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Important Addresses: Multiple District 'A' Lions Clubs International MDA Secretary: email: secretary@mdalions.org; MDA Treasurer: PDG Cathy Bock, 15-380 Quarter Line Road, Tillsonburg, ON N4G 5L5 Tel.: 519-842-9858 FAX: 519-842-7545 email: treasurer@mdalions.org; MD "A" The LION Committee Chairman: PDG Greg Readman, 3267 Hwy 118E., R.R.#3 Bracebridge ON P1L 1X1, Address Changes: To be made by the club secretary through the Monthly Membership Report as per item "E". Editorials/articles, advertising, and classified ads can be mailed to: MDA The Lion, 39 Paddy Dunn's Circle, Barrie ON L4M 6M1, 705-734-8134 or emailed to mdathelion@rogers.com. MD'A' The Lion is published 6 times annually.

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15-380 Quarter Line Road,
Tillsonburg, ON
N4G 5L5

- GOVERNORS' COUNCIL 2006-2007
Chairperson: David Cole (Susan)
45 Church Street
Brantford Ontario N3T 3R2
Res: 519-752-5891
Fax: 519-752-4553
Email: councilchair@mdalions.org
- A-1 Dave Balmos (Carol)
1445 Bernard Road
Windsor ON N8Y 4K5
h: 519-948-9465
f: 519-252-5518
Email: davecarol@sympatico.ca
- A-2 Gerry Ursacki (Cathy)
129 Highland Avenue
Port Colborne ON L3K 3S5
h: 905-835-2083
Email: gursacki@sympatico.ca
- A-3 Jim Lemoire (Nancy)
10 Ramsay Street
Trenton, Ont. K8V 2P5
h: 613-392-2701
f: 613-392-7427
Email: djlemoire@sympatico.ca
- A-4 James Johnston
529 Laroche Crescent
Chalk River. Ont. K0J 1J0
h: 613-589-2092
w: 613-584-3311 x 3455
Email: jamesj@magma.ca
- A-5 Bob Kingsnorth (PDG Grace)
37 Johnston Road
North Bay, Ont. P1B 8G1
h: 705-474-5229
Email: gbkingsnorth@hotmail.com
- A-7/11 Paul Baker (Chantel)
68 Harwood Avenue South
Ajax, Ont. L1S 2H6
h: 905-721-9484
Email: campuspublications@on.aibn.com
- A-9 Jim Kempster (Moira)
55 Shamrock Blvd., R.R.#3
Warton, Ont. N0H 2T0
h: 519-534-5556
Email: jl_kempster@hotmail.com
- A-12 Jim Hilt (Maureen)
RR #1, Site 4G, Box 24
Emsdale ON P0A 1J0
h: 705-636-1862
f: 705-636-0305
Email: jimohilt@sympatico.ca
- A-15 Nancy Ransom (Garry)
224 Tatlock Court
Waterloo ON N2L 5Y6
h: 519 746 5407
Email: nransom@sentex.ca
- A-16 Ray Howlett (Pat)
94 St. Patrick Street
LINDSAY ON K9V 1R6
h: 705-878-1913
w: 705-324-6164
Email: rhowlett@sympatico.ca

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EXECUTIVE OFFICERS
President, JIMMY M. ROSS, PO Box 368, Quitaque, Texas, 79255 USA; Immediate Past President, DR. ASHOK MEHTA, 95 K Bhulabhai Road, Khatau Mansion, Oomer Park, Mumbai 400 036, India; First Vice President, MAHENDRA AMARASURIYA, No. 70, Fife Road, Colombo 5, Republic of Sri Lanka; Second Vice President, ALBERT F. BRANDEL, 14 Herrels Circle, Melville, New York 11747-4247 USA.
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Admission of Women Shows Value of Prudent Change

Lions encountered a changed world 20 years ago. After decades of allowing only men to be Lions, women were allowed to join. At first, a brave few joined. But before long more and more took the plunge and today 17.5 percent of all Lions are women. In some districts the figure is close to 50 percent.

There was hand wringing among some Lions when their all-male sanctuary was breached. Some Lions wondered if they would ever feel the same about being a Lion and questioned whether they would ever feel as comfortable as they did.

that were drifting toward inactivity. Without women, Lions would not nearly be the same social force we are today.

Our experience with opening membership to women should serve as a parable. It's a story that teaches us to be open to change. Doing things differently can be fraught with anxiety. The easiest thing to do is to do what has been done in the past. But that's not necessarily the best course of action.

As International President, I've urged Lions to embrace a "paradigm shift." We need to take the best course of action, which is not always the routine or the expected. Don't change your club's chief fund-raiser or recruitment tactics just for the sake of change. But do consider the unique circumstances of your club and community and analyze if your practices are the best match for your situation. Many clubs probably should not change a thing or change only a thing or two. But others would probably flourish as never before if they make a few significant changes.

Life changes whether we like it or not. Those people and organizations that are adaptive and flexible stand the best chance of success. Melvin Jones, our founder, made a huge paradigm shift when he insisted that his new service club would be all about service and not self-interest, as was often the case in his day. We need to honor his spirit and be willing to embrace change and actively shape our destiny.

Jimmy Ross, President
The International Association of Lions Clubs

Women have enriched Lions clubs beyond measure.

They've brought new talents and energies to clubs and districts.

Well, as is often the case with sudden change, things turned out far differently than anticipated. Women have enriched Lions clubs beyond measure. They've brought new talents and energies to clubs and districts. They've saved some clubs from extinction and revived others

MD "A" Peace Poster Winner

On Friday December 8, 2006 four judges under the supervision of Council Chair Dave chose the winning Peace poster Contest winning poster. The judges: Helen Schruder, Holley Raymond, Irish Shields and Gale Murphy, all who have extensive backgrounds in art, chose the poster submitted by 12



year old Micah Gilchrist, Our Lady of Sorrows School, sponsored by Pembroke Petawawa Lions Club, District A4. Micah will be at the Convention to receive her \$1000 cheque. The Committee would like to thank all 10 District Governors and Chairs for submitting a poster. If you wish further information, contact your respective District Chair or myself, Lynn Mathewson at (613) 687-0191 or email mathlynn@sympatico.ca.

Fun and Fellowship While Supporting Lion's Foundation

by Nicole Brown

Imagine climbing to the top of the Leaning Tower of Pisa, walking inside the Colosseum in Rome, traversing the streets of the ruins at Pompeii and overlooking the old Olympic Stadium from high atop the Acropolis at the Parthenon in Athens. In addition to being famous historical sites and architectural marvels, these landmarks have something else in common: they were stops during the recent LCIF Cruise with the Chairperson.

For two weeks in November, 48 Lions came together for the vacation of a lifetime and left as friends for life. Chairperson Ashok Mehta and his wife, Kokila, hosted the 2006 cruise that visited 12 ports-of-call in Italy, Turkey, Croatia, Greece, France, Monaco and Spain.

Lions had the opportunity to share ideas and get to know one another during the cocktail parties and group dinners. "We enjoy seeing all of our friends and meeting new friends," said June Brieske of the Aiea Pearl Harbor Lions Club in Hawaii. Brieske and her husband, Phillip, have been on all seven Lions cruises. They've stayed in contact with several Lions they've met during past cruises and continue to exchange Christmas cards.

The cruise is also an opportunity to spread the word about Lions to those who may not know about Lions or be familiar with LCIF. Signs throughout the ship recognized the Lions group onboard and also created greater awareness of Lions clubs, prompting many of the other passengers to inquire what Lions do or how to become a member.

The cruise included excursions with local Lions. In Croatia, Lions sponsored a private concert by the Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra and prepared snacks and drinks authentic to the region. In Turkey, Lions visited a carpet-maker to witness the weaving process firsthand. In Monaco, Lions visited the tomb of Princess Grace Kelly at the church where she was married.

The cruise requires a donation of \$1,000 per cabin to LCIF. The Chairperson presents donors with a plaque and pin during a special awards ceremony. The 2006 cruise raised \$28,000 for LCIF. Every dollar donated to LCIF goes to support humanitarian grant projects. The Lions on the 2006 cruise have donated a combined total of more than \$200,000 to LCIF.

The eighth annual LCIF Cruise sets sail for Alaska's inner passage in August 2007. The first-ever LCIF cruise also sailed to Alaska. New this year, the cruise will be followed by a four-day land and rail tour to further explore the "Last Frontier's" unique and unrivaled beauty. "What separates this from the other Alaskan cruise is the opportunity to go into the interior and see Denali and Fairbanks, which I'm really looking forward to," said Phillip Brieske. For information on the 2007 cruise, please see the ad in this magazine.

Photos by Nicole Brown



Famous for its whitewashed houses and blue domed churches built on tall cliffs, Santorini island was one of the cruise's three stops in Greece.



Lions in District 118-R treated the Lions on the cruise to a full day of sightseeing and lunch including a visit to Ephesus, second largest city in the Roman Empire and one of the seven wonders of the ancient world.



LCIF Chairperson Dr. Ashok Mehta (second from left) and his wife, Kokila (second from right), 118-R District Governor Ahmet Konakli and his wife, Semra.

Highlights of the February Meeting of the Governor's Council

The third meeting of the 2006-2007 Council of Governors was held in London on Saturday February 17, 2007. The following represents the highlight topics discussed during the meeting:

Secretary – The MDA Office is now in full operation. MDA information and databases have been revamped and updated.

Treasurer – Council was advised that MDA dues outstanding totalled \$11,862. Based upon the financial documentation, motions were carried to a) top up the monies remaining in the LCIF & Windsor/D Int'l Convention to purchase a MJF and Helen Keller award, and b) that a new Audit Firm be identified for the upcoming year. It was explained that the following conditions must be met before the Bank of Canada would release unclaimed funds from Lions Clubs no longer in existence.

- Documentary proof is required that Lions Clubs International Multiple District A still operational dated 2006.

- Document that authorizes the claimee to sign in a representative capacity on behalf of MDA dated 2006.

- Documentation showing that MDA took over from the club where the claim is being made.

Resignation: Governors reluctantly accepted the resignation tendered by Treasurer Cathy Bock due to her future plans in Lionism. An advertisement for a new MDA Treasurer is included in this edition of the LION Magazine.

International Director – The International Director advised on a new LCI policy that will be in place on July 1, 2007 to deal with clubs with past due accounts. When a club is in arrears of \$20.00 per member or \$1000.00 per club, for 150 days, they will be put on status quo for 90 days. After 90 days the charter will automatically be cancelled. The club can elect to make arrangements with International to repay the back account then the club's charter will not be cancelled. Council approved the provision of transportation costs for MD“A” candidates attending the Faculty Development Institute. The Canadian Delegate (Caucus) Meeting at the International Convention would take place at 2:00 pm on Tuesday July 3, 2007 at McCormick Place in Chicago.

Administration – The recommendation from a review of the Rules of Audit for hotel accommodation & meals was that they remain unchanged pending a further review at the May Council meeting. There were two motions approved dealing with Council Chairperson's expenses that were passed to the C&BL Committee.

Constitution and By Laws –The following amendments to the MDA C&BL were presented and approved for inclusion on a ballot at the MDA 2007 Convention.

Item 1. By-Law - A resolution to add Council Meeting expenses for Vice District Governor to the Rules of Audit.

Be it resolved that By-Law VI section 7 be amended by adding a new subsection 8 to read as follows:

8. A Vice District Governor shall be entitled to Claim expenses from MD“A” for four (4) Governors' Council Meetings in accordance with the following conditions.

a. Transportation for distance travelled.

b. Room cost, not to exceed two (2) nights lodging with distance requirement not to apply.

c. Meal allowance, not to exceed three (3) days in total.

d. All claims must be in accordance with the District “A” Rules of Audit, with the exception of condition b) in this section.

Rationale: Reimbursement of expenses for attending Governors' Council meetings is listed under the Job Description, By Law II, Section 10, Other Meetings and should be noted under the appropriate section which outlines Rules of Audit. This allows for the elimination of the required 160 kms distance for claiming accommodations to bring it in line with what is allowed the District Governors and as approved by Governors Council.

Item 2. By-Law - A resolution to add Council Meeting and Administrative expenses for the Council Chair to the Rules of Audit.

Be it resolved that By-Law VI section 9 be amended to adjust the last sentence to read as follows:

In addition to Rules of Audit, the Chairperson of the Governors' Council shall be reimbursed actual expenses for accommodation and for Council Meetings, the distance requirement will not apply. The Council Chair shall also be reimbursed actual administrative expenses for carrying out Council Chair responsibilities associated with the purchase of printing supplies and office materials.

Rationale: A resolution (Item 1) will be made to eliminate the distance required for Vice District Governors to attend Council Meetings. There is presently no such provision relating to the 160 km rule for the Council Chair. Also, District Governors are provided with a \$75 allowance at the start of the Lions' fiscal year to offset the cost of downloading and printing of Council

Meeting materials. There is no such provision allowable for the Council Chair. With the conversion to a home-based MD “A” office there are additional administrative costs attributable to Council Chair responsibilities which would be addressed by allowing reimbursement of these actual expenses.

Item 3. Constitution - A resolution to grant voting privilege to the Council Chairperson.

Be it resolved that Article V section 10 be amended to read as follows:

Each member of the Governors' Council shall have one Vote, including the Council Chairperson.

Rationale: To conform to Lions International's recent C&BL revision.

Item 4. Constitution - A resolution to ratify the election of Vice District Governor.

Be it resolved that Article VI SECTION 3 Vice District Governor be amended to read as follows:

A Vice District Governor shall be elected in each District at a duly Constituted District meeting each year, such as the respective District Convention. The Vice District Governor so elected shall take office immediately on the adjournment of the International Convention next succeeding his/her election and he/she shall serve until the adjournment of the next following International Convention. If either of these Conventions is not held, a Vice District Governor's term of office shall run from July 1st of one year until June 30th of the following year.

Rational: To conform to Article VI SECTION 2 District Governors (See also SECTION 8)

Convention Committee – The date for the 2009 MDA Convention in North Bay is June 4-7, 2009. MDA is still looking for a bid to host the 2010 convention.

Promotion Committee – There is an issue with the cost of the MDA Breakfast if it is to be held in the Sheraton Hotel, alternative locations and/or venues for this event are being considered.

Hearing Conservation – Hearing Conservation organizations are being encouraged to have displays at the MDA Convention & LFC is reporting a large surge in the demand for Hearing Ear Dogs. Used hearing aides can be sent to the Canadian Hearing Society for refurbishing and forwarded to developing countries.

MERL – Convention program - a “Support our Troops” luncheon is planned on Friday, full Saturday morning of Information Sessions and a Blues Brothers/Dooley Sisters entertainment event scheduled for Saturday afternoon..

Research & Long Range Planning – A review of the Effective Speaking Manual was undertaken and recommendations passed to the Youth Opportunities Committee. The policy on the Volunteer Screening process is being revisited, the review of spending powers for the Governor’s Council and the development of MDA dues structure incorporating the family rate are ongoing. It was agreed that the development for a multiple district wide approach on the Vision

Screening program may not be possible and Governors agreed to support the program in its present form.

Sight Conservation - Designs for a club banner patch for Sight Conservation were provided to Governors for consideration. CNIB was authorized to promote a new “Vision of Hope” Award and approval was given for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation to approach districts to promote their program.

Youth Opportunities – The 2007 Effective Speaking Contest will be in Toronto on May 4&5. The winner of the MDA Peace Poster Contest is Micah Gilchrist, sponsored by the Pembroke Petawawa LC in District A4.

Council Chair Elect – Governor David Balmos from District A1 was elected as the Council Chair for 2007-2008.

Committee Changes: On Feb 7, 2007, PDG Gus Este was approved as the new C&BL Chairperson.

For more information, questions or concerns relating to these highlights please contact MDA Secretary Dave Voisey at secretary@mdalions.org or 613-843-1687

No School? No Problem Thanks to Portable School Kit

by Dina V. Montes
staff writer for UNICEF

In the desert of eastern Chad, dust and wind whip through the open-air classroom of the Bredjing camp where 14-year-old Fatna and other girls struggle to study math and writing. Fatna is learning. And she’s safe.

Fatna was among the tens of thousands of refugees who crossed the Chad-Sudanese border to flee the vicious fighting in Darfur that has left more than 200,000 dead in the last three years. She fled her village after it was raided by armed men who shot indiscriminately, killing anyone in their path. Fatna and her parents escaped, but her sister didn’t. “She died in front of us,” Fatna recalls. “We weren’t even able to bury her. We had to run.”

Fatna and other children of Darfur cope with their grief by staying busy in

school. Thanks to an innovative UNICEF educational kit known as School-in-a-Box and the support of Lions Clubs International (LCI), more children like her will be able to continue their education.

In the past decade, Lions in the United States and the United Kingdom have raised more than \$305,000 to support UNICEF’s School-in-a-Box program, which has helped millions of children around the world after disasters such as the South Asia tsunami and Hurricane Katrina. After Katrina, Lions helped distribute some of the boxes to teachers and students in Mississippi. As UNICEF has learned during its 60-year history, school can help children recover from the emotional and psychological trauma of war and natural disaster. It also can give children a chance to break free from poverty. That’s why UNICEF makes it a top priority in any emergency

to open classrooms as quickly as possible by shipping School-in-a-Box.

Created in 1994 by education experts, School-in-a-Box carries essential school supplies such as notebooks, pencils and scissors for up to 80 children. It allows a teacher to instantly set up a classroom anywhere – whether in a tent or under a shady tree. School-in-a-Box is also good for parents living in a refugee camp. With their children in school, they have the free time and emotional release they need for other family matters.

In Eastern Chad, Fatna’s father is pleased that his daughter is going to school. “It’s good for the family,” he said. “If a girl goes to school then she can help her family.” Fatna is also starting to look at her future in a new light.

“Maybe I can become someone in a good position with a responsible job,” she said. “I hope I can stay in school.”



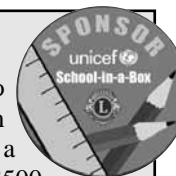
Maheel, an eight-year-old boy from Maldives, peeps from behind a pile of UNICEF-supplied notebooks, part of School-in-a-Box kits at a school on Villingili Island near Male, the capital. UNICEF provides psychosocial support and education materials to children affected by the tsunami. Photo courtesy of UNICEF/Giacomo Pirozzi

New Banner Patch

Lions clubs that donate US\$500 or more to LCIF for the UNICEF School-in-a-Box program will receive a banner patch. Clubs will receive a chevron patch for additional donations of US\$500 or more in subsequent years. Donations may be made payable to: Lions Club International Foundation, 300 W. 22nd Street, Oak Brook, IL 60523 USA. Upon receipt of the donation, LCIF will send the recognition patch directly to the club, free of charge.

LCIF will collect the donations and present one collective grant to the U.S. Fund for UNICEF at Lions’ Day at the United Nations.

For information, e-mail children@lionsclubs.org or call 630-571-5466, ext. 320.



Diabetic Adults Fear Blindness More Than Death



Adults with diabetes fear blindness or uncorrectable vision loss more than any other diabetes-related complication including premature death, according to results from a survey commissioned by the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) and Eli Lilly and Company.

Many diabetes patients feel they have been or would be affected by emotional challenges due to vision loss or blindness as a result of diabetes. At least 40 percent of adults with diabetes in the countries surveyed cited vision loss - including significant problems not correctable with glasses or contact lenses, or blindness - as what they feared the most; a substantially smaller proportion (8 to 20 percent) cited premature death as their greatest fear. The survey also found that people with diabetes fear blindness or vision loss at least twice as much as certain other health complications.

The seven-country survey, presented during the International Diabetes Foundation's 19th World Diabetes Congress in December in Cape Town, South Africa, involved telephone interviews with more than 1,450 adults with diabetes from the United States, France, Italy, Germany, South Africa, Spain and the United Kingdom.

Diabetes is the leading cause of blindness in working-age adults in the United States and a leading cause of blindness worldwide. Millions of adults with diabetes have diabetic retinopathy, a condition of the eyes that can lead to blindness. Only half of adults with diabetes in the countries surveyed were aware that blindness is a potential complication of diabetes. Adults with diabetes also associated vision loss with emotional issues including feelings of frustration, loss of independence, depression, loss of self-confidence and a strained relationship with a spouse or partner.

"I believe adults with diabetes fear vision loss and its potential effect on their emotional wellbeing, independence and overall quality of life," said LCIF Chairperson Ashok Mehta. "Given the devastating effects of vision loss, we

must continue to raise awareness of preventive measures people with diabetes can take to delay or prevent this serious disease complication, such as seeking annual dilated eye exams."

Knowledge of diabetes complications, including poor circulation, kidney damage, vision loss, blindness, heart attack, sores and premature death, varied. Some survey participants were highly knowledgeable about diabetes complications, while others were only partially informed. Additionally, many but not all people with diabetes were aware that blindness is a complication of diabetes. Survey participants also cited poor circulation in their hands and feet, significant vision loss or blindness as complications associated with diabetes.

*Diabetes is the
leading cause of
blindness in
working-age
adults in the
United States ...*

Among survey participants who are not blind, more than 80 percent acknowledge that it is important to have regular dilated eye exams to check for diabetic eye disease and a large majority also gets dilated eye exams at least once a year.

"We are encouraged that people with diabetes are willing to take proactive measures to preserve their vision. Our goal moving forward is to ensure that as many people with diabetes as possible take these steps to preserve their vision," said Dr. Donald Fong, an assistant clinical professor of ophthalmology at the UCLA School of Medicine who collaborated on the survey.

According to the American Diabetes Association, more than 20 million people in the United States, or seven percent of the population, have diabetes. While an estimated 14.6 million have been diagnosed, another 6.2 million people remain undiagnosed and have an increased risk of developing diabetes-related complications.

More than \$22 billion is spent annually on care and services for people who suffer from vision loss. People with diabetes are 25 times more likely to suffer from vision loss than the rest of the population, and the longer a person has diabetes, the greater the risk for retinopathy. With early detection and timely treatment, most vision loss can be avoided. It is this group of people that Lions need to reach with sight-saving information through the Lions Eye Health Program (LEHP).

Lions developed the program to promote awareness of eye health and educate people who are at risk for eye disease. The program was designed to increase early detection and timely treatment of glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy. Through LEHP, Lions clubs, community organizations and individuals are able to promote healthy vision in the United States. To increase public awareness, Lions can distribute eye health information, sponsor informational seminars and conduct eye screening to encourage annual dilated eye exams. The program is made possible through grants from LCIF, Eli Lilly and Company, and Allergan. To order publications and publicity materials, e-mail lehp@lionsclubs.org or visit www.lehp.org.

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The Lion
and much, much more.

Lions Fight Gruesome Blinding Disease



Four-year-old Getachew and Kongit, 48, are just two of the hundreds of thousands of people with trachoma who had their vision saved thanks to Lions' initiatives in Ethiopia alone. In Ethiopia, a country of great and varied eye care needs, local Lions and Lions Clubs International Foundation's SightFirst program have developed a comprehensive program to address those needs.

Lions are very active in the fight against trachoma and LCIF has provided \$10 million in funding for eight ongoing projects and assistance to The Carter Center. In addition to supporting tens of thousands of cataract operations, training ophthalmic nurses and surgeons, and strengthening eye care centers in rural and underserved areas, Lions have developed a long-term plan for eliminating trachoma by 2020. Lions are doing more than fighting the disease, they are helping prevent it altogether.

Trachoma is one of the oldest known infectious diseases and the leading cause of preventable blindness. It is a bacterial disease, spread easily through close contact. It does not immediately blind those infected with the disease; instead it

is a slow and painful robber of sight. Children and women are most susceptible to infection, when scarring from repeated infections causes the eyelashes to turn inward and scratch the cornea, leading to complete blindness. It is even more painful than it sounds. However, if the disease is caught in the early stages, an easy and inexpensive surgery can be performed to prevent blindness.

Trachoma remains endemic in Ethiopia, with more than 11 percent of the population blind from the disease. SightFirst grants are providing funding for trachoma programs in Ethiopia and Sudan. The Carter Center handles the technical aspects of the program, and Lions play a vital role in grass-roots efforts to implement educational programs and improve hygienic practices, such as increased face-washing and hand-washing, to stop the spread of the disease.

Lions are also crucial in distributing medicines for treatment, and to date nearly 4 million treatments have been provided. In Ethiopia, Lions constructed 90,000 latrines in one year alone. To improve public awareness of both the

disease and preventative measures, Lions conduct regular trainings. Residents of more than 1,700 villages have been trained. Also trained were 159 trichiasis surgeons and 7,200 community leaders and schoolteachers.

In all, 8 million people are visually impaired as a result of trachoma, and 84 million suffer from active infection. LCIF plans to expand trachoma control activities from six to 15 nations by 2010 and increase the population served from two million to 30 to 40 million people. Lions also plan to eliminate the backlog of patients needing trichiasis surgery by supporting 40,000 free surgeries annually in countries with backlogs, compared to the current 6,000.

Trachoma is just one of the many programs supported by SightFirst, a program that will continue to grow in order to stamp out this vicious disease through funds raised during Campaign SightFirst II. By 2020, LCIF's expected funding to combat trachoma will equal from one-fourth to one-third of the overall funding throughout the world, placing Lions at the forefront of the international effort.

Camp Dorset Update



The Camp Dorset has had to tear down two of the efficiency units due to mold in the basements and sidewalls. Engineers and the Camp Dorset board of Directors agreed upon this. These buildings are being rebuilt by the people from Cor Can and Beaver Creek. The pictures indicate what stage the construction is at.

Reported by Lion Peter Kurtz

MULTIPLE DISTRICT 'A' TREASURER

"Management Position"

Multiple District "A" requires a qualified individual to fill the position of TREASURER, effective July 1, 2007.

BY-LAW II, SECTION 5 - District "A" Treasurer

The District "A" Treasurer shall manage the M.D. "A" financial functions as detailed in the M.D. "A" Policy Manual under the direction and supervision of the Governors' Council.

KEY SKILLS:

- * Have a general knowledge of Lionism
- * Have a good understanding of the Lions Constitution & By-Laws, and a thorough knowledge of those areas covering the application of the Rules of Audit
- * Have a thorough knowledge of the financial implications throughout the MD "A" Policy Manual
- * Possess excellent communication, problem solving & organizational skills
- * Possess proven accounting skills, including financial planning, budget preparation, reconciliation of control accounts & preparation of financial statements
- * Possess a thorough knowledge of Simply Accounting Software
- * Possess previous Management/Administrative skills
- * Attention to detail and able to meet deadlines

This is a part time, home based position with varying weekly time commitments throughout the year. This is a five year appointment with an annual honorarium. As Treasurer you will sit on the R&LRP Committee, Lion Magazine Committee, Administration Committee & the Promotion Committee. A detailed job description is currently in the MD "A" Policy Manual which can be downloaded off our Web site - www.mdalions.org

Interested applicants should submit their resumes no later than April 27, 2007, to PDG Dan Davis, R.R. #6, Napanee, ON K7R 3L1 or email ddavis@continentalconveyor.ca

We thank all applicants but only those to be interviewed will be contacted.

Lions Contribute in a Big Way

by Sue Crosson-Knutson

Lions have bragging rights. The 2005-06 online Monthly\Yearly Activity Reports (formerly the Activity Report or A-1 Report) submitted by club secretaries revealed an overwhelming number of volunteer service hours and financial donations. The average Lions club reported:

- US\$12,309 donated to charitable causes. This represents an estimated worldwide total of US\$554,458,905 (based on 45,045 Lions clubs as of June 30, 2006).
- 2,875 volunteer service hours to the community. This represents an estimated worldwide total of 129,504,375 volunteer service hours.

Top Ten Activities

Lions clubs worldwide implement service projects that fulfill the particular

needs of their communities. The top 10 activities according to the 2005-06 Activity Report were:

- Aid to the elderly: 40 percent of clubs reported
- Youth recreation/sports: 35 percent
- Community clean-ups: 33 percent
- Eyeglass collection: 32 percent
- Disaster relief: 31 percent
- Scholarships: 30 percent
- Recreation: 29 percent
- Blood donation: 29 percent
- Citizenship: 25 percent
- Culture/the arts: 24 percent

Clubs carried out these activities in a variety of ways. For example, a Lions club may have purchased a new pair of eyeglasses or a hearing aid for a senior citizen. Another club may have financed an assistance dog for an elderly person in a wheelchair. Still another club may have financed the purchase of insulin for an elderly person with diabetes.

Activities favored by Lions clubs in various regions of the world included:

- used eyeglass collections in the United States and its affiliates, Bermuda and the Bahamas: 59 percent
- aid to the elderly in Canada: 49 percent, Latin America: 55 percent, Europe: 42 percent, and Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia and the South Pacific: 55 percent.
- blood donations in the Orient and Southeast Asia: 76 percent.
- vision screenings in India, South Asia, Africa and the Middle East: 35 percent.

Lions can proudly share news about club, district and worldwide accomplishments through Lions newsletters and local media. For information about the Monthly\Yearly Activity Report, contact the Program Development Department at: programs@lionsclubs.org

Substantial Progress Two Years After the Tsunami

by Nicole Brown

Donations from Lions worldwide poured in after the devastating tsunami that struck South Asia. Today, Lions have reason to celebrate and feel proud of all that has been accomplished. Whether on the ground helping rebuild, distributing goods or sending money, Lions from around the world played an integral role in rebuilding both lives and infrastructure in the hardest hit areas.

December 26 marked the second anniversary of the tsunami, and LCIF already has allocated all \$15 million of the funds designated for tsunami relief. Every penny of every dollar donated went directly to grants to Lions in South Asia who oversaw every step of the relief efforts and advised LCIF on the needs in the affected areas. There are 160,000 Lions members in the region. Lions and LCIF are committed to long-term relief, well after other organizations have left the region. Lions and LCIF were the first in many areas to complete reconstruction projects because Lions are leaders in many of the communities and have been integral in working with the government. A total of 3,319 homes are under construction or have been completed in Sri Lanka, Thailand, Indonesia and India.

"When the tsunami struck Sri Lanka, it left in its wake miles of wreckage along our coast," said Past International Director Chuck Wijenathen, Lions Tsunami Rebuilding Committee Chairperson. "The support of the 9,800 Lions members in this country has had a great impact on rebuilding efforts because of the business and political relationships that are already established."

In Sri Lanka, 500 of the 1,452 planned homes are completed. Lions are now establishing professional development programs to help those displaced by the tsunami become more financially self-sufficient.

LCIF staff have visited reconstruction projects and met with Sri Lankan Lions three times in the last two years, and International President Jimmy Ross traveled to Sri Lanka in December. "The Lions of South Asia have helped put lives back together and have given hope to thousands of people," he said. "It's very

emotional when a child comes up to you and thanks you for their new home." Lions in Indonesia established three Lions villages with 545 homes. Plans are under way to construct a school and medical clinic in each of the villages. LCIF has replaced fishing boats, nets and ponds to enable villagers to return to their seafaring livelihood. Lions in Thailand built 195 homes in two villages on two islands. LCIF Chairperson Dr. Ashok Mehta distributed keys to the proud owners of the new homes.

"I am so proud of the Lions village project. We've never done a project of this magnitude before, but we are able to because of LCIF," said Dr. Wallapa Wisawasukchol, secretary of Multiple District 310, Thailand. "It is important that local Lions were the leaders on this project because they know the problems of the people who were affected by the tsunami. Lions have provided hope and a new life to the people, and that makes me so proud."

Lions have also constructed water towers, orphanages and clinics on both islands. A new economic revival program is under way for the hundreds of people who are dependent on marine life, and a vocational center to re-establish fishing in the area will open later this year. Lions also plan to build schools. Lions of India are building 851 homes as well as community rehabilitation centers, potable water facilities, primary health centers, schools and orphanages.

The tsunami may be over, but Lions' and LCIF's work continues. Because Lions gave so generously, Lions and LCIF truly improved people's lives.



A partnership between LCIF, Sri Lankan Lions, Belgium Lions, and the Solideal Loadstar Rehabilitation Trust, a local non-governmental organization, led to the construction of 100 homes near the town of Weligama, Sri Lanka. Photo by Benjamin Futransky



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The Knights of the Blind

Lions/CNIB Partnership Program



Update on the Renovation of the CNIB Lake Joseph Centre

Dear Members of our Lions Family,

As Sight Conservation Chair serving the Lions Family of Multiple District "A", I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with a short update on the current renovation of The CNIB Lake Joseph Centre and to urge your club to lend its support to this unique recreational and rehabilitation facility.

As many of your club members already know, The CNIB Lake Joseph Centre is currently undergoing an exciting transformation through an extensive \$6 million redevelopment project called Restoring the Spirit. This work was necessitated by the rapid deterioration of the site, as it could no longer safely accommodate the growing number of guests.

During the first phase of the renovation two key buildings – the Main Lodge and the Medical Building – were rebuilt. The next phase of Lake Jo's transformation began on October 1st 2006 when CNIB and the Restoring the Spirit Campaign Cabinet held a Ground Breaking celebration. As part of this second phase all four residential cabins on the far side of the Administration Building have already been demolished. New footings have been poured, panels for the six new cabins have been installed and the buildings have been enclosed with roofs. Work on the interior finishings is starting within the next few weeks. All work is proceeding as scheduled and CNIB staff are confident that the renovated residential cabins will open in time to welcome guests for the 2007 summer season.

As always, Lions and Lioness Clubs have been instrumental in making this work possible. In fact, the success of phase one was largely due to two pledges of \$1 million each from the Lions and Lioness Clubs of MD"A" and The Ministry of Northern Development and Mines. I am very proud of the Lions' commitment to Lake Jo would like to sincerely thank all clubs that have already supported its renovation.

However, despite the generosity of many clubs, there is still a great need for our contributions. This year overall donations to Lake Jo are down to \$10,000. The Lions and Lioness clubs of Ontario are Lake Jo's strongest and most loyal supporters. To ensure the remainder of the project is successful, I strongly urge your club to make a donation to Restoring the Spirit, or if you already have done so, to consider making a second gift.

To make a donation, please make your cheque out to Cathy Bock, MD"A" Treasurer Lake Joseph Client Services, 15-380 Quarter Line Rd., Tillsonburg, ON N4G 5L5.

Please feel free to contact Jacqueline Harrison, Manager, CNIB Lake Joseph Centre with any comments or questions. You can reach Jacqueline by phone at (705) 375 2630 or by email at lakejo@cnib.ca.

On behalf of all future guests of Lake Jo, I sincerely thank you for your tireless commitment to CNIB and for helping to build such an important and enduring partnership.

Yours in Lionism,

Lion Ted Hughes, PDG District A4
MDA Sight Conservation Chair

Advertisement

Forever Young

Leos: 50 Years Old and Still Going Strong

by Pamela Mohr

What better way to illustrate the importance of service to others than by leading by example? For 50 years, Lions have been doing just that.

In 130 countries and geographical areas, their commitment to the Leo clubs they sponsor has shown generations of young people their potential for leadership, compassion and humanitarian service.

And along the way, Leos have learned some valuable life lessons, made friends and had fun while doing good. Leo clubs have spread far beyond Pennsylvania, where the first club was formed in 1957, the result of an idea pitched by Glenside Lion Jim Graver. A baseball coach at Abington High School, Graver and another Lion named William Ernst thought a Lions-sponsored youth group would be an excellent way to involve teens in a meaningful opportunity for service that would benefit the community as well as members.

Glenside Lions embraced the idea of a club for youths and the first Leo Club consisting of 35 teens was soon formed. In addition to the 26 baseball players coached by Graver, nine other high school students joined what became the world's first Leo Club. Using the acronym Leadership, Equality (later changed to Experience), Opportunity, the Abington High School Leo Club was established.

The first president of the new club was Bill Graver, the coach's son and a player on the baseball team. It remained the only club until the Tamaqua, Pennsylvania club was organized in 1963. As an appropriate charter gift, Abington High School Leos presented a banner to the new club. The next year, there were 27 Leo clubs in Pennsylvania and one in New York.

By 1967, Lions Clubs International adopted Leo Clubs as an official program, and youth service clubs were proving an obvious choice for Lions to endorse. With a worldwide membership of more than 140,000, Leo clubs are a clear choice for young people who desire taking a pro-active approach to volunteer service.

They're not simply talking about making the world a better place in which to live – they're taking their enthusiasm for service out of the classroom and into the community. Leo clubs give students a voice in the world and a chance to make a difference, whether in small steps or giant leaps. They've built houses for the poor, cleaned up their communities, adopted people in need and nurtured minds and bodies with donations of books and food.

The world is a richer place for their involvement in humanitarian service. Whether it's their own country or another that's hit hard by natural disasters, Leos immediately mobilize to offer their assistance. Not only are Leos choosing to work harder to make a difference in the lives of others, they're choosing unique and personal projects, distinctive statements of service.

Leo clubs have, in fact, become so centrally recognized as an integral part of the association that the International Board of Directors has recently changed the program's designation from "activity" to affiliation to reflect its importance.

Who They Are and Why They Serve

Each person becomes a volunteer to help others, but the path every individual takes to the realization that he or she can be part of the big humanitarian picture is a varied one.

This holds true for men and women of all ages around the world. The same willingness to reach out to help, whether it's one person, an entire community or even a whole continent, is a common bond that Leos and Lions share. The paths to service may be quite different around the world, but the shared thread is a generous spirit that links humanitarians of every age.

Recounting how he became a Leo, Sameer Aryal, president of the Kathmandu Chabahil Club in Nepal, says, "I came to learn about Lions and Leo clubs through my father, who is also the charter president of our sponsoring Lions club.

"At first, I joined the club with the intention of socializing in my free time,

but I was surprised to find out how much I could learn being a Leo. For instance," he cites, "the importance of doing work in a group and how to put forth ideas to others and implementing those ideas effectively.

"Getting into a Leo club is not just for socializing I learned, but it helps sharpen us for our professional futures. I presume I will continue serving as a Lion, as well. Undoubtedly, I would feel privileged to be a Lion later in my life."

*The world is a
richer place
for their
involvement in
humanitarian
service.*

Now a university student studying management, Aryal points out, "Almost every program is organized jointly for its effectiveness and Lions and Leos contribute equally on their part."

One such project was a recent health clinic both clubs organized in a rural part of Nepal, where 1,500 patients were examined in two days. Kathmandu Chabahil Leos and Lions also worked together to sponsor a Diabetes STRIDES Walk in November on World Diabetes Day. Both clubs, it seems, place obvious value on the ability to collaborate for the benefit of the community.

"However," Aryal points out, "we enjoy the freedom to organize a program on our own and recently, Leos from our club started teaching in an orphanage to children who would otherwise be deprived of an education."

In her 20s now, Anne Katrin Peters, a member of the Munich Karl Valentin Lions Club, served in three different Leo clubs before becoming a Lion and is the editor of the German edition of THE LION Magazine. Peters joined her first

Leo club in her hometown of Bremerhaven in 1996 and then transferred to the Leo Club of Hamburg Askaniar when she moved away from home to study in that city.

After completing her studies, she moved to Munich to begin her career and continued her service opportunities by joining the Leo Club of Munich Bavaria. "In all these years – and two times being a club president – I learned a lot about getting people to work for the benefit of others," she says.

"This way of motivating and handling different interests is very helpful for my job, as well," Peters says. "I also learned about real friendship across borders and ages since I've met so many Leos and Lions now, people I would really miss if I hadn't first joined a Leo club." There are, in fact, several other former Leos in Peters' Lions club, all of whom desire to actively keep the spirit of volunteerism going that had been sparked during their earlier years.

June Palmera Vasquez, 2005-06 president of the Bataan Host Leo Club in the Philippines, believes that joining the club brought about "the moment that defined what true service and purpose means. I found my role in making a difference and touching lives.

"Being a member and leader of the Bataan Host Leo Club is a great privilege, with challenging experiences and yet fulfilling opportunities. Giving service to the community, especially the children and less fortunate, paved the way in defining what responsibility, discipline and commitment mean.

"Youth is power. And Leo clubs empower young people to make a difference and go beyond the limits to inspire, to touch lives and to serve."

Possibly the largest Leo club in the world, the Serve & Learn Student Association (SALSA) Leo Club in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, has undertaken projects from painting homes for Habitat for Humanity to repairing wheelchairs for people in need to showing support for people with mental illness by participating in the National Alliance for Mental Illness Annual Walk.

With a membership of more than 460 students, the SALSA Leo Club serves up a different strategy for meeting human need. The club also provides a unique perspective in organizational history.

Chartered only two years ago as a Leo club, the group had the backing of local

Lions for years. SALSA started as a youth service learning program created in 1999 by the HELP!Line Center in Sioux Falls. The purpose of the program was volunteerism and community service, so it seemed a perfect fit when it became an official Leo club sponsored by the Sioux Falls Downtown Lions Club in 2004.

Mike Hall, a past president and current Leo advisor, explains the serendipitous way in which the SALSA Leo Club came to be. "SALSA and Leo clubs share a common mission of volunteerism and service learning," he believes. "It became intuitively obvious to us that a partnership would bring added value to both organizations.



"Last year, SALSA members numbered 528. High school students from our four area public high schools make up SALSA. These students recognize the need to volunteer and feel an obligation to give back to their community through service learning projects." During the 2005-2006 school year, SALSA Leos donated more than 5,600 hours to various community agencies.

One SALSA Leo, Chelsey Shupick, is also a winner of the 2006 Leo of the Year Award, one of 18 given the prestigious honor worldwide. "All it takes is one really neat volunteer experience and it shapes who you become," she believes.

Mentoring young people as a Leo club advisor is a role that brings with it many challenges, but also immeasurable rewards. Sara Greenlee, an advisor to the Bentleyville, Pennsylvania, Leo Club and a District 14-M Leo coordinator, explains why she devotes time to the program. "I thoroughly enjoy watching the Leos get that look of satisfaction on

their faces upon completion of a project, especially one that has been difficult, whether it's physical or emotional.

Many of these students use the Leo program as a vehicle as their only means of accomplishment during their high school years. They may not be able to play football, basketball, soccer or another sport. They may not play an instrument, and they may not be at the top of their class," she points out.

"But that doesn't stop them from feeling truly gratified that they were able to collect food to feed 250 local families at Thanksgiving," Greenlee emphasizes, "or make cards and visit 200 patients in the local veterans hospital or give up their Christmas gifts so they can provide for a family that had been displaced due to Hurricane Katrina.

"Their dedication to the program is unbelievable and I'm honored to share my time with them."

Meeting Challenges with Commitment

In every community Leos serve, they strive to match projects to local needs.

In some areas of the world, funding libraries and finding used books to fill them are a big project. Environmental activities are popular with Leos all over the globe as young people increasingly realize all the challenges the planet faces with deforestation and global warming.

Leos living in developing countries face more severe challenges as they care for the aged, the infirm, the young and the homeless in their areas. They plant trees, run health clinics, distribute information designed to educate the population about preventable diseases and collect food and clothing for the poor.

The assistance rendered by Leos is very often life-saving as natural disasters and poverty take their toll.

Answering human need is one of the most prevalent challenges encountered by Leos. In Virginia, a recent project of the Linton Hall Leo Club was packing boxes filled with clothing, school supplies and toiletries to be sent to Appalachia to help disadvantaged families. Other projects have underscored the need for giving others a helping hand – Leos have helped families recommended by the Red Cross, sent boxes of food to a shelter for women and children and have sent boxes of school supplies to a school in Iraq.

After Hurricane Katrina struck, Anacoco, Louisiana, Leos helped recovery efforts in several ways. When the Louisiana Lions Camp for Children was hastily opened to shelter more than 100 people displaced by the hurricane, Leos worked alongside Lions to fund and provide meals for those left suddenly homeless. The evacuees left two months later, and Leos and Lions then cleaned the campgrounds and groomed them in readiness for another year of hosting campers.

In Sri Lanka, Leos in District 306-C raised money to rebuild and refurbish school libraries destroyed by the 2004 tsunami.

Twenty-one schools benefited from the generosity of Leos' "Donate a Book or Brick" project. Two libraries were so badly damaged that they had to be entirely rebuilt and restocked. In addition to the library project, Leos built a children's playground at one of the schools. Several Leo and Lions clubs in the United States also contributed to the project.

Blindness proved to be no barrier to service, Indiana resident R. J. Crace has found. He served as president of the Indiana School for the Blind Leo Club and is now in his first year at Ball State University as a telecommunications major. "I think that anytime you can participate in a Leo club, especially as the president, it can do nothing but positive things for you.

He says that he learned many things from his tenure as president, but "more importantly, I learned about the responsibilities that someone in a leadership role must take outside of meetings. There's only so much time for meetings; the fact that a meeting was over didn't mean that we didn't have anything to do until the next meeting. I learned some things about finding a balance between accepting input from fellow members and making final decisions.

"Groups of students within the club have knitted things like scarves for an inner city public school and blankets for babies born prematurely. Many of us

have visited a home for senior citizens on the south side of Indianapolis.

"Youth and old age often make wonderful companions. It's incredibly rewarding to realize you've made a small impact on somebody's life."

There have been countless moments of such small impacts that have made huge differences in the lives of men, women and children around the world.

Anne Frank once observed: "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world."

That desire to make things better, to commit themselves to meeting human need - whether by small steps or giant leaps - has for five decades defined the young men and women who call themselves Leos. The world is indeed a richer place for their commitment to making a difference. The 50th anniversary of Leo clubs is a celebration not just of the program, but a celebration of the generosity of the human spirit.

The Question That Started it All

Bill Graver laughs when called "the original Leo," but it was a question he posed to his father that started Leo clubs on their way. "I came home from school one day and asked my dad why there wasn't a sort of junior Lions clubs for kids. We had the Key Club and the Wheel Club, but there wasn't one that was sponsored by Lions. 'Why not?' I wanted to know."

The strong and steady friendship between co-founders James Graver and Bill Ernst helped drive the Leo club program forward, but it also took another happy turn. Bill Graver, now a Manchester, Connecticut Lion, married Ernst's daughter, Louisa, who has been his wife for 43 years.

"My dad died in 1969 and Bill Ernst died a couple of years ago," he says. "Right up until the end, my father-in-law was actively promoting Leo clubs. I think he was their Number One cheerleader.

"He and my dad were such close friends that I think he was inspired by my dad's memory. They worked together so hard to help Leo clubs grow, attending so many functions and advocating the program."

Now retired as an educator and counselor, he believes strongly in learning by example. He chose education as a profession and continues his volunteerism as a Lion. "You get involved with people and issues at an early age and learn problem solving," he says about his early years as a Leo. "You are inspired by the people you look up to."

Graver says it's "unbelievable" to him that there are now more than 5,400 Leo clubs today. "And it all started with a simple conversation I had with my dad," he says.



Bill and Louisa Graver



Co-founder Bill Ernst (seated) enjoys the company of Leos at the 1997 International Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

A1

Mount Brydges Gives



The Mount Brydges Lions Club recently made a \$500 donation to the Strathroy Salvation Army. On hand for the presentation were (left to right) Club President Alan Bailey, Captain Ed Hayden of the Salvation Army, and Lion Jerry Veale. In addition to the donation, the Mount Brydges Lions Club has annually volunteered for the Salvation Army Kettle Campaign in Mount Brydges. Captain Hayden presented the club with a Volunteer Appreciation certificate.

Submitted by Lion Marilyn Madacsi

A2



Eyes Right Campaign

At the August 2004 District A1 meeting and school of instruction a pledge of \$120,000 was made to the Chatham/Kent Health Alliance Hospital. The pledge was made by the Lions, Lioness and Leo's of the District to "EYES RIGHT", District A1 Lions SightFirst Conservation Foundation. The promise was to complete this over a period of 5 years.

On February 11, 2007 at the District meeting the final cheque was presented to the hospital representative completing the commitment of \$120,000 in a record time of just 2 1/2 years. A remarkable achievement to say the least. Over the 16 years of the Foundation's existence, \$478,000 has been raised and donated to several hospitals in South Western Ontario.

The purpose as a Foundation is to create "Centres of excellence" in Eyecare in District A1. As a Lions family "WE CARE."

Submitted by Lion Marilyn Madacsi



Eyes Right Chair Lion Peter Geene presents a cheque to Michele Grzebien representing the Chatham/Kent Health Alliance.



At the Zone 24 West Zone Advisory meeting, a \$1000 cheque was presented to Eyes Right Director PDG Joe Madacsi, right, by Sarnia Township Lions Club President Joyce Doucet, left. ZC Lion John Stewart, centre, witnessed the proceedings.

Lifetime Achievement

These ladies received a lifetime membership achievement award in the Lioness MDA and in the Beamsville District Lioness Club for their work and dedication. Left to right: Mary Potter, Lucy Kendall, Lillian Romagnoli, Ruth Newell, Betty Creek and Rita Morissette. Absent was Lioness Bernice Robertson.

Submitted by Lioness Clara Terryberry

Mustang To Go



The Waterford Lions were praised for working very hard in selling tickets on a 2006 Mustang Car, and their profit made them feel that their efforts were well worth while. At the presentation were left to right: Blue Star Car Dealer Kyle Kowtaluk, Lion Garry Witham, winner of the 2006 Mustang - Dave Cole, Lions President Paul Hrvoyevich.

Submitted by Lion Don Dedrick

Jordan Parade



The Jordan Lions Club packaged and then gave away 500 bags of candy at their annual parade throughout the Town of Lincoln. Pictured left to right is Hoy boy (snowman) Lion Scott Bahro, Santa with a child, Clown Jennifer Haynes and clown Nancy, daughter of Lion Len Taylor.

Submitted by Lion Stan Muir

Warden Gets Hers



At the Fisherville District Lions Club November 7th dinner meeting, the club honoured one of it's hard working spouses. We all know that without the help of our Partners-In-Service, we would not be able to accomplish as much as we do. This night also served as a way to pay tribute to the Warden, Marilyn Rohrbach, for her years of hard work for both the Fisherville Lions and the community as a whole by presenting her with a Helen Keller Fellowship Award. On hand that night to roast the Warden were, standing left to right: club president Bill Coleman, Marlene Burger, former Lion Warren Burger, Marilyn Rohrbach, Raymond Rohrbach, Cheryl Allen, and PDG Bob Allen.

Submitted by Lion Don Dedrick

Clowning Around



The enjoyment of being a past Governor, as PDG Bob Davis has, means a little more time for clowning around at the Region 4 Fall Rally held in Tillsonburg.

Submitted by Lion Don Dedrick

Tillsonburg Gives \$3500



Tillsonburg Lions Club presented a cheque for \$3,500 towards defibrillators to be used in the Tillsonburg Community Centre. Lion Jack Whitmore present the cheque to Tillsonburg Community Centre staff member Julie Dawley,

Submitted by Lion Don Dedrick

Contest Winner



Tillsonburg Lion Dave Beres, bulletin Editor, is congratulated by Club VP Marcel Rosehart on winning the MDA Bulletin Contest for two consecutive years.

Submitted by Lion Don Dedrick

Peterborough Update

The East Peterborough Lions Club has been busy with recent donations. Last November the members gathered at Lansdown Place where they donated \$900 worth of toys to the Salvation Army & CKPT Christmas Toy Drive.

Among other donations - the largest being \$4000 to Peterborough Festival of Trees to sponsor the Heritage Breakfast; Salvation Army Christmas Hamper Fund \$2000; Kawartha Food Share \$1000; Community Care \$900; Canadian Cystic Fibrosis St. Patrick's Hockey Tournament for ice time \$150; Communities In Bloom \$500; Camp Trillium/Garrett's Island \$525; Easter Seals \$200; Holy Cross Secondary School visit to Honduras \$300; Child Find \$100; MS Society to sponsor Daphne Kelly in their Walk \$100, and the Club just keeps on giving.

Submitted by Lion Esther Shaw



Club President Randy Brooks, left, is pictured with Greg Mather, PRHC Foundation, accepting a \$10,000 cheque from Lion Wayne Halstead, right, Chair of the Bingo Committee. The Club made the presentation at their regular February meeting.

72 Christmas Hampers

Having fun helping to pack 72 Christmas hampers for those in need are the Burke Boys of The Brighton Lions Club. Lions Brian & Bob Burke are brothers in Lionism, not by birth. The club has been raising funds & packing hampers for several years in co-operation with the Salvation Army & Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church. Tickets are sold on a \$1000 draw to raise funds. Other service clubs & churches donate as well.

Submitted by Lion Ruth Moore



Children With Cancer



Kingston Lakeshore West Lions Club President Donna Dueshann presented a cheque to \$10,000 to assist Children with Cancer at Kingston General Hospital. We were surprised when hospital staff informed us that the government puts in nine dollars for each dollar raised locally which in effect means that Kingston General Hospital receives \$100,000 as a result of our efforts. For a small club this was a very significant contribution to the Club's community.

Submitted by Lion Orrin Splane

60 Perfect Years

Bowmanville Lions Club President Charles Stevens, left, congratulates Lion Bud Oke upon receiving a 60 year Perfect Attendance Award and Monarch Award. Lion Bud joined the Lions in October 1946, was club secretary, Club President, and has chaired numerous committees during his 60 years as a Lion. Lion Bud continues to help with the club BBQ's and functions held in the community.

Submitted by Lion Doug Rutherford



Napanee Fund Raiser



From left, Lion Diana Lloyd, Lion Linda Shannon and Lion Mary Davis from the Napanee Lions Club have been working very hard to raise money for Campaign SightFirst II. The first event was last October - a Fall Fashion Show held at the Napanee Lions Hall which we raised almost \$1500 and in November the Club held a Sight It Out competition, (Similar to Canadian Idol, but a smaller version). The winner was Bobi Jo Robins, who won a recording package at the 199 Studio in Toronto. The Club also raised over \$1500 from this event. To date the Napanee Lions Club has sent \$3000 to Campaign SightFirst II. What a great feeling when we know that we are making a difference in someones life.

Submitted by Lion Mary Davis

See
THE
Lion
Online
at
www.mdalions.org

A4

Clarence Creek



The Clarence Creek Lions Club donated \$1,275 to CNIB Ottawa region and presented the cheque to Sabrina Howe, of the CNIB. Sabrina is shown receiving the cheque from Club President Gaetan Page. The money was raised at a golf tournament held at the Hammond Golf & Country Club.

Parade Collections



The Pembroke Petawawa Lions Club held their Annual Santa Claus Parade and collected food items and toys. Club President Gerry Haley presented Winston Mick, Chairperson of the St Joseph's Food Bank, with all the food items and a cheque for \$500. The toys that were collected during the Santa Claus Parade were donated to the Salvation Army along with a \$250 cheque. Making the presentation to Captain Robert Spurrell is Lion Lynn Mathewson.

Bass Tournament



Since 1993, the Lefavre Lions Club has organized an annual Open Bass Tournament. Situated on the Ottawa River directly across from the world-renowned Chateau Montebello in Montebello Quebec, the Ottawa River offers excellent angling opportunities. From 16 teams the first year, to 125 teams in 2006, the Tournament has grown to be one of the largest Bass Tournaments in Canada, attracting amateurs as well as professionals. Prizes total \$10,000. The proceeds from this annual event are used to help organizations such as the United Way, Blind Angler, The Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, The Terry Fox Foundation, Diabetes Association, The Cancer Society, among other local organizations, schools and charities. Interested anglers should contact the Lions Club Secretary Allan MacDonald at amacdonald007@sympatico.ca.

Glengarry Hospital



On January 14 the Maxville & District Lions Club presented a cheque for \$5000 to the Glengarry Memorial Hospital in Alexandria. The money was part of \$17,000 raised in a joint effort between the Maxville & District and Alexandria Lions Clubs, which included a walk-a-thon held in October.

Pictured, left to right, are A4 Vice District Governor Jerome Andre, Club Fundraising Chair Rene Aubin, ZC Ron McCrory, GMH Foundation Manager Roxanne Robertson and Club President Robert MacLeod.

Submitted by Lion Glen Campbell

Helping Hand

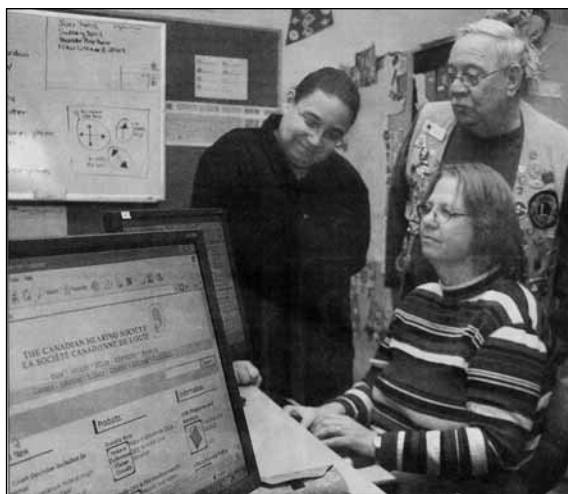


The Clarence Creek Lions Club donated \$1,000 to the Foundation for Stephane Parisien. Stephane is in a wheel chair suffering from rheumatoid arthritis. Pictured left to right: Lion Robert Page, Gerry Seguin, President of the Fondation and Lion Gaetan Page, President of the Clarence Creek Lions Club.

Submitted by Lion Gaetan Page

A5

Specialized Computer



Sault Ste. Marie Lion John Atkins watches Lynda Dyke demonstrate specialized computers to aid communication between deaf clients and staff members at the Canadian Hearing Society. She is working under the eye of society instructor Giesell Wood-Solomon. The Sault Ste. Marie Lions Club donated \$3700 to the society to purchase the new equipment.

Reported by Rachelle Labrecque - Sault Star

Alzheimer Walk



The 2007 Sault Ste. Marie Manulife Alzheimer Walk for memories was held on Sunday, January 21 at The White Pines High School. Many people, including Lions Club members, raised funds for this very worthwhile cause. Funds raised exceeded \$17,000 this year. Mingling after a walk around the High school were, left to right: Lion Sue Avery, Lion President Byron Rains, Julia Simon, who raised \$197 alone, Leo The Lion (Mascot), and Lion Jim Dorans.

Submitted by Lion Jim Dorans

Elliott Celebrates



On October 22 the Argyle Lions Club hosted a special celebration to pay tribute to Lion Elliott Leppert, a Lion for 44 years. Besides having been a Zone Chair, and a member of the Lions' Christmas Telethon for many years, Lion Elliott proudly achieved the crokinole champion (raising money for cancer and hospital equipment), visitation award challenger, ticket salesman extraordinaire, 'lucky 7' card manager, Christmas cake salesman, and held all offices of the Argyle Lions Club. Lions from around A5, A12, and members of the communities of Loring, Port Loring, Arnstein, Golden Valley, Restoule, & Commanada gathered to offer their congratulations and best wishes.

Pictured above Lion Elliott is being congratulated by Lion Bob Kingsnorth, A-5 DG. Also in the picture is Lion Lillian Perkins and Edna, Elliott's wife.

Submitted by Lion Julia Moore

The Key

LCI awarded Sudbury Lions Club PP Frank Packard The Key award. It was presented to him at a club dinner meeting by Club President Alan Marcon.

Submitted by Lion Gloria Packard

A711

Peach Queen

Former 2005 Winona Peach Queen Saphia Khambalia is poised to bring home a new crown. The Stoney Creek Lions Club representative and Ryerson University second-year broadcast journalism student has been chosen as a national finalist for the 2007 Miss World Canada pageant.

The contest, which has been held in several incarnations during its lifetime, took place in March in Toronto. Ms. Khambalia competed against 30 other hopefuls from across Canada for the title and the chance to represent the nation in the Miss World pageant in October.

Ms. Khambalia recalled one casting call at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel in Toronto, where she had a six-minute intensive interview before a panel of six judges and was required to do basic modeling, hand in a portfolio and was asked if she had a woman role model.

Her answer was simple. "I said 'My mother,' right away. I see her struggles and I see how strong she is and how giving she is," she said. "It's that all-round formation of yourself, it's that person that you're always going to look up to, you're always going to try to emulate," she added.

Supporting Ms. Khambalia in her newest challenge are a number of community members, including Lions Club member Wendy Mans-Keddie, who says Ms. Khambalia is beautiful inside and out.

Kettle Help



The Mississauga Central Lions Club Members:

On behalf of The Salvation Army Mississauga Temple and the many men, women and children who will benefit from the funds raised during our Christmas Campaign 2006, I would like to express our most sincere appreciation to the Mississauga Central Lions Club for your wonderful, faithful and generous support of this year's Christmas Campaign. Your generous gift of \$1,000 (being presented in the photo), your commitment to help and the gift of your time and energy that you so freely gave is very much appreciated. With the help of each one of you, we raised \$217,257.27. This is the gross income for the season and is a 33% increase over 2005. Thank you for staffing the kettle locations and providing relief to the volunteers. As a result of the dollars raised, many children, families and singles will be helped through very difficult times in the months ahead. You have provided hope for many in need.

Sincerely,
Pamela Trussler Community Relations Coordinator

Hospice Donation



The Burlington Aldershot Lions Club in 2006 again demonstrated its support for the great work the Carpenter Hospice continues to do for Burlington and the surrounding community. A Silent Auction was held over three days in November at the local Fortino's mall. With the support of hundreds of local businesses and numerous volunteers the Club managed to raise \$10,000. The club had previously budgeted \$5000, thus bringing our total donations to the Hospice to \$15,000. The contribution of the Carpenter Hospice to this community and to those in need has not gone unnoticed. Shown in the picture presenting the symbolic cheque to hospice officials are Lion Brendan Hamill and Lion Barry Ibbotson.

Submitted by Lion Hugh Ramolla

New Members

The Palmerston Lions inducted 3 new members recently. Congratulations to Lion Bill Holzworth, Lion Jen Hall, and Lion Glen Hall.

A9

Bill Gets Melvin



Lion Paul Snell, left in photo, and Lion Roy Bryan, right, of the Orangeville Lions Club recognized Lion Bill Hux as a 2006 Melvin Jones Fellow. This honour is in recognition of Bill's dedication to make the world a better place through humanitarian service. Lion Bill has been involved in numerous capacities within the local community and the Lions Club since becoming a member in 1955. This has resulted in many achievements and accomplishments to his credit. Lion Bill is a Life Member of the Club. He is well known for his large collection of Lions pins. Part of this collection involves the 50 perfect attendance pins that Bill has to his credit.

Santa Visits



On Tuesday Dec 19th, Jolly Old St. Nick stopped by the Palmerston Lions Christmas Party. He had a great time with the Lions, their kids and grandchildren. Everyone had some pizza, chocolate milk and cookies. Santa took time with each boy and girl for a visit and then off to the North Pole again for some serious toy making.

Elimination Draw

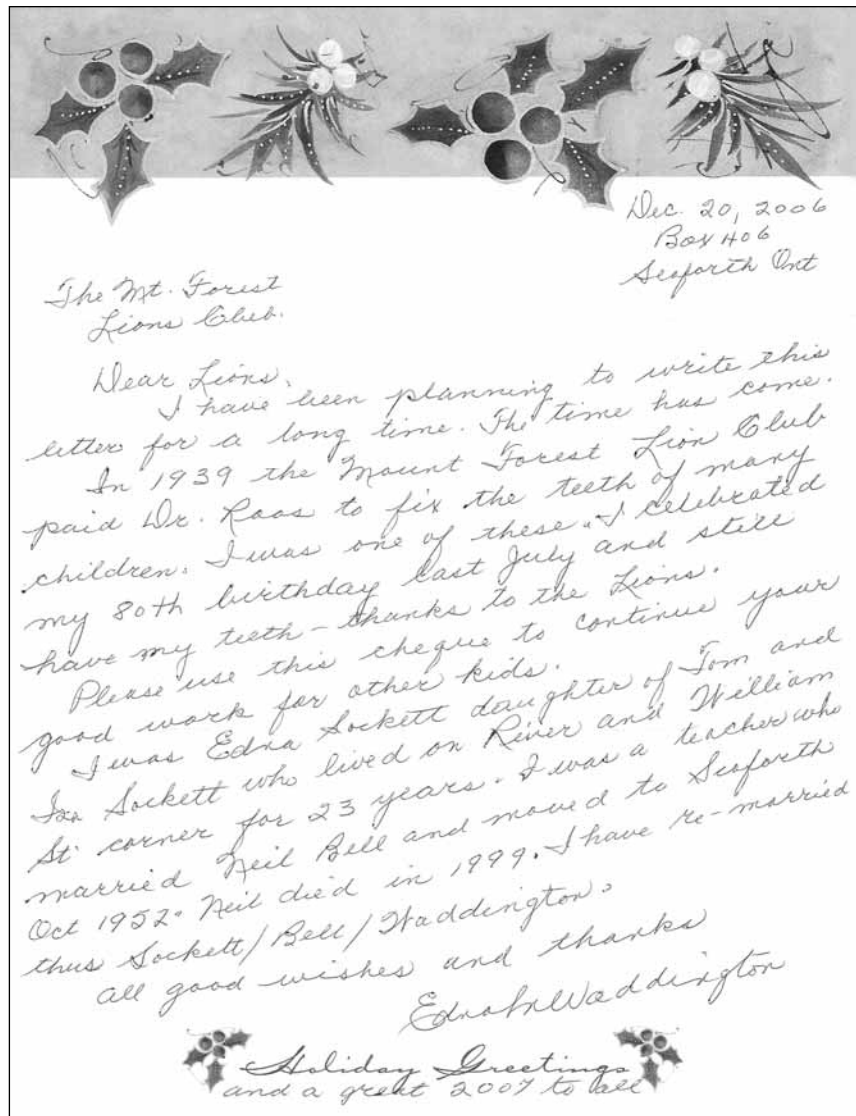


Every year the Palmerston Lions Club holds a successful Valentines Dance & Elimination Draw. Cash prizes, a trip to Las Vegas, a trip to Cuba, and the grand prize of a cruise.

The team of Lion John and Sandy Fotheringham, Lion Scott and Lynne McFadden, Lion Andy and Lion Joanne Klonikowski, and Lion Larry McCann work all night to draw the tickets until the Grand Prize is won.

Submitted by Lion Joanne Klonikowski

A Thanks to the Lions



Owen Sound Helen Keller



The Owen Sound Scenic City Lions barbeque was held at PDG Lion Bob and Lion Betty Richardson's home, where PRC Lion Lenora Raby was presented with a Helen Keller Award, and Lion Betty was presented with the Lion of the Year Award, along with her Club Treasurer pin. As well Lion Evelyn Barnes was presented with her club Secretary Pin. Standing left to right is Lion Betty, PDG Lion Bob and PRC Lion Lenora.

Reported and posted by Past President Lion Val Wepler

Blind Leading The Blind



Recently several members of the Palmerston Lions Club were blindfolded and bibbed for dinner to promote understanding of preventable blindness in the world. Lions International, with Campaign Sight First II hopes to raise 150 Million for the eradication of preventable blindness. Some of our member were "family" members assisting and the other Lions were "stricken with blindness" for the evening.

Submitted by Lion Joanne Klonikowski

A12

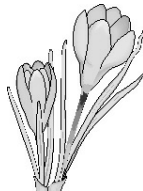
Pancake Feast



The Magnetawan Community centre was the place to be on Pancake Tuesday, where the Magnetawan Lions Club hosted its annual Pancake Supper. Over 185 people from the community came out to enjoy the pancakes, sausages, and ice cream all generously smothered in Dunchurch's finest maple syrup. All proceeds directly support the local Magnetawan Lions community projects. Lion Lockie Patterson is shown serving ice cream dessert to a hungry patron.

Submitted by Lion Randolph Soth

Crocus Sales



Barrie Lions Club members Stan Corkum and Len Cormier helped sell crocus for the CNIB at Zehrs in Barrie in February.

Submitted by Lion Carol Ellis

Bingo Money



Innisfil Lions Club President Steve Haskin and Lion Wolter Folkema presented a cheque for \$750 to Stewart Torrance, Director for Simcoe Region Muscular Dystrophy Canada. Proceeds were raised from the Club's Monday night Bingos.

Submitted by Lion Sharon Hunt



A15

Future Guide Dogs



Joining the Woolwich Community Lions Club in this years Elmira Jaycees Santa Claus Parade are future Guide Dogs in training Dreyfus, General, and Bunny.

Submitted by Lion Heather Ross

North Simcoe Sports

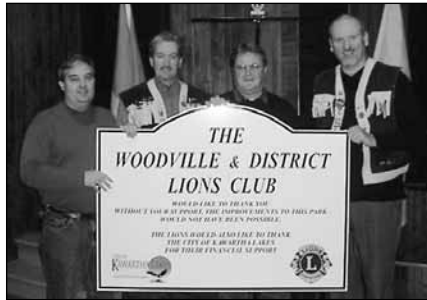


Four District A12 clubs presented a cheque to the North Simcoe Sports and Rec Centre. The four clubs of Midland, Penetanguishene, Port McNicoll and Victoria Harbour had formed a committee to raise funds to meet the commitment of \$25,000 to the Centre over a five-year period. In fact the goal was reached in 3 years. The club's actually ended up with a surplus of \$3000 that was also presented to the Centre to purchase a defibrillator for the arena. PDG Bob Byers, left, and Victoria Harbour Lions Club President Jim Pearsall, present the \$25,000 cheque to David Hamelin of the North Simcoe Sports and Recreation Centre.

Submitted by Lion Rick Patton

AIG

Lions Ball Park



This past summer Woodville, through the Woodville Lions Club and the Parks, Recreation and Culture Division of the City of Kawartha Lakes completed the Ball Park Enhancement Project. This consisted of a new infield surface, new backstop and new dugouts. This was done through the 50/50 Capital Partnership Program. The City's commitment to this project was \$6500, with the Woodville Lions Club matching this same amount.

Left to right, Lion Alan Argue - Woodville Minor Ball, Lion Dave Wilson, Gerry Barker - Southwest Area Supervisor, and Lion Jeff Braund.

EKG

There was a presentation to Dr. Landasky and Dr. McCordic at the Beaverton Medical Centre on behalf the Beaverton Lions Club. The current EKG machine was not working properly and the Lions were approached to see if they could assist the Medical Centre in acquiring a new machine. The Doctors, and community of the Beaverton Medical Centre were pleased to accept the new EKG machine purchased through the Beaverton Lions Club.

Submitted by Lion Lorne Martin

Ajax Gives & Gets



In December the Ajax Lions Club presented the Ajax and Pickering Salvation Army a donation of \$2000 and a number of unwrapped toys from the Lions members. Dick Crosby, centre, co-ordinator Community and Family Services accepted the donations from Club President Don McGovern, left, and Treasurer Lion Hugh Fair.

In other club news, the Ajax Lions Club was proud to promote growth in Lions by inducting 3 new members. Debra Kelly and Heather Chitussi sponsored by Lion Don McGovern, and Richard Battagello sponsored by Lion Jim Fair. Also in attendance were DG Ray Howlett, ZC Dave Sansom and Lion Carol Buss along with four lions from the Whitby Millennium Lions Club.

Submitted by Lion Bob Rowland

Markham Bridal Show



The Markham Town Crier, John Webster, and the Wedding Show Chairman, Jack McBride, hold the red ribbon for Miss Markham, Vanessa Ortali, Lion Nirmala Persaud, and Club 1st Vice-President Lion Grace Medland to cut for the official opening of the Markham Lions Wedding Show last fall. For a first try at a different way to raise money, it was a success. Over 45 vendors purchased booth space and 300 plus brides attended the two-day event. Based on the Club's experiences last year, it is expected the September 2007 show will be bigger and better.

Submitted by Lion Jack McBride

Foodbank

This past Christmas, as in many Christmas' the Beaverton Lions have braved the cold, the snow filled days and nights to help many families find the perfect addition to their

Christmas traditions. The Annual Christmas tree sales have provided not only the focal point in our homes, for which we decorate with precious decorations, but most importantly the proceeds of these trees help support the many families that rely on the Brock Foodbank, which helped 126 families this past Christmas. The Beaverton Lions Club donated \$2000 to the Foodbank from the Christmas tree sales.

ATV Winner



Dunsford & District Lions Club's 1st ATV Draw which profited the club over \$11,750 thanks to the great support from the community. Pictured left to right: Club President Lion Walter Jancsik, winners Ryan Muirhead & Julie Hayes, and Lion Hugh Manley.

Submitted by Lion Walter Jancsik



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www.lionsclubs.org

for Lions Club International information, conventions, and more.

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To ensure that the next MD "A" Lion magazine reaches your new residence, please complete this form and give it to your CLUB SECRETARY.

New address will be:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

City _____

Province _____ PC _____

Club# _____ Member# _____

Old Address was: Address _____

City _____ PC _____ Club Secretary: _____

Include the above information from above in your next MMR Report.

Glass Collection



Members of the Lindsay and Omeemee Lions Clubs were present for the shipment of over 3600 pairs of eyeglasses to the Canadian Eye Glass Recycling Centre in Calgary. The glasses were collected by the two clubs, as well as several other clubs across the District. Present for the shipment were, left to right, District Sight Conservation Chairman Lion Roger Larocque and granddaughter Dakota, Jan Ottens (Lindsay Movers and Storage), Lion Jan Eisinga, Lion Bob Wilson, Lion Ed Johnson (Omeemee LC), Lion Nick Larocque and Ron Fanning, owner of Lindsay Movers and Storage. In front, is Lion Gary Barnes of the Lindsay Lions Club. Lindsay Movers and Storage once again shipped the glasses at no cost.