR support for the Lions of Canada Fund for LCIF is truly awesome! To quote from a recent note from International Vice-President Dr. Patti Hill:

As a proud Canadian and Lion, I'm reaching out to you regarding your support of Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF). When Lions in Ontario requested Matching Grants for hospital equipment needed to treat children, LCIF provided funds to ensure that young patients and their families received the care they needed. It's easy to see how LCIF has improved the lives of individuals and families, Lions and non-Lions, in communities in every one of our provinces and territories. Canada is better because of LCIF and Lions.

For Campaign 100 in this Lions year, DISTRICT A-15 IS THE BEST IN CANADA!

Updates to May 31 (all amounts in USD):

	Donations	# of Donations	Per Member Average
District this year	\$ 45,014	75	\$33.85
Cumulative July, 2017	\$139,992 (3rd)	191 (3rd)	\$105.26 (4th)



A Maple Leaf Club signifies specific clubs contributions, here are clubs that have fulfilled requirements to become a Maple Leaf Club (Donations CAD \$360.00 per member) and a club banner patch: Elmira \$420.00, Elora \$405.00, Guelph \$820.00, Marsville \$827.00, St Jacobs \$443.00, Woodstock \$431.00

Two Clubs stood out and received special recognition as Model Clubs in A15. Congratulations to Marsville & District Lions Club and the Guelph Lions Club.

If you would like to see how some of your funds are put to work check the video at this link:

<https://lcifpride.org/video/vital-hospital-upgrades-in-canada/>

There is much more that can be done, please contact Lion Peter for further information or make a donation directly online at <https://lionsofcanadafundforlcif.ca/>



LCIF Telethon



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



Approximately \$885,000.00 was raised. Use the included link to view the wrap-up video produced by LCI, featuring LCI Vice President Lion Doug Alexander.



Use this link to view the wrap-up video:
<https://tinyurl.com/y4dy32n5>





Lions Camp Dorset

As we navigate another year through the Covid pandemic, I thought it pertinent to give an update on how the camp is doing as well as a short history of what Camp Dorset is all about for those that are not familiar with this unique camp. The idea began at the 1974 International Lions Convention. The Dorset Lions obtained three hundred and eighty acres of crown land in the early 70's as part of a plan to build baseball diamonds, after discussions between the founding lions clubs, Dorset Lions and Hamilton East Lions, the idea of a full-scale camp emerged.

With assistance from corporate sponsors and various government grants the construction by the Lions, Lioness, LEOs and other interested parties began. The largest share of the funding of Lions Camp Dorset comes from the Lions' family across Ontario. The camp is mortgage and debt free thanks to generous Lions Clubs and individuals and corporations.

Lions Camp Dorset is a non-profit organization which is recognized by the government as an independent health facility running a state-of-the-art dialysis treatment facility which provides a place for a family getaway. Th camp recently acquired new dialysis units donated by a generous corporation which will take us well into the future.

The camp has fourteen well-equipped cottages and fifteen efficiency units. There are six trailer sites with hydro and water as well as a dump station, washrooms and showers. The camp holds various work weekends that bring in Lions to work on the camp in the off season to do maintenance and general cleanup. If you or a group would like to help you are always welcome, just give our camp manager a call and arrange a time.

As stated the camp is debt free owing to the generosity of many, however the last two years have been a bit difficult as most Lions Clubs have virtually no means of fundraising thus donations are drastically down, yet we still have Lions clubs that continue to support the camp and we thank you very much.

With Covid-19 the rules on medical facilities has changed as space per patient has increased dramatically which puts our camp in a bit of a pickle as we now can only service 50% of our clients with the space we currently have. We have looked at various ways to accommodate a full camp and the only way is to increase the size of the building. We had structural engineers check out the building to make sure it can accommodate the extra load to carry a new roof line etc. and it was found that structurally the building is in very poor condition, namely the foundation has deteriorated over the 40 plus years to the point of not being able to carry the existing building let alone an addition. Other issues have been identified and the decision to build was made by the executive. We are able to save a portion of the building, but it has become apparent that a large portion will have to be replaced. Concept drawings have been made and discussions between engineers and builders as well as medical experts is ongoing.

In true Lions form, we will strive to get value out of every penny spent. Our camp manager is planning fundraisers as well there are grants that will be applied for. We are confident that with grants, donations, and cash reserves we will continue to be mortgage and debt free into the future.

On behalf of the executive of the camp, the patients and their families I thank you for your continued support, you have no idea how you impact the lives of so many.

PDG Russ Carroll
President Lions Camp Dorset
russcarroll54@gmail.com



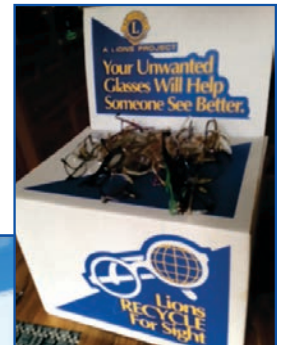
District A9 Eyeglass Recycling 2021

We finally did it! We brought all of the eyeglasses and hearing aids collected over the last two years from District A-9, to Day and Ross Shipping, in Brampton for their journey to Canadian Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centre (CLERC) in Calgary. Approximately 60 boxes with over 12,000 pairs of glasses were sent.

With too many clubs to mention we say congratulations to all of you who collected glasses for this great cause. Special shout out to **Durham Lions** who packaged up 32 boxes of glasses. Because of them we had to get a trailer. The glasses will be sorted, sized and shipped for distribution to needy countries around the world. Since 1997 CLERC has shipped over 5,793,073 pairs of glasses to over 100 countries! We should be proud to be part of such a fantastic program.

For those of you who have not yet been involved in eyeglass collection, now is a perfect time to start. Drop an email to myself, Lion **Hank Van Moorsel** (hvanm@eastlink.ca) or Lion **Gary Wood** (garyandlesley@sympatico.ca) and we will help you get started. A simple project with a huge impact. I will be in Calgary next month and will report on the actual CLERC facility and how it operates. Stay tuned!

Knights of the Blind
Lion Hank Van Moorsel
Lion Gary Wood



Unconventional – LCI Convention Highlights

This year's LCIcon set a new bar for what an international convention can be

The 2020-2021 Lion Year was unlike any other, and it culminated in a truly unconventional convention. In so many ways the 103rd Annual Lions Clubs International Convention was everything Lions have come to expect and more. It was a big event jam-packed with seminars, shows, guest appearances, and inspiring addresses. It brought together the greater Lions community, enabled them to get to know one another, learn about what other clubs are doing, discuss service, and have fun – all from the comfort and safety of their own homes.

The 2020 International Convention scheduled to be hosted in Singapore was canceled due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. But when 2021 rolled around, Lions weren't willing to let go of all that togetherness. They needed it. Service isn't something Lions do in a vacuum. And an international convention felt like the perfect way to reconnect and refill the tanks with some much-needed bonding after a difficult year.

However, it was essential to keep everyone safe. So, this year's convention was the first ever to be held exclusively online. And it was a smashing success.

On all levels, the first-ever virtual International Convention did not disappoint. Held June 25-29, 2021, not only did the five-day event celebrate the work of Lions around the world, but it proved that Lions can and do connect in meaningful ways, even when they can't be in the same room.

Nearly 20,000 Lions from 152 countries attended the event. And while Lions couldn't literally rub elbows, give bear hugs, or join together for service events, there was no shortage of good cheer in the active chat windows.

Led by an engaging team of hosts, Ric Walker and Mia Park, viewers were treated to an array of world-class entertainment, interesting seminars, and regular stretch breaks led by Lion Jesse Colon.

Here are some highlights.

Parade of Nations lit up the screen

Walker and Park greeted Lions from Studio HQ – the converted lobby of LCI Headquarters in Oak Brook, Illinois. You would never know they were just feet from Melvin Jones' original office when the Four Star Brass Band kicked off the traditional Parade of Nations with their rendition of *When the Saints Go Marching In*.

The Parade of Nations represents the more than 200 countries and geographic areas where Lions clubs are located. This year was special because the parade was made from videos inside each location,



giving viewers a glimpse of the unique aspects of life for Lions all around the world.

Lions Executive Officers, Past Presidents, and International Directors (past and present) joined the virtual parade, each in their own unique style. Current International President Douglas Alexander breezed by in a 1917 Model T, which was built the same year that Lions Clubs were founded.

Some past presidents shared memorable parade moments from their past, like when Past President Joe Preston and his wife were caught in a downpour with their one-year-old daughter in her stroller. The threesome's spirits weren't dampened, he said, even if their clothes were.

And just like in a live parade, the audience was able to join in with "applause" virtually. Participants could "clap" by typing 6s and 7s in the chat window.

Peace Prize Winners inspired everyone to aim high

The youth will save the world. Especially youth involved with Lions.



The Annual Peace Poster and Essay Contest is always popular but this year it was more important than ever that Lions stay connected to young people. The Peace Poster contest gives students a platform to share their ideas of peace and how they envision a better world.

Grand Prize winner Yue Zhang said she hoped her poster will influence others to "have a seed [for peace] planted in their heart."

Peace Essay winner Joshua Wood gave a speech and read from his winning entry, "Peace and

Service Go Hand in Hand."

"I have made a promise to my Grandfather," he read. "That I will spread the word about serving others and how it not only promotes peace for others but also provides an inner peace that so many people are striving for."

The passing of the baton

Never has Lions Clubs International had a two-term international president before now, and it was bittersweet saying goodbye to Dr. Jung-Yul Choi. He addressed Lions as he prepared to leave office, commending them for serving through some of the most difficult times of our lives.

"Yes. The world changed," he said. "But we changed too. We adapted. We innovated. We continued to safely serve. We did not simply live through this challenge. We rose to meet it—together. And I believe that what we accomplished this year will not only build on our first century of service. It will define our next."



From his location in South Korea, PIP Choi then congratulated new International President Douglas X. Alexander. "I am truly excited about this moment, and truly humbled by it," said Alexander. "I promise you that I will embrace this moment, and this incredible opportunity you have given me. My journey here has unfolded over a lifetime... But this is not a journey I have walked alone. And I am so grateful to all of you who have walked this path with me. To those who welcomed me, mentored me, and served with me, thank you."

Leading the Way

The seminars are always one of the most popular aspects of LCIcon. Lions love the opportunity to learn from one another, and this year was no different. From fun stuff like stamp collecting and pin trading to the business of how to grow your club and where to send those press releases, there was plenty of buzz in the seminars this year.

Lions and Leos joined together to talk about everything from how to be a good leader, building a

community with social media, and starting a virtual club. If you needed it, there was also an excellent tutorial on how, exactly, to make a viral Tik-Tok video.

Pizazz, of course

There was no shortage of glitz and glamour at this virtual event. Throughout the convention, entertainment included a dazzling flag ceremony and a variety of special guests from Eurovision Finalist Elina Nechayeva to Broadway Sensation Michael Cavanaugh.



But for many watching, the biggest star was a young woman from Pakistan.

A simple wish

For those who are not familiar with her, Keynote Speaker Malala Yousafzai began her campaign for education at age 11 when she anonymously blogged for the BBC about life under the Taliban in Pakistan’s Swat Valley. At age 15, she was shot by the Taliban for advocating publicly for girls’ education. She survived and never gave up her fight for what she believed in. She founded Malala Fund with her father, Ziauddin, and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of her efforts to ensure all girls receive access to quality education and a safe learning environment. In 2017, Malala was named UN Messenger of Peace, a prestigious title given to distinguished individuals who volunteer their time, talent, and passion to raise awareness of United Nations efforts to improve the lives of billions of people everywhere.

The keynote session was moderated by Soulaima Gourani, CEO and co-founder of Happioh, a Silicon Valley-based software company and appointed as a “Young Global Leader” by the World Economic Forum. Gourani has dedicated her life to uplifting the voices of underserved communities.

The interview was a sobering reminder of the importance of service organizations – why it’s

important to live a life centered around helping others. She reiterated that our differences make the world more beautiful and that there is always an opportunity to make the world a better place through tolerance and through helping others live a life of dignity and opportunity.



Watch some of the highlights from this year’s unconventional convention here

[link to <https://youtu.be/p1SZmWsjrLY>].

Save the Date

With a successful International Convention behind us and the new Lion year underway, we are already looking forward to next year’s event, June 24-28 in Montréal, Canada. Stay tuned for more information. We can’t wait to see you there!

Fenwick Lions

When the Fenwick Lions (aka Fabulous Fenwick Lions) learned of the significant challenge facing the Gervason family, the club dedicated the proceeds from their June 11th Fish Fry to assist the family with an out-of-province surgery facing Emmett, who was born without a functioning ear canal. The corrective surgery is not available in Ontario, and the out-of-province surgery cost is an estimated \$250,000.00. The Gervason Family were taken aback by the support of the Fenwick Lions and cash donations from the Fenwick area community.

Emmett & Mom Amanda, Lion Bert Marissen, Club President Ron Acaster and Emmett’s Sister Alora with Dad Aaron Gervason



MD'A', District A-15 and Copetown Lions

At the MD'A' Virtual Convention in May several recognition awards were announced that were noted in the last issue of the Lion Magazine, one of which was the International President's Award to Lion **Bob Pearson** of the Copetown Lions. Bob is the Editor of the magazine and is also the interim editor of the A-15 Governor’s Newsletter as well as the Copetown Lions bulletin and was recognized for his work with MD'A' , District A-15 and his club in Copetown, the “Hub of the Universe.”

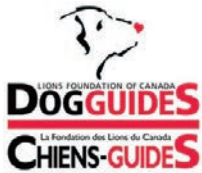
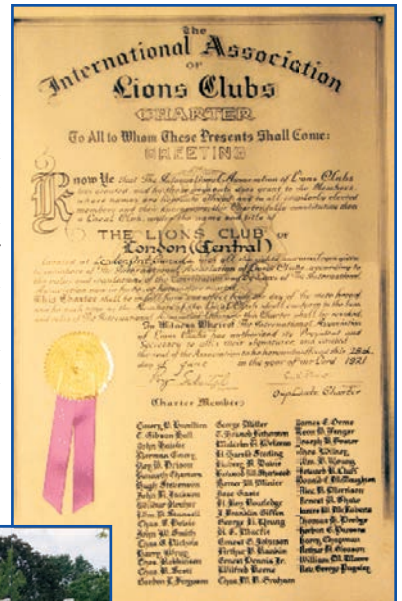
Being virtual there was no opportunity to physically present the awards during the convention, PCC **Debbie Dawson**, PID **Carl Young** and PID **Art Woods** made the trip to Dundas in July and did the presentation over lunch. Needless to say Lion Bob was overwhelmed by the award and by the personal presentation.



The London Central Lions Club is 100 years old!



Our Centennial project has funded the creation of a Sensory Garden in Lorne Ave Park in Old East Village, London. This project was featured in the last edition (digital) of the LION and illustrated a great way to celebrate and give to the local community. The grand opening is uncertain at this time due to pandemic restrictions. The club also planned an anniversary celebration and reception this past June, unfortunately that also was postponed for the same reason. To better illustrate the club's anniversary, we have again included the logo and some additional photos. It's not every day that a club has the opportunity to celebrate 100 years. Until then, we wish all Lions and their families to stay safe and in good health.



Covid 19 and Dog Guides

Service dogs are 'a life changer' for those in need as the pandemic further limits mobility, check out this CBC feature, highlighting the obstacles facing dog guide clients during Covid's rampage. Featured in the article is Sue Woodhouse and her service dog "Wembley."

Go to: <https://tinyurl.com/yjr69p6v>



Thistleton Lions

In July Thistleton Lions took on a District A711 project along with local citizens to fill eleven large barrels of essential items to be shipped to Guyana to assist with the dire situation as a result of major flooding. The club continues to live up to the motto "Where There Is a Lion, There Is a Way."



\$2,100.00. We had fourteen Lions, a prospect and eighteen guests participating. A BBQ was enjoyed by all afterwards.

Also in July the club found the time to stage their annual Walkathon. All donations collected were destined to their Scholarship Fund. Each year funds are distributed to three schools within the area. Total funds generated were



Goderich Lions

In mid summer at Camp Klahanie, the Goderich Lions celebrated members of the Club who have passed away in recent years. They invited spouses or children of these Lions to participate by releasing the butterflies called “Painted Ladies,” that are similar to Monarchs.

Lion **Betty Jean Finlay** organized the gathering, and several Lions members and spouses were there to be involved in the ceremony.

The Club members who had passed away in recent years included **Marlene Black, Maurice Jenkins, Doug Henry, Carl Suchard, and Ernie Tafeit**. We also recognized all of the Lions in the Goderich Club and in District 9 over the years since 1922, when the Club was first formed. Two of the most senior members, Lions **Ralph Smith** and **Stan Paquette**

were on hand as part of the group doing the release.

After reading the Lions “Code of Ethics” the individuals representing those Lions who had passed away were each given a small box, containing one of the butterflies. They were released and we watched them fly away to begin their lives in the surrounding trees!

We also heard from Lion President, **John Grace**, who recounted some of the things that the Goderich Club had done, over the years, to enhance the lives of many in the community. To celebrate the 100th year of Lions in Canada in 2020, and the upcoming 100th year of the Goderich Club in 2022, a metal bench with a bronze plaque was unveiled by Lion John and District Governor **Jennifer Batte**.



Lakefield and District Lions Club

The Lakefield and District Lions Club has begun step one of revitalizing Curtis Park in Lakefield. The park is situated between the dam and the canal and was at one time a gem in the village. It has fallen into disrepair over the last few years and our club is trying to change that. Step one was to remove all the dead trees and underbrush. The Selwyn Township work crew cut down the large trees and club members and friends and family lugged dead underbrush and dead trees to the centre of the park. The brush was loaded onto trailers and taken to the landfill. Step two will be to work with a member of the Lakefield Horticultural Society to establish flower beds and plant native plants.

Once this is done the park will once again be a place to visit and enjoy nature. Thanks to all the members, their family members and friends for all the work over the last few weeks. It certainly was worth the effort.



Iroquois-Matilda Lions

On June 4th and 5th the Iroquois-Matilda Lions held a food drive to benefit the Community Food Share which serves Dundas and Stormont Counties.

Lions Shirley Pettinger, Evonne Delegarde, Jim Mustard, President Jim Devenny, Jacques Asselin and Jim Martin



Our very own Lion David Horne helped attract donations along the busy highway



Lion Shirley Pettinger was at the local Community Food Share to help sort the donations



Also in June, Lion Shirley Pettinger and Lion David Horne were selling raffle tickets on gift baskets donated by River Rat Treasures

Local MP Eric Duncan dropped by to draw the winning tickets. Assisting with the draw are (L-R) Lion Evonne Delegarde, Lion David Horne, Lion Carol Thompson, MP Eric Duncan and Lion Shirley Pettinger



In July, Lion Christine Hartle entered this stylish birdhouse in the Iroquois Birdhouse contest as part of Canada Day celebrations, organized by River Rat Treasures



Our President, Lion Carol Thompson was one of the judges along with local MP Eric Duncan shown with birdhouse kit maker Caprize Segal

Angus Glen Lions – Cyber Club

The Lions of Angus Glen have established a program that provides electronic tablets for seniors that are residents of Long Term Care Homes in their area. This photo was taken at the Markhaven facility recently when club members delivered tablets for the residents. They are a valuable

commodity especially during the pandemic as it provides an avenue for communication with loved ones. Use the link provided for an overview of the club's program.

<https://tinyurl.com/ubc2sjm7>



Russell Lions

The Russell Lions Club recently celebrated their 75th year in service and organized a monthly 50/50 online draw with the first event being held in the month of July 2021. Congratulations to Nattana Harris of Embrun who won the tidy sum of \$905.00. Here is the photo of our winner being presented with the cheque by **Diane Lacroix**, Chair of the Monthly Online e-Raffle.



L-R: Diane Lacroix and Nattana Harris



Morrisburg and District Lions

On June 16th, 2021, we had a milestone anniversary event. Lion **Wayne Domanko** was presented with his 50-year pin by Lion **Susan Tunidiffe**, VDG1 District A4.

Lion Wayne became a member of the Morrisburg and District Lions Club in 1971. He became President in 1979 and received the prestigious Helen Kellar Award in 1980. Lion Wayne filled the role of Membership Chairperson and enjoyed being the Master of Ceremonies for countless Christmas concerts for seniors. Lion Wayne's goal was always to serve the community any way he could and in the end, he met and surpassed his goals.



Lion Susan Tunidiffe and Lion Wayne Domanko

Kincardine and District Lions

Members of the Kincardine and District Lions Club are shown after having assisted with the access and parking for Covid 19 Vaccination Clinics in Kincardine. The clinics saw over 27,000 doses administered between March and July. In all, thirty-four members participated.

"Where There's A Need There's a Lion."



Keene Lions



Keene Lions are well known for their annual Fish Fry and because of the covid pandemic they decided to move the function outdoors to serve the community. Obviously by the look of the photos it has been successful in garnering funds to support their community service.

St. Joseph Island Lions

The community hall at Hilton Beach on St. Joseph Island is a focal point for the local citizens, and the St. Joseph Island Lions recognized a need for the replacing of the entire complement of tables available for events and community functions. The club organized a fund-raiser to replace the tables with a complement of fifty new tables which are of the light weight variety to make it more convenient for the event hosts. The fund-raiser consisted of a committee of Lions selling sponsorships for individual tables and was successful to the point of raising over \$1,100.00 to purchase tables and carts. The Lions



L to R: Lions Patricia Duma, Mike Trainor, President Dale Kingsley, Lions Carla Hendry, Harold Daynard, Mayor Bob Hope, Clerk Paula Cormier

committee, **Mike Trainor, Harold Daynard** and **Patricia Duma** with the support of club members, sold out the table sponsorship in two weeks, sponsors were recognized with a plaque dedicated to local business sponsors and dedications “In Memory” to passed community family members. Great work from all involved and great community support.

Aldershot Lions Supporting Youth

Aldershot Lion **Dianne Ferris** presented a cheque for \$1,500.00 to high school graduate Hailey Rodgerson.



Hailey is this year’s recipient of the Club’s “Reg Bullock Bursary.” The award is presented annually to a worthy high school graduate moving on to community college. Hailey is planning to study broadcast journalism at Mohawk College. The Reg Bullock Bursary honours Lion **Reginald Bullock**, a life-long member of the Club, who has made an enormous contribution to the Aldershot/Burlington community.

Batawa Lions – Adopt a Senior Program

The Batawa Lions are constantly looking 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 Covid-19 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. The result was a program that provided the opportunity to call on the Lions for transportation, grocery shopping, various errands and many other needed functions. Eight seniors are currently part of the program and feedback has been incredibly positive. To date the club has provided meals, rides to vaccine appointments, social interaction, safety checks and delighted seniors with seasonal items and other essentials. The program has garnered thank you cards and words of gratitude from the recipients of the services.



Odessa Lions Get International Honours

New Odessa Lions president **Diana Lloyd** as well as her husband and fellow Lion, **Rodney Lloyd** received awards recently at the Virtual International Lions Convention.

Congratulations to both and thanks for always being there for our community!

Odessa Lions’ Flower Barrels are back, bringing some added colour and beauty to our district with flowers from Burt’s Greenhouses. Thanks as well to Loyalist Township who take care of their placement and maintenance.

The Frank Busschaert bench, the first of our new memorial benches, has been placed in Babcock Mills Park, Odessa. More to come on a very special dedication ceremony for both the bench and planted tree behind it as Covid restrictions are lifted.



Presentation of Certificate of attendance from Lion Mike Shabinsky (Past President) to Lion Diana Lloyd (President)



Various flower pots around the community



Presentation of Certificate of attendance from Lion Mike Shabinsky (Past President) to Lion Rodney Lloyd



Park Bench

MD'A' District A-4 Vision Chair Update

Last month as your Vision Chair for A4, I had appealed for your assistance to purchase two iPhones for individuals who take part in the Canadian Council of the Blind "Get Together with Technology" program. The phones will assist to load special software which will allow them to get on with their daily activities. The total amount required was \$1,242.00. I'm pleased to report that due to your support a total of \$1,750.00 was collected which replaced the initial amount from the Vision Project Account and added another \$508.00. Both individuals who received the phones have expressed their appreciation to the Lions for this generous donation. Since then, I have received another request for an individual in District A3 plus an individual here in A4 on another Vision issue. I'm working with all parties to resolve their problems.

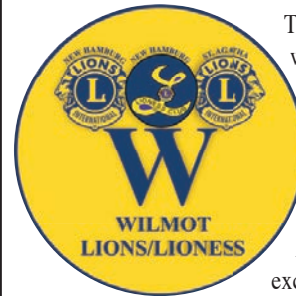
Cheers

PDG Andy Etherington
District A-4 Vision Chair



L-R: PDG Andy with one of the clients, Saeed, and David Greene, instructor of the Get Together with Technology Program and his Dog Guide

Wilmot Lions/Lioness District A15



There's a club with a new name in your community! The New Hamburg Lions, New Hamburg Lioness and St Agatha Lions are excited to announce

the clubs have recently merged to form the Wilmot Lions/Lioness.

Each of the clubs have enjoyed long standing relationships in their respective communities. The New Hamburg Lions were established in 1967, The New Hamburg Lioness in 1980 and the St. Agatha Lions in 1983 giving many years of combined community service. Our communities were supported by fundraising events which included Tree of Light ceremonies, Legion dinners, Moparfest activities, Welcome Home Tours, Fashion Shows, Outdoor Farm Show food preparations, Strawberry Fest, Cruise Nights, Golf Tournaments and parades.

The timing is right for all three clubs to make this transition. Our merged membership will allow us to continue with established events and activities which are held throughout the year. The name change reflects our desire to open our doors to all of Wilmot Township for both membership recruitment and recognition of opportunities to give support.

The Wilmot Lions/Lioness is a name you will see in your community in the near future!

Wilmot Lions/Lioness

PO Box 6181, New Hamburg, ON N3A 2K6
wilmotlionslioness@gmail.com

Gananoque Lions Launch 50-50 Online Lottery

The Gananoque Lions Club has gone hi-tech!

On March 22, the club launched an exciting new monthly online 50-50 draw. Funds raised from the draws will allow the Gananoque Lions Club to continue to provide assistance for all its worthy community causes. After just four online draws, the club has given out over \$22,600 in jackpot prizes to the lucky winners. This way of raising money is proving popular in our area and is replenishing the Lions coffers.

The proceeds will be used locally by the club to support the many good works in the area. These include, but are not limited to, minor sports, youth camps, student scholarships, children with physical challenges, civic improvements, community beautifications and events, the Gananoque Food Bank as well as vision awareness, diabetes, childhood cancer, hunger and the environment.

Covid 19 has changed many things in the past year and for the local Lions the dwindling revenue stream has been one of them. With no Ribfest for the last two years and the Community Spirit Bingos in Kingston being shut down, the club's fund-raising had taken a big hit. Experiencing the popularity of the 50-50 draws at Ribfest, last fall the club started looking for a way to let folks participate in fund-raising online, while getting an opportunity to pocket some cash. "Because of Covid 19, finding a way to fund-raise online is an exciting opportunity. Allowing people to share the prize money through a 50-50, just adds to the excitement," said Lion Alan

Code who spearheaded the club's thinking 'outside the box.' The online lottery is licensed by the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario.

The website is www.ganlions50-50.ca

Winners: Apr 30 - Tom Marlor \$7935, June 1 - Cindy Marcuz Adams \$5845, July 6 - Linda Truesdell \$5362, July 30 - Diane Kirkby \$3505



East Peterborough Lions



The East Peterborough Lions Club was excited to put together their “*Story Reading in the Park*” event for the youth of Peterborough. They held their outdoor event at the Crawford Tot-Lot.

Every Wednesday during the month of August the club would read a story to the young people in the park with a different theme. Guest speakers were on hand to illustrate how the Lions participate in the community and what their causes include. On August 4th the theme was ‘Farming’ and our guest was a local group called Produce for Heroes. They spoke of how the Lions Club supports their organization and helps them out when needed.

At the second event on August 11th, the theme was sports with our guest speaker from Special Olympics. She spoke on the many sports that Special Olympians played and were involved in

and how young kids could get involved in Special Olympics. They even provided the young folks with face masks with the Special Olympics mask on them. To help show the connection between Special Olympics and Lions one of the club members brought along many of his medals that he won as a Special Olympian.

On the 18th the theme was ‘Fantasy’ and the Lions President **Frank Hewitt** came out in a Lions costume to talk to the kids about the importance of using your imagination and how Lions use their imagination to help create events such as this in order to raise awareness and to help others. Our special guests for this week did no talking, but none was necessary as we had 3 of the main characters from the Paw Patrol series come out and greet the children. Every child was invited up to have their picture taken with the characters and the smiles and big eyes on the children told the whole story.

On the 25th, we held our final theme, and it was ‘Everyday Heroes.’ Guest speakers were from the Fire

and Police Departments. Both speakers did interactive messages with the kids along with many small giveaways for all. And both spoke on the importance of what Lions do both locally and around the world. The program was finished off on this day with a Candy Floss machine and popcorn for everyone and following the reading and lunch there was a mini fun fair where all the children won prizes. No child left without something and everyone, including the members left with a smile. The event was so successful it was voted to make it an annual event, but the best thing of all to some of us was the opportunity to gain three new members following this project.



Charlton Englehart Lions

The Charlton Englehart Lions Club is losing a long time member. **Lion Finn** joined the Lions in 1969 with the **Kerns Central Lions Club**. When that club ceased operations he transferred to the Charlton Englehart club. Lion Finn has held many offices in both of the two clubs that he belonged to. Now due to health, he and his wife will be moving to southern Ontario to be near family. We wish him all the best and will miss him. The Charlton Englehart Lions Club presented Lion Finn with the Distinguished Lion Award. Muredach Finnerty is what his birth certificate says, however to us he will always be Lion Finn.



Lion Noreen Lenart presenting to Lion Finn and wife Linda



Lions Foundation of Canada “In case you missed it”

Article by PCC Kevin Banfield from a MD'A' Lions Facebook posting.

LFCDG has been working with Accessible Media Inc. and Summerhill Media Inc. on a 45-minute documentary that explores the world of Dog Guides. AMI-tv is the world’s first television network to broadcast all programs with open format described video for Canadians who are blind or partially sighted, and is included as part of the basic digital cable package from most television providers across the country at no additional cost. In addition to described video, all content on AMI-tv includes closed captioning for a more inclusive experience. The video premiered on August 20th. Grab some popcorn, a comfy blanket and of course, a dog or two and watch the video using the supplied link or the QR code.

link: <https://tinyurl.com/ftvwtxm7>



ARTICLES REVISITED FROM PREVIOUS DIGITAL ISSUES

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

If you search online under <http://www.mdalions.org/history/MDA-Clubs-by-District-Full.pdf> you will find a list of all clubs that existed 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 MD'A' 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 MD'A' since 1920. A listing of these sources is at the end of the online document 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 **Debra 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 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 MD'A' 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

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!



District A-2 Camp Dorset

Lions Camp Dorset was fortunate enough to be gifted 20 new Dialysis Machines to replace the outdated ones. These were donated to the Camp by Fresenius Medical Care, a leading provider of products and services for individuals with renal disease that supports 3.7 million patients worldwide with life-saving 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)

Stayner Lions

Lion **Howard Walker** presented a plaque to Stayner citizen **Raymond Hardisty** on the occasion of the Stayner Lions Club naming him a Melvin Jones Fellow in recognition of his dedicated work to give back to SickKids Hospital through his numerous fundraising projects.

Over the years, Raymond has worked tirelessly to raise funds for the hospital that helped him when just a child. Raymond is very close to reaching his \$100,000 target and is looking forward to achieving it with the help of so many good people who have been donating empties to his bottle drive.



Congratulations to PDG Allen Snider

Allen Snider, from Niagara-on-the-Lake, Canada was elected to serve a two-year term as international director of Lions Clubs International at the association's 103rd International Convention.

He has 36 years of experience as a construction millwright and operating engineer at General Motors. Toward the end of his career, he also took on the position of mobile equipment manager. In retirement, he is farming garlic, lavender and sunflowers.

Director Snider became a Lion in 1981 when he joined the **St. Davids and District Lions Club** where he has since served multiple terms as club treasurer and president. At the district level, he served as district governor and held leadership roles on the Global Membership Team and Global Service Team. He is on the board for the Lions Home for Deaf People and was also Preservation Hearing Chair at MD'A'.

In recognition of his service, Director Snider has been honoured with two International President's Awards and several International President's Certificates of Appreciation. He is a Judge Brian Stevenson Fellowship recipient, a Helen Keller

Fellowship recipient and is a life member of the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides. Director Snider is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

In addition to his Lions activities, Director Snider has been an Alderman for the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, a trustee for the Lincoln County Board of Education and is currently the Chair of the Committee of Adjustment for Niagara-on-the-Lake. He has also been a member of the local Royal Canadian Legion since 1977 and has received the Volunteer of the Year Award for Service Clubs in his community.

Director Snider's wife, Susan, is also a Lion, as are his son, Richard, and daughter, Jessica. Director Snider is also proud to serve alongside the many other Lions in his extended family.

The Sniders had some fun at a recent District A2 PDG Annual Gathering as evidenced by the photo opposite in the RCMP regalia.



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 Bob Pearson: bobpearson50@gmail.com
- A-16 Lion Tim Cheung: tcheung@lionsa16.org

Editor Lion Bob Pearson
mdathelionmag@hotmail.com

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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 grandkids – 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

Lions Quest

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

It takes a village...
Lions Quest Canada equips the villagers.



Lion Joanne McQuiggan
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