

M.D. "A" Edition
Nov/Dec 2011

THE
Lion



We Serve



Windsor Detroit Lions

Past District Governor **Ron Devos** presenting a Melvin Jones Fellow to Past District Treasurer **Ed Towe**.



Lions Club of Oakville

Lions Club of Oakville proudly presented **Lion Bill Allison** (PDG of A711) with the Melvin Jones award for his outstanding work in Lionism & his involvement in multiple community service activities.

submitted by Lion Ron Gamble



Bridgeport Lions Club

President **John Fronchak** presented **Lion Ron McGuire** with his Melvin Jones Fellowship in June 2011. Lion Ron has been a member for 21 years.

submitted by Lion John Fronchak



Melvin Jones Fellowship

Front row left to right: Lions Roland & Linda Riengqette, PZC Glen McLachlan receiving Melvin Jones Fellowship. Back row left to right: PDG Larry & Lion Hilda Wainwright, Lion Diane Ryan, Lion Linda McLachlan, PDG Jim Ryan, PZC Gene & Hilda Vincent from the Vanastra & District Lions Club



50 Years a Lion

On Saturday, June 11, 2011 the **Sharon Lions Club** held an open house to celebrate **Lion Ellerby Farr**, PDG's 50 years as a Lion.

The evening event was attended by close to sixty friends, family, local citizens and fellow Lions from throughout District A-16. It was an enjoyable time for all who came to congratulate Lion Ellerby.

His receiving a gift from the Town of East Gwillumbury, a presentation from the Province of Ontario, an International President's Certificate of Commendation and a donation to the Lions Clubs Camp Kirk Foundation on his behalf by the Sharon Lions Club recognized Ellerby's contributions to Lions and the community.



Lion Ellerby with Omeme Lioness Edna Carew



Lions Ellerby and Terry Howe



Pictured are Lion Dick Peel, PDG, Monica Peel, Lion Ellerby and Lion Mike Pariselli



Receiving greetings from Lioness Barb Johnston and Lion Ed Johnston



Cornwall Township Lions Club works with RED Ribbon Forces

In February of 2011, with the help and support of the volunteers of the Cornwall Township Lions Club working with the RED Ribbon Forces, we had a thank you breakfast for our Canadian troops at the Lions Club. A hearty meal was had by 138 troops in uniform and their family members paid for by the RED Ribbon Forces, www.supportcanadatroops.ca. We also had the help of the Canadian Veteran Freedom Riders serving and cleaning tables.

Overall this was a complete success with a silent auction raising \$1100 for the Soldier On project and Family Military Fund including input of retired CTV anchorman Max Keeping, Master of Ceremonies Mayor Bryan McGillis of South Stormont, MPP Jim Brownell, etc. Many thanks from all, especially to the Cornwall Township Lions and CVFR for a job well done helping the RED Ribbon Forces say Thank You to our Men and Women;



our # 1 team serving this great Country of Canada.

We would strongly recommend this form of support for our troops to other clubs working with Companies across Canada. It means so much to our vets.

For any help doing this please contact Lion Brian Goodfellow. 613 937 0610 RED Ribbon Forces.

Show support for our troops with a Red Ribbon
www.supportcanadatroops.ca



Have you been Naughty or Nice?

THE Lion



Welcome to the November/December Edition of **The Lion**. **We Serve**
To submit stories, photos, comments or suggestions, please contact your District Reporter (Pg 26) and please remember to check your camera settings to ensure highest resolution pictures.

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The Lion Magazine is looking for a retired Advertising Executive, or someone with experience in the advertising field, to sell ads on a commission basis for our magazine.

For more information, contact Lion John Daniels at mdathelionmag@hotmail.com or call 519-622-1997.

Agreement Number is:
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Leadership Is Not About the Leader

As the owner of an international cargo company, I understand all the skills, resources and assets required to successfully compete in the marketplace and deliver goods on time. How it all comes together is the result of planning, communication and execution. It happens by design, not by accident. It takes many people working together. As the owner, I am the leader. But I understand that every employee is important. Every worker has a job to do. Everyone on the payroll has a skill to contribute.

As president of Lions Clubs International, I lead 1.35 million Lions. But I understand that leadership is about ensuring the full participation and encouraging the enthusiasm of all Lions. Every Lion matters. We've been able to save millions from blindness, deliver food and water to multitudes of disaster victims and teach millions of youth life skills because Lions have believed in service and believed in the necessity of action.

It's been said that a good leader inspires others

with confidence in him while a great leader inspires others with confidence in themselves. This year I want club presidents to really step forward and inspire Lions to completely believe in themselves, to believe in the power of courage, commitment and action. I am asking Lions to step forward and take advantage of LCI's many valuable leadership training tools. Our online Leadership Resource Center can enhance the efforts of Lions leaders at the club, zone and district levels. We must identify leaders among us in our Lions family and then they must cultivate their potential through training.

This year I have been conducting many president-meets-the-presidents meetings. I want to listen to Lions, learn from you, motivate you and be motivated by you. As your international president, I have the duty to support Lions of the world, to listen to your needs, to show you I care, to make your service easier and to help your dreams come true. That's why I am meeting with presidents and why

one of my themes is my club, my family.

If I am unable to visit your Lions family, I want you to know I believe in you and your capabilities as Lions. Together we can continue to change the lives of millions of people.



Wing-Kun Tam
Lions Clubs International
President



Wing-Kun Tam
Lions Clubs International President

LCIF

LCIF

Lions Save Children from Measles

In the pilot year of the Lions-Measles Initiative, Lions and LCIF supported the immunization of more than 41 million children in four countries.

LCIF joined the Measles Initiative, a collaboration of the American Red Cross, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the United Nations Foundation, UNICEF and the World Health Organization. During Lions' pilot year, the Measles Initiative vaccinated the 1 billionth child, preventing an estimated 4.3 million deaths.

Measles remains a highly contagious, heavy public-health burden in many developing countries. In fact, 450 children die each day from measles-related complications, and nearly one-third of all cases result in complications including blindness, particularly among malnourished children. The World Health Organization estimates that waning support could result in 500,000 more deaths each year.

"This program is a natural extension of Lions' dedication to preventing blindness and improving health," said **LCIF Chairperson Sid L. Scruggs, III**.

Measles vaccinations are one of the most cost-effective health interventions available; \$1 provides vaccinations for one child. Yet in many developing countries, people do not have access to the vaccination or are unable to afford it.

To support LCIF and Lions, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation awarded LCIF with a matching grant of \$400,000. In addition to vaccinations, Lions provided advocacy at the local, regional and national

levels, conducted social marketing and mobilized financial support.

Bill Gates Sr. addressed Lions at the 93rd Lions Clubs International Convention: "The Gates Foundation is proud to have been a partner in your early measles projects. We are excited to continue working together with you to battle this awful disease and build up immunization for all children. You're making sure that immunization systems are functioning efficiently, and then you're mobilizing people in those communities to use those systems to protect their children."

In Mali, Amadou Toumani Touré, president of the country, gave the first measles shot and Lions were active in every region of the country, helping to ensure 95 percent of children under age five were vaccinated. In Madagascar, the Minister of Health, Gen. Pascal Jacques Rajaonarison, joined Lions in launching the campaign.

"Because of the Lions advocacy program, we're able to mobilize not only

the population, but also from the grass root to the highest level of the government," said **Past District Governor Dr. Tebebe Berhan**, Measles Project chairperson in Ethiopia.

Lions now hope to build on their successes and continue to improve health globally.

To learn more about this program and grant, visit www.lcif.org.



Lions help to raise awareness of the need for measles vaccinations through a public demonstration in Nigeria

Highlights of the November 2011 Meeting of the Governors Council

The second meeting of the 2011-2012 Council of Governors was held on November 5th at the Howard Johnson Hotel in Markham. The following represents the topics of general interest raised during the meeting:

Financial

- The Audited Statements for 2010-2011 were presented and approved. There were no irregularities noted by the MD"A" Auditors.

Administration

- Governors were urged to seek out potential candidates within their districts to replace the current MD"A" Secretary who will be stepping down at the end of this Lion's year.

Constitution and By-Laws

- No proposed changes to the MD"A" C&BL have been identified to date.

Convention Advisory

- The alternate hotel offering a less expensive rate for the 2012 Convention in Niagara Falls is now fully booked. Lions should be aware that this is a 3-story facility with no elevator service available. The Friday night entertainment activity at Fort George is now confirmed and the balance of the program should be finalized shortly. One innovation to this year's program is a special 2-hour entertainment event on the Saturday morning sponsored by the International Advisory Committee comprising a well known Hypnotist.

Convention Ad Hoc Committee

- The first meeting was held to review the format for the 2014 MD"A" convention and beyond with an objective to reaffirm attending Lions program interests and to reduce costs.

Convention 2014

- The committee is seeking the services of a Chartered Accountant to provide advice on the committee's business in relation to the Ontario HST.

Diabetes

- Council approved the selling of raffle tickets for a BBQ with proceeds to go towards the Lions Education and Health project at Camp Huronda.

International Advisory

- Council unanimously endorsed PID Joe Preston from Arizona for the position of 2nd Vice President, Lions International 2012/2013.

LCIF Promotion

- The Canadian Government had approved the Lions of Canada Fund for LCIF as a charitable organization authorized to provide tax receipts for individuals donating money to LCIF. Personal donation cheques can be sent (during an interim period) to PID Jack Isaman, Lions of

Canada Fund for LCIF, 222 Signature Way S.W., Calgary, Alberta, T3H 2Y2.

Lions Quest

- It was noted that Teachers training workshops to date this year are few and far between. It is suggested that starting with Parent Council meetings may be a better venue to introduce the Lions Quest programs. The continued donations to this program are urgently required.

Lions Foundation of Canada

- MD"A" donations to LFC are on the decline and Lions are urged to renew their support for this program. The LFC goal for this year is to graduate 160 teams.

Ontario Director for the Lions Foundation of Canada

- MD"A"'s recommendation to LFC for Ontario Director for the years 2012 - 2015 is Lion Ralph Krueger from District A2.

Opportunities for Youth

- Planning for the Effective Speaking Program to be hosted by District A2 and held in St. Catharines this year is progressing. Also the planning for a Leo conference has commenced. Considerable interest has been experienced by District A2's initiative of sending a handicapped youth out on an exchange which has resulted in suggestions that this might be considered as a project for Lions International

50th Anniversary of the Youth Exchange program.

Promotion

- Busan, Korea - MD"A" is considering the possibility of partnering with MD 21, Arizona-California as a venue to hold the MD"A" Breakfast during the 2012 International Convention. MD"A" pins for 2012-2013 are now available and the committee is suggesting a new item for Lions Clubs to promote their association with the local community in the form of a Lion's Bench.

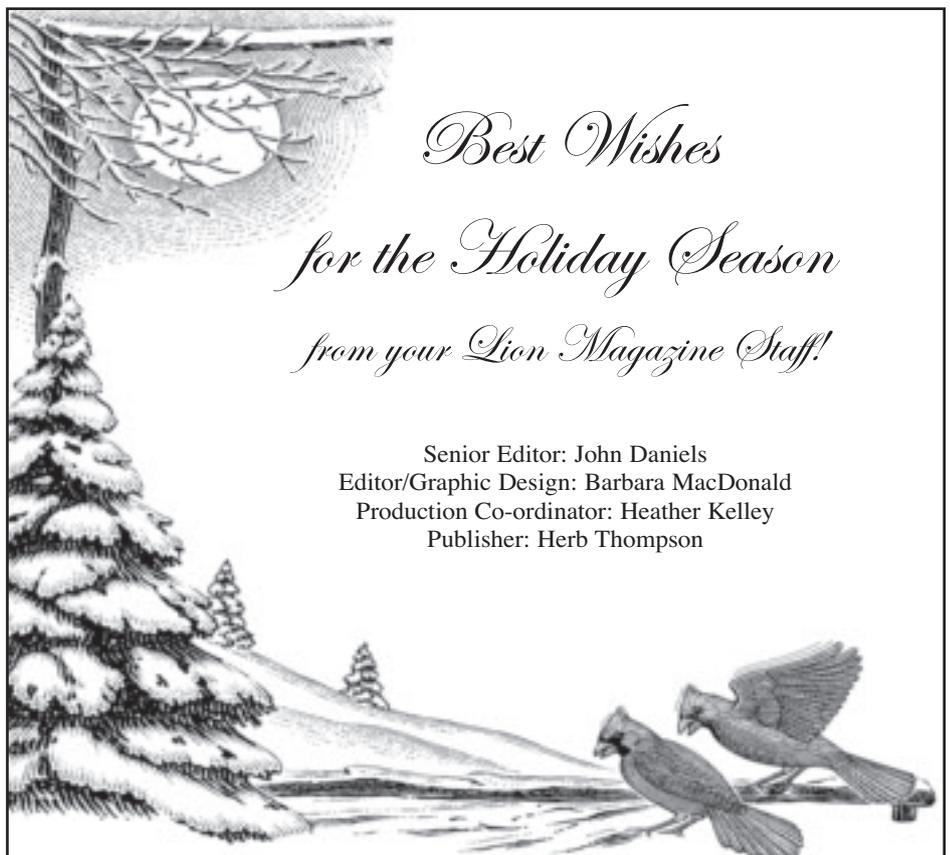
Sight Conservation

- Lions knowledge and financial support of the Lions Low Vision Clinics will be promoted over the coming months.

Rock the Vest Video

- This excellent video produced by LCI was mentioned and a suggestion made that the preamble clips shown prior to the main event in movie theatres would provide an excellent venue for airing this video to the general public. A challenge is made to any Lion with connections to the Movie Theatre industry to pursue this opportunity.

For more information, questions or concerns relating to these highlights please contact MD"A" Secretary Dave Voisey at email: secretary@mdlions.org or telephone: 613-843-1687.



Lions Make Progress Against Diabetes

Lions are increasing their efforts to fight diabetes through Core 4 grants and diabetic retinopathy projects. World Diabetes Day in November is an opportunity for Lions to reaffirm their commitment to these programs.

It is expected that the 346 million people with diabetes will double in the next 20 years. The United States has the third largest number of people (19.2 million) with diabetes worldwide.

The diabetes program of the Lions of District 5M 6 in Minnesota promotes screenings and provides support to the underinsured and uninsured. In 15 years, the program has screened 15,000 people. LCIF awarded a \$75,000 Core 4 grant to expand the district's efforts.

"The funding from LCIF helped us to reach hundreds of people in our community by providing resources to help manage diabetes and perhaps more importantly, to spread the word about diabetes prevention," said **Lion Marsha Hughes**, project chairperson and director of Diabetes Care at HealthEast Care System. "It has also allowed us to form partnerships with community members, such as the YMCA, which has enabled us to leverage our resources and reach even more people."

The Lions are arranging targeted screenings, hosting culturally appropriate trainings for diabetics

and those at high-risk and purchasing a digital retinal camera to test patients on the diabetes registry who have not been tested for diabetic retinopathy. The LCIF grant will also fund the creation of Hmong and Spanish education materials and fund nine certified diabetes educators.

Since 1995, SightFirst has approved US\$2.7 million for 21 diabetic retinopathy projects in 11 countries. The comprehensive projects range from public education and professional training to targeted screenings, treatment and low vision services.

Once diabetic retinopathy is diagnosed, progression of the disease and loss of vision can be reduced by 90 percent with improved control and ongoing diabetic retinopathy treatment.

Rehabilitation and regular eye exams are critical to maximizing treatment benefits.

In Algeria, Lions and Leos operate and support an efficient diabetic retinopathy screening and referral program through a mobile unit. "I am thankful to the Lions for providing this free care," said Falsa Abdelaziz, a 78-year-old diabetic. "Without this free clinic, I would not be able to afford the necessary medication and check-ups to properly manage my diabetes." She is one of the nearly 30,000 people in Algeria who have benefited from Lions' diabetes projects.

Lions in Algeria received a SightFirst grant for \$185,000 to equip four diabetes centers with screeners and surgical lasers. Their goal was to provide 15,000 annual retinal exams and 8,800 laser treatments in one year, but they have far surpassed this goal.

"Our efforts have drawn the attention and support of the Ministry of Health," said **Lion Dr. Malika Bouri**, a diabetologist. "What began as a small dream has grown to a nationwide program that will help many more people."

For information on LCIF's diabetes grant programs, visit www.lcif.org



With funding support from LCIF, Lions in Minnesota are increasing their community outreach and education programs

Area Lions Get "Insight" Into Blind Golf

by Mike Vrooman

"It was really something to watch", commented **Langton Lions President Frank VanLeuvenhage** after golfing 18 holes with Hamilton blind golfer Gary Saxon. "He outdrove me and kept the ball in the fairway". VanLeuvenhage and representatives from area Lions Clubs (**Caledonia, Langton, Port Dover, Simcoe, Waterford** and **Windham**) joined with Ontario Visually Impaired Golfers (OVIG) for a round of golf at Woodside Greens Golf Club west of Simcoe. This was the second time the Lions were guests at the event which is part of OVIG's public awareness program to show that vision loss is not a reason to

stop enjoying and participating in sports.

This year, the Lions were given the opportunity to experience blind golf in the truest sense. They (Lions) were asked to observe the interactions of the blind golfer and sighted guide for the first few holes. The Lions then took on the role of guide for two holes as well as having to play their own game.

"That is not easy", said Windham Lion **Brian Edwards**, "Last year I marveled at how well the golfer and guide worked together, now I can appreciate what they (guides) do". Now if that wasn't enough, at the par 4 eighth hole, the Lions were given glasses

that simulated varying degrees of sight loss. They were then guided to the tee, and with mighty swings did everything from leaving the ball on the tee to hitting it to the extreme right or left.

Simcoe Lion, **Doug Sibbett** said, "We take a lot of things for granted but having to hit the ball when your vision is restricted makes you realize how fortunate we (sighted people) are".

*For information on golf, curling or alpine skiing for the visually impaired, contact OVIG member **Mike Vrooman** at 519-426-0363 or midi@eastlink.ca*



Simcoe Lion Doug Sibbett wearing glasses simulating macular degeneration



Port Dover Lion assisted by OVIG guide Norris Smith of Simcoe



group photo

Lions on Location

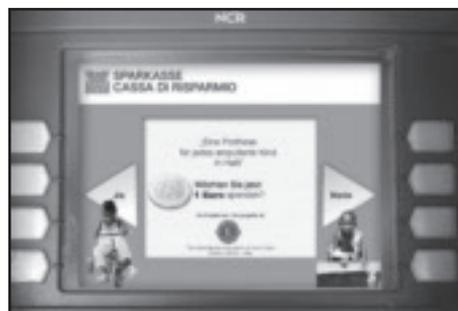
ATM Patrons Fund Prosthetics

Lions in Northern Italy found a novel and easy way to raise cash for prosthetics for children in Haiti: displays on ATMs appealing for a donation of 1 euro.



A Haitian child gets accustomed to his prosthetics

Lions in District 108 TAI arranged for signs on 170 ATM machines at 120 branches of Sparkasse-Cassa di Risparmio di Bolzano, the oldest bank in the South Tyrol region. Lions raised 40,000 euros (\$56,000) in less than a year. Clubs also contributed funds on their own, bringing the total raised to 300,000 euros (\$420,000).



The ATM display asks for a 1 euro donation. (Some of the bank branches are located near the Austrian border, hence the appeal is in German)

So far Lions have delivered 200 artificial legs to Haiti. The goal is to help 1,500 children who lost a leg in the devastating January 2010 earthquake. The high-quality prosthetics are made in Italy with carbon fiber.



The prosthetics are high quality

Two non-profit groups in Haiti working with Lions will select the children and oversee the fittings. A religious order also is providing logistical support, and the district plans on sending Lions-doctors to assist with the fittings.

A Lions Cliffhanger

The promotional posters put up by Lions in Spain dared would-be participants: "How Brave Are You?" Turns out that nearly three dozen people were brave enough to rappel 100 feet down the steep cliffs of Moraira toward the sea.

The **Jalon and Orba Lions Club** organized the abseiling (rappelling) event. Participants secured sponsors, raising 5,719 euros (\$8,239) for hospital equipment and other good causes.

Moraira is a small town on the Costa Blanca ("White Coast"), 120 miles of coastline in the Province of Alicante. Most members of the Lions club are retired expatriates from England.

Lion Andrea Aitchison, the organizer of the event, rappelled. "It was terrifying and exhilarating at the same time," she says. "The first step over the edge of the cliff when you could not see what was beneath you was very scary. But once the descent got under way it became really enjoyable and the sense of achievement on reaching safe ground at the bottom was absolutely great."



Lion Andrea Aitchison, the organizer of the event, rappels down the cliff

The club contracted with a business called Adventure Experiences to provide equipment, guides and insurance. A financial adviser firm, Blevins Franks, underwrote the club's expenses.

This year the club has upped the ante: a tandem sky dive will be held. Strapped to experts, 19 people will jump from a plane at 10,000 feet. "Wish us the best," says Aitchison.

Fellowship Over the Airwaves

Surrounded by a magnificent forest and perched atop a hill, Eshowe is a picturesque small town with tree-lined streets in Zululand in South Africa. Ninety minutes away is a game reserve where lions roam the land. Each January Lions in Eshowe hunt Lions-in the air.

Members of the small Lions club in Eshowe fire up a barbecue, gather around a ham radio and over a weekend try to contact as many Lions as they can. Since 1970, Lions worldwide have taken part in the Hunting Lions in the Air event.

"It's a wonderful way to exchange ideas and get help from other clubs and maybe other countries," says **Alice Walker**, past president. "During our session

[last year] one or two clubs offered to help with several of our projects, should we need it."



Willie Axford hunts for Lions in the air

Hunting Lions was once an official contest of Lions Clubs International. Five points were awarded for contacting a ham station hosting Lions members and a point was awarded for contacting any other ham station. The contest angle faded away a few years ago and not as many clubs participate as once did. But Hunting Lions still is held the weekend in January closest to Melvin Jones' birthday (Jan. 13), and those who take part still wax enthusiastic about the event. The event "allows Lions to exchange ideas and greetings. There's the excitement of being able to speak on a radio to someone on the other side of the world," says ham radio operator **Willie Axford** of Eshowe.

Lions gather at the home of Axford for the radio event. He's past president of the **Melmoth Lions Club** and a retired member of the **Eshowe Lions**. Axford, 73, first became involved with amateur radio as a high school student in the early 1950s. He won the Hunting Lions contest in 2003.

Over the years different clubs have coordinated the contest. Among them were the **Rio de Janeiro Aeroporto Lions** in Brazil, the **Flen Lions** in Sweden, the **Bangalore North Lions** in India, and, most recently, the **Midrand Lions** in South Africa. The worldwide scope of the event and the can-do spirit of participants underlie



Alice Walker, flanked by Christine Drews, takes to the airwaves

its appeal. "One of my own recollections is talking to a fellow Lion who was standing on the roof of his car, operating a mobile, by the Dead Sea [in Israel] and using a fishing rod as an aerial," says Walker.

Aroma of Success

Last year, for the first time, Lions from several clubs strapped on silly red noses and solicited donations for Nose Day. Proceeds mainly benefit the Finnish Red Cross and its projects for war orphans and former child soldiers in Sierra Leone and other developing nations.



Bandy players in the National League in Finland show support for Nose Day. (Bandy is a form of hockey.)

Photo by Porin Narukerä

Several European nations run Nose Days. England has had one since 1988 when the charity Comic Relief raised funds for famine victims in Ethiopia.

Perti Harju of the **Pori Koivisto Lions Club** says Nose Day helped raise awareness of needs in other countries while also boosting awareness of Lions, who partnered with celebrities, athletes and media outlets on the project.

Korean Lions Lend a Hand—and a Strong Back

Lions worldwide will assemble next June in Busan, Korea, for the 95th international convention. Lions there are eagerly preparing for the gathering but remain busy with hands-on service. **Keumseong and Najoo Lions** (at right) clean and remodel homes of seniors living alone. **Gaanari Lions** (below right) assist

neighbors with bathing and haircuts. **Seoul Indouk Lions** provide meals and clean rooms for the elderly at a nursing home (below left).



Sutton Fire

On July 11th a fire raged through a townhouse development on Dalton Road in Sutton leaving some 100 people homeless. In response to the needs of these people the Sutton Lions Club embarked on an effort to raise funds from neighbouring clubs to assist them. The funds raised were channeled through the local Salvation Army who headed the community efforts.

In all, some \$7000.00 was raised with donations coming from the **Sutton, Keswick, Keswick Lakeside, Blackstock, Sharon, Holland Landing, Udora-Leaskdale, North Newmarket, Newmarket, Pepperlaw Lions and Lioness Clubs**.

This Lions' effort was greatly appreciated by the many families who received the aid provided. Now all are in new housing and moving on with their lives after the devastating fire.

This effort clearly demonstrated what can be

accomplished when Lions collectively respond to a community need.



In the picture are Lions Phyllis Baines, ZC of Keswick Lions, Lion Eleanor Colwell, RC of Blackstock Lions, Grant Veerdold of the Salvation Army, Lion Joyce Josie of Keswick Lions and Peter Jackson of Sharon Lions.

Children's Hospital in London

Past Governor Jim Ryan and **District President Janet Dawson Brock** at the official opening of the North Wing of The Children's Hospital in London, Ontario on September 27, 2011. This is the stone that is in the Healing Garden in the Foyer of the Hospital. The **Lions and Lioness of A 1, 2, 9, 15** donated five hundred thousand dollars.



PROMOTE YOUR CLUB ONLINE!

www.lionsclubwebsite.com

Face Time

Facebook allows clubs to easily connect with members, the community and clubs worldwide

by Lauren Williamson

Albert Baker, past secretary of the **Crosby Lions Club** in Texas, has friends across the United States, throughout Europe and all around Asia.

They share good news, give one another tips for successful club events and otherwise share in the camaraderie of being a Lion.

But there's one catch—Baker and his friends have never met each other.

Baker made these friends through Facebook, the social networking Web site that now boasts more than 500 million active users globally.



Crosby Lions get noticed through Facebook. Pictured are (bottom row from left) Jerry Walter, Marcus Narvaez, Julie Gilbert, Benny Beck, Wendy Bailey, Cora Thomas, Carol Thompson, Lee Holden, (middle) Leah Baker, Chris Caporale, (top) Mike Godsey and John Gilbert.

Photo by Julie Narvaez

Lions clubs around the world are engaging in the network by creating Facebook pages that serve as a means for them to promote their events and connect with like-minded volunteers, whether they are down the street or thousands of miles away.

Much like a Web page, a Facebook page lets

people post pictures and information to spread the word about their activities. But Facebook pages, unlike most Web pages, are free to create and maintain. They also are interactive, serving as a social conduit. When another Facebook user “likes” a Facebook page, it’s like a subscription—the user will automatically see any updates to that particular Facebook page in their news feed when he or she logs on.

“[Looking at the page] will give you a pretty good sense very quickly of what’s involved with the club,” says Lisa Garcia-Ruiz, a consultant near San Diego who helps nonprofits raise money and gain exposure through social networking.

That quick but thorough introduction to club activities is a great way to spread the word about club events, learn from other Lions and recruit volunteers—and possibly new members.

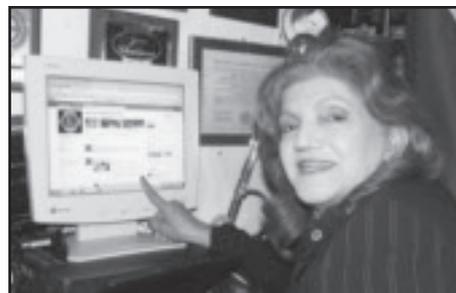
Facebook has proven to be an exceptional outlet for engaging people with the **New York West Side Lions Club’s** activities, says **President Ingrid Leacock**.

Leacock has built her club’s Facebook following to more than 2,000 fans over the course of just about 15 months. Its fans include everyone from local club members to people in Egypt to the archbishop of New York City.

“So many people who are not Lions tell me, ‘Oh, you Lions do such good work,’” she says. “Without lecturing, Facebook is showing people what Lions do.”

When people approach Leacock about membership after having spent time on the Facebook

page, as at least two people have, she says she knows they’re genuinely interested because no one has pressured them to join. They’ve done their research on the club and like what they’ve seen.



Ingrid Leacock of the New York West Side Lions Club says her club’s Facebook page is rapidly gaining fans

The Facebook page has also generated free publicity for the club’s activities. To Leacock’s surprise, a local radio station recently announced locations where West Side Lions were collecting eyeglasses after producers read about the drive on Facebook. Also, the organization Fight for Sight approached Leacock about partnering on a grant after reviewing the club’s page.

“The main thing is you’re putting good stuff out there,” Leacock says.

Facebook also provides clubs with an outlet for sharing stories about events after the fact. For the past 30 years, the **Dublin Lions Club** in Ireland has hosted a dinner for as many as 500 homeless people, says **Fred Crowe**. It has become a tradition for

far and wide.

Patel recommends encouraging your members to make good use of Facebook’s “like” option—which basically allows users to endorse a photo or other posting with the click of a mouse. That post then appears on the user’s own Facebook page, in addition to the Lions club’s page.

“That really sends a message out to a lot more people because it shows it to everyone you know, plus everyone they know,” Patel says. “It really puts your name and page out there.”

Club: Penbrook, Pennsylvania

Friends: 490

Learning from Each Other: Kathy Fouse makes a point of befriending as many clubs outside the United States as possible—and it’s paid off in tangible ways.

From the District 308 Club in Malaysia, Fouse learned of a test that teenagers need to pass to become a Leo. Fouse made copies of the test and set them out on the tables at a Leo Appreciation Night. The club then held a trivia contest where the Leos looked up the answers to the questions in the booklet. The teenagers had a good time and learned a little bit more about what it means to be a Leo.

Facebook All-Stars

Club: Crosby, Texas

Friends: 572

Memorable Moment: The Crosby Lions Club used Facebook to sell raffle tickets for a trip to the Super Bowl this year. Albert Baker said the Lions made a \$2,500 profit on the raffle.

“If [the raffle] wouldn’t have been through the Internet, we would have made nowhere near that kind of money,” he said. “That buys 75 pairs of eyeglasses for local kids, so that’s fine by us.”

Club: New York West Side (uses United Nations Lions Club page)

Friends: 2,200

Building a Network: Club President Ingrid Leacock realized early on that if she was going to build a solid following of Facebook fans, she had to make the club’s page about more than just the Lions activities. So in addition to posting Lions’ pictures and events, she posts other feel-good stories and photos, and initiates discussions about lighthearted topics such as last April’s royal wedding of Prince William. She also welcomes posts from her Facebook friends.

“I make it a conversation,” she says. “I let people know that I’m interested in them. People want to be appreciated and get the word out there [about their interests]. I did that for them.”

Club: Dublin, Ireland

Friends: 1,029

Getting to Know You: Often meetings of the Dublin Lions Club are busy affairs with little time left for socializing. But with the help of Facebook, Fred Crowe said the club’s members get to know each other on a deeper level.

“I get to see another dimension of them that I wouldn’t normally see,” he says. “On Facebook you can see photos of their children or grandchildren, what they’re up to and pictures from when they go on holidays.”

Club: Saraland, Alabama

Friends: 2,957

Standing Out: As of recently, the Saraland Lions Club was the only Lions club in Mobile County to have a Facebook page. But by spending just 30 minutes a day updating the page and seeking out new friends, Nikhil Patel has built a mini online empire with friends from

Ireland's president to attend the dinner, which draws tremendous press attention to the event.

Crowe gathers all of that publicity—radio interviews with the president, photos of the dinner and more—and posts it on Facebook. He links the Facebook posts back to the main club Web site for double the exposure. Whether people visit the Dublin club's Facebook page or Web site, they have equal access to all the media surrounding the event.

"It's a good way of letting people know what we're doing," Crowe says. "We hope to greatly expand the number of fans we have on the site so when we go looking for helpers [for events like this] we'll get more attendees."

Just as Facebook helps Lions connect with the community, many clubs are also using it to reach out to those they hope will become the next generation of Lions.

Leos from the local high school routinely communicate with one another as well as with Lions through the **Penbrook, Pennsylvania, Lions** page, says **Lion Kathy Fouse**. And the Leos aren't the only ones who gain something through those Facebook-built relationships.

"I'll get on there and chit-chat with them," Fouse says. "I've probably learned a whole lot more from being friends with them."

There's a practical side to connecting with Leos on Facebook, too—Fouse says if she has to send a reminder about something, there's no better way to ensure the Leos get it than to send it on Facebook.

If your club has older members who are wary of joining Facebook, Leos can also be an excellent resource for teaching them how to use it, which in turn becomes a great opportunity for building relationships across generations.

"You may get hooked on it, even if it's just to share

your children's or grandchildren's pictures," Garcia-Ruiz says. "Then you'll say, 'Oh, you can go to the Lions' Facebook page and see what's going on.'"

While Internet trends come and go, Leacock says she believes Facebook, or at least something like it, is here to stay.

"It's created for people the 'buddy' they didn't have," she says. "I love it, and I'm so glad Lions have entered the social media."



Kathleen Kelly of the Penbrook Lions reads to children. Facebook makes it easier for the public to learn about the club's book exchange program and other activities



Kathy Fouse and other Penbrook Lions in Pennsylvania are able to communicate better with Leos thanks to Facebook.

Photo courtesy of Lion John Petrina/Artcraft Studio

Lion Awarded LCI Recognition Award

Lion Stuart Pringle risked his own life in an attempt to save that of another. On July 19, 2005, Stuart Pringle rescued an elderly woman who was trapped in a burning basement, in Chesterville, Ontario, Canada. A container of gas had spilled onto the basement floor, and the resulting fumes made contact with the pilot light of the furnace and ignited. Mr. Pringle, who lives a few houses away, noticed black smoke coming from the house, and ran to assist. Looking down the basement stairs through the door, he saw a huge ball of fire. He doused the flames using a garden hose, before making his way downstairs. Impaired by the dark, heavy smoke, he had difficulty locating the victim. When he finally found her, he brought the badly burned woman to safety. Sadly, the victim did not survive. In recognition of his bravery, His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, presented the Medal of Bravery to Lion Stuart Pringle, President of the **Chesterville Lions Club** at a ceremony at Rideau Hall, on Friday, October 22, 2010. Lions Club International also honoured Lion Stuart at the District A-4 Cabinet Meeting on June

16, 2011 with the Lions Recognition Award which was presented by District A-4 Governor **Andy Etherington** on behalf of International President Lion Sid L. Scruggs III. District Governor Andy stated "On behalf of our International President Sid Scruggs III, our International Director, Carl Young, all the Lions of District Multiple District A and especially the Lions of District A-4 it is a great honour for me to present this award to Lion Stuart Pringle."



District A-4 Governor Andy Etherington presents Lion Stuart Pringle the Lions Recognition Award on behalf of Lions Clubs International.

photo by Gail Robinson

LCI Uses Facebook

While pages for individual Lions clubs are still a growing trend, the page for Lions Clubs International is already a full-blown Facebook destination.

With more than 47,000 fans, the page provides a way for LCI to connect with its members during the course of their everyday activities. As Becca Pietrini, a marketing assistant manager at LCI, says, Lions may not seek out the LCI Web site on a daily basis—but if they're web savvy, they're likely to be on Facebook every day.

That means posts about Lions projects or events automatically appear in the news feed when the page's fans log onto Facebook, injecting information about the organization into their daily routine.

Pietrini posts messages from President Wing-Kun Tam, the photo of the week and links to the LCI blog, among other Lions-related information. While Lions form the primary audience, Pietrini says there's tangible evidence that, through Facebook, the Lions' message is spreading further.

"One thing that is fantastic, at least weekly we're getting people saying, 'How can you join?'" she says.

But perhaps most importantly, the page provides a forum for Lions to share in the pride of their common mission.

"The thing you see posted most often is, 'We serve,'" Pietrini says. "There's just a pride in the page and seeing what Lions are doing, thinking, 'Yeah, I'm part of this great organization.'"

Melvin Jones Fellowship



Tiverton and District Lion Jim McTeer receives the 2011 Melvin Jones award, presented by Lion Secretary Rosemary Grover and PDG District A-9 Governor John Stewart



Tiverton and District Lion Ruby MacLennan receives the 2011 Melvin Jones Award, presented by President Lion Brent Crawford (left) and Lion Mary Lou Stewart (Blyth Lions Club).

Handicapped Youth Thank A-2 Lions

by IPDG Joyce Harvey

Submitted by District A2 Team News

Three Youth went out on Handicapped Youth Exchange from District A-2 this past summer, 2011, to Italy and Norway. They want to thank **Lions International Youth Exchange** and **District A-2 Lions** who made it possible.

Nicklas, 17, from Delhi, and Port Dover High School, and 15 year old Thomas, from Cayuga Secondary School, both with Spina Bifida, went to Camp Borgo d'Elisa, for the Disabled in Italy. Their mothers went along as caregivers. Both were recommended by schools, as being good candidates for Youth Exchange.

Kaitlin, 22, a profoundly deaf young lady with cerebral palsy was recommended by a Lion/educational assistant in Region 5, where she'd gone to school. Kaitlin was accompanied by Melissa, 26, a signer for the deaf. Both went to Norway's District 104 Camp for the Handicapped.

All had a great time; sightseeing, horseback riding (excellent therapy for the physically disabled), dancing, cooking, ping pong, and even target shooting, canoeing and dog sledding in Norway.

It's best to hear from their own words:

Kaitlin: " I really want to thank you for giving me this opportunity to go to Norway. It was an amazing experience for me and I know I will never forget it....This camp has given me the chance to meet new people and make new friends with disabilities from all around the world." "...at this camp we were given a chance to be like everyone else for two weeks. Thank you to everyone at Lions Club International and the Lions



Club Youth Exchange for giving me this wonderful opportunity."

Kathleen Armstrong, on behalf of Thomas and Nicklas: " What we got was 10 days in some of the most beautiful landscape of Italy, in..Tuscany. We enjoyed ..evening entertainment and activities around camp including horseback riding and making pasta from scratch. Most importantly, we met some wonderful kids/youth with various disabilities from Poland, Ukraine, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Hungary and Italy. ...many of the kids seem to be keeping in touch through Facebook, sharing photos and messages."

"We would like to thank District Governor Joyce Harvey and all of the Lions, both in Canada and in Italy, for making this opportunity available to us. It was certainly something we will remember forever."

Lions Youth Exchange promotes "a spirit of understanding among people of the world" through their Youth. IPDG Lion Joyce Harvey made it her project this past year to include Physically Disabled Youth, as they are often overlooked as candidates. The hope is that more Handicapped Youth can participate, just as these Youth did, meet Youth from all over the world.

Kaitlin, "...at this camp we were given a chance to be like everyone else for two weeks."



Chepstow and District Lions Club

The Chepstow and District Lions Club held another very successful Walk for Dog Guides in September. The community is supportive by participating and sponsorship of the walkers. This year was no exception - under clear skies another \$4000 was raised. Congratulations to all.



Desboro Lions

Desboro Lions Club members **Lyle Bell**, **Wayne Maluskie** and **Bullfrog** installing a Canada flag on the Desboro Community Centre's grounds.

submitted by
Lion Bruce Gardner



Lions Lead By Example While Serving

submitted by Lion Judy Charette

While visiting friends in Perth, **Lion Matt McCooeye** of the **Morrisburg & District Lions Club** spied an exceptional playground and immediately visualized a similar structure for the children of South Dundas. Lion Matt quickly formed an exceptional committee who managed to keep a low profile and yet proved a powerful example of leading by example; gathering support from individuals, companies and service groups in the community, motivating and inspiring an entire community; and, organizing, planning and fund raising. Members of the Morrisburg & District Lions Club were well represented with Lions Matt McCooeye, **Lois Casselman**, **Mike Domanko**, **Joe McCooeye**, **Steve Morrow**, **Brian Shaver** and **John Morrow** contributing to 7 of the 11 committee members.

Having won the approval of council to build the playground on township property, the application for a grant was quickly approved by the not-for-profit group Let Them Be Kids. In June the project was introduced to the community and the challenge was on! In three short months, the goals set by the committee were exceeded with 275 volunteers stepping forward to actively participate in the project while raising in excess of \$117,000.

The children of South Dundas participated in a "dotmocracy" from June 27th to July 1st in their classrooms and also during the Canada Day festivities. In this process, the children decided what play structures they wished for in the park. Each child in the community had the opportunity to see posters of the different play structures and indicate

with a dot on the structure, their preferences. The structures with the most dots became those included in the build.

September 24th was build day and on that morning the 275 volunteers of all ages and skills converged on the park to man shovels, drills, wheelbarrows, chairs, tools, paint, brooms, rakes, plantings, food, tillers, bucket trucks, earth and stone-moving equipment, paperwork, first-aid stations, microphones, barbecues and cameras. The day was filled with shouts, laughter, hammering, stone dust, the roar of the machinery and most of all joyful fellowship as friends, neighbours and families worked side by side.

Lion Matt McCooeye officiated the opening ceremony that included a very emotional component as the playground was dedicated to the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders regiment, affectionately known as the Glens. The Glens procession that included two World War II veterans, was greeted with loud applause and cheers as the soldiers passed through the large crowd. The plaque embedded in the walkway at the entrance to the playground reads, "South Dundas Community Playground. May our youth strive to protect our freedoms using the example of past generations whose traditions are carried on today by the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders to who this playground is dedicated this 24th day of September 2011".

During the dedication, committee member and Lion Mike Domanko stepped forward to thank the many volunteers and those who had contributed to making the dream of the playground materialize. In his comments, Lion Mike said, "We have built more than a playground here today. We have built a community".

The flag for the new playground was fittingly raised by three children before the children of South Dundas opened their own playground by running through ribbons made of dozens of coloured hands, symbolic of their participation in the project.

This project typifies Lions seizing a dream for their communities and making it happen while demonstrating "We Serve".



Lion Mike Domanko thanks the many volunteers who contributed to the successful completion of the South Dundas "Play It Forward" playground while Lion Matt McCooeye looks on



Lion Matt McCooeye introduces the Glens to whom the South Dundas playground is dedicated.

Photo credit: blaurin



Many of the 275 volunteers participating in the September 24th build of the playground celebrate the completion of the project

Mitchell Lions Support West Perth Youth Centre

On July 17th Erin Wood, Member Board of Directors YMCA and Chair of Strong Kids Campaign YMCA, Stratford/Perth and Dan Walker-Supervisor of West Perth Youth Centre were on hand to receive a cheque for \$3,700.00 from the Mitchell Lions Club. The cheque is the proceeds from the Lions Grocery Draw held recently at Walkom's Valu-Mart; a project to mark the 75th Anniversary of the Mitchell Lions Club.



Back row left to right: Erin Wood, YMCA Stratford, Lion Ray Naught, Lion Clarence McDougall, Lion Al Muegge, Lion Bob Ulch, Lion Lloyd Tubb; (centre row) Lion Jack Stuart, Lion Nylle Stuart, Dan Walker-centre supervisor receiving cheque, Lion President Betty Jermyn; (front) Lion Tim Horton.

Scenic City Lions



Lenora Raby and George Barnes of the Scenic City Lions present \$5,000 cheque to support YMCA programs in their community

Your MDA Council of Governors is Seeking a Secretary

PCC Dave Voisey will officially be concluding his term as the Multiple District "A" Secretary on June 30, 2012. The Council of Governors has authorized the Administration Committee to seek a replacement MD "A" Secretary. The term of office is from July 1, 2012 reviewed annually until June 30, 2017. It is a home based operation.

A summary of the position requirements and Secretarial duties are as follows:

Responsibilities:

The Multiple District Secretary shall manage the Multiple District administration functions as detailed in the Multiple District Policy and Procedures Manual under the direction and supervision of the Council of Governors.

Qualifications:

- √ Knowledge of the International Association of Lions Clubs
- √ Knowledge of the Multiple District Lions organization
- √ Knowledge of Secretarial Duties
- √ Experience with computers
- √ Previous Management/Administration Experience
- √ Motivation and enthusiasm
- √ Capabilities of Recording minutes of meetings
- √ Ability to communicate

Expected Key Results

- Receive and send correspondence on behalf of Council
- Attend Council and other meetings as requested by Council, the Council Chair & MD "A" Committees.
- Keep accurate minutes of all Council Meetings
- Assist the Governors' Council in conducting the business of MD "A", and perform such duties as are required by the LCI & MD "A" Constitution & By-Laws, as well as those that may be assigned by the Governors' Council from time to time.
- Maintain databases and the MD "A" Directory
- Maintain a "Motion Book" for the benefit of the Governors' Council
- Provide regular updates to the MD "A" Web Master and LION Magazine Editor
- Provide for updated hard copies of essential documents to the Governors' Council and MD "A" Committees

*SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

A full MD "A" Secretary Job Description including a time indicated responsibility summary is available on the MD "A" Web Site by clicking "Policy and Procedures Manual".

REMUNERATION:

The MD "A" Secretary receives an honorarium determined by the Governors' Council as well as full travel expenses and essential office expenses. Some office equipment is provided.

All applicants must send their resumes (mail, email or fax) by end of day, February 29, 2012 to:

Lion Al Page PCC.
Chair, Administration Committee
Multiple District "A"
6906 Sunset Blvd
GREELY ON K4P 1C5
613 821 3625; fax 613 821 1134
mail to: hohoal@rogers.com

Interviews for qualifying candidates will be held in Markham on March 24, 2012

WE SERVE

District A5 Lions Memorial Forest

The Memorial Forest was founded in 2007/08 as then **Governor Myra Kiernan's** project for her year. It is located in Iron Bridge Ontario at Chiblow Lake Road and Northern Ave, approximately 1 km north of Highway 17.

The land was donated to District A5 by the **Iron Bridge Lions Club** for our perpetual use.

This project was endorsed by the District Cabinet of 2007/08 and has been supported by subsequent Cabinet members and the Lions of District A5.

To date 60 trees at \$175.00 each have been purchased mostly by Lions Clubs or members. However sales are also open to the general public.

Memorial Forest committee members traditionally have been Lions members from Region 31 and Zone 31E. The Forest Committee has been able to

maintain self-supporting status so far, the eventual goal being giving support to LFC Dog Guides. However, we have some goals and financial questions needing to be resolved before we can establish how much we can contribute to the Foundation.

Our present goal is to build a gazebo/storage unit, where donor's names and tree Memorials can be displayed and easily read by those visiting the Forest.

A Trillium grant to build the gazebo was turned down in June of 2011 and we now must consider other fund-raising options to see it through.

The annual memorial Forest Golf Tournament at Huron Pines GC in Blind River has been a good fundraiser and takes place in conjunction with the annual dedication service held in Iron Bridge. The

committee has decided to move this event forward to the 4th Saturday in July, the reason being that the weather should be better, the Forest has had time to look at its best and the flies should be gone.

Application forms for purchasing a tree may be downloaded from the District A5 website. The type of tree planted is at the discretion of the Forest committee. We are trying to create a parkland atmosphere with a variety of suitable shrubs and trees. Pathways and benches are also in the plan.

Special thanks goes out to the A5 District Cabinet, the Forest Committee and those who have done the physical work of tree planting etc., and of course the Lions Clubs of District A5 for their ongoing support.

submitted by PDG Myra Kiernan, District A5



Tree Planting event

Ontario York Region Heritage Lions Club hosted its 3rd annual Tree Planting event on September 10, 2011 at Austin Drive Park in Markham, in partnership with Evergreen and Town of Markham. With over 60 Lions and friends and volunteers coming to the Park on the day, we planted 270 trees in just 2 hours at the Park.



Heritage Lions in action at the tree planting site



Heritage Lions and friends at the tree planting site at Austin Drive Park in Markham

35th Charter Night Celebration

Peninsula Lions Club held their 35th Charter Night Saturday Oct 22nd. There were 85 people present.

It was a warm and happy gathering, with many Lions, both present members and former members enjoying the gathering. **President Ed Campbell** did a great job in planning and contacting people.

The speaker was **PDG Patti Byers**, with thoughts on 'A challenge to keep members and draw in others, by



At the head table - PDG Bob Byers, PDG Patti Byers, Pres. Ed Campbell



Presentation of Melvin Jones Award to Lion Jim Boyd by PDG John Hamilton

telling about the great help our Lion Clubs are to communities.'

It should be noted that there are 6 left of the original charter members, with 5 in the Peninsula Lions Club and one in the **Bracebridge Lions Club**. Also, Ed Campbell was the president at the original Charter Night.



Presentation of a 35 year Chevron by PDG Terry Mayhew to Peninsula Lion member Brian Jean-Marie



There are several members of the community who help in Lion Club projects. Here one of these, Wendy Lester is presented a Certificate of Appreciation by Pres. Ed

by Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt

Sandy Taylor was one of seven Lions who lost everything when tornadoes struck Joplin, Missouri, in May. But she was among the first to help others.

"We were exhausted, emotionally traumatized, but just being a small part of helping somebody move on was so self-fulfilling," said Taylor of the **Joplin Host Lions Club**. "Lions don't go away—they are disaster relief."

The deadliest single tornado in the United States since 1947 tore a path one mile wide and 14 miles



A Lion salvages a chair

long through Joplin. In a few short minutes, more than 7,500 homes were destroyed, displacing 50,000 residents. Within hours of the tornado, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) awarded a \$10,000 Emergency grant, and Lions provided immediate relief.

Lions worked on clean-up efforts at 23 home sites in partnership with First Response Team of America, a non-profit disaster relief organization. "Working with the First Response Team following the tornadoes in Joplin was a really rewarding experience. I know we made a huge impact on the family members who were there who had lost everything they had. It made us as Lions feel good to have someone there to work with that had experience with disasters and knew just what needed to be done," said **Debbie Whittlesey**, immediate Past District Governor of 26-M6.

After discovering that a local battered women's shelter had opened its doors to women and children left homeless from the tornado and was struggling to provide 120 additional meals each day, Lions took shelter staff grocery shopping. And to help ensure that the school year began on time, Lions adopted a classroom from each of the five destroyed schools and provided funds for school supplies.

Thanks to generous donations from Lions worldwide, Lions and LCIF are mobilizing \$140,000 for Joplin relief efforts. There is still much work to do, but Lions are committed to helping rebuild. After

a July visit to Joplin, **LCIF Chairperson Sid L. Scruggs III** noted, "In the middle of this disaster the local Lions' commitment to helping their friends and neighbors rebuild is truly inspiring."

Editor's note: Lions may find Joplin updates or make donations at www.lcif.org.

A Young Lion in the Field

"I never could have imagined the feeling I had when I saw Joplin for the first time after the tornado," said 21-year-old **Lion Katie Smith**. Even though she barely recognized her hometown, "At no point did I question what role I was supposed to play as a Lion," she said. "I put on my vest and went out to do whatever I could do, and I have never been more proud to be a Lion."

In the weeks after the tornado, Smith worked side-by-side with other Lions assembling and distributing relief supply bags, cooking and delivering meals, giving out grocery vouchers and listening to victims' stories. "Every tear, smile and hug received was a reminder of why I became a Lion in the first place," said Smith.

Although Smith is a new Lion, after her experience in Joplin she is looking forward to many years of future service. "In the wake of the tornado I discovered what a powerful and life-changing thing it is to be a part of an organization like Lions Clubs."

Join the Fight Against Hunger

by Pamela Mohr

Lions are proving creative when it comes to meeting the challenges posed by world hunger. **International President Wing-Kun Tam** urges Lions to recognize the difference between thinking they can accomplish something and believing they can do it. That difference is defined in three words, he explains: courage, commitment and action—ideals that Lions illustrate every day in their quest to feed the hungry.

A food bank in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, is now able to offer fresh produce to put on clients' tables because of a Lion's strong belief in going green when it comes to food. **Joseph McCardle**, 2010-11 president of the **Valley Forge Lions Club**, supports using locally-grown fresh produce through a community-based agriculture program (CSA).

"A CSA is created when farmers sell shares of a field of assorted crops. Shareholders are entitled to their portion of the yield each week for 30-plus weeks," he says. After McCardle promoted the idea in his club, Valley Forge Lions sponsored a fundraiser to buy one share for the Phoenixville Area Community Services (PACS) food bank. McCardle

and Lions show their commitment by continuing to raise money to support the fresh food incentive.



Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, Lion Joseph McCardle delivers a basket of newly harvested produce to Carol Berger, PACS executive director

The food bank provides canned goods and other non-perishables to create meals for a family for three to five days. Carol Berger, PACS executive director, calls the use of locally-grown produce to help feed

families "a tremendous resource." Nearly 400 people rely on PACS because they can't afford to buy enough food themselves. "This will add fresh food to their diets every week, nourishing them and keeping them healthier."

As one of four global service action campaigns, Relieving the Hunger resulted in feeding more than 7 million men, women and children during December 2010 and January 2011. In these two months, Lions reported 2,000 projects and more than 150,000 volunteer hours spent fighting hunger around the world. Every single day, however, finds Lions and Leos invested in projects that provide sustenance to those in need.

Members of the **Fresno Unlimited Lions Club** in California realized that when homeless children were on a school break, their nutrition suffered because they weren't being fed breakfast and lunch by the school district.

They stepped in during school breaks to bring meals not only to the kids, but also their parents. Lions visit local hotels catering to the homeless and

people in need where they serve meals in the parking lots, says **Kerry Holguin**, 2010-11 club president. She coordinates with the Fresno Unified School District to locate hotels with a large number of children in residence. "Since these families have no cooking facilities, we always take at least one hot side dish to accompany the entrée," Holguin says. Meals can range from hot dogs and hamburgers to a full turkey dinner with all the trimmings. "We try very hard to always have some type of fresh fruit—not too hard since we are in California," she points out.



Helping feed homeless kids and adults is a major focus of the Fresno Unlimited Lions Club in California

"For all the years we have been serving, the hotels always seem to be filled to capacity. So it's hard to tell if the economy is making a big difference or this is a very sad, ongoing situation. We don't use any club funds. Each member volunteers to bring a specific dish or item—if they are unable to attend the feeding, they graciously donate money to purchase whatever is needed," she explains.

Lions also provide warm clothing and bedding and plan to add toiletries and school supplies soon. "It's not unusual to see Lions and residents in conversations discussing what has happened in their lives since Lions last visited the hotel," she says.

Holguin says that the interaction benefits everyone—including Lions. "It's during these visits that I observe club members most at ease with each other. They are laughing, relaxed and thoroughly enjoying each other's company without the rules and protocol of a meeting. I honestly believe that the 50

percent of our club members who repeatedly participate in this activity receive as much gratification out of the few hours they donate as the hotel residents themselves."

Armed with the motto "Feeding the Nation—One Plate at a Time," members of the **Eden Lions Club of George**, Republic of South Africa, struck their own blow against hunger nearly two years ago. The simplicity of selling a plastic picnic plate emblazoned with the Lions emblem to help feed many thousands of hungry men, women and children is working well, says **Carl van Blerk**, 2010-11 club president.

Working in conjunction with Stop Hunger Now (www.stophungernow.org), each plate sells for approximately US\$1.37 (SA Rand \$10). The plates not only help provide meals but also serve as a usable utensil. Stop Hunger Now can provide four meals for every US\$1 spent. Ten thousand plates were sold in just three months, and over 2,000 plates have been donated to soup kitchens and nursery schools as utensils as free meals are given to children and adults.



Carl van Blerk and children at the Sonstraalijie Crèche, a nursery school, happily wave their "Feed Me" plates

Twenty clubs in South Africa so far are participating in the Feed Me campaign and van Blerk says more are joining Eden Lions in packaging meals provided by Stop Hunger Now. Each food pack consists of only dry products including rice, soya, soup mix vegetables and a sachet of essential vitamins and minerals, he explains. "These meals can be kept for reasonably long periods of time and are cooked by the simple process of adding boiling water." If fresh ingredients and meat are available,

they can be added to the mix.

"I have personally seen the project's success in the eyes of the many people we have fed. We recently held a soup kitchen for the Phelophepa Train of Hope [a mobile hospital for people in need], which spent a week in our city. We used the Stop Hunger Now food packets and provided meals for hundreds, perhaps thousands, of people who came to the train for medical assistance," says van Blerk.

The joint cooperation between Stop Hunger Now and Lions has led to another opportunity to serve for **Rod Brooks**, president and CEO of Stop Hunger Now, headquartered in Raleigh, North Carolina. Sponsored by 2010-11 International President and current LCIF **Chairperson Sid Scruggs III**, Brooks is a new member of the **Raleigh Host Lions Club**. "I can say that their commitment to fighting hunger most definitely influenced my decision to become a Lion," he explains.

Brooks believes Lions Clubs International's worldwide efforts to feed a global population in need has led to a significant army of supporters in this critical battle. "I had the opportunity to witness an event in which Leos from around North Carolina packaged meals through Stop Hunger Now's meal packaging program," he says. "Their youthful enthusiasm reflects a new generation committed to ending hunger."

Keeping Food Banks Filled

Want to pitch in and help your local food bank? Visit the Global FoodBanking Network (GFN) site (www.foodbanking.org) to either locate one in your community by using the "Find a Food Bank" tool or learn how to provide assistance. GFN works with food banks in 19 different countries and this is one viable arm of assistance Lions clubs can use to fight hunger. Many Lions clubs already participate in GFN projects and that number is growing after GFN representatives attended the International Convention in Seattle to meet with Lions.

Second Chances

These projects do more than better communities. They save lives.

by Vanessa N. Glavinskas

There are projects that save lives on a major scale—like Lions and LCIF joining in the international fight against measles. Then there are the things that Lions do every day—like promoting bike helmets or donating a defibrillator to the local police force. Through donations, public awareness campaigns and just plain hard work, these Lions have not only bettered their communities, they've given someone a second chance at life.

The Right Fit

Lion Doreen Hall was shopping in her local grocery store when a woman she'd never met suddenly embraced her.

"Your helmet saved my son's life," she said, thanking her profusely before disappearing around a corner.

Hall was wearing her Lions club pin, and the mother recognized it as the same logo on the back of her son's bike helmet, which protected his head and saved his life when he was hit by a car while riding his bike.

Since 2008, members of the **Orchards Evergreen Lions Club** in Vancouver, Washington, have distributed helmets to local children in need.

"Over the last three years, we've contributed \$9,500 to the project," says **Lion Jim Terrell**, who chairs the initiative.

The money equates to about 700 helmets given to school children. Terrell suggested his club do something to promote child safety in response to a citywide ordinance that made helmets mandatory for anyone riding any type of wheels.

Six to eight times a year, Orchards Evergreen Lions dedicate several hours to educate kids at low-income schools on safety and then fit each child for a proper helmet.

"We go out and put the hours in to help fit the helmets to the children," Terrell says, noting that every Lion volunteer has been trained on how to properly fit a helmet. "We even fit the ones that the Rotarians pay for too because they don't show up," he

quips. “We’ll do 60 to 100 kids in one or two hours.”

The project is a partnership with the local sheriff’s office, through Clark County’s “Helmets Save Lives” program. With Lions’ donations, the helmets are purchased through the sheriff’s office. Program coordinator Marion Swendsen then arranges the distribution through local schools, relying on Lions to fit and distribute the helmets, each one sporting a Lions sticker.



Children in Vancouver, Washington, are happy with their new bike helmets made possible by Orchards Evergreen Lions Club members such as Jim Terrell (left) and Jack Robins

“We aren’t going to just hand a helmet out. It has to fit correctly and be appropriate for the sport,” says Swendsen. “The Lions club stepped up 100 percent.”

Terrell remembers one particular safety orientation and distribution. “A little girl came up and said, ‘Sir, I can’t afford this helmet.’ And I said, ‘That’s OK, we’re going to fit it for you so you can be safe on your bicycle.’” He reflects, “That’s the stuff that just pulls on your heartstrings. That’s why we do what we do as Lions.”

Flight for Life

At 5 a.m., Ann Becker heard a strange noise coming from her sister’s room. She rarely stayed the night, but the two had returned late from a wedding the night before. As she cracked open the door, she found her 75-year-old sister vomiting and confused, suffering a massive heart attack.

Luckily, the house was just four blocks from the local hospital in tiny Bassano, Alberta, Canada. Minutes after calling 911, Vi Christman was in the emergency room. As doctors worked to stabilize her, it became clear she needed to be transported to a better cardiac unit in Calgary. That’s when a call went out to the Shock Trauma Air Rescue Society, or STARS, a network of emergency response helicopters supported by Lions in Alberta, Canada.

“My mom was in Calgary in an hour, had surgery and got her emergency treatment right away,” says **Past District Governor Betty Ann Robson**, Vi Christman’s daughter. A longtime Lion, Robson had donated to STARS many times in the past. Little did she know how important those donations would become—as a STARS helicopter flew her mother to life-saving surgery in Calgary.

“I’m so grateful to STARS,” Robson says. “So when I became district governor in 2010, I made them my charity of choice. We raised almost \$20,000 during the year.”

That \$20,000 adds to the \$1.5 million that the **Lions of Alberta Foundation** and individual Lions clubs have

donated to STARS since the organization got its start in 1985.

“We gave the first influx of cash to get the idea off the ground,” says **Past International Director Bill Webber** of the **St. Albert Host Lions Club** and an adviser to the Lions of Alberta Foundation. “Our contribution was a very important part of their beginning. The Lions logo was on all the helicopters.”

In fact, STARS was originally named the Lions Air Ambulance Service after the Lions of Alberta Foundation gave \$100,000 in seed money. Lions funded the initiative when the medical community brought a dire statistic to their attention—Alberta had a 50 percent higher death rate from trauma when compared to other Canadian provinces’ trauma centres.



Saving many lives, STARS has completed 19,000 missions

In 26 years, STARS has completed 19,000 missions. Lions in Alberta have supported the organization every step of the way. In 2005, Alberta Lions made another major donation when STARS proposed the creation of a mobile emergency training facility complete with a “human patient simulator.” The simulator is a robot that reacts as a patient would so medical staff can train in real-life situations. Lion clubs in Alberta, with an LCIF matching grant, provided \$150,000 to make the training facility possible.

“I know, in particular, the rural clubs see the value of STARS,” adds Webber. “It may be the only rapid response provider they have to get their emergency needs met.”

For Vi Christman, that was certainly the case.

“My mom turned 83 in August. She takes medicine once in a while, but other than that she’s been perfect,” Robson says. “The doctor in Calgary said that there were two things that saved her life. Her sister was with her and STARS was available.”

Just in Time

“It was about six days after I had a heart attack,” explains Steve Blood. “I was feeling good. I had even mowed the lawn a bit.” So Blood and his wife decided he was well enough to go out to dinner and see a movie in the nearby town of Vinton, Iowa.

“After dinner, I walked to the car to get my glasses,” he remembers. “My wife was crossing the street and says she saw me out of the corner of her eye as I collapsed in the middle of the sidewalk. That’s all I remember until I woke up in the hospital.”

Blood went into cardiac arrest as his wife frantically dialed 911. Minutes later Vinton Police Officer Eric Dickinson was one of the first to arrive on the scene.

“He was down on the sidewalk in front of a local pizza place,” Dickinson recalls. “His heart wasn’t beating, so we got the AED on him.”

Dickinson yelled for everyone to stand back as he jolted Blood’s heart back to life with the automatic external defibrillator (AED) he carries in his squad car. Its rhythm returned. Today, after a year of rehab, 53-year-old Blood has made a full recovery.

“They say I’m back to ‘taxpayer status,’” Blood jokes.

Had it been a few years earlier, the story may have ended differently.

“Seven or eight years ago, Vinton was one of the first communities to have defibrillators available in police cars,” **Vinton Lion and Police Chief Jeff Tilson** says. “We are almost always the first to arrive on the scene in a crisis, so it makes sense for us to carry the equipment in each of our three cars.”

The **Vinton Lions Club** purchased a new defibrillator for the local police department in 2008 when the department’s need for upgraded equipment came to their attention. It later saved Blood, and Officer Dickinson says Vinton police have had “three full-blown saves” using defibrillators.

“Even if someone doesn’t get up walking around and talking again... there’s no doubt that everything that could have been done was done. That’s important for the family, I think,” Dickinson says.

Prior to defibrillators being put in Vinton police cars, officers could only do CPR to try to resuscitate someone. Vinton changed its policy in 2001 after a local magistrate had a heart attack and died at a wedding. Several officers tried to do CPR, but, without defibrillation, he died on the dance floor at his sister’s wedding reception.

Vinton then became the first town in the county where police carry defibrillators in their squad cars.



Vinton Police Chief Jeff Tilson (center) shows Mark Wilberg (left), president of the Vinton Lions Club, and Ron Tippet, immediate past president, the automatic external defibrillator that Lions recently purchased for the city

Seven years later, as technology evolved, Vinton Lions provided one of three new units with a \$2,000 donation. The unit can be used on children, and it’s lighter weight and more durable.

“I honestly wouldn’t be here right now if it weren’t for that equipment,” says Blood. “I actually had a friend who was 52 years old, had the same thing two months after me. It happened to him in his living room and no one got to him for 20 minutes. He didn’t make it. I really wouldn’t be here if it wasn’t for that particular defibrillator being there.”

King Township Lions Curling Funspiel

Date: January 21st, 2012

Time: 8:00 AM

Place: Trisan Centre at 25 Dr. Dillane Drive, Schomberg

(Which runs East off of Hwy 27 across from Tim Horton's, just South of Hwy 9)

Cost: \$152.00 per Team (no matter how many are on the team)

We would like to invite your club to join us for our 5th annual Lions Curling Bonspiel on January 21st, 2012. This is a fun day, a day of Lionism and fellowship. Milton Lions have been hosting a Bonspiel in March for many years, that we attend for a friendly rivalry. Experience is not essential as this is a fun Bonspiel. Everyone gets lunch and dinner, one prize with a trophy going to the winning team. We have a capacity for only 16 teams. Acceptance is on a first come first served basis. In the future, it would be fun for other Clubs to host Bonspiels as well and we can all jostle for bragging rights. Last year we saw 8 Lions Clubs participate, let's have YOUR club represented this year! We'd like to see this tradition continue long into the future. We would like to challenge the District Governors and Vice-District Governors. If you can't field a team of 4, we can supplement some players for you. The Trisan Centre is a brand new facility that just opened up in the Fall of 2011, we have donated a lot of money towards this facility, so please come and enjoy it with us.

Each team plays 2 eight end games. The early draw plays at 8:30 AM and 12:30 PM, and the 2nd draw plays at 10:30 AM and 2:30 PM. This event is great fun and we will try to accommodate your first draw to be reasonable for your commute.

Acceptance is on a first come first served basis.

Register prior to Jan 3rd, 2012 to:

Lion Steve Fisher 905-939-8494 (Schomberg)

Lion Keith Wilson 905-939-0785 (King City)

Lion Alan Scott 905-713-2190 (Nobleton)

Or email info to: pascott@sympatico.ca

Club Name _____

Contact _____

Contacts Phone # & or email _____

Number of teams _____

Players Names

Skip _____

Vice _____

Second _____

Lead _____

Nature's Glory – And Ours

Trees provide much more than shade and beauty: they enhance people's well-being.

by Anne Ford

Will your child finish high school? Will someone break into your home? How high will your air-conditioning bill soar next summer? If you happen to drop your contact lens down the drain, do you know your neighbor well enough to borrow his pipe wrench? Will your car hit a pothole on your way to work? How happy will you be once you get to work?

Believe it or not, the answers to the questions above depend in part on the answer to this one: How many trees do you see on a daily basis?

No, seriously. School graduation rates, neighborhood crime problems and similarly serious issues—even the frequency of domestic violence incidents—can be influenced, experts say, by the number of trees around your home, neighborhood, workplace and school. Influenced, too, are everyday concerns such as how satisfied you are with your job, how much you pay for utilities, the number of potholes on your street and the number of neighbors you're friendly with.

Simply put, "having everyday contact with trees improves people's health," says William Sullivan, professor of landscape architecture at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, who has published a number of studies showing the effects of trees on communities. "I'm talking about health as not just the absence of disease, but a sense of complete well-being."



Trees impact school graduation rates and neighborhood crime problems

Of course, all the foliage in the world can't, on its own, turn a straight-F student into a high school graduate or make a drug-riddled neighborhood into a crime-free zone. Nonetheless, trees have the power to improve communities in surprising ways. And now that **International President Wing-Kun Tam** has launched a massive tree planting campaign—calling for Lions

around the world to plant 1 million trees in 2011-2012—Lions have that power too.

Trees affect human well-being in two primary ways: sociologically and environmentally. The sociological effects often go unrecognized, since at first glance it's difficult to determine the link between the presence of a tree and, say, the likelihood that a family member will hit a child or a student will graduate from high school.

But that link exists, and it lies in trees' ability to provide something called "attention restoration." Sullivan explains, "All of us have a limited capacity to pay attention during any period of time. You get something done, you say 'whew,' and all of a sudden you realize you've got 40 unread e-mails. You're like, 'Oh, gosh, I can't even pay attention to those right now.'"

As our attention runs out, we're more likely to be irritable, and abilities to solve problems and to plan ahead decrease. If you think that means a parent in this state is more likely to strike out in frustration, or a student is more likely to blow off an exam, you're right.

When that happens, being near trees and other vegetation can help restore our ability to pay attention. As a matter of fact, just being able to *see* them helps: "If you have a view out your window of a green space, it's like a little micro-resting spot for the mind to wander out to for a few minutes every hour. People function more effectively when they have a green view," says Sullivan.

He's not just theorizing. In the 1990s, Sullivan and his colleague Frances Kuo, director of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's Landscape and Human Health Laboratory, found that residents of Chicago public housing who had trees outside their buildings were less likely to threaten violence against their children, as compared to residents of the same public housing project who did not have trees nearby. "The more green space, the less mentally fatigued people were and the less they engaged in domestic violence," Sullivan says. "We're talking about a sizeable impact."

Studies done by others have shown that schools where students can see nature from their classroom and cafeteria windows are correlated with better standardized test scores, higher graduation rates and higher percentages of students who plan to attend four-year colleges.

As it turns out, the presence of trees in a neighborhood can even help predict how likely you are to know the family down the block. "In urban areas, the density of trees around someone's home is a reliable predictor of how much they know their neighbors, how many they've helped, how many they've lent things to," Sullivan says. "Greener spaces seem to pull neighbors out of their homes and

give them a chance to talk to each other."

That ability of trees to draw people outside also means that neighbors are more likely to recognize who belongs in the neighborhood and who doesn't—namely, criminals. "Just by occupying the outdoors, people are more likely to shoo someone away who's got nefarious intentions," Sullivan explains. "So if you want a stronger community, make sure you plant a lot of trees. Grass is good, but it doesn't seem to have the impact that trees do—not nearly."

Kitty Key of the **Dick Dowling Lions Club**, Sabine Pass, Texas, can attest firsthand to trees' importance to a healthy community. Between Hurricane Rita in 2005 and Hurricane Ike in 2008, the town was virtually destroyed—including the large shade trees that once graced many residents' yards as well as the town's park. "We miss the trees," Key says. "The park is the only outdoor play area in the community. The school uses it as a playground; the church uses it for their Easter egg hunts." So the Dick Dowling Lions recently planted 25 trees in the park, hoping to recreate the shady atmosphere so crucial to outdoor gatherings in Texas. "Other Lions clubs in our district have helped us plant a lot of shrubbery and do cleanup, too," Key says. "It's an awesome experience. You can see the stress on the community, but we have held together."

As for the environmental benefits of trees—well, they provide us with oxygen, and that's about it, right?

Hardly. Trees perform a slew of services for the environment above and beyond churning out oxygen around the clock. In the United States, strategically planted trees can lower your home air-conditioning bill by \$7 to \$47, depending on the region in which you live. That's because trees not only provide shade, but also cool the air by cooling the surface of their leaves in a process called evapotranspiration. "Trees have tens of thousands of leaves, so when you have a lot of trees, you end up reducing the temperature in the air," says Greg McPherson, research forester with the USDA Forest Service's Pacific Southwest Research Station, Davis, California.

The **Lodi Lions of California** recently made a sizeable donation toward a tree-planting effort for that very reason (among others). "Any trees are an asset for our community, because it does get warm in the valley," says immediate past president **Grant Fletcher**. So the club donated \$5,000 to the Lodi Tree Foundation; the money will support the planting and care of 50 trees in the town's new DeBenedetti Park. "As soon as they're ready, the Lodi Lions will be out there providing the labor to put those trees in the ground," Fletcher says.

Trees also can save communities thousands of dollars in street repaving costs. At high temperatures, asphalt cement begins to weaken and break down,

allowing cracks and potholes to form. A 2006 study by the Center for Urban Forest Research found that an unshaded street needed to be repaved six times in 30 years at a cost of \$4,791, while a street shaded by large trees needed to be repaved only 2.5 times in 30 years at a cost of \$2,071.

And then there's what trees do with rain: intercept it, preventing it from becoming runoff. "That's a benefit because it reduces the amount of storm water runoff that has to be managed and treated," McPherson points out. "There's a secondary benefit, relating to the soil volume that's required to support a tree. If runoff is channeled into the soil, to some extent pollutants can be filtered out of the runoff by the soil and the micro-organisms in it."

Not sure how to start a tree-planting project in your area? McPherson suggests contacting the Arbor Day Foundation, as well as your state's urban forestry coordinator. Both can provide valuable information about the varieties of trees that are likely to thrive in your area, how to plant them and the sort of care they will need.

When deciding where to plant trees, consider starting in an area of your community that has few or no trees at all. "My sense is that it's very important to plant trees in barren spaces," Sullivan says. "The first 10 trees you plant in a place that's barren may have a big, big impact."

Finally, realize that the work doesn't end when the trees are in the ground. "That's the easy part," McPherson says. "A tree will not grow to be healthy and vigorous if it's not cared for. You have to ensure that it's watered and that it's pruned to have the right structure. It's that stewardship, especially during the first three years, that's critical to the long-term success of that tree—and to the realization of a legacy."

Mount Forest Lions Club

On Sunday July 17th, the **First Vice-President of Lions Clubs International, Wayne Madden** visited **PID Lion Bill Moody** and his wife **Lion Kaye** of the Mount Forest Lions Club. This was a surprise visit, and on his arrival, Bill called a few Lion friends for a "meet and greet" meeting. After a small but interesting question period, VP Wayne presented the Lions present with the current President's pin. Lion VP Wayne will be the next International President, succeeding the current President Wing-Kun Tam from Hong Kong, who will preside for a one year term.
submitted by PDG Lion Al Leach



Lions Bill and Kaye Moody present VP Wayne and his wife Linda with a small gift to remember their visit to Mount Forest



From left, Lions Bill Nelson, Kaye Moody, Dale Small, Carol Small, 1st VP Wayne, Bill Moody, John Roberts, and Barry Parkhouse

Lions fundraise for medical centre equipment

The newly installed Gore Bay Medical Centre digital x-ray system was made possible through the efforts of the **Gore Bay-Western Manitoulin Lions Club** fundraising for the cost of the equipment, totalling \$150,000. Completion of the fundraising project was made possible through a significant financial contribution of \$75,000 made by the Lions Club International Foundation. As well the local Lions club which spearheaded the fundraising campaign were assisted by the Gore Bay Rotary Club, and through financial contributions and support from many municipalities, First Nations, fellow Lions and Rotary clubs, groups, organizations and individuals throughout the community.

submitted by Lion Tom Sasvari



Taking part in the first digital x-ray with new equipment at the Gore Bay Medical Centre are patient Miriam Wailes (a member of the Gore Bay-Western Manitoulin Lions Club) and medical radiation technologist Heather Bain



2014 Convention Fundraiser



Toronto Maple Leafs vs New York Rangers

Saturday, March 24, 2012

- **Enjoy an evening of Dinner, Hockey Game and Accommodation with 9 of your friends**
- **Enjoy dinner prior to the game in the Hot Stove Lounge**
- **Watch the game from the Molson's box at the Air Canada Centre**
- **Stay in a downtown hotel (double occupancy) for the rest of the evening.**

Ticket price for this wonderful package is \$10.00 each or 3 for \$20.00. These tickets are to be sold to Lions only, thus no license will be required.

The Draw will be held at the Council meeting on March 3, 2012.

Please return your ticket stub and cheque payable to
2014 International Convention - District A 16 to:
Fund Raising Chair, Stan Durward PDG, Box 38, Sunderland, ON L0C 1H0

Lambeth Lions keep it in the family

Governor Steve inducting father and son Lions Mike and Grant Mayo who were sponsored by Lambeth President Cyril Mayo.



Governor Steve and Lions Mike, Grant, Cyril



MULTIPLE DISTRICT 'A'

Relive History

RAINBOW CONVENTION 2012

HOST COMMITTEE - ST. DAVIDS & DISTRICT LIONS CLUB
REGISTRATION & FUNCTION TICKET PURCHASE FORM

MAY 31, JUNE 1, 2, and 3, 2012

**Marriott Gateway Hotel and Convention Centre
Niagara Falls, Ontario**



All persons attending the Convention must be registered (including guests and exhibitors) to participate in any portion of the Convention including meetings, seminars, luncheons and the International Banquet. Complete names exactly as you would like them to appear on your name badge (Name & Club will be printed on badge)

Person A District: _____ Club: _____

Name: _____ Lion Lioness Spouse/Partner/Lionette Leo

Address: _____ Pin Trader/Exhibitor

City: _____ Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ - _____ Email: _____

District/International Office (if wanted printed on name badge) _____ Past Present

Person B District: _____ Club: _____

Name: _____ Lion Lioness Spouse/Partner/Lionette Leo

Address: _____ Pin Trader/Exhibitor

City: _____ Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ - _____ Email: _____

District/International Office (if wanted printed on name badge) _____ Past Present

Hotels: Please indicate 1st and 2nd hotel choice:

Marriott Gateway, 6455 Fallsview Blvd, NF - Falls view - \$195 plus applicable taxes per night

Marriott Gateway, 6455 Fallsview Blvd, NF - City view - \$145 plus applicable taxes per night

Rodeway Inn Fallsview, 6663 Stanley Ave, NF - *** THIS HOTEL IS NOW FULL ***

Room Preference: 1 bed 2 beds Handicapped

Date of Arrival _____ Date of Departure _____

Note: Booking for these hotels must be done through the Convention Committee.

One night (without tax) must accompany registration. Book early to ensure room availability.

All cancellations must be in writing by mail or email and acknowledged.

Registration cancellations received after April 30, 2012 will be subject to a \$10 handling fee.

No refunds for meal events after April 30, 2012.

Substitutions/transfers for registration and meals will be accepted.

Convention Chair: Lion Peter Bissonnette, PDG lion.peter@sympatico.ca Tel: 905-262-5042
Convention Vice Chair: Lion Ted Burrows eburrows6@cogeco.ca Tel: 905-685-4120
Convention Vice Chair: Lion Rick Wills rgwills@sympatico.ca Tel: 905-934-2757

Payment Information

		Comm Use
Section 1 Registration	Total Cost	
Person A Lions/Lioness \$25 Leo/Spouse/Partner \$10 Vendor's/Pin Traders \$25		
Person B Lions/Lioness \$25 Leo/Spouse/Partner \$10 Vendor's/Pin Traders \$25		
Exhibitor Table Rental - Pin Traders \$25; Commercial Vendors \$50 # Tables_____		
Total Cost - Registration & Table Rentals		
Section 2 Function Tickets & Pins	Price	Quantity
Total Cost		
Fri. June 1 - Convention Luncheon	\$35	
Fri. June 1 - Evening at Fort George	TBA	
Sat. June 2 - International Banquet	\$65	
Convention Pins	\$5	
Total Cost of Function Tickets & Pins		
Section 3 Hotel		
Hotel Room Deposit Hotel accommodations must be booked through the Convention Committee and must be secured by one night deposit. This will be credited to your account.		
Total Cost Sections 1, 2, and 3 (due and payable as indicated below)		

Payment Options: Cash Cheque Credit Card: Visa Mastercard

Name on card: _____

Number: ____ / ____ / ____ / ____

Expiry Date: ____ / ____

*On your credit card bill, your payment will be listed as **NIAGARA RETREATS***

Make Cheques payable to: **Rainbow Convention 2012**
 Mail Registration forms & payment to: Rainbow Convention 2012
 c/o Lion Doug Snider Box 137, St. Davids, Ont., L0S1P0
 email contact for registration information: dougsnider@live.com

St. Marys Lions Annual International Breakfast

A good time was had by all at this year's St. Marys Lions Annual International Breakfast.

International Director **Dr. Gary Anderson** and his wife **Cheryl** joined us this year from Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Director Anderson is a Doctor of Optometry and the owner of Anderson Eye Care.

There is a long established history of Lionism in the family, as Director Anderson and his wife, Cheryl, who is also a Lion and a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have one son and two daughters, all of whom are Lions, and whose spouses are Lions. They also have one grandson. Director Anderson's brother, parents, father and mother-in-law are Lions as well. Truly a family who believes in serving others.

The many Lions in attendance at the Breakfast were very receptive to Lion Gary's presentation which was humorous, enlightening, motivating and inspirational. ID Dr. Gary and Lion Cheryl joined A-15 for their Cabinet Meeting following the International Breakfast.

"Life is a great big canvas, and you should throw all the paint you can on it."
Danny Kaye



At the St. Marys Annual International Breakfast ID Gary and Lion Cheryl receive a gift of thanks for inspiring the Lions of A-15



Proof you can have fun in Lionism and still get the job done!

District A-15 Convention

The District A-15 Convention was held this year in Elmira, May 6-8, 2011. The convention was co-hosted by both the **Elmira Lions** and the **Woolwich Community Lions** clubs. It was a huge success with 599 Lions registered. Along with the great food, entertainment and camaraderie there were some awards given. Six members of the Woolwich Lions Club and one from the Elmira Lions received their Long Tail Awards having visited all 53 clubs.



Back row left to right: Linda Litt, Joan Edenborough, Bea Dechert, Wayne Litt, Governor Todd Wilson. Front row left to right: Eileen Taylor, Diane Smith, Nancy Booth, Deb Cserhalmi

Lions Club of Merritton

Lydia Hoffman of St. Catharines was the winner of the \$5000 Grand Prize in the Lions Club of Merritton, Community Days Carnival Raffle, drawn Monday, September 5, 2011.

submitted by Lion Wayne Scott



Congratulating Lydia, is President Jeff White (left) and Raffle Chairman Arnold Hartnett

Callander Lions "Harley Davidson" Draw

Lions A-5 District Governor **Dennis Young** drew the winning ticket and Richard Gravelle was a very happy man. The "Harley Davidson Sportster"

motorcycle lottery raised \$15,000 for the Callander Lions. Proceeds will assist local charities and North Bay Regional Health Centre's MRI foundation.

submitted by Lion Julia M. Moore



PDG Maurice Turgeon rides in the Callander July 1st parade



Winner Richard Gravelle

St. Marys LEO Club

The St. Marys LEO Club held their 3rd annual Haunted Halloween Walk at McCully's Hill Farm (east of St. Marys) on Saturday, October 29 from 6 to 9 p.m. The Haunted Halloween Committee chaired by LEO Rory McNeight along with the remaining club members united together to create a very successful event. The Haunted House, Corn Maze and The Path proved to be too much, even for some of the brave souls who ventured inside. The St. Marys LEO Club is proudly sponsored by the St. Marys Lions Club.

submitted by Lion Raymond Taylor



Two Service Clubs Supporting Each Other

A few years ago the Norfolk Shrine Club asked the **Vittoria Lions** to cook for their annual fish fry. The Lions accepted the request and started to help by cooking for them. In October, the Shriners asked to attend one of the Vittoria Lions Club meetings. At the meeting the Shriners thanked the Lions for their help with their fundraising efforts and in turn presented the Lions Club with a new Fryer that can be used for various Lions functions including their famous Wing Ding held twice a year and the annual Shriners May fish fry. Norfolk Shrine Club member Bob Castles presented Lions Club President **Jim Cochrane** the Fryer, who accepted on behalf of the Vittoria Lions Club.

submitted by Lion Jim Cochrane



Chemung Lake District Lions Club

New members, **Lions Colette Kish, Lorna Day** and **David Jordens** (in photo with Lions **Peter Day**, sponsor, and **Dave Barrett**), were inducted by **Lion Graham Lewis** at the September 27th meeting of Chemung Lake Lions. Guest speaker Yvonne Spradbrow explained the Ennismore Community Care program.

At the last Cruise Night cheques were presented by President **Lion Dale Warren** to the CNIB, Ennismore Community Care, Five Counties Children Centre and Canadian Diabetes Association.

submitted by Lion Wilma Bush



The Chemung Lake Lions Club has provided a swimming program for the Jones Beach Swim Program which has been in existence for over 30 years. Started by the late Sharon Hoenen, who ran the program in the beginning in Bridgenorth, over 4900 children have taken swimming lessons.

This year over 160 children took lessons from a qualified instructor from Red Cross and Trent University and the Lions intend to continue supporting this program.

Glencoe District Lions

Thanks to the creative talents of **Lion Cathleen Benjamin** (not shown), these normally docile Glencoe District Lions were transformed into scary looking desperadoes who, along with fellow Glencoe Lions, Lioness, and Leos dressed as bartenders, gamblers and saloon gals, went on to win 1st Place for their float, depicting the Cowboy Theme, in the Glencoe Fall Fair Parade.

Thanks to Lion Cathleen, and her partner **Lion Bill Arnold**, Glencoe Lions have a float to enter in different events. Since receiving the float, we have enthusiastically decorated it, along with fellow Lions, and gone on to win 1st place every time!

submitted by Lion Sondra Tilley Sasse



Pictured Left to Right are Glencoe District Lions: John McEachren, Gary Merritt (president), Scott Berlemont, Gord Leach, Bill Leitch

FOR THE RECORD

As of August 31, 2011, Lions Clubs International has 1,343,599 members in 46,085 Clubs and 747 Districts in 206 Countries.

MDA Directory Information

Council of Governors' Meeting Dates

- Council Meeting: March 3, 2012 – Markham, ON
- Council Meeting: June 1, 2012 – Niagara Falls, ON

District Conventions

Dist	Location	Date
A1	Leamington, Pele Motor Inn	April 13 - 15, 2012
A2	St. Catharines, Quality Inn Parkway Hotel	Mar 30 - Apr 1, 2012
A3	Kingston, Ambassador	April 13 - 15, 2012
A4	Ottawa, Hampton Inn	April 13 - 15, 2012
A5	Sault Ste Marie, Comfort Inn	April 20 - 22, 2012
A711	Toronto, Holiday Inn Select	April 27 - 29, 2012
A9	Goderich	May 4 - 6, 2012
A12	Huntsville, Deerhurst Resort	April 20 - 22, 2012
A15	Kitchener, Holiday Inn	April 27 - 29, 2012
A16	Haliburton, Pinestone Inn & Conference Centre	April 27 - 29, 2012

IMPORTANT DATES

MDA Convention

2011/12	Niagara Falls	May 31 - June 3, 2012
2012/13	Toronto	May 30 - June 2, 2013
2013-14	To Be Announced	

International Conventions

95th	Busan, Korea	June 22 - 26, 2012
96th	Hamburg, Germany	July 5 - 9, 2013
97th	Toronto, Canada	July 4 - 8, 2014
98th	Honolulu, Hawaii	June 26 - 30, 2015
99th	Fukuoka, Japan	June 24 - 28, 2016
100th	Chicago Illinois, USA	June 30 - July 4, 2017

USA - Canada Forum

Sept. 2012	Tampa Bay, FL
Sept. 2013	Overland Park, Kansas
Sept. 2014	Puerto Rico



Magnetawan Lions

The Magnetawan Lions held their annual Halloween Party for the community Oct 31st. Over 70 children and parents joined in the fun which included games, prizes and treats. Special prizes were drawn for children and adults of different age groups that arrived in costume.



The fish tank run by Lion Dean Bernas was very popular



Lion Chief Nick Moor (left) and Lion Event Chair George Brooks hand out prizes to the costume winners

Woodville Lions

A-16 Governor Larry Bell is pictured with his wife Susan at his annual visitation to his home club of Woodville. The hard hat is in honour of his retirement!

submitted by Lion Judie Schell



Denbigh-Griffith Lions

The 4th Annual Show & Shine sponsored by the Denbigh-Griffith Lions Club had 107 Classic Cars. Proceeds will go to the \$25,000 pledge over 5 years to the Lakeland Family Health Team in Denbigh, Ontario.

submitted by Lion Wilma Bush



Cochrane Lions Club

Each year the Lions organize a clean-up the town in partnership with the local Tim Horton Restaurant. The picture below depicts Lions and young volunteers with some of the garbage that is left on the roads and dumped in our Lake in the centre of town.

*submitted by Lion Roy Telford
Life Member, Cochrane Lions Club*



Stouffville Lions

submitted by Lion Joe Boll

Stouffville Lions, for years, have operated a Food Booth at the Markham Fair. The attached photo shows dedicated Lions (**Clare Palmer, Richard Fronske, and Cliff Dunkeld**) and friends (Nancy Boll and Bunny Hryniowski) thinking about preparing bacon burgers and apple fries for hungry customers.



The Stouffville Lions annual Beef BBQ at the Stouffville Strawberry Festival is a high visibility fund raiser, enjoyed by approximately 1000 local residents of all ages, during the Strawberry Festival each year. **Lion John McTavish** was the "Lead" for this event assisted by virtually every member of the Club and their spouses. The first photo shows three Lions (**Richard Fronske, Bill Hodges and Clare Palmer**) working hard to cook the Beef. The second picture shows Lions preparing to serve customers. **Lion Ivan Harris**, in the foreground, is the happy ticket taker.



24,000 Hot Dogs!

Each year at Carnival time the **Cochrane Lions Club** give out hot dogs and hot chocolate to the children of Cochrane. There is a parade from each end of town and they proceed towards our lake in the centre of town where they have a huge bonfire. The parade is a torch light parade. At the conclusion the Lions give out the goodies. We give out approximately 800 hot dogs and hot chocolate in a record time of about 45 minutes.

We have been involved in this project for over 30 yrs. That's over 24,000 hot dogs and hot chocolate, all donated by the Cochrane Lions Club.

*submitted by Lion Roy Telford
Life Member, Cochrane Lions Club*



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.

HOW TO GET INTO THE LION Contact your District Reporter

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

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

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

- | | | |
|-----------|---------------------|---|
| A1 | Lion Shawn Davison | email: shawnwd@yahoo.com |
| A2 | Lion Wayne Scott | email: w.scott@a2lions.org |
| A3 | Lion Wilma Bush | email: wilma.bush@sympatico.ca |
| A4 | Lion Sandra Baldwin | email: slbaldwin@rogers.com |
| A5 | Lion Julia Moore | email: juliagilbert@explornet.ca |

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

District Reporters

- | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|---|
| A711 | Lion Jean Walcott | email: jeanwal@rogers.com |
| A9 | Lion Al Leach PDG | email: adleach@hotmail.com |
| A12 | Lion Nick Poulakis | email: nixter@rockinbird.com |
| A15 | Lion Tracy Brant | email: branttron@quadro.net |
| A16 | Lion Judie Schell | email: jaschell@kawartha.net |

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Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842

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

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Your MD'A' Lions Promotions Committee has added to its product line to solidify 'LIONS visibility' in the Community, with the Lions Bench.

As the Friendship Arches symbolize the friendship of Lions to the communities in which they live and serve, the Lions Bench will now provide a more practical symbol of this same friendship to the community.

Installed in parks, outside public buildings i.e. libraries, community centres etc. the everyday use of our Lions Bench will provide that comforting acknowledgement that 'LIONS are serving in our communities.'

Special Introductory pricing is available until June 29, 2012. Your Club's support of this discounted venture will allow us to negotiate similar discounted offerings.
Al Page PCC, MD'A' Promotions Chair