



M.D. "A" Edition March/April 2016

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#### On the cover:

The Patrick 4 Life run for AIDS and HIV awareness is held annually in North Bay. Go to page 17 for details.





Velcome to the March/April Edition of The Lion.
To submit stories, photos, comments or suggestions, please contact your District Reporter (Pg 26) and please remember to check your camera settings to ensure highest resolution pictures.

We Serve

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Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada Lions Clubs International President

## The 'Foundation' of Our Greatest Service

English is considered one of the most difficult languages to learn. Why? Sometimes the words don't make sense. There is no ham in hamburger. Nor is there an apple or a pine in a pineapple. I'm being partly facetious,

but it is true that many words are problematic. Non-English speakers struggle with the difference between homework and housework, moral and morale, and collage and college.

But one word that makes a lot of sense, especially as used by Lions, is "foundation." The foundation of a home is the concrete or masonry that supports it. Appropriately, "foundation" also means a fundamental principle, or supporting material or the base on which something rests. Our forebears made a wise choice in 1968 to name our grant-making arm Lions Clubs International Foundation. This entity is indeed the main support of what Lions do. It embodies our fundamental principles. It's our sturdy, reliable base for Lions' service.

Lions clubs could conceivably function without LCIF. But the world would be a much less pleasant place. Millions more would be blind. After disasters, people would go hungry and lack shelter. Youths would not learn self-respect or learn how to avoid drugs and alcohol. (Thank you, Lions Quest!) Measles would kill many more children. Local communities would not be able to avail themselves of health clinics, schools and playgrounds for those with disabilities.

LCIF is a brilliant, remarkably effective way for Lions to multiply our impact. It's the way we pool our resources and channel our good will. It's our tool for clubs to serve on a much larger scale than they could on their own.

In this issue you will learn more about the wide scope of LCIF and its record of service success. Please continue to generously fund it, as Lions have done for nearly half a century. Help Lions help others through LCIF.

English may not be the easiest language to learn, but as a language it's wonderful for expressing truths and describing reality. So I can't say this any clearer: LCIF is our great foundation that does a world of good. Please keep supporting it.

Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada Lions Clubs International President

## Our Roar Should Cross Borders

Droves of swallows arrive in Japan each spring. We welcome these seasonal visitors. In Japanese clothing a v-shaped tail represents the swallow—a symbol of good luck, fidelity in marriage and fertility. Where do they fly from? Well, I'm not sure. It doesn't matter. The world is interconnected; it's a good thing to be open to newcomers and outsiders, who enrich our lives.

This year I am encouraging Lions to undertake or support global projects, which increase the harmony among nations. Donate to LCIF. Aid refugees. Support our measles initiative. Back projects that help needy children. Consider getting your club involved in the Lions' Twinning program, which matches clubs from two nations.

The Lions of Japan and Lions of Philippines

exemplify international cooperation. For years they have partnered particularly on improving impoverished schools. It's wonderful to provide service to our own communities. Yet remember that pockets of the world would go completely untouched and its people in dire need without the helping hand of people such as Lions.

To be a Lion is to be part of an international association, to embrace the ideal of global harmony. It cannot happen unless individual Lions like you decide to take action.

Sometimes even encouraging words can bridge a gap of distance and cultures and unite us. Take a look at Facebook and other social media. Not long ago, Agra Mahan Lions posted a photo of their cataract operations for the elderly and poor people on the

Facebook page of Lions Clubs International. "Wow! That is wonderful. The gift of sight is truly a blessing. Thank you, Lions," Machelle Davis James of the Gold Canyon Lions Club in Arizona posted. If the world now is a global village, then Lions are chiefs and elders of harmony and understanding. Be a Lion whose roar is heard across borders and whose heart of service is large enough to encompass a world of need.

Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada Lions Clubs International President



## Past International Director William H. 'Bill' Maguire

Past International Director William H. 'Bill' Maguire passed away suddenly but peacefully in his 89th year on Saturday,

March 19, 2016 at his home in Cobourg, Ontario, with his wife Doris by his side.

PID Bill was elected to serve a two year term (1977-1979) as a Director of the International Association of Lions Clubs at the association's 60th annual convention held in New Orleans, USA. A member of the Cobourg Lions Club since 1964, PID Bill held

many positions within the association including Club President and District Governor (1972-1973). He is a Life Member of Lions Clubs International and a Life Member of Lions Foundation of Canada. For his many contributions to the association he received the Master Key Award, the 100% District Governor's Award, thirteen Extension Awards, several International President's Awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award. He is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. PID Bill is survived by Doris, his wife of 68 years, 5 children, 18 grandchildren, 28 great grandchildren and 2 great, great grandchildren. He is predeceased by his daughters Bonita and Cheryl.

## Request from Editor Lions of Multiple District 'A'

Starting with the February issue leading up to our Anniversary in 2017, we at the Lion magazine are looking for articles and photos of activities that reflect 100 years of service to our communities and also how your Club may celebrate our Centennial year. Please keep in mind that we only print photos of cheque presentations if we have space.

Lion John Daniels, Editor mdathelionmag@hotmail.com



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MARCH, 2016 GOVERNORS' COUNCIL MEETING



**ELECTION OF THE COUNCIL CHAIR** – District Governor Stewart Patterson (A2) was elected to the office of Council Chairperson for the Lions year 2016-2017.

MD'A' CONVENTION ADVISORY – The Widdifield Lions Club and the Bonfield & District Lions Club, District A5, will be co-hosting the 2016 MD'A' Convention on May 26-29, 2016 in North Bay. Our International Guests will be LCI 1st Vice President Bob Corlew and his wife, Lion Diane. Elections will be held for the candidates seeking the MD'A'endorsement for International Director for Canada. Voting by certified delegates from Clubs in good standing will take place on Sunday, May 29th from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Registration Forms for the Convention and the Stew O'Brien Golf Tournament are available on the MD'A' website. The 2017 MD'A'Convention will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Kitchener, May 11-14, 2017.

**MD'A'** AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE FUTURE OF MDA CONVENTIONS – The Governors' Council adopted the recommendation of the Committee that the MD'A' Convention will be changed from a three day to a two day Convention to reduce costs to the Lions members effective 2018.

**GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM** – GMT reported that membership in MD'A' currently sits at 13,082 members which is a decrease of 165 members since the beginning of the Lions year. Districts A2, A3, A5 & A16 have increased membership during this time period.

**GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TEAM** – GLT advised that Regional Workshops had been held in Woodstock and Orillia to provide an opportunity to have all the Governors' Teams together to hear about LCIF and the Centennial Theme, as well as to have a look at goals and action plans. GLT is planning ahead for the MD'A' Convention in North Bay and future training of the 2nd Vice District Governors-Elect.

LIONS QUEST – A Grant in the amount of \$10,000. has been received from LCIF. The money will be used to fund five community workshops. District interested in hosting a workshop should contact Lion Joanne McQuiggan at the Lions Quest Canada office. Lions Clubs International Foundation has recently announced an additional Grant in the amount of \$100,000. to assist with the rewriting of the Lions Quest curriculum using Canadian content.

**GIFT OF LIFE** – All Lions were encouraged to register as an organ & tissue donor in one of three ways; Online at www.deadonor.ca; In person at ServiceOntario; Downloading the consent form from the beadonor website. It was announced that the City of Toronto will be hosting the 2016 Canadian Transplant Games, August 8-13, 2016. Information of these games is available at www.canadiantransplant.com

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH** – The MD'A' winner of the Peace Poster Contest is Lydia Wilson who was sponsored by the Elmira Lions Club (A15). The MD'A' winner of the Peace Essay Contest is Makayla Conn who was sponsored by the Elmvale & District Lions Club (A12). The MD'A' Effective Speaking Finals will be held May 6-8, 2016 at Algonquin College in Ottawa. An Opportunities for Youth Luncheon will be held at the MD'A' Convention in North Bay. Tickets for the Luncheon must be purchased in advance.

MD'A' AD HOC COMMITTEE ON EFFECTIVE SPEAKING – The Committee presented two documents, "Multiple District 'A' Effective Speaking Contest Manual" and "Multiple District 'A' Effective Speaking Contest Reference Guide" for Council's review. The Governors' Council adopted both documents for official use. These documents will also be translated into French.

**LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION** – LCIF is encouraging Clubs to continue to focus on donations

to the Measles program to help reach the goal of US\$30 million by 2017.

**LIONS FOUNDATION OF CANADA** – The Memorial Forest dedication ceremonies will be held on Saturday, June 11, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. in Breslau.

**HEARING CONSERVATION** – MD'A' Treasurer Dave Hewitt presented the 2015-2016 audited financial statement which s

**TREASURY** – Lions Homes for Deaf People have announced three new major projects:

(i) Renovations to Lions McInnes House - \$45,000.; (ii) New house in Ottawa – Lions Graydon House -\$170,000.; (iii) Apartment Complex in Paris, Ontario - \$75,000.

**SPECIAL OLYMPICS** – The Provincial Summer Games are being held in the City of Guelph, May 27-29, 2016.

**HISTORIAN** – The Governors' Council approved the formation of a committee for a duration of five years to gather content, research, write and publish a souvenir to celebrate 100 years of Lionism in Canada. The souvenir may be in the form of a book, CD or DVD.

**CENTENNIAL** – All Districts were encouraged to continue to promote our Lions Centennial. Centennial Jeopardy will be played at the MD'A'Convention in North Bay.

**ADMINISTRATION** – The Committee recommended that the MD'A' Secretary move from Level 4 to Level 5 and the MD'A' Treasurer move from Level 2 to Level 3 on the Honorarium Grid effective July 1, 2016. The recommendation was adopted by the Governors' Council.

For information, questions or concerns relating to these highlights please contact MDA Secretary John Stewart at email: secretary@mdalions.org.

## International Director From Canada – Candidates

The Multiple District 'A' Nominating Committee is pleased to announce that the following Lions have been duly endorsed by their respective sub-Districts and are therefore qualified to represent Multiple District 'A' as a candidate for International Director from Canada.

#### Bradd Anderson, PCC

- St. Davids Lions Club, District A2

#### Tom Gordon, PCC

- Newmarket North Lions Club, District A16

#### M. Jim Prenaer, PDG

– Kincardine & District Lions Club, District A9 The candidates' names shall be presented to the delegates at the 2016 Multiple District 'A' Convention scheduled for May 26th to May 29th in North Bay, Ontario. Certified delegates from Clubs in good standing who have registered and paid the Convention registration fee shall be entitled to Vote for one (1) candidate on Sunday, May 29, 2016 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

The criteria for a Club in good standing is all per capita dues payable to LCI and MD'A' paid in full and any balance of \$50.00 or more owing to LCI over ninety (90) days must be paid.

Pursuant to the MD'A' Constitution & By-laws, sub-Districts must submit the name of its endorsed candidate to the MD'A' Secretary no later than thirty (30) days prior to the convening date of the MD'A' Convention. Therefore, the deadline is Tuesday, April 26, 2016.

Harry Marissen, PCC Chairperson MD'A' Nominations Committee

John Stewart, PDG Secretary Multiple District 'A'

## LCIF Enjoys a Banner Year



As chairperson of Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), I am honored to present to you some of my favorite stories from the 2014-2015 Annual Report. These stories highlight the personal impact our Foundation made last year. Congratulations to Past International President Barry Palmer

on a fantastic year of service and to you, Lions, for your unwavering support of our Foundation!



Joe Preston LCIF Chairperson 2015-2016 Immediate Past International President



## A Message from the Chairperson

Lions, you never cease to amaze me. When I became chairperson of Lions Clubs International Foundation, I expected to spend the year encouraging you to follow your dreams.

Instead, you spent the year inspiring me with your selfless service and generous hearts. Thank you to all who supported LCIF this past year. I have seen firsthand the impact you have made, and I know now just how much Lions and LCIF can accomplish together.

Without your kindness and generosity, there would be more children at risk for drug use, fewer children would have access to life-saving vaccines, the fear of blinding disease would be a reality for more people and there would be less support for people in need following disasters. Every day, you live up to our "We Serve" motto. You continue to prove that love and compassion can overcome fear and isolation. Every day, you make our world a better place and give people everywhere the tools they need to realize their dreams.

Together with our partners, we are making significant strides and impacting more lives than we could alone. Alongside Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and the Measles & Rubella Initiative, we have prevented millions of measles deaths. Working with the World Health Organization, we are getting closer to eliminating preventable causes of blindness. Our partnerships with Johnson & Johnson Vision Care

Companies and VSP Global are bringing eye health to more children than ever before. In collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Lions Quest is expanding in Europe, bringing positive life skills to youths in even more countries.

These partnerships are incredibly valuable, but LCIF could not accomplish any of these feats without the commitment of Lions around the world. This report will give you a glimpse at the dreams that we have turned into realities this year. As you read this report, look back on the projects and programs that have given you such pride and give careful consideration to how you and your club will continue to make dreams come true in the future.

A Salm

Barry J. Palmer LCIF Chairperson, 2014-2015



LCIF Chairperson Palmer assists with disaster relief in Thailand

#### **Improving Local Communities**

Through its Humanitarian grants, LCIF provides matching funds to support Lions' efforts to improve vital public service institutions and programs in their local communities.

In Guatemala, Rio Blanco's elementary school was struggling to accommodate its 100 students, and offered only one toilet for students and staff to share. The Lions of District 114-M in Austria secured a US\$51,000 Standard grant from LCIF to construct a new school building with four classrooms, a sports area, functioning restrooms and a storage room. Situated on land donated to the municipality of Joyabaj, the school is owned by the people of Rio Blanco.

The Austrian Lions ran a successful fundraising campaign, raising more than US\$110,000. Funds raised by the Lions that weren't used for construction were put into a scholarship fund to help the school's top graduates attend secondary school in the provincial capital.

"I appreciate the generosity of Lions for financing that primary school for our students here in Rio Blanco," says Florencio Carrascosa, the mayor of Joyabaj. "The Lions make education possible, and education means hope for a future. We are very proud and thankful."



LCIF built this school in Rio Blanco

#### Supporting Youth

LCIF's Lions Quest program teaches character education, bullying prevention, drug awareness and service-learning to students through grade 12.

Cooper Village in Omaha, Nebraska, is a juvenile residential psychiatric treatment facility for students with severe behavior disorders such as attention deficit hyperactive disorder, bipolar disorder, severe depression, conduct disorder and oppositional defiant disorder. It uses the Lions Quest Skills for Adolescents curriculum for its Personal Development class, which is required each day in each classroom.

"We love the curriculum because it is much more than drug prevention education," says Ruth Woll, a Lions Quest teacher formerly at Cooper Village. "It starts with lessons on how to communicate effectively if students want to be heard in a positive way, which so many of our kids need. They get to know each other and learn how to talk respectfully to each other. Then it moves on to showing kids the importance of self-confidence with lessons designed to show them how special they are and help them build self-confidence.

"So many of our students come to us having had little success in schools, their homes and the community. I love the way the curriculum helps the students build their emotional and social skills. Each unit has great lessons designed to teach students about emotions and how to positively deal with them, all designed to help kids have better lives.

"I smile each time I think of Andy\*, a known gang member. When one student picked on another, Andy reminded him that he didn't "have to blow out John's\* candle to make his burn brighter."

"The service-learning unit concerned me because our students live behind locked doors and are placed with us because they are not ready to be released into the community. They were excited, and I was pleasantly surprised by their talents and sense of responsibility when they tried to teach each other how to check and change the transmission fluid in a staff member's car.

"The lessons are vital and too often absent from these kids' lives. The lessons not only teach the dangers of drugs but also teach and help them practice daily the skills needed to make positive choices in their lives. Making learning fun and hands-on is how we reach our difficult population, so this curriculum is perfect for us."

\*Names changed to protect privacy.



Lions Quest teaches character education in schools

#### **Combating Measles**

LCIF provides financial and volunteer support to reduce measles deaths worldwide by increasing access to measles immunization where it is needed most.

The Lions of Zambia participated in African Vaccination Week for the second time, in close partnership with the local Ministry of Community Development, Mother and Child Health. Lions printed and distributed 20,000 fliers all across the country. The Lions used the week as a platform to educate parents about vaccines and to discuss with families the importance of routine immunization. They visited homes, markets and bus stops, interacting with community members one-on-one and also using megaphones to relate the importance of immunization. Lions also worked with the Ministry as it carried out a number of public health interventions in conjunction with African Vaccination Week including vaccination clinics. By the end of the week, 141 Lions had assisted Ministry medical teams in vaccinating more than 7,850 children.

"Lions were foot soldiers, spearheading publicity, distributing fliers and displaying banners, and helped with crowd control," says Past District Governor **Christine Kasonde** of Zambia. "Where there is a need, there is a Lion!"



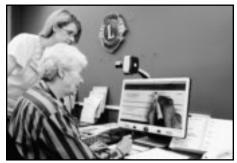
LCIF is reducing deaths from measles

#### Saving Sight

Lions save sight in many ways. LCIF supports their sight-saving efforts through programs like SightFirst, which helps Lions build comprehensive eye care systems in underserved communities to prevent blindness and vision loss, and care for those who are blind or visually impaired.

Ensight is a nationally accredited, low-vision clinic in Colorado, which the **Fort Collins Lions Club** has supported since the clinic was established in 2001. In 2013, LCIF awarded a US\$200,050 grant to fund a three-year SightFirst project to expand low-vision mobile services throughout Colorado. The "Onsite" van travels around rural Colorado providing low-vision rehabilitation services. More than 290 low-vision patients have received services, and 100 Lions have volunteered.

"Before, I walked around hunched down, not wanting to do anything for fear of being hurt," says Maurine Sanford, a grant beneficiary. "But thanks to Ensight and the Lions of Colorado, I am able to stand up straight and move forward to the next phase of my life."



Maurine Sanford

#### **Providing Disaster Relief**

The LCIF Emergency grant program provides financial support to Lions and other partners engaged in disaster response and recovery efforts. Major Catastrophe Grants provide significant funds for catastrophes with major international impact.

Shambhu Bahadur Bhandari, 76, had watched helicopters fly over his village in Nepal after the devastating earthquake last April, but none came to help. The local Lions club was the first to offer any assistance to his village. He approached the Lions with tears in his eyes, a bag of food in one hand and blanket and tent in the other. He hugged the Lions and expressed his gratitude that now his two young grandchildren could eat while he continued searching for food and shelter.

"With his words, we Lions were quiet and could not talk," says Past Council Chairperson **Pankaj Pradhan** of **Multiple District 325**. "We watched each other. It was so painful a time for us, but it was also a heartwarming moment for us. We are so fortunate that we got that opportunity to serve those people at that time in that place. We are always proud to be Lions and know that we really can make a difference in society."



Shambhu Bahadur Bhandari of Nepal gratefully receives food from Lions

#### In Their Own Words

"Thank you, **Lions Clubs of Brazil.** Thank you for believing in us as athletes. Thank you for giving us opportunities to shine. You may be surprised, but you will not be disappointed!"—Leticia Elias, athlete, Special Olympics Brazil

"The solutions to cure diseases lay not only in medicine, but also in the attitude towards the community. LCIF, thank you very much for your support of our community."—Dr. Juan Carlos Terán, Quito los Olivos Medical Center, Ecuador

"When I was told that a surgery camp would be organized, I was pregnant. Two days after the delivery, I decided to get operated and my husband brought me to the health center on our donkey. Now my eye doesn't make me suffer and I can take care of my baby."—Mariam, trichiasis surgery beneficiary, Chad



Marian

#### **Digital LION**

Read the complete LCIF Annual Report at lionmagazine.org.

## LCIF (Visionary Work)

### Help and Hope are Just a Phone Call Away

by Cassandra Rotolo

Will Jackson was only 18 years old when he was diagnosed with glaucoma. He came to terms with his poor vision, and for more than 30 years he has lived a relatively ordinary life. He has two sons and a fiancé, loves to cook and has mastered using public transportation to travel around Baltimore.

But recently, Jackson found it increasingly difficult to do everyday activities such as reading the newspaper, reviewing bills and writing checks. When his ophthalmologist recommended he seek low-vision rehabilitation services at the Lions Vision Center within the Johns Hopkins Wilmer Eye Institute in Baltimore, Jackson didn't think there would be much they could do for him. He had adapted to living with glaucoma so well that he had never sought assistance outside of his eye doctor. Nevertheless, he made an appointment to see a low-vision specialist.

A few days later, Jackson received a phone call from Past District Governor *Ken Chew*. He called on behalf of the Low Vision Rehabilitation Network (LOVRNET), an initiative of the *Lions of Multiple District (MD) 22* and a partner of the Lions Vision Center. Lions LOVRNET is a model for a new community-based healthcare program to address the current shortage of low-vision rehabilitation services in Delaware, Maryland and the District of Columbia. The program creates a single referral resource for both eye care providers and patients and coordinates care by matching patients to appropriate trained service

providers in their area.

The phone screening interview with Chew took about an hour. Jackson learned about tasks that he could get help with and tools that were available to him. Special cameras, magnifying glasses and even a talking watch could help him remain self-sufficient. With the help of adaptive tools from the Lions Vision Center, Jackson hopes to one day be able to watch a football game. "The experience has been personal. I get to talk to people and laugh with them," he explains. "It's more than just filling out forms at a doctor's office. I feel like a person, not a number."

The Lions of MD 22 received a US\$567,647 SightFirst grant to establish the Lions LOVRNET. In addition to developing a single referral resource, Lions LOVRNET also trains and supports local optometrists, ophthalmologists and other eye care providers so they can offer high quality and effective low-vision rehabilitation services as part of their practices.

The LOVRNET project was inspired by a previous collaboration between MD 22 and Johns Hopkins to develop a public education program on low vision and blindness. That effort, supported by an LCIF US\$200,000 Core 4 grant, mobilized local Lions to educate the community on eye health and low-vision rehabilitation.

The unexpected value for Lions, according to Chew, is connecting to people on the other end of the line. "I

have been a Lion for almost 25 years. My club is great at raising money and writing checks—and that's important. But connecting with people is important, too," says Chew. "Seeing a patient's journey is a reminder of the impact we're having. We have the potential to do a lot of good."

Jackson's eyesight may be impaired, but his vision of living a self-reliant life is thriving. With Lions and LCIF on his side, his future is bright. To find out how your district or multiple district can help address the need for low-vision services in your area, visit lcif.org. To learn more about Lions LOVRNET, visit lovrnet.org.



The Lions Vision Center at the Johns Hopkins Wilmer Eye Institute provides important rehabilitation services to people who are blind or visually impaired throughout the greater Baltimore area

Photo courtesy of Lion Marie Chew

## A new record for the Buckingham Lions Club 15th telethon over \$86,000.00 raised!

On Sunday, December 6th 2015, no one suspected that the telethon thermometer of the Buckingham Lions Club would exceed its goal of \$70,000 hoped by Lion President **Sebastien Leblanc** and the president of the telethon Lion **Guy Charbonneau** and all the Lion members, but it did and over \$86,000.00 was raised a new club's record!

In addition to the generosity of the population, several major donations have greatly helped to achieve the goal. The annual golf tournament organized by the Lions Club raised over \$18,000, as well as Buckingham's Canadian Tire raised \$13,000. This year's telethon Honorary President Mr. Hugues Carle from Carle Ford, contributed an additional \$6,000 which will have allowed the Lions to reach and surpass the club's objective. Giant Tiger and Hart's stores gave generously, over \$3,000 for gifts for the children in need with the Christmas baskets. The money raised went to help to deliver over 260

Christmas food baskets to needy families in Buckingham, Masson-Angers and L'Ange-Gardien as well as our annual visits to our local hospital and home care for the elderly received visits from Lion members along with Santa Claus leaving gifts and singing Christmas carols which were much appreciated.

During the telethon, the Knights of Columbus hall was filled with volunteers giving many hours of their time for the 15th telethon.

broadcast on our local Television station and on the Club's Facebook which alone was visited over 11,000 times over the week-end! Many local talented artists came to entertain during the telethon, and of course Santa took care of the little ones!

Following the telethon more donations

continued to flow in until December 20; the telethon finally raised \$86,145.88 or \$79,795.88 in cash donations and \$6,350 in various goods.



## **LCIF** (Foundation Impact)

#### Lions in Zimbabwe Help Vaccinate More Than Five Million

by Eric Margules

Hidden in cities and villages across Zimbabwe, many beyond the reach of modern technology, more than 5 million children under the age of 15 face the threat of death from devastating diseases. Many of these diseases, such as measles, can be easily prevented by a series of inexpensive vaccinations.

Luckily, where there's a need, there's a Lion.

Lions knew something had to be done, but stopping the spread of a disease such as measles requires resources and collaboration on an almost unimaginable scale. That's why, since 2013, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) has partnered with Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, to meet the challenge of measles in Zimbabwe—and around the world—headon.

Last September, LCIF, the Lions of Zimbabwe and Gavi partnered with Zimbabwe's Ministry of Health and Child Care to begin a massive five-day catch-up campaign to provide 5.2 million children with the measles-rubella vaccine and vitamin A supplements. With the Ministry of Health and Child Care coordinating the campaign, Gavi supplied millions of the vaccinations and vitamin supplements, while Lions took to the streets to mobilize volunteers and spread the word about the campaign.

With the help of a \$100,000 grant from LCIF, Lions in Zimbabwe blanketed the airways, roadways and even cellphones with reminders about the campaign.

To spread the word to families without access to television or radio, Lions and Leos teamed up to canvas marketplaces and other public spaces with fliers.

"There has been huge participation from Lions clubs, and the response from the community has been outstanding," says *Jonah Machaya*, 2nd vice district 412 governor. "We've sent out SMSs. We've done billboards. We've sent out radio feeds. We've sent out cellphone feeds. We have been in touch with most of the community of Zimbabwe."

According to Zimbabwe's Ministry of Health and Child Care, who reported that all of the target population received vaccinations and nearly 90 percent received the vitamin supplement, it's clear that Lions' efforts were successful.

"We saw an advert in the newspaper and we felt that it's our duty as parents to make sure [our] kids are vaccinated against the measles," says one parent whose children received their vaccines during the campaign. "It has benefited us immensely because it is just a short distance from where we stay and also it is free of charge. The support is fantastic."

The success of the measles-rubella campaign demonstrates what Lions and partners can accomplish when they come together for the good of their communities. Much still remains to be done to combat measles around the world. As a part of their

partnership, LCIF and its volunteers are raising \$30 million to help Gavi fund similar campaigns in some of the world's poorest countries. Funds raised by Lions will be matched by the United Kingdom's Department for International Development and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to bring the total to \$60 million. To learn more about how LCIF and Gavi are working together to combat measles visit lcif.org/EN/ourwork/humanitarian-efforts/measles.php.



Lions in Zimbabwe prepare a child to receive the measles-rubella vaccination at a school outside Harare

## **Cobourg Lakeshore Lions Club**

The Cobourg Lakeshore Lions Club is pleased to become a sponsoring organization with Better Together Refugee Sponsorship Group, working to bring seven Syrian families to our community. The Lions motto is 'We Serve', and the members of our club will be able to serve in many ways that go far beyond financial assistance.

These refugees face many challenges in adapting to our culture and fitting into our society. Learning how to shop prudently, operate household appliances, establish bank accounts, enroll children in school and hundreds of other things we do automatically will be new to them. Members of Cobourg Lakeshore Lions Club will be there to do our part.

The father in each of these families will have trade or employment experience that will result in filling local jobs or, possibly, development of new businesses. Influx of new people into our community will enrich the diversity and social/cultural traditions in Northumberland County.

The Better Together Refugee Sponsorship Group pools the resources of two service clubs, ten churches, nine community health and service organizations, municipal and regional governments and nine local businesses. There are also over 100 individuals in the group. For more details visit the website at www.bettertogetherpartnership.org

Across Northumberland there are 13 Sponsorship Groups that are in place to relocate approximately 20 families and 25 or so women and girl refugees who, because of their special status as widows and orphans, face a number of unique challenges and have very particular needs. To obtain more information and a list of relevant contacts see the website at: http://www.welcometonorthumberland.ca/en/aboutnor thumberland/refugee-resettlement.asp



## **Haliburton Lions Club**

David and Betty Mills of Haliburton Lions Club demonstrate the new PlusOptix vision screening machine to members of Bancroft Lions Club. This machine would replace current refraction measurement equipment with a much easier, user-friendly device. District A3 is hoping to buy three such machines for its clubs to use when they visit schools to conduct vision screening on students.



## Lions on Location - Service Abroad

#### **Cancer Test Saves Lion**

AUSTRALIA – A Lion who helped organize skin cancer screenings did the test himself and discovered he had melanoma, the most serious form of skin cancer. *Graeme Pascoe*, a *Golden Grover Lion* since 1994 and a member of the health committee of District 201 C1, was treated by his doctor after the discovery.

Lions screened nearly 1,200 people in five rural towns, and 185 people had melanoma. The incidence of skin cancer in Australia is two or three times the rates in the United States and Canada. Skin cancers account for about 80 percent of all newly diagnosed cancers there.

#### **Horses Make Sense for Camp**

FINLAND – Dogs, as in guide dogs, are most commonly associated with Lions, but a Finnish club used horses to help children with special needs learn, react appropriately and follow instructions. The *Siilinjärvi/Kassarat Lions Club* used equine therapy at a weeklong camp.

The children not only rode horses but also took lessons on horse care, horse grooming, saddling and basic equestrian. Horses are considered suitable for therapy because they respond predictably to people, and their behavior in many ways corresponds to how people react.

The club co-sponsored the camp with a church. About 20 Lions and their spouses volunteered at the camp for a total of 150 hours.

The camp focused on single-parent families and blended families. Parents attended. They spent time together sharing stories and learning from one another while their children were busy with their therapy.

Besides the therapy, the children enjoyed typical camp activities such as swimming, fishing, hikes, treasure hunts and an adventure course set in the woods. The club has run a camp for a decade, focusing on a different target population each year.



A camper gets acquainted with a horse

#### Club Adopts a Village

INDIA – The **Narangi Lions Club** has adopted a small village to preserve its heritage and improve the health of its 99 families. Tiny, isolated Burha Mayong is home to Tiwas, Hindu Assamese and Bengali Hindu refugees.

Narangi Lions have held health camps, literacy programs and classes on female empowerment for the

families. They also constructed a hall and bathrooms and donated many goods including a computer, sewing machine and handlooms.

The 68-member club is working with the Social Welfare Department on the village improvement, according to the Assam Tribune.

#### Hotel Offers a Peak Experience

ITALY – Melvin Jones didn't sleep here. But his spirit (of service) roams the rooms and halls of this elegant resort. *Italian Lions* helped fund the luxurious House-Hotel Lago Losetta Melvin Jones, whose balconies overlook snow-capped mountain ranges. More than half the people who stay here have a disability, and the resort offers skilled instructors and specialized equipment for people with disabilities to enjoy alpine skiing in the winter, buggy biking in the summer and other sports such as swimming, fishing and archery.

The hotel is located in Sestriere, 11 miles from the French border. Ringing the hotel are the 8,862-foot Monte Fraiteve, the 10,761-foot Punta Rognosa di Sestriere, the 8,720-foot Monte Sises and the 9,350-foot Monte Motta. The setting is unmatched.

Throughout the year, Lions clubs pay for stays at the hotel for a weekend, a week or longer. Clubs receive a 25 percent discount off regular prices. Fifteen years ago, for four years, clubs contributed three euros per member (today, \$3.40) to help build the hotel, which is entirely accessible to those with disabilities. (Italy currently has 42,000 Lions.)

In the last five years, more than 17,000 people with disabilities have stayed at the hotel.





People with disabilities enjoy the hotel year-round

#### Lions One-Up Elvis, Sting and Marley

LEBANON – The Lions' CD gives new meaning to "world music." It contains songs that were hits for Elvis, Sting and Bob Marley as well as other tunes made popular by French singers. The songs were performed by Lions from Lebanon, remastered in Los Angeles and pressed on CDs in Dubai. "Lions We Sing We Serve" is being sold at Virgin Megastore shops across Lebanon as well as at duty-free shops at the Beirut Airport.

The CD is a mix of pop, rock, jazz and reggae. Among the 14 tracks, and original artists, are "It's Now or Never" by Elvis, "I Will Survive" by Gloria Gaynor, "The Gambler" by Kenny Rogers and "Ma Liberte de Penser" by Pascal Obispo.

The Beirut Lions showcasing their karaoke talents on the CD are amateurs, but they pulled out all the stops in ensuring the quality of the CD and getting it noticed. The songs were recorded in a state-of-the art studio; its owner, Walid Al Massih, is a well-known singer. Lions paid copyright fees for the songs. Rock star *Moe Hamzeh*, a Lebanon Lion, served as executive producer for the recording sessions.

Lion *Lina Ezzedine*, a graphic designer, developed the CD cover, and Lions took to social media as well as radio and TV stations to publicize the album. But it's the quality of the recordings that set it apart, say Lions. "Once you hear the songs you will see it is very professional since they were remixed and mastered by professionals," says Lion *Marie-Christine Boulos*, cabinet secretary.

The innovative project by the **Beirut New Vision** and **Beirut Berytus Lions** clubs is raising funds for 13 Lebanese charitable groups. The CD is expected to generate US\$26,000 for a children's cancer center, a nonprofit that supports pediatric wards, a program to feed the homeless and 10 other concerns.

#### **Terminally III Mom Finds Friends**

NEW ZEALAND – While painting a house that had been illegally stripped bare and left in ramshackle condition, Pam Macdonald turned toward her young daughter. That got the attention of Emma Morris, 6. "Is that your Mum? I am not going to have a Mum," said Emma. "She is going to die."

That's precisely why Macdonald and other Lions, as well as two dozen tradesmen and craftsmen, held a "worker bee" to repair the recently purchased home of Susan Morris, whose liver cancer was expected to take her life in months. The mother of three young girls discovered she was fatally ill just about the time she learned the house she bought at a mortgage auction had been gutted by its occupants, who had finally left after a legal battle. They removed bathroom fixtures, wiring, even door handles and floor boards.

"I was absolutely gob-smacked. It's unbelievable

what was done to these houses," says Macdonald. "I am a mum and a grandmother, and it tears my heart out at what she is going through."

The volunteers actually fixed up two homes. Morris' sister, Larissa, bought a damaged home too, just 75 feet from Morris' home. Larissa, who has two young boys, lost her husband to a brain aneurysm three years ago.

In one weekend the volunteers installed two kitchens, reconnected the plumbing, fixed the toilets and did other repairs. Six Lions clubs took part: Toko & Districts, Kaponga, Normanby, Stratford, Rahotu and Patea. Donors contributed fixtures and other items, and the families had to pay only for a few things for the homes.

"Susan's attitude is incredible. She is a beautiful, smiley woman who is working so hard at being positive," says Macdonald, a Toko Lion. When a nurse asked Morris how she finds time to relax, she said, "When I am hooked up for chemo treatment—they won't let me move around then."



Susan Morris and her daughter, Emma

#### Satirist Draws a Crowd

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

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



Satirist Andrew Poniedzielski entertains the crowd

#### This Fair is Excellent

FINLAND – The largest agricultural fair in Finland spreads out on 56 acres at the Oripää Airport and features a wide range of farm animals, machinery, handicrafts and fairground rides. The *Oripää Lions Club* has run the OKRA Agricultural Fair for nearly 35 years.

The four-day event showcases the latest innovations in agriculture, forestry, farm machinery, energy technology, cattle breeding and dairy and poultry production. It draws industry experts, government officials such as Finland's agricultural secretary, European Union administrators and 500 exhibitors from several nations including Italy, Croatia and Sweden. Last year 82,000 visitors came.

The 39-member Lions club partners with 30 other local groups to run the fair, which requires a staff of 350. The club gives each group 20 euros (US\$22) for each work hour. The networking is true to the theme of District 107 A: "Together we can reach our goals." Yet Lions are sure to emphasize their leadership role: children at the fair are given balloons with the Lions logo. The next OKRA Fair is in July.



This cow won a top award at the OKRA Fair

#### Relief After Floods and Fire

GHANA – Floods deluged Accra, the capital, drowning residents and destroying homes. Compounding the disaster, the rushing waters swept stored fuel at a gas station into a nearby fire. The huge explosion took the lives of people who had taken shelter from the rain.

Working with the Red Cross and bolstered by a \$10,000 Emergency grant from LCIF, the **Accra Golden Lions Club** distributed goods at a church auditorium to those in need. Two hundred and sixty households received buckets, mosquito nets, blankets, soap, rice, cooking oil and water.

"The community was appreciative—especially because the distribution was orderly and stress-free," says *Abigail Amoah*, region chairperson and a past club president. "For most, this was their first contact with Lions. They heard who Lions are and what we do."

#### **Multination Symphony Hits the Right Notes**

NORDIC NATIONS – As many as 1,000 students from throughout the Nordic nations compete each year to be selected for the Orkester Norden. The 90 members of the orchestra live and practice together for two weeks and then hit the road to play concerts for a week in Nordic and Baltic nations.

Making the orchestra is an honor. Being in it is intense, fun and highly advantageous to pursuing a musical career. "They get great instruction. World famous conductors manage the orchestra," says Norwegian Lion *Erik Evang*, a retired teacher who helped begin the orchestra as a Lions project in the early 1990s.

The orchestra is an interesting collaboration of Lions from five nations: Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Iceland. Along with support from the Nordic Council Cultural Foundation, the Lions share the costs—and share the orchestra. Every five years the musicians assemble in another Nordic nation. The current host is Alborg, Denmark.

Aside from the Nordic show, thanks to its stellar reputation, the orchestra also often plays at prestigious events. It heralded the opening of the Nordic embassies in Berlin, celebrated the centennial of the birth of U.N. Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld and toured China with expenses footed by its Ministry of Culture.

Nearly a third of orchestra alumni now play for professional orchestras. Many develop lifelong friends. For some, such as a young woman from Latvia whose parents' lives were affected by the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, the orchestra is a turning point. Elina won a stipend to study music at the highly regarded university in St. Petersburg.



Rolf Gutpa, a renowned conductor, led the Orkester Norden when it was based in Kristiansand, Norway

#### Blind Now Use the Internet

ROMANIA – Hundreds of blind people in Romania are now using the Internet thanks to software developed and distributed by Lions clubs. The innovative BatPro software allows those with vision impairments to surf the Internet using the four arrow keys on the keyboard.

"It's very easy to use," says **Radu Gristea** of the **Cluj-Napoca Transilvania Lions Club**. "We had a blind person try it for the first time, and in two minutes they knew exactly how to use it."

The clubs were supported by a US\$50,000 grant from the Orange Foundation, established in Romania in 2012 to assist the blind and others not fully participating in digital communication. The clubs purchased more than 100 computers, installed the BatPro software and distributed the computers through associations for the blind and visually impaired.

The **Arad Lions Club** hired a programmer to design the software. The text-to-speech mechanism was developed and donated by a Lion from a company that

designs software and hardware for the visually impaired.

Lions in Romania are devoting many volunteer hours to making BatPro accessible. They visit the homes of those with vision impairments to train them how to use it. The software can be downloaded for free as well.

"There was nothing like this in Romania," says Cristea, 40, a past club president and zone and region chairperson. He is the co-author of "Faces of Freedom, Lives of Courage," which details (in English) the hardships suffered by Romanians under communism and the dictator Nicolae Ceausescu. Cristea says the software is superior in at least one respect to software



Clubs in Romania are helping the blind use computers and the Internet

for the blind available in the West. "The beauty of BatPro is the fact you only need four keys," he says. "Younger blind people get used to computers or have smart phones. We're targeting blind people over 45 that are captive in their home and only have the radio for information."

Part of Lions Clubs International since 1990, Romania has 1.186 Lions in 58 clubs.

#### **Lions Counter Polio**

SOUTH SUDAN – Beset by a civil war, South Sudan, declared polio-free in 2009, saw two new cases of polio that led to paralysis in 2014. The Juba Host Lions Club, founded the year before as the nation's first club, has taken on polio.

Two Lions are nurses who have experience in vaccinations. Several members also received training from a World Health Organization specialist in administering vaccines, finger marking and tallying. The Lions travelled to a Juba nursery school and vaccinated 15 children. "The Lions vaccinated only 15 children because the rest were immunized," says President Loku Abiya Awule.

The club will do more vaccinations during National Immunization Days. The club also holds blood donations, helps deworm schoolchildren and gives supplies to those affected by floods.

## **Melvin Jones Award**

**Freelton Lions** celebrated the end of another successful year with their annual steak night, hosted by Lion **Jimmy D. Coverdale**. They were joined by District Governor Elect Lion **Harold Hobso**n.

After a delicious meal, Club President Lion **Sally McMann** introduced DGE Harold and gave a history of Lion **Ken Henderson**'s many contributions to the advancement of the Freelton Lions Club's projects and its visibility and recognition in the community. Lion Ken has chaired Freelton Lions major current project, the planning and construction of a community ice pad and associated facilities building. DGE Harold presented Lion Ken with a Melvin Jones Fellowship Award plaque and pin, on behalf of the Freelton Lions Club.

Freelton Lions will be celebrating 30 years of service to the community next April, and are looking forward to many more years of the same.



## **Lions Clubs International Comes To Canada**

In 1920, the fledging Lions organization was becoming known as a successful networking group with connections across the USA. Canadians had already taken on other service clubs in larger urban centers for businessmen which proved to be good business.

The method of starting clubs in this era was through

professional recruiters whom Lions called Field Secretaries. They would visit cities and sign up members to start new clubs and were paid expenses and usually a fee for each new member. Membership rules called for one member from each profession and men only.



Thus Charles M. Andersen enters the picture. Having formed several new clubs in Michigan, he was the first to bring the Lions to Canada. Those of us who know the geography of the area will understand this was a case of the USA sending something south to Canada from Detroit to Windsor. Their active boards of trade had many of the leading businessmen in the area and many service clubs.



Windsor joined the communities of Ford, Walkerville, Ojibway and Sandwich to form the Lions Club of Border Cities. Their organizational meeting on March 12th, 1920 became their official birthday making them the first Lions Club in Canada.

District Representative for Canada, Andersen, made his way to Toronto in May, Hamilton in June, Chatham in July, Oshawa in August and Belleville in October to round out the year of 1920. This Original Six still has 3 clubs in Windsor, Toronto and Hamilton

all of whom will be 100 years old in 2020.



Harry Newman of Toronto, having become a Lion in May, became the 2nd International Vice President of Lions International in July of 1920. He established the International Association of Lions Clubs (Ontario) as a separate legal entity to govern the activities of Canadian Lions.

New Charter documents had been recently printed with the new Lions Emblem on them, but new ones were now needed for the addition of Ontario Association provisions and signature lines. With the resulting delay, the first club to be presented with a physical Lions charter document was Hamilton in September of 1920, followed by Toronto in October of 1920 and the Border Cities club in January of 1921, when they all held their charter nights.

Ray Charbonneau - MD'A' Historian



Before he became 1974-75 international president, Johnny Balbo, an Illinois Lion, pulls the "Queen of Chinatown" to promote Candy Day for the Blind in 1961

Legacies stand as reminders of who we are and how we live our lives. Since 1917 when Melvin Jones first helped people understand that they could accomplish a greater amount of good for others by joining together, Lions have been building their own legacies of service through humanitarian action. Hundreds of millions of lives made better or saved, 99 years of service, a membership of nearly 1.4 million men and women and more than 46,000 clubs around the world—this is the legacy of Lions Clubs International thus far. We're now nearly one year away from reaching a milestone in the journey that began with one man who wanted to make a difference.

And while we celebrate the approaching centennial by honoring all that Lions have accomplished, LCI is also simultaneously charting an ambitious course for the future. New and exciting tools are available to help every Lion and club participate in and publicize this thrilling once-in-a-lifetime centennial celebration.

Legacy Projects are a hallmark of our celebration of a century of service. They'll showcase the service efforts of clubs around the world as well as illustrate to communities how Lions are a global force for good—beginning right in their own hometowns. Legacy Projects aren't a one-size-fits-all approach to service. Each of the three project levels offers visible, tangible ways for clubs to connect with their communities and beyond.

Legacy Projects don't have to be big, splashy or expensive. They're scaled to size so that any Lions club can participate regardless of size or budget. Projects will guarantee positive publicity for your club and you'll be joining in solidarity with clubs around the globe.

- Level 1 Legacy Projects will raise your community visibility. Post new Lions signs, donate park benches, dedicate a statue or provide a park fountain.
- **Level 2** Legacy Projects are about giving back to the community. Give a gift that lasts—refurbish a park, build a footbridge over a heavily-traveled

## Legacy Projects: Celebrate the Centennial with Service

by Pamela Mohr

- road, fund resources for the visually impaired, plant trees or donate a vehicle to a community organization that needs one.
- Level 3 Legacy Projects are large-scale efforts.
   These include building a clinic, expanding a library or school, equipping a hospital or developing a training center to teach new work or life skills.

Once your club has planned and carried out its Legacy Project, promote it. Visual affirmation shows how Lions get things done. If you donate a park bench, sponsor a public dedication ceremony for it. Display a plaque or sign with your club name affixed on every Legacy Project. Take a photo of a ribbon cutting, plaque installation or Lions working together on a project and post it on social media. Use the hashtag #Lions100 on all centennial posts. You may see your club featured on LCI's social media channels or in LION Magazine if you do so.

Contact local news, radio and television stations if you unveil a newly-rehabbed park or plant a forest full of trees. Whatever level Legacy Project you choose, publicize your club's efforts. Use photos and video to show what Lions are accomplishing every day around the world. Visit Lions100.org to learn how to maximize your celebration efforts. Banner patches are available for both Legacy Projects and the Centennial Service Challenge. Report your Legacy Project using the MyLCI Service Activity Report under "Community and Culture" to earn one of these special recognitions.

Fulfilling one of the four Centennial Service Challenges that began in June 2014 and end June 30, 2018—Hunger, Youth, Vision or the Environment—may also qualify to earn your club official Legacy Project recognition. Since it began, 68 million men, women and children have already benefited from Lions' efforts to meet these four challenges. The goal of 100 million people served is within reach.

#### Where There's A Need, There's a Lion

Proclaim it proudly: Where's There's A Need, There's a Lion. These few words are at the heart of LCI's centennial celebration. You'll see them everywhere. They will be emblazoned on specially-designed centennial commemorative merchandise available at the online LCI store on banners, posters, brochures and all promotional material. In addition to the hundreds of items already available for purchase, there are 25 new centennial-themed products, including apparel, club supplies and attractive jewelry for men and women.

#### Lions 100 Toolbox

Clubs have a wealth of resources to access from LCI to maximize their centennial experience and promote club growth. Traveling exhibits, flyers, PowerPoint presentations, newsletters, videos, press releases and

planning guides are just a very small part of what's available to Lions. Commemorative coins and stamps will also be released. Check the Toolbox at Lions100.org regularly to see new materials and tools as they become available. Centennial celebration updates will also be published regularly in LION Magazine.

Share the history of Lions with 100 Touchstone stories—a treasury of tales that cover the earliest days to the most significant events in Lions' history. Find these stories and videos at Lions100 under the "Media" banner. Share them on your club's website, Facebook page, newsletters and with community news organizations.

#### **Centennial Celebration Membership Awards**

Years of thoughtful preparation at LCI have helped launch this worldwide celebration with a multipronged approach. From tips to guidance to tools, everything a club needs to promote its activities and increase membership is available at Lions100.org. Click on the "Programs" banner and go to "Centennial Celebration Membership Awards."

Among the new awards for growth and member retention are Limited Edition Centennial Membership Awards, available to Lions who sponsor new members and charter new clubs. There will be progressive levels of awards in silver, gold and diamond levels.

Melvin Jones wasn't thinking about legacies in 1917. He simply wanted to help others. Commemorate the centennial by honoring that very principle that has guided Lions through a century of service. Continue building a legacy that creates a better world for people in need. Where there's a need, there's a Lion—always.

## Centennial Plans Gather Steam

The U.S. Mint will sell a Lions centennial commemorative coin in 2017, the centennial year. The design will be unveiled soon. Other centennial plans of LCI are moving ahead. A statue of Melvin Jones will be erected at LCI headquarters in Oak Brook, Illinois. The first batch of pins for Membership Awards, signifying a new member has remained in good standing for a year, has been mailed. Large banners are being prepared both for board members and 2016-17 district governors to gather Lions' signatures on smaller pieces during their travels before being reassembled. Lions in various nations are working with government officials on commemorative stamps. Most of the 865 Lions districts and multiple districts worldwide have a centennial coordinator. The 100 Touchstone stories (see pages 15-16) can be read or downloaded from Lions100.org, the source of current centennial information.

## The Bionic Eye is a Reality

#### Thanks in part to Lions, about 150 people, once blind, are benefiting from an ingenious device.

by Andrea Appleton

Anthony Andreottola, 55, has been blind for more than a decade. The mental health therapist has retinitis pigmentosa (RP), an inherited eye disease that slowly deteriorates the light-sensing cells of the retina. Most of the time, Andreottola gets around reasonably well with a cane. But last winter was one of the harshest on record in Boston, where he lives. More than nine feet of snow fell.

"I had a miserable winter, the worst in my life," Andreottola says. "Even relying on Uber or taxis, I couldn't get where I needed to go. They were leaving me in places where I couldn't navigate with a cane."

So when Andreottola's ophthalmologist mentioned the "bionic eye," a new technology specifically for people with RP, he was intrigued. The device, officially dubbed the Argus II, consists of an electrode array that is surgically implanted in the eye. In concert with external components, the array stimulates the retina with electrical pulses. The visual gains that result are modest, by the standards of the sighted. But, like the roughly 150 people who'd undergone the procedure before him, Andreottola thought it sounded worth it.

"Basically my realistic hopes are that I can use it to navigate downtown Boston without getting hit by a bus," he said in October, a few weeks before his surgery. "Anything more than that is extra."

About 100,000 patients in the United States have RP. Only those in the late stages—about 10,000 people—stand to benefit from the Argus II.

"It's a rare disease but it's also the disease from hell," says *Gislin Dagnelie*, associate director of the Lions Vision Research and Rehabilitation Center, a division of the Johns Hopkins Wilmer Eye Institute in Baltimore. Night blindness is one of the early symptoms, followed by a slow narrowing of the visual field. Tunnel vision eventually gives way to blindness. "These patients find out when they're in their teens, their 20s, that they're going to be blind. And they're going to be blind little by little. Every time they adjust to a new level of vision loss, it gets worse."

Dagnelie, who is also an associate professor of ophthalmology at Johns Hopkins, has worked for decades on developing the bionic eye. His early work on the project was supported by the Lions Vision Research Foundation, which created a \$4 million endowment fund in 1994 to finance the research center he helps head. While raising the endowment, the foundation paid the center \$200,000 a year for pilot projects. "I'm always really happy to see the support that we get from the Lions," Dagnelie says. He became a member of the **Suburban Lions Club** in 2013

Dagnelie and his colleagues began testing how electrical currents affected the vision of RP patients

in the early 1990s. Robert Greenberg, co-founder of Second Sight, the company based in Sylmar, California, that makes the Argus II, was in medical school when those experiments began. He recalls an early example. "I'd never been in an operating room at the time so I was very excited," he says. A surgeon held a probe over the eye of a patient under local anesthesia and applied an electrical current. "The patient said, 'I see a spot of light,'" Greenberg says. "With the second wire, the patient saw two spots. From then on, I was hooked."

At the time, Greenberg estimated it would take about a million dollars and a year to build a product. The FDA approved the Argus II for consumer use in 2013, nearly 25 years and 200 million dollars later. "I didn't really understand what the challenges were going into it," Greenberg laughs.

About a dozen medical centers in the United States and a number in Europe currently perform the surgery to implant the device. (Retinal surgeon James Tahara Handa, a professor of ophthalmology at the Wilmer Eye Institute, performed Andreottola's surgery and many others.) A pill-sized implant embedded with an array of 60 electrodes is attached to the surface of the retina. Post-surgery, the patient dons a pair of glasses with a miniature video camera attached. The video camera sends video to a processor on the wearer's belt, which reduces the image from normal resolution to a crude version the 60-pixel array can handle. The processor then sends that data to an antenna coil on the glasses, which beams it into the eye wirelessly. The signals go next to the electrode array, which emits pulses of electricity. The pulses stimulate the retina's remaining healthy cells. These transmit the visual



Anthony Andreottola has received the "bionic eye." Alongside him is Lion Gislin Dagnelie, associate director of the Lions Vision Research and Rehabilitation Center

information to the brain much as they would in a healthy eye.

The design of the retinal implant was inspired by the cochlear implant, which also uses an electrode array to transmit signals to the brain. Like early versions of the cochlear implant, the Argus II has major limitations. The most obvious is the vision itself.

"The quality of the image is best described as moving shadows," Dagnelie says. "It's grey, light and dark grey, and things are moving." Details like facial features are impossible to make out.

Getting the most out of the Argus II also requires a good deal of dedication. In the days after his surgery, Andreottola was hopeful but struggling to interpret the odd flashes of light the electrodes deliver.

"It's hard to come up with words to describe what I see," he said. "You know when you're dancing in the nightclub and they put on the strobe lights and it looks like everything's in slow motion? It's kind of like that." Early on, Andreottola had been able to avoid walking into a closed office door because he detected the shimmer of the glass panel, and he'd seen the shapes of cars and people and doorways. But images often seemed to vanish unexpectedly, and a given scene didn't look consistently the same from one moment to the next.

It can take a year of training to learn to get the most out of the Argus II. For instance, implant recipients must learn to move their heads regularly to refresh the image they see rather than moving their eyes. Otherwise the brain misinterprets the signals it's receiving, and stationary objects appear to move.

"Most of the patients who are successful with this are already successful blind people," Dagnelie says. "So it's not like this is a fundamental change of their lives."

But the Argus II does give users a sense of their spatial environment, and that can make a big difference in daily life. They can generally see the white paint of a crosswalk, the crude shape of a chair in their path, the contrast of a white plate on a dark tablecloth.

"I can avoid hitting things or walking into a wall," says Nancy Tate, 69. Tate got the implant in 2007 as part of a clinical trial. "It gives me more mobility and I can pick up speed a little more than I otherwise would be able to with a cane."

At the moment, the procedure is limited to those with around \$180,000 to spend or the tenacity to take on their insurance company. As yet, there is no national policy on coverage of the Argus II, though Dagnelie suspects one will take shape over the next couple of years. (Andreottola succeeded in getting coverage from his insurance company, but not without

the intervention of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Health Policy Commission. "It was quite the battle," he says.)

Meanwhile, researchers are continuing to improve the Argus II. "One of the nice things about it is that it's software updatable," Greenberg says. He is confident that future software updates will provide users with some color vision, among other improvements. Dagnelie, for his part, hopes the device will soon be able to record how the retina responds when it is electrically stimulated. With that feedback. researchers should be able to gain a better understanding of a particular patient's retinal degeneration and tailor the processor's signals to match.

One glaring limitation of the technology is, of



Gislin checks Andreottola's vision with assistance from Michael Barry, a araduate student

course, that it is designed for a tiny subset of the blind. That may soon change. "The vision for the company was always to treat all blindness," Greenberg says. "We started with RP because of the nature of the disease."

Those in the late stages of RP have a more or less intact retina, but next to no vision. This made it a good candidate for early experimentation with electrical stimulation. Unlike, say, macular degeneration, which preserves some peripheral vision, patients with advanced RP had little to lose. Now that the device appears to be safe, researchers are expanding their horizons. A small study using the Argus II with agerelated macular degeneration patients was launched this year.

Because of its design, the Argus II will likely always be limited to those who have an intact retina that is attached to the back of the eye as well as a

functioning optic nerve. This excludes patients who have had severe eye trauma or suffer from diseases affecting the optic nerve such as glaucoma. But Second Sight is working on developing a similar technology they hope will help virtually any blind person. The Orion I functions much like the Argus II, but bypasses the optic nerve and the eye visual cortex of the brain. Animal trials and a processor on the wearer's belt

are ongoing, and the company hopes to launch a human trial by late 2016.

Greenberg may have greatly underestimated how long it would take to produce a bionic eye, but he continues to dream big. "The Six Million Dollar Man," a TV show from the 1970s starring a man with a technologically-enhanced body including a bionic eve equipped with a zoom lens, is one source of inspiration. "My dream would be to get to a point where the vision is actually better than normal," he says. "I think we can, but it's going to take a lot of effort."

In the meantime, early adopters of the Argus II appear to be getting some slightly more modest benefits. "It hasn't opened a new world to me, but it's giving me a couple of peeks," Andreottola says. "And if it keeps me from falling in one subway pit, then it's worth a million dollars."



entirely, connecting directly to the The "bionic eye" works thanks to a pair of glasses with an attached miniature video camera

## **TOUCHSTONE STORY – Lions Recycle the Earth**

Lions can be found on the front lines of local recycling projects all around the world, reclaiming everything from scrap metal and old newspapers to medical devices and used cell phones.

The recycling effort Lions are best known for is the Recycle for Sight Program, which collects millions of used eyeglasses yearly for distribution in developing countries, where eye care is unaffordable or inaccessible for many people.

Simple and effective, the pioneering program that started in the 1930s remains a high-profile and frequently praised symbol of Lion practicality and service to others. "Unwanted or outdated eyeglasses, tucked away in drawers or closets, can make a tremendous difference in the life of someone in need." Abigail Van Buren told readers of her syndicated "Dear Abby" column in 1996. The Lion eyeglass initiative is a "wonderful program," she added.

Building on the success of that initiative, Lions in the early 2000s launched the Hearing Aid Recycling Program, which similarly collects and refurbishes donated hearing aids for distribution to those who lack funds to buy them.

Over time, however, Lions have taken up more conventional recycling chores, often led by Lions Green Teams. Around the globe, Lions Green Teams

regularly gather and recycle huge quantities of scrap metal, paper and other reusable projects. Each April, Lions dedicate a month of service to protecting the planet as part of the Protecting Your Environment, an element of the Global Service Action Campaign. The campaign's recycling efforts help save energy, reduce the amount of trash sent to landfills and conserve dwindling natural resources.

In Turkey, the **Bursa Koza Lions Club** collects plastic bottles for recycling "in order to prevent pollution of the environment and nature," says club member Nuket Tuzlacioglu.

Recycling has another attraction for some clubs: Besides their environmental benefit, recycling programs often generate revenue that Lions can use to fund other good works.

In Arizona, the **Prescott Noon Lions Club** has collected and shipped nearly 53 million pounds of recyclable newsprint and other paper. By collecting newspapers and magazines in bins all around town, the club has raised more than \$200,000 to support local charities.

"If the paper is recycled, that means we don't cut down as many trees," explains Prescott Noon Lion Bill Parker.

In India, the Aldona Lions Club launched a garbage reduction program in local schools. Officials noted the plan was "converting waste to wealth," as the schools benefited from funds raised by the sale of recyclable materials. In Penn Yan, a village in upstate New York, local Lions asked neighbors in the Finger Lake region to "help us help others by donating your scrap metal so we can recycle it and turn it into cash."

Recycling work can be difficult, but the benefits to the community and the earth make the effort worthwhile.

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



The Boracay Malay Amity Lions Club in the Philippines organized an environmental awareness campaign to make separating trash from

## **TOUCHSTONE STORY - Lions on the Move**

The International Association of Lions Clubs was anything but international when formed in Chicago in 1917. At its inception, about two dozen clubs were scattered around the central United States in places such as Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Oklahoma and Texas. Lions suspected, however, that their group would soon live up to its multinational name. Service and volunteerism are contagious, especially when combined with a bit of fun.

It didn't take long. Just three years later, in 1920, Lions became truly international with the establishment of its first club outside U.S. borders in Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

Located across the river from Detroit, Michigan, Windsor was a bustling border town in 1920, benefitting from the region's booming automotive industry. Detroit, birthplace of the moving automobile assembly line, had just formed its own Lions club earlier that year and word was quickly spreading about the association. Windsor's volunteer-minded citizens were intrigued. Through Lions Clubs, they could serve their growing community and improve the lives of their neighbors.

Michigan District 11 Governor Anthony Menke was known as a dynamic force in area business circles, and the enthusiastic leader was eager to make the Canadian Lions club a reality. Under his guidance, the Detroit Lions sponsored the Windsor club, which soon sprang into action and began serving fellow Canadians with Lions' fervor. The Windsor club would later make its mark by introducing Canadians to the white cane, a safety identification tool for the visually impaired.

After founding the Windsor club in Canada, Lions moved into China and Mexico. In 1926, the first Lions Club in China was established in Tianjin (formerly Tientsin). A year later, Mexico's Nuevo Laredo Fundadores Club joined the association with the help of Lions across the border in neighboring Laredo, Texas.

Today, Lions are serving those in need through clubs in more than 200 countries and geographic areas. As the largest service organization in the world, Lions Clubs International goes wherever the Lionhearted are found.

## **Vision & Hearing**

As part of the Lions Club International mandate, Tweed Lions president Marg Kent welcomed Regional Coordinator Cathy Collins and Belleville Lions member Dave Sicker to Tweed Elementary School the morning of January 18 to assist with youth vision and hearing screening. Kent, Collins and Sicker were assisted by Tweed Lions Maril Swan, Betty Brinson and Jack and **Betty McMurray** who tested kindergarten and grade one students for early indicators of vision and hearing impairments. This is the sixth year the Lions have provided this service to area students; earlier screenings were done at St. Carthagh Catholic School in November and the initial screening of older public school students was completed in December. Parents of students where problems may be present are informed so that further testing may be done and the Lions can also offer further assistance with the purchase of eyeglasses where there is a need.



Here, Jack McMurray tests senior kindergarten student Addison Gambeta for vision alignment

photo by The Tweed News/SHANNON BINDER BRAY

## **Lions Club of Kitchener**

At the City of Kitchener's Inaugural City Builder Awards presentation on January 25 2016, Kitchener Mayor Berry Vrbanovic presented PDG Mike Hilling with the Mayor's City Builder Award. In his remarks Mayor Vrbanovic read the following:

The Lions Club of Kitchener has been serving our community since 1937. One of numerous service clubs in our community, its' 65 members not only continue our annual traditions of the KW Santa Claus Parade and the KW Citizen of the Year award, but they also support a variety of community initiatives including the Children's Safety Village and the Dog Guide program. They also were generous contributors to the Kitchener Lions Community arena and the much beloved reflecting pool and skating rink in Carl Zehr Square at Kitchener City Hall."

In her submission Ann Whittle, who nominated the Lions Club of Kitchener says, "for 78 years, the Lions Club of Kitchener has been contributing to the achievements and success of the City of Kitchener by partnering with the City on joint ventures as well as giving to individuals and groups in need. The reflecting pool in front of City Hall has been a place where the citizens of Kitchener can come to reflect, relax, read, people watch, skate in the winter and just

enjoy our great city. Through their efforts and contributions, the Lions Club has made a positive impact on youth, seniors and all citizens of the City of Kitchener."



## New members of the Knowlton Lions Club

In a candlelit ceremony, under the direction of Lions **Bev** and **Gary Crandall**, held on January 27th, at the Lakeview Inn in Knowlton, three new members, **Debbie Lawson**, **Jeannette Leblanc** and **Ken Batley** were inducted into the Knowlton Lions Club.

Lions District U 4 Governor **Jean-Paul Poulin** was also on hand to welcome the new members into the Club.

"You're joining a local group of service-minded men and women who volunteer to support our community every day. Becoming a Lions club member gives you the opportunity to volunteer locally, or internationally, make new friends and professional connections and lead projects that make your community a better place to live. Have fun doing it!" said *Pierre Guindon* president of the Knowlton Lions Club.



New members, their sponsors and the district Governor at the swearingin ceremony. From left to right: Lion Gib Rotherham, new member Jeannette Leblanc, Lion Gary Crandal, new member Ken Batley, club president Pierre Guindon, new member Debbie Lawson and district Governor Jean-Paul Poulin

## Le Club Lion de Knowlton appuie les Premiers Répondants

Le 9 mars le président du Club Lions de Knowlton, M. *Pierre Guindon* a présenté à M. Pierre Laplante des Premiers Répondants de Ville de Lac Brome une contribution de \$3,000 pour couvrir les frais d'achat d'essence de leur véhicule. Dès le début de la mise en place, il y a maintenant treize ans, de cette unité de Premiers Répondants, le Club Lions a reconnu le rôle essentiel pour la communauté d'un tel service et a toujours offert son appui. La preuve du besoin vital des Premiers Répondants se trouve dans les statistiques qui démontrent que depuis 2003 ces 35 volontaires compétents répondent en moyenne à 375 appels par année.



Le président du Club Lions de Knowlton, Pierre Guindon présentant le chèque à Pierre Laplante T.P.I. directeur service incendie et premier répondant, en présence de premiers répondants et de membres du Club Lions de Knowlton

## Patrick 4 Life (from front cover)

#### What is P4L?

Patrick 4 Life (P4L) AIDS Awareness and Education is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to educating youth about HIV and AIDS.

P4L creates awareness about HIV and AIDS through education, leadership, fund-raising and partnerships.

P4L's purpose is to provide and facilitate the development and implementation of educational programs and activities designed to equip youth with the skills and knowledge they need to make healthy life-style choices.

P4L's programs and services include, but are not limited to, the development of educational curricula, programs and the support of teacher training.

#### Patrick 4 Life History

Patrick was born in Kapuskasing, June 26th, 1978, and diagnosed a severe hemophiliac. To manage his bleeding disorder, Patrick required bi-weekly Factor VIII infusions. In the early to mid 1980's the Canadian blood supply was contaminated with the HIV virus and as a result, Patrick was diagnosed HIV positive in February of 1984, age 7.

Being a talented athlete, gifted musician and student of life, Patrick's childhood was filled with activities enjoyed to the fullest. As the disease process advanced through Patrick's teenage years, his positive outlook, courage, determination through adversity and humour inspired everyone he met.

In 1995 Patrick chose to disclose his HIV status to family and friends and received acceptance and support. Patrick's wish at every birthday and at each full moon was: Zero AIDS.

Patrick died November 8th, 2001, at the age of 23.

Patrick was proud to be Canadian and would be proud that through his enduring spirit we continue to raise AIDS awareness in our communities.

Patrick found courage and used his story to educate and help others become aware of the disease. After Patrick's death, his parents, Christine and Christian, started training for their first marathon. Christine and Christian were encouraged by friends to use their running as a way to fundraise for a cause.

Having recently attended a tribute for Dr. Susan King, one of Patrick's long-time HIV/AIDS pediatric doctors, the Fortin's were captivated by Dr. King's commitment towards raising funds for the Philip Aziz Centre Children's Hospice – Canada's first hospice for children battling AIDS and their families.

Christine and Christian raised over \$8000 for the Philip Aziz Centre Children's hospice and both qualified for the Boston Marathon. While training for the Boston Marathon, Christine and Christian raised another \$5000 for the hospice. In September 2005, Christine and Christian generated a team of 198 runners and 45 volunteers who travelled to Toronto for the Scotiabank Waterfront Marathon. The team raised \$73,000 for the Philip Aziz Centre Children's Hospice.

A meeting in November 2005 acted as a catalyst to the establishment of Patrick 4 Life being incorporated the following year. Its immediate mandate was

- i to provide a forum for awareness, discussion and activism related to HIV/AIDS and related issues
- ii to promote HIV/AIDS education in elementary and secondary schools and in post-secondary educational institutions
- iii to promote and support activities and events organized by or on behalf of registered charities related to HIV/AIDS and

iv to foster educational and social activities for people affected by or interested in HIV/AIDS.

v to promote healthy mental health practices

Patrick 4 Life grew out of a desire to honour the life of Patrick Fortin, to specifically communicate the desires of Patrick's dream of Zero AIDS and to address the many challenges associated with HIV/AIDS in the North Bay area and Ontario. Patrick 4 Life's vision is that "Every child in every classroom in the province of Ontario will experience an HIV and AIDS awareness education program."

Since its inception the organization has been dedicated to empowering the community through encouragement and collective action. During its life, Patrick 4 Life AIDS Awareness and Education has provided educational awareness activities, support for other charitable organizations, advocacy services, and volunteer opportunities for individuals in the community who want to make a difference in eradicating HIV/AIDS. In ten years, over twenty thousand students, from French, English, Public, Catholic and First Nation schools in the Nipissing district, have been involved in the Partici-Patrick Ten week educational program.

#### **Co-Founders**

For more information about Christine and Christian Fortin as co-founders of Patrick 4 Life please review the recognition given to them at the convocation at Nipissing University in June of 2009 where they received Honorary Doctorate degrees in recognition of the founding and establishment of Patrick 4 Life.

The 11th Annual Family Run/Walk will take place on June 5, 2016. Visit us online at www.p4l.ca if you are interested in supporting this great event.

## Lions Club Connects With Youth Through Leo Club

by Melinda Cheevers, Niagara on the Lake Town Crier

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE - At a time when many service clubs throughout the region are struggling to connect with youth, the *lions Club of St. Davids and District* are finding the opposite to be true.

In March 2015, the Lions Club launched its own LEO Club program, designed to give young people the opportunity to serve their communities and make a positive impact. Open to youth between the ages of 12 and 18, in less than one year, the club has attracted 25 members, students from community schools like St. Davids Public School, St. Michael Catholic Elementary School and A.N. Myer High School.

**Winston Doppenberg**, a Grade 8 student at St. Davids Public School, joined the club in late spring last year.

"A lot of my friends were already doing it and I was free on Friday nights so I could help with the fish frys. I thought 'why not join and help the community out?' So I did, and I really like it," he said. "I like the Lions themselves, the guys that I cook fish with on Fridays. They're a nice group of people."

In addition to helping with the fish fries, Doppenberg

also volunteered at the carnival held on the Lions Club grounds last summer.

Lion Club member **Lou-Anne Rochat** said it's been great to have the LEO Club members help out at their many events. "The kids are very enthusiastic and they want to do more and more things," she said.

Currently, the LEO Club meets twice a month. The group decides which events they'd like to host or be involved with and where the funds they raise are directed. Recently, the LEO Club fundraised \$3,000 to purchase a new electronic scoreboard for A.N. Myer's football field.

"One of the LEO Club members goes to A.N. Myer Secondary School," said Rochat, adding it was their suggestion to make the purchase. "All of the other members voted in support."

While some service groups are struggling to connect with youth, Rochat said St. Davids is a smaller community and it has a greater emphasis on community.

"Family spirit here is stronger and the Lions name

is strong, so the youth here feel inspired to get involved," she said.

Fellow Lion **Bradd Anderson** agreed, adding that many of the children grew up seeing the work the Lions Club does in the community so having the opportunity to get involved was a welcome addition for them.

"The school came to us with a need for (SMART) boards a few years ago," he said, adding several students and parents helped in their fundraising efforts to purchase the boards. There were spaghetti nights and fish fries held to come up with the funds. Once that campaign ended, the seeds for the LEO Club were already planted. "It's been a good collaboration," he said.

Early in February, LEO Club members from St. Davids School along with Lions Club members and parent volunteers were on hand at St. Davids Public School to dish out lunch to each of the classrooms. A pizza party was held, with LEO Club and Lions Club members delivering boxes of pizza as well as juice boxes to each classroom.

## **Delegate Form Instructions for International Convention**

#### Are you serving as the Delegate for your club?

If yes, complete the Delegate/ Alternate Delegate form and return the top portion to Lions Clubs International Headquarters, to the attention of the Member Service Center before **May 1, 2016**. Bring the bottom portion of the form to the convention and present it when you arrive to certify at the Certification area in the convention center.

Before sending the form, be sure a club officer (Club President, Secretary or Treasurer) has signed the form and printed their name on both halves as indicated on form.

Mail form to: Lions Clubs International

ATTN: Member Service Center

300 W. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street

Oak Brook, IL USA 60523-8842

Signed, scanned forms can be sent to: memberservicecenter@lionsclubs.org

Fax: 630-571-1687

To certify for the election, you will also need to bring a government-issued photo ID with your signature.

#### Are you serving as the Alternate for your club?

If yes, <u>do not mail your form</u>. Bring the entire form to convention. You will only need to come to the Certification area in the event you are replacing a delegate. If you are replacing a certified delegate, you will need your signed International Convention Delegate/ Alternate Delegate Form (alternate and officer signatures are required on the form) along with the delegate's gray copy of their Credential Card. If you do not have both of these items <u>or are replacing a delegate who was not certified</u>, you need to bring an authorized signer with you to the Certification area. A government-issued photo ID and convention name badge will be required for the alternate and officer.

If you have questions regarding this process, contact the Member Service Center.

Email:

memberservicecenter@lionsclubs.org

Phone:

1+630-203-3830

Fax: 1+630-571-1687

## International Convention Allowable Club Delegate Table

Membership	Delegates Allowed
1-37	1
38-62	2
63-87	3
88-112	4
113-137	5
138-162	6
163-187	7
188-212	8
213-237	9
238-262	10
263-287	11
288-312	12
313-337	13
338-362	14
363-387	15
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

Membership	Delegates Allowed
388-412	16
413-437	17
438-462	18
463-487	19
488-512	20
513-537	21
538-562	22
563-587	23
588-612	24
613-637	25
638-662	26
663-687	27
688-712	28
713-737	29
738-762	30

Delegate count is based on the club's membership as shown by the records of the international office on the first day of the month last preceding the month in which the convention is held as provided in Article VI, Section 2 of the International constitution and Chapter XVII – Membership, Paragraph B.3., of the board Policy Manual.

#### **LCI COPY**



## International Convention Delegate/ Alternate Delegate Form (Mail to LCI before May 1, 2016) Lions Clubs International Convention - 2016 Fukuoka, Japan (Print clearly for quick processing)

Club Identification Number:	District:	
Club Name:		_
City:		Country
Select one: DELEGATE OR	ALTERNATE DELEGATE	Member Number:
Print Delegate/ Alternate Delegate N	Name	Signature of Delegate/ Alternate Delegate
The undersigned hereby authorizes that Delegate/Alternate Delegate of said Lion Clubs.	the above named person is an ans Club to the stated Convention	active member and a duly selected of The International Association of Lions
Print Officer Name		Signature of Club Officer
<b>Before May 1, 2016</b> , mail this portion to Li 60523-8842 USA • Email: memberserviced	ions Clubs International • Member center@lionsclubs.org • Phone: 1-1 After May 1, bring form to the co	
		DELEGATE / ALTERNATE DELEGATE COPY
	tional Convention Delegate/ A  (Bring this copy to the Copy International Convention - 20°  (Print clearly for quick processions)	Convention) 16 Fukuoka, Japan
Club Identification Number:	District:	_
Club Name:		_
City:	_State	_Country
Select one: DELEGATE OR	ALTERNATE DELEGATE	Member Number:
Print Delegate/ Alternate Delegate N		Circulation of Dalamete/ Alberta de Dalamete
The undersigned hereby authorizes that	the above named person is an a	Signature of Delegate/ Alternate Delegate active member and a duly selected of The International Association of Lions
/		
Print Officer Name		Signature of Club Officer 2016 Cred-100.EN

Lions Clubs International Multiple District "A"
EFFECTIVE SPEAKING CONTEST/CONCOURS D'ART ORATOIRE

#### Algonquin College/Residence & Conference Centre — Ottawa West 1385 Woodroffe Ave.,, Ottawa, Ontario K2G 1V8 613-727-7698 x 4995

May 6, 7, & 8, 2016
MD"A" Council Members & Individual REGISTRATION

DISTRICT "A" DISTRICT CHAIR :
Name:
Position: Council Chair MD"A" Secretary MD"A" Treasurer District Governor
1 <sup>st</sup> VDG 2 <sup>nd</sup> VDG Other
Day of arrival: Friday Saturday Departure: Saturday Sunday Room: 2 Bedroom Suite \$80.00 plus 13% tax = \$90.40 - per night X = Room total \$
Rooms must be booked directly with Chair Lion Mike Schulz – e-mail krisandmike@symkpatico.ca
Meal Tickets required for Saturday May 7, 2016
Special Dietary Instructions:
Breakfast: @ \$17.00 = \$ Lunch: @\$12.00 = \$ Banquet: @ \$38.00 = \$ Meal Ticket Total: \$
Payment: Total room and meals and make one Cheque made payable to " Manotick Lions
Club Effective Speaking".
****RSVP - APRIL 22, 2016***** (No changes after this date!)

Mail completed Registration form to: Chair Lion Mike Schulz – 5329 Driscoll Drive, Manotick, ON K4M 1E3 krisandmike@sympatico.ca

## Lions Clubs in Good Standing

The criteria for a Club in Good Standing is all per capita dues payable to Lions Clubs International and to Multiple District 'A' must be paid in full and any balance of \$50.00 or more over ninety (90) days must be paid. During the Multiple District 'A' Convention payment shall be accepted at the MD'A' Credentials Desk for outstanding accounts by one of the following methods:

- (i) Cash
- (ii) Cheque(s) from a Lions Club properly endorsed and payable to Lions Clubs

International and/or Multiple District 'A' Lions Clubs.

Unless Clubs pay the outstanding balance, their Club delegates will be unable to vote at the MD'A' Convention.

# Proposed Amendment - MD'A' Constitution and By-laws

#### Amendment

To provide revenue to defray the administration expenses of the multiple district, an annual multiple district administration fund per capita dues of Fourteen Dollars & Fifty Cents (\$14.50) in Canadian dollars is hereby levied upon each member of each club in the multiple district and shall be collected and paid in advance by each club on or after the first day of September in each year. The membership of each club shall be based on the number of members on record at Lions Clubs International on the first day of August. Newly chartered or re-organized clubs shall collect and pay said annual dues on a pro-rata basis from the first day of the second month following the date of their organization or re-organization, as the case may be.

#### Rationale:

Numerous Lions Clubs across the Multiple District drop members on or about the 1st day of July each year making it very difficult to obtain an accurate number of Club members for billing MD'A' Dues. The change from July 1st to August 1st will provide for better accuracy

_			•
I am ii	n favour of the	proposed	amendmen
YES_		NO _	

Lions Clubs International Multiple District "A"
EFFECTIVE SPEAKING CONTEST/CONCOURS D'ARTORATOIRE

Algonquin College/Residence & Conference Centre – Ottawa West 1385 Woodroffe Ave., Ottawa, Ontario K2G 1V8 613-7698 x 4995

DISTRICT CONTESTANT REGISTRATION

DISTRICT "A"	DISTRICT CHAIR
	glish/ French Division
Name:	Relation
Day of arrival: Friday	Saturday Departure: Saturday Sunday
to be booked by the	d rooms for Contestants and their families are District Chair on this Registration form nyment by cheque payable to the Manotick
Special Dietary Instructions:	
Breakfast: @ \$17.00 = \$_ Banquet: @38.00 = \$ Children (under 7) \$2	Lunch: @\$12.00 = \$ Junior Banquet ( under 11) @20.00 0.00 \$
Meal Ticket Total:	<b>5</b>
Cheques to be made paya ***RSVP – APRIL 22, 2016	<i>ble to: -"</i> Manotick Lions Club". ****
Mail ALL completed registration NK4M 1E3 krisandmike@	ions to: Chair Lion Mike Schulz – 5329 Driscoll Drive, Manotick, sympatico.ca



### 2016 MULTIPLE DISTRICT 'A' CONVENTION

## "Medieval Times 2016"

### CLARION RESORT- PINEWOOD PARK 201 PINEWOOD PARK DR., NORTH BAY, ON P1B 8Z4

### MAY 26 TO MAY 29, 2016

#### CO-HOSTED BY WIDDIFIELD LIONS CLUB AND BONFIELD & DISTRICT LIONS CLUB

A. DISTRICT_		CLUB			
Lion   Liones	s 🗆 Leo 🗆	Partner In Service	Highest Office	Past □	Present
Name		Name to ap	pear on Badge		
Mailing Address	REET & OR PO BOX	CITY	PROVINCE	POST	AL CODE
		Email			
B. DISTRICT		CLUB			-
Lion   Liones	s $\square$ Leo $\square$	Partner In Service	Highest Office	Past □	Present
Name		Name to a	ppear on Badge		
Mailing Address_	CTDEET & or DO DO	OX CITY	DDOVINGE	DC.	STAL CODE
		Email			
		***PLEASE NOTE**	**		
1. Everyone, including gu				tions, inclu	ding meals.

1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 will be subject to a \$10.00 handling fee.

3. No Refunds after May 1st 2016

All cancellations must be in writing by mail or e-mail and be acknowledged. Cancellations received after April

FUNCTION TICKETS	COST PERSON	A B	TOTAL
Thursday Night DG/DGE/PDG Dinner	\$45.00		\$
Friday Luncheon	\$35.00		\$
Friday Night Medieval Dinner	\$55.00		\$
Saturday Melvin Jones Fellows(ONLY) Breakfast	\$23.00		\$
Saturday Night Dinner	\$45.00		\$
TOTA	AL FOR FUNCTION TIC	CKETS	\$
FUNCTION TICKETS	MUST BE ORDERED	BY MAY 20,	2016
AMOUNT DUE ** SUNDAY ARRI	VALS -CASH PAYME	NT ONLY**	
Full registration fee for <b>A</b> \$25.00 = \$	Registration fee for Le	eo \$10.00	= \$
	Function Tickets(Fron		
Full registration fee for <b>B</b> \$25.00 = \$			
<u> </u>	Pin Trader Table		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Vendor Table		) = \$
TOTAL AMO	OUNT DUE \$		
***Payment Method*** Cheq	ue 🗆 Visa 🗆 N	Iaster Card□	Pay Pal□
If paying by credit card please fill in the following  Name Credit Card # Expiry Date CVS # If paying by Pay Pal please be sure to include your email address  PAY PAL Email Address Please make your cheque payable to: Lions M D "A" Convention 2016  Credit card payments will state "Show Fund" on your bill.  MAIL YOUR COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM TO:  BONFIELD AND DISTRICT LIONS CLUB  ATT: HOLLEY MENARD  P.O. BOX 28  350 LINE 3 SOUTH  BONFIELD, ON P0H 1E0  bonfieldlions@hotmail.ca  Diabetic A B Cluten Free A Cluten Free Free Free Free Free Free Free Fr			
PLEASE NOTE; ROOM RESERVATIONS ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY  *Please let the Hotel know you are with the Lions Convention.  ROOM RATES PER NIGHT \$125.00 tax included			
HOTEL CONTACT INFORMATION			
	<u>MFORT INN</u> -494-9444		SHORE SUITES 07-9000
	-494-9444 6 Lakeshore Dr		akeshore Dr
705-472-7171 705	<u>PER 8</u> -495-4551 Lakeshore Dr	705-4	<u>F WESTERN</u> 174-5800 Lakeshore Dr



## LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL MULTIPLE DISTRICT "A" "Medieval Times 2016"

18<sup>th</sup> Annual Lion Stew O'Brien Golf Tournament Thursday May 26, 2016

"All Lions, Lioness, Leos & Guests" are invited to enjoy 18 Holes of Golf at "Osprey Links"

207 Osprey Crescent, Callander, ON P0H 1H0

Shotgun start at 8.00 a.m.

Cost: \$65.00 (includes Golf, Cart, Lunch & (Prizes for everyone)
Prizes will be awarded for Longest Drive, Closest to Pin etc.

Name:	District A
Lions Club of:	
Make cheque, payable to: (Cheque enclosed) or de	MD"A" 2016 Convention Golf Tournament bit my Visa or MasterCard
Visa MasterCard	will show up as Show Fund on your Statement
Card #	Expiry Date:
Name on Card	Signature:
Please mail or e-mail complete	d form and payment to:-
PRC Lion Verner Presse 132 Blair St. North Pay Outquin BLA 4E?	

## A Better Life For Brooklin and Luna

verner.presse@sympatico.ca

The **Coldwater Lions Club** was Chartered in 1939. The club's main goal since that time has been that of helping with needs within community families. In today's world costs sometimes are beyond a family's financial ability. In 2014 this club heard that a very young girl named Luna, from Warminster Ontario, was afflicted with cancer. Her family needed financial assistance to cover the cost of travel etc. to Toronto and residence at the Ronald MacDonald House. This club joined other interested parties to ensure this young girl was supported financially. She has since recovered and is active in the community. In June 2015 the Coldwater Lions once again assisted a family in the

Warminster area in regards to a 4 year old girl, named Brooklin, who was battling cancer. Our club agreed to assist the parents with travel expenses to Toronto in order for them to be with Brooklin during her stay at the Ronald MacDonald House throughout her

treatments. Brooklin is now back at home and active at school.

In June 2015 our Club President Jay Yanuiziello presented Brooklin's mother, Lion Angela Gibson, as seen in the photo, with a cheque for \$3000. This is what Lions do best



## Used glasses and hearing aids

Shown are some of the glasses collected by the **Hyde Park Lions Club** for our Lions Recycle for Sight Program. With the enthusiasm of new member **Pamela Harbottle**, the club began collecting eyeglasses in June 2014. In 2015, 2,348 pairs of used eye glasses were collected. Our boxes are well received and everyone is happy to take a collection box.

As the Hearing Preservation Chair for District A-1. Pamela Harbottle would like to initiate a program to collect used, working or non working hearing aids in the same box as our eyeglasses. Listen Up Canada will refurbish the hearing aids and provide them to those who may not have the opportunity to have a hearing aid. Listen Up Canada will provide stickers reading "Used Hearing Aids also accepted" that can be put right on the eyeglass donation box.

Jillian Price chief audiologist at Listen Up Canada

will be happy to come out to speak at one of your meetings in the A-1 District.

For more information, contact Pamela Harbottle at hozer@rogers.com

Pamela Harbottle shows some of the glasses collected for our Lions Recycle for Sight Program



## Midland Lions Club

Midland Lions Club donated \$75,000, which was paid in full in 2015, to the Town of Midland for the construction of a Soccer Field. This has been enjoyed by the Community's youths and adults together.



Lion Ruth Housome, Lion Larry Atkinson, PDG Gord Walker, Lion Ethel Chynoweth, Lion President Tom Dudgeon and Midland Mayor Gord McKay accepting the cheque

#### For The Record

As of December 31, Lions Clubs International had 1,382,071 members in 46,397 clubs in 743 districts in 210 countries and geographic areas.

As of February, 2016 MDA membership stood at 13,082.

E-mail:-

### Freelton Lions Club

Freelton Lions Club has worked with the City of Hamilton and their Parks and Recreation Department since September 2010 to plan and design an ice pad for the community, combined with a multi-function building housing washrooms, a snack bar, and a room which can be used for multiple purposes and events, as well as a room for storage of maintenance equipment. Charter Member of the Freelton Lions Club, Lion **Frank Jamieson**, has worked for many years making and maintaining a temporary ice pad every year for the local children.

The official Ice Pad Ground Breaking was held on

December 18th, and Lion Frank was selected to do the honours.

A representative of the Mayor attended, along with local Councillor Robert Pasuta, the project chair Lion **Ken Henderson**, representatives of Hamilton Parks and Recreation, and about 35 people consisting of Freelton Lions and local residents with children who are looking forward to using this facility.

Preliminary work is being started so that construction of the building can go on over the winter. The concrete will be poured and the project continued when the weather warms up. As the Freelton Lions



are still fundraising, there has not been a set contribution amount determined yet, but the ice pad is scheduled to be ready for skating December 2016.

The town of Freelton and the Lions Club are looking forward to planning many community events here.

## **Cobourg Lakeshore Lions Club**

The Cobourg Lakeshore Lions Club is pleased to become a sponsoring organization with Better Together Refugee Sponsorship Group, working to bring seven Syrian families to our community. The Lions motto is 'We Serve', and the members of our club will be able to serve in many ways that go far beyond financial assistance.

These refugees face many challenges in adapting to our culture and fitting into our society. Learning how to shop prudently, operate household appliances, establish bank accounts, enroll children in school and hundreds of other things we do automatically will be new to them. Members of Cobourg Lakeshore Lions Club will be there to do our part.

The father in each of these families will have trade or employment experience that will result in filling local jobs or, possibly, development of new businesses. Influx of new people into our community will enrich the diversity and social/cultural traditions in Northumberland County.

The Better Together Refugee Sponsorship Group pools the resources of two service clubs, ten churches, nine community health and service organizations,

municipal and regional governments and nine local businesses. There are also over 100 individuals in the group. For more details visit the website at www.bettertogetherpartnership.org

Across Northumberland there are 13 Sponsorship Groups that are in place to relocate approximately 20 families and 25 or so women and girl refugees who, because of their special status as widows and orphans, face a

number of unique challenges and have very particular needs. To obtain more information and a list of relevant contacts see the website at: http://www.welcometonorthumberland.ca/en/aboutnor thumberland/refugee-resettlement.asp



## **MDA Directory Information**

Council of Governors' Meeting Dates

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

#### **District Conventions**

Dist	Location	Date
A1	Holiday Inn, Sarnia	April 8-10, 2016
A3	Ambassador Hotel & Conference Resort, Kingston	April 15-17, 2016
A4	Navcam Centre, Cornwall	April 15-17, 2016
A5	Sudbury	April 15-17, 2016
A711	Holiday Inn International Airport, Toronto	April 22-24, 2016
A9	Days Inn & Conference Centre, Owen Sound	April 29-May 1, 2016
A12	Deerhurst Resort, Huntsville	April 15-17, 2016
A15	Courtyard Marriott, Waterloo	April 29-May 1, 2016
A16	Admiral Inn, Lindsay	April 22-24, 2016

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

## **MDA** Convention

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

## **International Conventions**

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

### **USA - Canada Forums**

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







## Opportunities for Youth Luncheon

to be held at the MD"A" Convention on Saturday May 28th, 2016 10:45 am to 1 pm

Prior to the luncheon, the various Youth programs will be showcased by Youth participants &/or Youth Coordinators. Included will be:

Youth Camp & Exchange
 Effective Speaking

e Leos

Peace Poster/Peace Essay Contests

Lions Quest

### Come, experience the best of our Youth!!











To order tickets at \$25.00 each, contact
PDG Lion Ev Spiering ..... 519-631-1625 ..... pdglionev@gmail.com

Cheques payable to "Ev Spiering" [noted "Youth Lunch"] mailed to: PDG Ev Spiering 613 Highview Drive, ST THOMAS, ON N5R 6B4

NOTE: Luncheon tickets MUST be ordered & paid for in Advance!!!!

## **Coldwater Lions Club Duck Race**

Every year the Coldwater Lions start to prepare in February for the very popular Duck Race that will occur on the last Saturday in May. This event draws in excess of 1000 visitors and local residents who partake in a number of all day activities on main street and the village green and purchase draw tickets for the 4000 rubber ducks that will float down the Coldwater River. With the assistance of the purchasers the ducks raise over an \$18,000 profit. This profit eventually makes its way to support Seniors, Hospitals, Children's camps, local sports, schools, local parades, and many other community needs. Each year very generous local businesses donate over \$8000 in prizes that are listed on the Duck tickets purchased. Join us on the last

Saturday in May 2016 for a day's entertainment and a chance to win a substantial prize. The village of Coldwater, Ontario and the Lions club look forward to meeting you.





#### Making a Difference

Have you ever wiped the tears away from a loved one's eyes when they were bullied? Are you concerned about the risks young people face on a daily basis? What are your hopes and dreams for your children and grandchildren?

Lions Quest Canada believes in 5 things all kids need:

- Strong positive relationships with people who care about them
- Safe and caring places to live, learn, and play
- Opportunities to provide service to others, learn and try new things
- Healthy habits
- Hope for the future

#### What are we working on right now?

Updating programs for our schools – The US revision of Skills for Growing, Skills for Adolescence and Skills for Action is complete. We need to invest \$90,000-\$100,000 to further revise and adapt the Lions Quest material for our Canadian schools. This will ensure that we continue to deliver the most effective programs to support the social emotional development of our young people and remain a leader in the field.

Expanding our work into communities – We have workshops and train-the-trainer options to involve all adults in supporting our children and youth with the same positive youth development approach we use in schools. We say it "takes a village to raise a child" – we need to help the villagers be effective in their role.

#### How can you help?

For \$250, you will be recognized as a Champion Club, and we'll send you a banner patch.

For \$500, you can honour someone with a Lions Quest Fellowship.

The application is available on our website at www.lionsquest.ca. Make sure Lions Quest is part of your annual club budget. Contact us if you are interested in bringing Lions Quest training to your school or community.

## 55 Years of Service

Lion President **Giles DeHetre** of the **Whitby Lions Club** presented PDG Lion **Herb Visser** with a Chevron and a

letter of appreciation from International President Lion Joe Preston for his 55 years of volunteer service as a Lion.



## Tiny Township Lions Club

On New Year's Day at noon, the Tiny Township Lions Club hosted their annual Polar Dip at Balm Beach, Ontario, on Georgian Bay. Approximately 20 brave souls jumped in the water on one of the coldest days of the winter.

Included in the dippers were members from three of the Clubs from the A12 District. Each of the dippers raised a minimum of \$25.00 in pledges, all to support Lions Foundation of Canada Guide Dogs. This event

raised approximately \$1,800.00. The Tiny Township Lions Club also participates in the Foundation's Dog Walk in the spring.

Lion President Sandra Rawn with her Lion head gear bravely jumped into the frigid January 1st Polar Dip



### **Tweed Lions**

Tweed Lions served hot stew to those who braved the extreme cold weather at Tweed Winter Carnival February 13, 2016.



L-R: Lions Betty Brinson, Betty McMurray, Barb McLean and Maril Swan

## Peninsula and Port Carling Lions Clubs

Auction Day and Thanksgiving Dinner Fundraising campaign was held by Peninsula Lions Club and Port Carling Lions Club in August 2015.

Proceeds of \$40,600 were donated to the Brock and Willa Nursing Station, and Port Carling Seniors Centre. Contents of family compound on Woodmere Island, Lake Rosseau Muskoka were donated to Lions to raise these amounts.



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

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION District Reporters

We have appointed District Reporters for the Lion Magazine. Their job is to assist the Magazine Editor and you the Lions. Their job is to collect new photos with stories, anything that you would like to submit to the Magazine for consideration. Please be aware anything for the Magazine should now go to the District Reporter in your District as follows:

Please remember when sending your articles to your Reporter to indicate if it is for the Governors District Newsletter or the Lion Magazine.

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

email: lionbarbtuxford@amail.com Lion Barb Tuxford A1 **A2** Lion Wayne Scott email: w.scott@a2lions.org **A3** Lion Wilma Bush wilma.bush@sympatico.ca email: **A4** Lion Sandra Baldwin slbaldwin@rogers.com email: Lion Liam Brennan email: lembrennan@hotmail.com **A5** 

A711 Lion Ilkka Ahola email: iahola02@gmail.com
A9 Lion Mike Murphy email: Mmikey45@gmail.com
A12 Lion Lety Dudgeon email: lionlety1946@gmail.com
A15 Lion Bob Pearson email: bobpearson50@gmail.com
A16 Lion Mark Carrington email: mark.carrington@sympatico.ca

#### **MOVING SOON?**

To ensure that the next MD "A" Lion magazine reaches your new residence, please complete this form and MAIL ENTIRE FORM TO:

Circulation Manager, LION Magazine 300 W 22nd Street Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842

or e-mail your information to: stats@lionsclubs.org

	Attach Your Address Label or Print Your Old Address Here:
	(include all code numbers)
······································	New address will be (Please Print):
Name (print):	
New Address:	
Province:	PC:
Club #:	Member #:
Date of Change:	

WE AT THE LION CANNOT CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR CLUB SECRETARY TO HAVE YOUR ADDRESS CORRECTED AT LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

## MD "A" Lions Resource Centre Website

The "MD 'A' Lions Resource Centre" website is available for your use. Its goal is to provide a "one-stop-shopping" website for Lions resources, ideas and tools in all aspects of Lionism, including recruiting new members, keeping the members we already have, revitalizing clubs, fundraising ideas and club and district operations.

The MD'A' "Lions Resource Centre" website may be viewed by going to the MD'A' website at www.mdalions.org and clicking on "Lions Resource Centre" on the left side of the page.





For Your Consideration
District A-2's
Candidate for International Director
2017 — 2019

Lion Bradd Anderson PCC
...Listens
...Works Hard
...Never Gives Up

www.braddanderson.net





bradd@braddanderson.net - 905-359-3091

## TOM GORDON

Candidate International Director 2017-2019



"Yes We Can"

www.tomgforid.ca • tomgforid@rogers.com

## Lion Jim Prenger







A Legacy of Leadership Experience



eMail: jim@jimforid.org

Agreement Number is: 41805020\*