

LION



M.D. "A" Edition September/October 2013

www.lionsclubs.org

We Serve



St. Mary's Lions Club

During our 2013-14 Induction ceremony Membership Chair **Lion Bob McGregor** and Membership Chair **Lion Bill McNeight** were presented with well-deserved Melvin Jones Fellowship Awards.



A-15 Governor Denis Vinette and Membership Chair Lion Bob McGregor



A-15 Governor Denis Vinette and Membership Chair Lion Bill McNeight



Horace Burton, a lifelong Beamsville resident, left a bequest to the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides when he passed away last March. Last month, two service dogs graduated from training, paid for through Burton's bequest. Pictured in back are daughter Donna, brother John, sister-in-law Ruth and brother Doug. In front are Katie, with Effie, and Andrea with Colt, an autism service dog for her daughter

Woodstock Lions Award Melvin Jones Honours

The Lions Club of Woodstock, with the assistance of Gov. **Lion Denis Vinette** honoured some very special Lions at their annual president's night. The four Melvin Jones Fellowship recipients were: former **Lion Doug Symons**, author, community volunteer; **Lion Joe Sweeney**, 40 year member, chair of Meals on Wheels Committee; **Lion Bill Gillespie**, community activist, Chair of Terry Fox Run, works tirelessly for the 'little guy' **Lion**

Carole Wilson, long-serving member of the club in all capacities, go-to person for answers and supporter of every club project.



Lion Doug Symons



Lion Joe Sweeney



Lion Bill Gillespie



Lion Carole Wilson

Horace's Gift Will Keep On Giving from Grimsby Lincoln News by Amanda Moore

Further to an article in the Jul/Aug edition of this magazine.

Horace Burton knew what it was like to struggle. The eldest in a family of 10 children, Burton had to step up to the plate at the age of 17, when his father, Eddie, passed away in 1939. The family lived through the Great Depression, at times trading butter and eggs for groceries. There was little money to spare.

He became a plumber's assistant while still a teenager to contribute to the family wealth.

In 1960, he took a job at GM, working as a pipefitter. He worked there until retirement in 1987. Upon retirement, Burton looked for ways to give back to the community he spent his entire life in. It was then that he found the **Beamsville Lions**.

He wasn't the only Burton to join the service club. Brothers Doug, John and Ray all joined, and became mainstays of the organization. The Burtons could be counted on.

They pitched in during the annual food drive for Community Care of West Niagara, sold Christmas trees at the tree lot on Ontario Street and served many a hungry visitor to the Lions' food booth at the Lincoln County Fair.

Horace served as president twice, from 1993 to 1994 and from 1996 to 1997. He was Lion of the Year in 1990 and received the Helen Keller Award in 2007, for outstanding service to the Lions and their community.

And so it was fitting that Horace would give back through the Lions, even after his death. A few years ago, Horace, to get his affairs in order, decided to redo his will. He decided he wanted to leave behind a legacy, said his only child, daughter Donna. His bequest was to provide assistance to those in need through the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides.

Horace passed away March 21, 2012 at the age of 89.

Last month, Horace's legacy brightened the lives of two individuals.

"It's really a wonderful feeling to think that even after his death he has been able to help enhance the lives of two individuals and their families," said Donna, who attended the June graduation of two service dogs, sponsored through her father's bequest.

"It was very heartwarming," said Donna of attending the graduation and meeting the people who will benefit from her father's legacy. "I felt like it was a privilege to be there."

Effie, a special skills service dog, will provide Katie with a renewed sense of safety and independence by performing a wide range of daily tasks, such as opening doors and retrieving objects. The special skills program was introduced in 1991 and is in high demand.

Colt will assist a young child with autism.

"It's a program that he was familiar with and that he supported," said Donna of the dog guides program. "And he knew it would help someone."

Horace is not the only Burton to support the program. Brother John and wife Ruth are fostering their seventh guide dog.

The Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides was established in 1985. It's mission to provide service dogs to Canadian at no charge. The foundation receives no government funding.

The average cost of raising and training each guide dog is roughly \$25,000. The program is supported through donations and it's largest fundraiser, the Purina Walk for Dog Guides, taking place each May.

For more information on the foundation, visit www.dogguides.com.



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LIONS PLEASE CHECK YOUR CAMERA SETTINGS! When taking photos for The Lion please ensure your camera's resolution is set as high as possible. Check your instruction manual if unsure. Many cameras default to a low resolution Web setting which is insufficient for printing! Thank You!



Read about Hamburg - pages 21-23 and on the back cover

THE Lion



We Serve

*W*elcome to the September/October Edition of *The Lion*. To submit stories, photos, comments or suggestions, please contact your District Reporter (Pg 30) and please remember to check your camera settings to ensure highest resolution pictures.

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Usher in A New Era for Lions



Barry J. Palmer
Lions Clubs International
President

It's easy to be awed by athletes and entertainers, but the most impressive people I know are the women who have been part of my life. My dear mum, now 97, was loving and caring and a great role model as well, volunteering at church and school and for Scouts. As a Realtor, I hired and counted on middle-aged women. I quickly learned they were particularly determined to grow their skills and be successful. **As a Lion, I've been amazed by the generosity and gifts**

of women. As just one example, Australian Lion Pauline Henebery has run the remarkable Education Builds Bridges, enabling Lions to help disadvantaged children in Indonesia.

Perhaps the greatest move ever made by Lions Clubs International was to admit women. Probably the second-best initiative would be to swell our ranks with them. We're laggards in this regard. Fifty-two percent of the world population is female, yet only 24.5 percent of Lions are women. **My dream is to increase female membership by 5.5 percent this Lions year to bring us up to 30 percent and then to achieve a 50/50 ratio by our centennial year in 2017.**

We don't want more women so we can puff out our chests and boast of a membership equality. **We need the gifts and talents of women.** They bring a different

perspective, a different skill set and a new bundle of can-do energy and enthusiasm. *They set goals, take on tasks and accomplish objectives in a way that men can't, don't or won't.* I don't want to stir up trouble by saying women are our better half, but they certainly are half of humanity and carry at least half of our talents and capabilities.

Be sure to make your club welcoming to women. **Seek them out and invite them in.** Make your mum proud and dream of the day when your club is so full of sheilas that it needs to start reaching out to blokes.

Barry J. Palmer
Your Lions Clubs International President

Dream Big to Make a Big Impact

When Sydney hosted the Olympics in 2000, I was privileged to help organize the Paralympic Games in Australia. I'll never forget the opening ceremony. Some of the participants could not walk on their legs, so they proudly paraded around the track on their hands. *Nothing could hold back their vibrant human spirit!* And that was just a warm-up to the amazing feats of athleticism when they competed. Despite physical limitations, they ran, jumped and swam with incredible fervor, effort, and, yes, superior skill, speed and strength.

This year I am urging Lions and clubs to **Follow Your Dream.** The disabled athletes taught me that too often we underestimate our capabilities. We shortchange ourselves. In this issue we profile clubs and Lions that dreamed big and achieved great

success. *Why not you?* You have two choices. You can shrink your dream to fit reality. Or you can stretch reality to fit your dreams. The history of Lions is testament to the validity of the latter. For nearly a century Lions have made dreams come true. *Dreams are our stock in trade.*

Making dreams reality is not magic. You have to work at it. The formula is pretty simple but foolproof. **First, name a dream.** You need to share the dream with others, to put it out there so it lives and breathes and gathers support and momentum. **Secondly, plan to achieve the dream.** An action plan will literally force the dream to become real. Do this today, tomorrow or this week or month at the latest. Our communities need our dreams and our passion to serve. Our friends and neighbors await our energetic

kindness, our We Serve approach.

We are who we want to be. Let's not be night dreamers who wake up in the morning and can't remember their dreams. The day dreamers are fully awake and alert. They think, what if I was able to do this or try this? They don't just have a dream—they live the dream. Being a Lion is a great gift in itself, a dream life in which we have the perfect opportunity to share our good will and concern for others. So, Lions, **Follow Your Dream!**

Barry J. Palmer
Your Lions Clubs International President

Dream Big to Make a Big Impact



Tom Gordon
Council Chair
Multiple District 'A'

Thirty-three years ago, when my neighbour first asked me to be a guest speaker at a Lions meeting to talk a little bit about motivation, I would never have guessed that I would be standing on a stage in Hamburg, Germany, in front of thousands of Lions, and extending an invitation to attend a Lions International Convention in Toronto. I would have never have guessed that I would spend eleven years travelling North America, training teachers, principals, parents, Lions, and community leaders how they could work together to raise children to make good decisions, to avoid drug abuse, to stop bullying, to develop a social conscience and to be positive members of our communities by using the materials in the Lions Quest programs. I didn't know what a District Governor or

a Council Chairperson was or what was involved in their jobs.

Now, here we are, in this new Lions' year. International President Palmer has encouraged us to 'Follow our Dream'. To pick a goal, make an action plan, and then pursue that dream with dogged determination.

We are getting ready to host the 97th Lions International Convention in Toronto. Our facilities are fantastic, unparalleled it seems because of their proximity to each other, and the wealth of modern teaching, learning, and presentation facilities available. We are going to need volunteers, a thousand of them, to make this the best convention the world of Lionism has ever seen.

Lions Quest has shrugged off most of its debt and with a concerted effort, by all of the Lions in Canada, and it can have a positive bank balance by the end of this Lions' year. All each club has to do is purchase one of those books of tickets on the antique Mercedes sedan.

The Lions want to make significant contributions to their communities, to enlist more members to make

this happen, and to have fun while they are doing it. The Governors, as CEO's of their districts, are looking to run efficient, highly organized and growing organizations. And the Council Chairperson is going over the notes from his first presentation to that local Lions club, looking for the message that will motivate us all to help make this happen.

After thirty-three years, it hasn't changed much. Make an action plan with clearly defined goals, then put every gram of effort you can into moving forward in small incremental steps and soon you will be past the point where you achieved your goal. I am confident, that with the talents of the Lions we have in our multiple district, the leaders we have in our districts, and the positive efforts of every Lion involved, we can make things happen.

I've had the privilege of seeing big dreams met in Lions Districts all over North America. We can do this. Yes we can!

Tom Gordon
Council Chair, Multiple District 'A'

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

HAMBURG, GERMANY

JUNE 30 – JULY 3, 2013

AUDIT COMMITTEE

1. Reviewed the results of the Agreed-Upon Procedure engagement of the district governor claim processing performed by Grant Thornton, noting no significant exceptions were found.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

1. Denied second vice district governor election complaints filed in District 4-L6 (California, USA), District 322-D (India) and District 323-C (India) and declared the following as second vice district governors in their respective districts for the 2013-2014 fiscal year:
 - Lion John Ruiz - District 4-L6 (California, USA)
 - Lion S.K. Dhar - District 322-D (India)
 - Lion Ashok Gupta - District 323-C (India)
2. Upheld the second vice district governor election complaint filed in District 301-A2 (Philippines), declared the second vice district governor election in District 301-A2 for the 2013-2014 fiscal year null and void and of no force and effect, declared a vacancy in the office of second vice district governor for the 2013-2014 fiscal year and that the second vice district governor vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the International and District Constitutions and By-Laws, and declared that the filing fee less US\$100.00 shall be refunded to the Complainant.
3. Upheld the second vice district governor election complaint filed in District 301-D1 (Philippines), declared the second vice district governor election in District 301-D1 for the 2013-2014 fiscal year null and void and of no force and effect, declared a vacancy in the office of second vice district governor for the 2013-2014 fiscal year and that the second vice district governor vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the International and District Constitutions and By-Laws, and declared that the filing fee less US\$100.00 shall be refunded to the Complainant.
4. Upheld the second vice district governor election complaint filed in District 308-A2 (Malaysia), declared the second vice district governor election in District 308-A2 for the 2013-2014 fiscal year null and void and of no force and effect, declared a vacancy in the office of second vice district governor for the 2013-2014 fiscal year and that the second vice district governor vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the International and District Constitutions and By-Laws, and declared that the filing fee less US\$100.00 shall be refunded to the Complainant.

5. Revised the District Dispute Resolution Procedure and the Multiple District Dispute Resolution Procedure in Chapter VII and Chapter XV of the Board Policy Manual to clarify the timing of the selection of conciliators.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

1. Extended the early registration deadline and the delegation hotel assignment deadline to the second week of January of the convention calendar year.

DISTRICT AND CLUB SERVICE COMMITTEE

1. Appointed a Coordinating Lion for the Republic of Montenegro for the 2013-2014 fiscal year.
2. Approved a new provisional zone in the Republic of Moldova.
3. Established a policy that requires a certified guiding Lion be assigned to clubs that are placed in status quo.
4. Revised policy to allow district governors to request placement of clubs into status quo up to 90 days prior to the district or multiple district convention.
5. Revised policy to allow clubs that have a balance of US\$10 or less in dues and fees to be considered in good standing as long as the other requirements for good standing are met.
6. Clarified that the rules of audit for district governors covers the cost of multiple district events only when the event is hosted by the multiple district. This change will take effect July 1, 2014.
7. Changed policy to require redistricting proposals to include a plan for membership growth and leadership development and that proposals will only be reviewed during the October board meeting.
8. Revised the number of positions on the Global Membership Team (GMT) and the Global Leadership Team (GLT) from 40 Area Leaders for each team to 41 Area Leaders.

FINANCE AND HEADQUARTERS OPERATION COMMITTEE

1. Agreed the Accounting Department Manager may sign routine documents relative to the investments on behalf of the Finance and Headquarters Operation Committee.
2. Approved the 2012-2013 Fourth Quarter Forecast, reflecting a surplus.
3. Board Policy was modified regarding proposals to the board that have an impact on the forecast be reviewed with the Finance and Headquarters

Operation Committee. All proposals shall include:

- Projected costs for the current fiscal year as well as the subsequent two years.
- Provide a brief description of impact on division's strategic initiatives and goals and objectives.

4. Approved the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014, reflecting a surplus.
5. Due to timing of board meetings in 2013-2014, approved an exception regarding the Board Policy requiring the Finance and Headquarters Operation Committee submit a recommended full year forecast for review at the January Executive Committee meeting.
6. Approved a minor housekeeping item regarding annual physicals for Administrative Officers and Division Managers.
7. Approved amending the expense claim submission deadline from 120 days to 60 days effective July 1, 2014 for executive officers, international directors, past international presidents, past international directors and district governors.
8. Resolution 5, from the Finance and Headquarters Operation Committee of June 17 – 21, 2012 was rescinded in its entirety, and replaced with the following:
 - a. The immediate past international president and first vice president may attend all area forums. The second vice president may attend his/her own area forum. Meals and accommodations will be reimbursed by the association and charged to the officer's travel budget.
9. Eliminated the need for a signed expense claim for district governors, authorized speaking assignments and in-district budgets, unless required by local laws and regulations. This policy may not apply to all budgets so it is recommended the officer review the applicable policy before submitting a claim.

LCIF

1. Revised the SightFirst asset allocation as follows: 30% equities and 70% fixed income.
2. Approved the development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Special Olympics to support expanded activities as global partners. The MOU will be for a five-year period and outline support totaling US\$7.8 million, with the annual budget subject to approval each year.
3. Renewed the Core 4 funding priority status for

the diabetes prevention and control program for two years, until June 30, 2015.

4. Approved a block grant in the amount of US\$200,000 for the renewal of Lions Quest community partnerships grants.
5. Approved 29 Standard, International Assistance and Core 4 grants totaling US\$1,342,203.
6. Approved a major catastrophe grant of US\$100,000 for Multiple District 321 for areas affected by the Himalayan floods, and appointed leadership of the committee to lead this effort.
7. Approved a SightFirst grant (1634/324-A8) in the amount of US\$195,328.
8. Placed a moratorium, effective immediately, on all grant applications from Districts 318-B and 323-C. Instructed both districts to repay funds due to LCIF on or before September 30, 2013 or said moratorium shall remain in effect until December 31, 2015.
9. Amended the LCIF Operations and Policy Manual to reflect changes to the LCIF Steering Committee to include two members at large, and enhance the roles and responsibilities of committee members to further support the LCIF volunteer structure.
10. Amended the LCIF Operations and Policy Manual to include the updated SightFirst policies and criteria.
11. Amended the LCIF Operations and Policy Manual with updated banking information for both the general and Lions Quest banking sections, and added the LCIF financial analyst as an authorized person/signatory to both sections.
12. Amended Chapter XVI of the Board Policy Manual to reflect changes to the LCIF Steering Committee to include two members at large.
13. Amended Chapter XVI of the Board Policy

Manual with updated banking information for foundation accounts and added the LCIF financial analyst as an authorized person/signatory.

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

1. Added zone chairpersons and region chairpersons (where applicable) to the Global Leadership Team at the district level (GLT-D).

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. Determined that, effective immediately, when chartering a Leo Lions Club, to receive the charter fee credit, ten of the Leo Lions need to be a Leo for at least a year and a day.
2. Updated board policy to reflect the reintroduction of entrance fees for family members and modifications to certification processes, effective July 1, 2013.
3. Added Zone Chairpersons to be members of the GMT District Coordinator team, effective immediately.
4. Updated the responsibilities and description of the Club Membership Chairperson to utilize the GMT/GLT district structure, effective immediately. The changes will help clubs make membership growth and member satisfaction a priority and will provide a unified club team to lead the club efforts.
5. Determined that club branch program changes will give more autonomy to club branches in the area of funds, dues, dissolution, member invitation, and club attendance requirements.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

1. Determined that LCI will obtain the services of a marketing firm to assist with the centennial.

SERVICE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

1. Named the 2012-2013 Leo of the Year Award recipients.

2. Amended Board Policy Manual language regarding the Lions Clubs International Eyeglass Recycling Program to clarify that Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centers (LERCs) must be in compliance with board policy, not LERC guidelines; effective July 1, 2013.
3. Amended Board Policy Manual language related to the Excellence in Effort Award from, "Sight Conservation and Work with the Blind," to the official program name of, "Sight Preservation, Awareness and Action."
4. Removed reference to Leo new member fee from Chapter XXIII, Article XI, of the Board Policy Manual, effective February 1, 2014.
5. Removed reference to Leo new member fee in Chapter XXIII of the Board Policy Manual, effective February 1, 2014.
6. Revised language in Chapter XXIII of the Board Policy Manual to indicate that sponsoring Lions clubs are able to secure items bearing the Leo club emblem from LCI Club Supplies.
7. Removed language from Chapter XXIII of the Board Policy Manual stating that Lions Clubs International shall furnish Leo club member identification cards through the sponsoring Lions club, effective February 1, 2014.
8. Removed language from Chapter XXIII of the Board Policy Manual referring to contents of Leo new member kits and cost, effective February 1, 2014.
9. Removed reference to actual shipping charges for Leo new member kits from Chapter XXIII of the Board Policy Manual, effective February 1, 2014.

For more information on any of the above resolutions, please refer to the LCI Web site at www.lionsclubs.org or contact the International Office at 630-571-5466.

LCIF

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEPTEMBER, 2013 GOVERNORS' COUNCIL MEETING

LCIF

Diabetes Awareness – PDG Al Beamer advised that the MD'A' project to build a Lions Education Centre had been awarded an LCIF Grant in the amount of \$75,000. In addition over \$100,000. was raised through donation from Clubs throughout MD'A'. Construction will commence this autumn.

LCIF – PID Art Woods advised that during the 2012-2013 Lions year 157% of the funds donated by Lions Clubs across Canada were returned to Canada through 17 Grants totaling \$909,715(US). Last year Canadian Lions donated \$580,800. The goal this year is \$594,009., an average of \$15.43 per member.

Lions Foundation of Canada – PDG Dick Peel announced that the Open House will be held at the Dog Guide School in Oakville on Saturday, October 26th between 10:00 am & 2:00 pm.

Promotion – PCC Bradd Anderson received approval from the Governors' Council to commence work on a

new series of MD'A' 'trading pins using 10 Ontario wildflowers.

Environment – PDG Al Spiering announced that the Lion Marion Collins, Bradford Lions Club (A12) won 1st place in the Plant Life category at the 2013 LCI Convention.

Lions Quest – PDG Charles Liddle advised that tickets are being distributed to all Clubs for the promotional contest for a 1989 Classic Mercedes to raise funds for Lions Quest Canada.

2014 LCI Convention – PID Carl Young advised that plans are well underway for the 2014 LCI Convention being held in Toronto, July 4th to 8th, 2014. Molson Canada has again offered their facilities & Sports Box at the Air Canada Centre for March 29th for the Maple Leaf Get-Away Weekend. There continues to be need for more volunteers to assist with the Convention activities.

2014 MD'A' Convention – PDG Jim Hilt advised that the Multiple District 'A' Convention will be held May 2nd to 4th at the Deerhurst Resort. He also stated that guest rooms at the Resort were filling up quickly and encouraged the registrants to book their rooms early.

Administration – PCC Todd Wilson advised that MD'A' Treasurer Jack Fisher would be completing his official duties on June 30, 2014. An advertisement will be placed in The Lion Magazine requesting Lions who are qualified & interested in serving the Multiple District for a 5-year term to submit a detailed resume.

Treasury – MD'A' Treasurer Jack Fisher presented the 2013-1014 Budget which was approved by the Governors' Council.

For more information on any of the above resolutions, please refer to the LCI Web site at www.lionsclubs.org or contact the International Office at 630-571-5466.

by Christopher Bunch

Sports teams have a way of bringing communities together, and Sandnes, Norway, is no different. The Sandnes Ulf professional soccer team dominates the local news, enralls locals and inspires young fans. **Sandnes Lions** realized that soccer could be more than just a community pastime—it could be a way to get Lions Quest Norway, a positive youth development program, into local schools. Through an innovative partnership, Lions and Sandnes Ulf are bringing Lions Quest, and soccer, into classrooms.

Success on the playing field is often the result of being in the right place at the right time—and a little luck—and that's just how it happened in Sandnes. Lions Quest trainer **Trond Rekstad**'s son was playing for the Sandnes Ulf junior team. Seeing an opportunity, Rekstad contacted the local Lions clubs about pitching a Lions Quest partnership to Sandnes Ulf.

Sandnes Lions and Rekstad met with the marketing director of Sandnes Ulf and asked if the team would be interested in becoming Lions Quest ambassadors in community schools. As it turned out, the team had been looking for a way to give something back to the community, especially to children, so the team agreed and the partnership began in January 2012.

Players Coaching Kids

When Lions asked Sandnes Ulf players to be ambassadors, they were asking for something more: they wanted them to be role models, heroes, and—most importantly—teachers. Players were asked to teach a 60-minute session to fifth graders about bullying, decision-making, saying no to drugs and working to achieve goals.

“Sandnes is a big oil community, and one of the richest in Norway, but kids have the same problems as everywhere,” says Rekstad.

The program is based on *Det er Mitt Valg*, the official Norwegian version of Lions Quest, an LCIF program that has helped 12 million students in 82 countries learn essential life skills that support social and emotional learning, service learning and prevention of substance abuse and violence.

To prepare players for the classroom, Rekstad conducted a workshop to get players comfortable with the program. Players teach a structured lesson, but Rekstad wanted them to make those 60 minutes their own by sharing their experiences with students.

“You’ve made a lot of choices to be elite soccer players,” Rekstad told the players. “You guys are heroes to the young. They look up to you, so we want you to help convey these positive attitudes to fifth-graders.”

The players’ stories are varied, and so are the challenges they have faced. Some dropped out of school. Some are from other countries and have had to adapt to a new culture and make new friends in Norway. All made sacrifices and tough decisions to

achieve success on the field. When students hear these stories and positive messages from their heroes, they listen.

A Lifetime Effect

“It means so much to the students when we visit their school,” says player Bjørnar Holmvik. “It’s great that we have such a good curriculum for them.”

Students come to class wearing sky blue, the team color of Sandnes Ulf, and for one memorable hour, fifth-graders get to meet their heroes and talk about issues that matter to their lives. Students also receive tickets to a match, and at the end of each session players sign autographs, another reminder of a magical hour that will last a lifetime. Sandnes Lions hope the Lions Quest lessons will too.

“It’s important that all people dare to have opinions, that they dare to make choices without being embarrassed about it. If [we] can make life easier for some of them, then I’m very happy,” says player Tommy Høiland.

When Sandnes Ulf players talk to students about overcoming adversity and achieving goals, it’s more than a cliché. For decades, the team had been relegated to playing in the lower tier of the professional system. But in 2012, 100 years after the club’s formation, the Sandnes Ulf team earned promotion to the Norwegian Premier League, the top tier of the sport.

The Sandnes Ulf team has achieved success on the field, and it’s taken Lions Quest along with it. Players wear a Lions Quest Norway logo on the back of their jerseys. A Lions Quest billboard is on display at the field, a short Lions Quest video is played on the big screen during a match break, and there’s even a radio spot for those who can’t make it to the stadium.

The Sandnes Ulf players have visited 10 schools, and they have plans to visit 10 more by the end of 2013. Students are getting the positive reinforcement they need, and teachers are taking notice. Four of the visited schools have hosted a Lions Quest teacher training workshop, and two more workshops are planned for the fall. If Lions in Norway had their way, every school would benefit from Lions Quest.

A Model Quest Program

It’s better to build children than to repair adults—that’s the slogan of Lions Quest Norway. In addition to “building” healthy young people, Lions have built a model program in Norway.

Lions host an annual tulip sales program that raised more than US\$2 million in 2012, and nearly US\$300,000 went to fund Lions Quest Norway programs. Lions have also established a fleet of more than 50 Lions “pilots” to introduce the program to local schools and Lions around the country. It’s working. Last year, Lions hosted nearly 200 Lions Quest workshops, and nearly 400 of Norway’s 447

Lions clubs have organized a workshop since 2008.

“The program facilitates cooperation between home, school and the community. The only volunteer organization in Norway that can offer this is Lions,” says **Ivar Tollefsrud**, country director of Lions Quest Norway. “Through Lions Quest, Lions can achieve visibility, respect and growth, and show that we want to take responsibility for the next generation.”

Through the efforts of Lions in Norway, and with the help of community partners like Sandnes Ulf, the next generation appears to be in good hands.



Sandnes Ulf player Edier Frejd helps students build life skills through Lions Quest Norway



Students participate in Lions Quest activities that transform their classroom for an hour Photos courtesy of ©Trond Rekstad

For information about Lions Quest, visit www.lions-quest.org

Arnprior Lions



Arnprior Lions President Jim Hall presents a cheque to Arnprior Public Library board member Maureen Sly-Havey. The money represents profits made during our BBQ at the library in June. The library will use the cash to buy new shelving

Service Pioneers

by Katya Cengel

In Armenia, the concept of service clubs is so novel that Lions personally fund club projects. The newfound impulse to serve has saved premature babies from needless blindness.

Maria's tiny face is wrinkled and sunken like a prune. When she was born two months ago in Armenia, 12 weeks premature, she weighed two pounds. She is almost double that now, but still frail, managing only a weak cry when pediatric ophthalmologist Alina Zakaryan examines her eyes using a retinal camera.

Maria has the first stage retinopathy of prematurity, an eye condition that can lead to blindness if left untreated. A few years ago Zakaryan probably wouldn't have seen an infant like Maria until she was a toddler and it was too late for the most successful types of intervention. Now she follows premature babies like Maria from birth, monitoring their cases and recommending them for laser treatment or injections when needed, thereby saving them from a possible life of darkness, slowed development and missed opportunities.

"I see the difference in the retina after treatment and I feel like I am the hand of God," says Zakaryan.

In the United States the risks of retinopathy of prematurity have been known for decades. In Armenia—a country the size of Maryland sandwiched between Iran, Turkey, Azerbaijan and Georgia—widespread knowledge has come only recently. Much of the awareness came thanks to the Armenia EyeCare Project, which brought experts to Armenia to lecture on the topic in 2010. In the past, preemies like Maria were often subjected to high levels of oxygen saturation at birth, increasing the risk of damage to the retina and the possible need for surgery. Now oxygen levels are more closely monitored, says Hrnt Kalengeryan, a Yerevan neonatologist.

"In the first six months [after the training] we did five times more laser surgeries than we had in the last six months," says Kalengeryan. "That means a lot of retinopathy of prematurity. And now it has decreased by five times."



Pediatric ophthalmologist Alina Zakaryan administers eye drops to an infant at the Yerevan State University hospital complex in Armenia

Retinopathy of prematurity is the newest focus of the Armenian EyeCare Project, a California-based nonprofit founded by Armenian-American ophthalmologist Roger Ohanesian. The project's original mission was to provide eye care for those wounded in the Nagorno-Karabakh War that Armenians fought with Azerbaijan from 1988 to 1994. After the war Ohanesian redirected the project toward conducting specialized trainings for Armenian ophthalmologists and providing eye screenings and eye surgery for isolated and vulnerable members of the population. He added retinopathy of prematurity to the mix after learning that better neonatal care was increasing the survival chances for Armenian preemies, but lack of proper eye screenings meant many were ending up blind. In 2010 he helped bring Dr. Thomas Lee, director of the Vision Center at Children's Hospital Los Angeles, to Yerevan to teach ophthalmologists how to look for and treat retinopathy of prematurity.

"Approximately one in 10 premature patients develops severe retinopathy of prematurity," says Lee. "Half of these babies will go blind without the appropriate treatment."

The project also provided retinal cameras for screenings so the doctors in Yerevan can continue to consult with Lee and other U.S. experts thanks to the images the cameras record. Lee has returned to Armenia twice since his initial trip. Ohanesian has been here more than 40 times. But in Armenia it isn't the ophthalmologists who are in charge, but **Nune Yeghiazaryan**, the Armenian EyeCare Project's country director.

"I found no one who has been able to understand the program as much as Nune," said Ohanesian.

In addition to overseeing the EyeCare Project's work on the ground in Armenia, Yeghiazaryan is also president of the **Yerevan Erebuni Lions Club**, chartered in 2009. The capital, Yerevan is Armenia's largest city with 1.1 million people. The Yerevan Erebuni Lions Club is not the first Lions club in Armenia; it is not even the first one in Yerevan. But it may be one of the first to gain the trust of a larger populace unfamiliar



with the idea of giving without receiving. That has a lot to do with its members, beginning with Yeghiazaryan.

Like in many post-Soviet societies,

Nune Yeghiazaryan, president of the Yerevan Erebuni Lions Club, oversees the EyeCare Project in Armenia



A doctor and nurse with the Armenian EyeCare Project consult with patients at Prkutyun ("salvation") Center, a facility for disabled young people in Yerevan

Armenians are unfamiliar with service organizations like Lions, says Yeghiazaryan. The group lost several members after it became clear to them that membership in the club would not in any way help them secure equipment for the hospitals where they worked, says **Varvara Kalashyan**, the club's treasurer and operations manager of the EyeCare Project. Even the younger generation of Leos struggle to convey the message to their peers. **Arus Khachatryan**, a 20-year-old linguistics student with long curly hair and a soft voice, is president of Armenia's first Leo club. When she tries to recruit friends she is met with skepticism.

"They want to know 'what's the profit?'" she says. "Not only for them, but for us in general, because it's hard to understand that we work without profit."

Mambre Ghazaryan has been trying to spread the message of Lions Clubs since the first **Armenian Lions Club, Yerevan Ararat**, was founded in 2001. As director of an international tourism firm, he is familiar with service organizations and quickly understood the role Lions clubs could play in the development of his country's social welfare system. He helped establish some of the seven clubs that now exist.

But with membership in decline at the original Yerevan club, Ghazaryan decided to try something different when he formed the Yerevan Erebuni Lions Club. ("Erebuni" is a former name for Yerevan.) Instead of attracting new members with the Lions' message, he impressed them with the caliber of those



A nurse with the Armenian EyeCare Project examines a patient at Prkutyun Center

who had already joined. He handpicked each of the group's 22 original members, sending as many as 10 letters to one potential recruit. In this way he convinced a war hero, an opera singer, a history professor, a magician and a ship's captain to join.



A patient's vision is checked by a nurse with the Armenian EyeCare Project

"I didn't want to join Lions for three years, and he kept begging me to come," says **Mkolich Mkolchyan**, a hero of the Nagorno-Karabakh War.

It was only after Ghazaryan told him about the other people in the group that Mkolchyan and his wife, **Lilit Matinyan**, decided to join.

"The people in the club are very good, very respected," said Mkolchyan.

The various talents and backgrounds of members attract different segments of the population, adds his wife. As a history professor, Matinyan is able to reach out to students, while her husband is trusted among veterans. "So each member has his or her own circle," says Matinyan.

While not all of the club's 15 remaining members are familiar with service organizations, all of them have been involved in humanitarian work. **Garen Balayan**, a 56-year-old ship captain, has taught disabled children sports since the devastating 1988 Northern Armenian earthquake that left at least 25,000 dead and as many as 31,000 injured. As a surgeon, **Souren Iloyan** is also familiar with helping others. He joined the club because he wanted to continue to do so, and because he liked and respected the other members.

"It doesn't matter what the club is, I like to do good things for people," says Matinyan.

Even though every project is funded out of their pockets, the Lions have been able to do



A patient gets checked in the mobile eye unit

quite a lot of good in their club's short history. They have distributed donated French books to a Francophile community, held concerts to raise money for a charity that teaches disabled children sports and held eye screenings in various communities. They plan to partner with the Armenian EyeCare Project in the future and already make use of the project's office space and expertise in vision screenings. With Yeghiazaryan and Kalashyan playing pivotal roles in both organizations, it seems only a matter of time before the partnership expands.

Spreading the word wider may take longer. It isn't that Armenians are selfish, Lions explain. It's just that they have suffered so much and still lack so many things that they are more used to receiving help than giving it. Memories of the "cold and dark years" of the early 1990s when there were severe electricity and food shortages are still fresh in the minds of most adults. During those years homes were heated by wood fires and "showers" were taken in segments; one day you washed your hair, the next your feet.

"We didn't take a shower—we took a mug," says Kalashyan.

The shortages lasted not weeks or months, but years. It was during these difficult years that Yeghiazaryan began working with non-governmental organizations. A commanding woman of 56, with short dark hair and a direct manner, Yeghiazaryan has an impressive pedigree. Her brother is a former minister of economics and her husband is a former chief of staff to the Armenian president. Although she studied at Harvard and her two grown daughters now live abroad, Yeghiazaryan never thought of working anywhere but Armenia.

"I think people who are able to study abroad owe something to this country," she says.

Armenia has lost so much she would hate to see it lose anything more. Even the lovely food Matinyan prepares, including for the club's yearly dinner, has bitterness to it, especially the meat salad Van.

"Just like you long for spring, this salad is named Van after a city that no longer belongs to Armenia, but we long for and remember it through the food," says Matinyan.

Van is located across the border in Turkey, lost to Armenia in 1915. The borders with Turkey and Azerbaijan have both been closed since the Nagorno-Karabakh War during which Matinyan's husband was wounded. The couple had to sell their house to pay for his medical treatment and struggle to support their two teenage children, but never shrink from hosting fellow Lions.

"Do you know what the kindness of a person is?" asks Matinyan. "It doesn't matter how much he needs help, he will help others." She sees this quality in her fellow Lions, and in their leader, Yeghiazaryan. "We know what kind of good deeds she does," says Matinyan.

Yeghiazaryan doesn't always have time to visit the hospitals. But ever since Lee's 2010 visit, Zakaryan



The Armenia EyeCare mobile unit visits the village of Yeghvard

has been screening babies in the neonatal intensive care unit every week. The mothers wait in the hall, dressed in fashionable fur coats and heels, their tiny infants wrapped in layer upon layer of pastel blankets. Zakaryan escorts them to the camera one by one, spending as little as five minutes on each infant. In most cases she advises the worried parents to follow up in two weeks.

Before Lee's 2010 visit she had never screened infants for retinopathy of prematurity. Instead she saw what happened when it wasn't treated: children who were already blind. She sent one girl to Russia seven times for surgery. The family had to sell their house to pay for the girl's treatment. Zakaryan didn't say whether the girl recovered any of her eyesight. Instead she looked at the preemie laid out on the examining table in front of her, one eye held open with a prong so she could examine it with the camera.

"You can't imagine what a blessing I feel when I see improvement thanks to our efforts," she says.



Doctors operate in the mobile unit



A patient waits in the mobile unit after eye surgery

Photos by Diana Markosian

Multiplication by Addition

by Elizabeth Blackwell

President Palmer is urging clubs to add more women. A club in a small town in Wisconsin has long known that welcoming and empowering women as members pays multiple dividends.

Wisconsin's First City boasts the sign that leads into Abbotsford, population 2,100. Technically speaking, it's true—if by “first” you mean alphabetically, not historically. That little inside joke offers a telling example of how the people of Abbotsford regard their hometown. They may face the same economic and demographic shifts that have challenged other small towns around the country, yet they have maintained a strong sense of civic pride, with the Lions in town playing a key role.

“The Lions have a big impact,” says Jenny Jakel, executive vice president at the community-owned AbbyBank. “They do a lot of city improvements and support our students in the local schools. We frequently see them out at events, and people here are very supportive of them.”

The brochure that the Lions in Abbotsford hand out to prospective members lists 25 different projects and charitable causes that they support, an impressive commitment for a 38-member club. Its work spans all aspects of Abbotsford life. Lions provide scholarships and recognition awards to high achievers at the local schools; they also sponsor family-friendly activities such as an annual Easter egg hunt and the local Boy Scout and Cub Scout troops. They have donated garbage cans and planted trees as part of an ongoing town-wide beautification project.

The Abbotsford Lions also look beyond their own borders. They are active with the Eye Bank of Wisconsin, taking on shifts to drive donations across the state. They volunteer at the Wisconsin Lions Camp, which hosts children with visual and hearing impairments, cognitive disabilities and diabetes. As part of the Wisconsin Lions Foundation, they also have volunteered on screening missions to Mexico, Honduras and Nicaragua.

Lions in Abbotsford don't hesitate to explain why their club has been so successful: they enjoy service. They enjoy one another's company. And they use the considerable talents of a segment of the population once absent from the club: women. Without women, the club may have withered and, if not disbanded, certainly shrunk in influence and impact. With women, empowered within the club and often in charge, the Abbotsford Club has been able to maintain and even increase its service footprint.

Many of the club members are married couples, who volunteer together and support each other when they take on leadership roles. The club is split evenly between male and female members. Over the past decade, about three out of four of the key officers have been women.

When the **Abbotsford Lions Club** was founded in 1968, “it was mainly businessmen who played poker and drank beer after the meetings,” says **Jim Schiferl**, 75, a real-estate broker and longtime club Lion. At the time, Abbotsford's economy was dominated by dairy farming, and Highway 29, one of central Wisconsin's main east-west routes, ran through the middle of town, bringing traffic to the local hardware store, clothing shop and other businesses along Main Street.

But over the decades, modernization took its toll. The highway was expanded and rebuilt to bypass Abbotsford. One by one, stores along Main Street shut down. Large agricultural corporations bought out the family farms, and Abbyland Foods, a meat-processing company, became one of the largest employers in town, attracting a sizeable immigrant, Latino workforce.

The town evolved and changed, and Lions decided that staying the same was tantamount to surrender and failure. Women were quickly admitted in 1987 when Lions Clubs International changed its policy to accept them, and the club was reborn.

“I battled for women to join from the very beginning,” recalls Schiferl, who had worked alongside his wife, Pauline, in the Jaycees. “The very first time I met an international director, I brought it up. The ladies had a very positive influence on our club. They communicate better than we guys do, and they know how to get people involved.”

Pauline Schiferl, 73, a retired nurse, joined the club as soon as women were accepted. She was voted president soon after. “Before that, I had worked with my husband on projects, but it was nice to finally be able to share my own ideas,” she says. The Schiferls, who soon realized how helpful it was to have another Lion around the house, began to focus on recruiting more couples. The once male bastion became a more family-oriented gathering, more in tune with the times and with what people in town wanted.

But club leaders soon came up against a common complaint: families didn't want to take on the financial burden of double dues. So the club got the jump on Lions Clubs International and made a significant policy change. “We never charged much for our local club dues, but we decided to charge spouses half,” says Pauline. “When we need to cover expenses, we'd just ask people to put money in an administrative fund.” The club's spouse discount was a key factor in its ability to attract both men and women, and the Abbotsford Lions strongly believed it should become general policy. “Whenever we went to an International Convention, we would bug the directors about it,” says Pauline. “When it finally passed [effective in 2007], we were elated.”

Lessening the financial burden on families was just one way the club adapted its policies to attract new members. Five years ago, it was decided that in order

to accommodate busy schedules dinner would no longer be part of regular meetings. “We've always had to work for members,” says Pauline. “They don't fall into your lap. You can't get complacent, and we've always been active on the state and district level, so we can find out what other clubs are doing.”

Paula Reusch, the office coordinator for the Abbotsford-Colby Area Chamber of Commerce, joined four years ago, when she was 58. “I knew just about everybody in the club, and I was looking for a way to be more involved in community events,” she says. Reusch, who was president last year, admits that it is hard to recruit women members until—like her—their children are grown and out of the house. “We're a very active club, and we have a lot going on. Some members don't necessarily come to meetings, but we get a good turnout for events. When we really need them, we can count on them to come.”

This being Wisconsin, the Abbotsford Club members can cook up a mean bratwurst, and the club's brat fries, which are held two or three times a year, net up to \$20,000 over three days. “When we get a turnout of less than 400 people, we ask ourselves, ‘What did we do wrong?’” laughs Reusch. The club is also known for its spring and fall brunches, which go well beyond the standard pancake breakfasts, serving up custom omelets and crepes. “We get a lot of people coming from other Lions clubs, and they tell us we've got one of the best breakfasts in the area,” says Reusch.

Kathy Schraufnagel, 65, the club's current secretary and a retired nurse, has lived in Abbotsford for 30 years. She finally decided to join the club five years ago, after a visit to the Wisconsin Lions Camp. “My dad was a Lion, and I remember him talking about how great it was,” she says. “When I visited, I was amazed—everything was so impressive.” She believes that personal experiences like hers are what ultimately draw in new members: “You have to go out there and show them what we do for the community.”

Bonita Weix, 56, a nurse and the club's current president, also joined because of a first-hand experience with the Lions' work. When her son joined the Cub Scouts—which is sponsored by the Lions—she became a liaison between the two groups. “It just made sense for me to join,” she says. “The values of both organizations are very similar. Both the Boy Scouts and the Lions are about serving your community and country. They both had the qualities I was looking for.” Weix's husband, **Jim**, is also a Lion, and their son, who grew up helping out at brat fries and brunches, joined when he turned 18.

“The majority of our members are husbands and wives,” says Weix. “We're quite social, but we get our business done. When it comes to organization, our women are good at the details.” Such expertise comes in handy when it comes time for the Easter egg hunt,

which Weix spearheads. The festive spring event attracts up to 250 children and involves filling 6,000 plastic eggs with candy. “My husband will do the bull work, but he doesn’t like that kind of organizing,” laughs Weix. When he takes over from her as president next year, she jokes, “It’s going to help him a lot to have me around!”

Jim Schiferl says that drawing in more women like Weix—along with their families—is the key to the long-term success of the Abbotsford Lions. “Most clubs have projects involving children, so why wouldn’t we want their mothers as members?” he asks. “I’d like to see that happen. Women with families say they’re busy, but busy people are the ones who get things done.”

For inspiration, Schiferl can look to Abbotsford itself, a place that could have gradually faded away, as so many rural towns have done. Instead, the past

decade has been a time of revival and renewal. Thanks in part to a \$12 million school district referendum, the town was able to build a new elementary school, remodel its existing middle and high school and construct a new city hall, public library, community center and emergency services building. “It’s something to see for a small town,” says Schraufnagel.

Reed Welch, the district administrator for the local school district, has worked in the Abbotsford school system for three decades, long enough to see the town transform. “We don’t have a lot of farm kids anymore,” he says. “Our school district is now 45 percent Hispanic, and 70 percent of our students qualify for free or reduced lunches,” he says. “But our kids do well, because the community is very supportive of education.” The Lions, he says, epitomize the can-do spirit of Abbotsford as a whole.

“They’re very active, and they turn their proceeds back into the community,” he says. “They can be very proud of what they’ve done.”



Bracebridge Lions Club

After the devastating flood in April, the Bowers family lost everything and we are helping to rebuild their modest home totally through volunteers, in-kind donations and fundraising.

Frank Drinkwater is doing an amazing job prepping the foundation for the build! Thanks go out to Derek Mason, a fellow Lion from Windemere, who volunteered his time and equipment to manage the demolition. Thanks also to Aces Waste Management for the debris removal and to Home Depot, who donated \$1500 in gift cards.

We are still looking for between \$5000 and \$10000 to help with the roof, septic and furnace. If anyone can help out, please send us an email at bracebridgelionsclub@gmail.com. We will have the Bowers into their home before the snow flies, as promised!



Changing Lion Clubs

Last fall I moved from Cambridge to Angus Ontario. I wanted to be near my daughter and her family. It was a heart breaking decision because I have siblings and many friends in Cambridge. I also felt excitement to start a new chapter of my life

The first time I walked into a meeting of The **Galt Cambridge Lion Club** I felt at home. I decided I wanted to be a Lion. I'm so proud to know the members of this wonderful club. I enjoyed being on the board of directors, helping to make decisions concerning the community, working on funding and having great fun doing it. I'm registered blind but they were patient and they guided me when I needed help .

I didn't know if I'd be accepted in the Angus club. The Cambridge Lions club were so familiar and they understood all my problems. I didn't have to prove what I could accomplish. They were so supportive . Would the new Club understand and welcome me

into the club?

When I went to my first meeting at The Angus District Lions Club Inc. everyone was friendly answering all my questions and I began to feel at ease. The meetings were interesting and I began to realize how fortunate I was to be part of this new club.

The club had just purchased a new Lions Hall. It was wonderful to see team work In this small town club. We hoped we could move in November for Angus's 50 years of service celebration. Because of delays this didn't happen. They put so much thought, time and effort into this project. This made it was such a success. On May 3, 2013 the club had its official opening. We had an open celebration and a dance followed. We are proud of our new hall.

Our past president Andy Smeuiders is a chef and the food is amazing. We are having two dinner meetings starting this lion year and I know it's because

of Andy's cooking skills.

I've come to love this little town and I feel at home here.. I walk all over and I enjoy my new club. I worried for no reason. Where there are lions there are friends.

Thank you – **Lion Pat McLay**



Lions on Location

Barrels of Fun in Italy

Roll out the barrel. Ring out the name of Lions.

That's the idea behind the zany barrel race held by the **Garda Valtenesi Lions Club** in Italy. Five-person teams run and roll a barrel, emblazoned with the Lions logo, along a 1.5-mile course through the city streets. The fun competition is about bragging rights: the winning team receives a colorful banner, proudly displayed either in the city hall of the first-place team or at the offices of the sponsoring sports company.

"The aim of this project is to involve youth, sports companies, wine manufacturers and the community in general and to make Lions better known in their communities," according to the Italian edition of LION Magazine.



A team races toward the finish line

Fun Is Indigenous for Campers

When in New Zealand, do as the Maori do. The 41 participants at a recent International Youth Camp in New Zealand swam, jet skied, climbed rocks, bowled, mini-golfed and enjoyed other youthful activities. But they also slept on a marae, prepared food for the hangi and mastered the kapa haka—all part of the culture of the Maori, the indigenous people of New Zealand.



Campers learn the kapa haka

"We had an action-packed itinerary, and come rain or shine, managed to fit everything in," says Stu Gray, camp director. "They were an amazing group of young adults and great ambassadors for their countries." The youths came from Australia, Austria, Brazil, Italy, Malaysia, Mexico and New Zealand.

The eight Lions clubs that hosted the camp made sure the youths interacted and bonded. An opening ceremony

included an ice-breaker event. The **Whakatane Sunshine Coast Lions** then hosted a tea that introduced the campers to Maori culture and protocol. New Year's Day included card games and movies. The youths shared their own culture through a Country of Origin concert.

In between the outdoor fun and impromptu socializing the youths learned about the Maori. They spent a night on a marae, an area of cleared, rectangular land bordered with stones or wooden posts. They used a hangi, or earth oven, to cook dinner. And forget about the hokey pokey—they did the kapa haka, a mesmerizing Maori dance.

Bam! Pow! Lions!

Holy costume extravaganza, Batman! The caped crusader and his young sidekick overran the town of Market Rasen in England. The Batman and Robin race, organized by the **Market Rasen Lions**, drew more than 100 runners masquerading as the famous Gotham City crime fighters.

Thanks to Hollywood movies, Batman is popular in England. But the charity race actually was inspired by an episode from the English sitcom "Only Fools and Horses" in which the characters incongruously dressed up as Batman and Robin for a fancy party. The Lions' event was called the Only Fools, No Horses Run.

One team of runners stylishly arrived for the race in a Reliant Robin, a small, three-wheel car. After the race, which raised more than US\$1,000, Lions awarded prizes for the best costumes. As for the competition, the Batmans and Robins came in all shapes and sizes, but savvy age generally still trumped youthful enthusiasm. "The Robins flew around the course, but as much as they tried they could not catch the Batmans," reports **Lion Graham Parish**.



Fighting crime doesn't mean you can't sneak in a snack

Lions and Music Form a Perfect Harmony

Where Lions are, music erupts. **Orimattila Lions** in Finland brought along popular accordion player Jarmo Kuusisto to perform at a home for seniors. Lions also fired up a barbecue and led seniors in exercise. In Austria, the Sound of Music international youth exchange featured a stroll through tiny Gösxl (450 residents) with the youths dressed in dirndls or lederhosen as musicians played traditional Austrian music. More than 60 youths from 20 nations

participated. Also in Austria, **Wien West Lions** served weisswurst, pretzels, and, of course, beer at an Oktoberfest. Club President **Dr. Walter Geyer** showed he could wield more than a gavel or stethoscope as he played the saxophone and keyboards as well as sang. In Korea, **Ulsan Hong Lions** threw a party at the Hoge Senior Welfare Center.



Singing in Finland



Parade in Austria



Oktoberfest in Austria



Music for seniors in Korea

Magic of Hogwarts Banishes Cancer

The wands, spells and magic potions, even the wise, warm counsel of Dumbledore, could not make the cancer vanish. But 64 children were able to forget about their illness and lose themselves to the charms of fantasy at a Harry Potter camp in New Zealand.

For five days the only element missing from the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft was Harry Potter himself. On the campus of atmospheric Lindisfarne College in Hastings, the children went wizard shopping at Diagon Alley and bought pet owls, frogs and bats. They purchased wands at Olivander's wand shop. They dressed in costumes, made potions (some deliciously edible) and learned sword fighting from members of a medieval society.

Some grownups knew the Potter books as well as the children and strove to precisely re-create the oddities and realities of that fantasy world. As any Potter fan knows, the wizard doesn't select the wand; the wand selects the wizard. The wand shop clerks managed to surreptitiously place stickers with the child's name on the wand he or she had chosen moments before.

The immersion in fantasy began the moment children arrived at Woodville Central Railway Station. There they found Platform Nine and Three Quarters and the Hogwarts Express, a venerable steam locomotive. The

on-board treats included licorice wands, chocolate frogs and Bertie Botts' every-flavored beans.



Dumbledore, AKA Past District Governor Tony Clifford to New Zealand Lions, leads his Hogwarts students to class

"I can honestly say we pulled some real magic on that camp. Some of the things the kids did and saw—I'm sure they are still trying to work out how it happened," says Fay Partington, an organizer of the Camp Quality NZ.

Dozens of Lions volunteered at the camp, cooking, making potions and supervising activities. "It was a very enjoyable day out, but it was more than that. It was heart-wrenching," says **Lion Lionel Raven**, whose son is a cancer survivor. "To see the bond between the children and their companions—it was something everyone

should experience. The volunteers and staff were totally immersed in the children and what they wanted to do. It brought tears to my eyes.

"One 10-year-old girl—she has only one leg—to see her hooning around. It was really something."

Family Day Helps Other Families

Two Lions clubs in Switzerland gave parents of younger children a welcome respite from their parental duties with an action-packed Family Day. **Aarau and Aarau Kettenbrucke Lions** read to children, held balloon and painting competitions and served refreshments. Lions accepted donations from grateful parents for a charity that operates specially modified wheelchair-friendly minibuses.



LCIF

LCIF

Mission Inclusion

LCIF Expands Partnership with Special Olympics

by Allie Stryker

Officially diagnosed with an intellectual disability at the age of 16, Ben Haack found it tough going in school and in sports. That changed when he joined Special Olympics Australia to play cricket and soccer.

"Before Special Olympics I didn't have any meaning in my life and really didn't have a life. I went through a lot of bullying and mistreatment in both school and mainstream sports ... Then I found Special Olympics and through Special Olympics I found a life. Special Olympics has given me and my family hope, support, respect and meaning," explained Haack in a speech in July at the 96th International Convention in Hamburg.

Past International President Wing-Kun Tam announced in Hamburg the expansion of Opening Eyes, Lions Clubs International's partnership with Special Olympics. Former NBA star Yao Ming, a Special Olympics board member; Timothy Shriver, Special Olympics chairman and CEO; and Haack shared testimonies and inspirational stories. Haack, a longtime Special Olympics participant and a leader for Special Olympics Australia, has witnessed firsthand the contributions of Lions clubs in Australia toward the health and inclusion of athletes. "Lions Clubs have done so much and continue to do so much for Special Olympics athletes across the world ... thank you!" said Haack. "I have seen Lions Clubs help my fellow athletes, giving them eyeglasses and a

chance to develop as an athlete and a person. I have seen them have fun together. That is the most important thing."

Since 2001, Special Olympics and LCI have screened more than 325,000 Special Olympics athletes, and have provided more than 100,000 athletes with high quality prescription eyeglasses with the help of global suppliers Essilor International and Safilo Group.

"I think it is almost impossible for words to capture what the gift of vision is to [the athletes]. For so much of their lives, they are told not just that it might not be important for them to see, but it just isn't important for them to be," said Shriver. "We have never had a more significant partnership in the history of the Special Olympics movement than the one we share today with Lions Clubs International."

The partnership expansion includes creating leadership opportunities for Special Olympics athletes, increasing the health work of Special Olympics, conducting outreach to families for additional support and allowing for both organizations to reach more young people through inclusive sports and advocacy programs. The goal is full acceptance and inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities.

"Lions already joined the Opening Eyes project, helping Special Olympic athletes receive proper vision care. We are excited to do even more health

programs, sports programs and family activities, and together, we can even make them better," said Yao.

This expansion is also designed to highlight LCI's global and community leadership.

"Thank you Lions Clubs for your continued support, but more importantly for your belief in people like me," said Haack. "Your support will allow us to reach more young people and empower our athletes to be leaders. These actions will help build understanding and break down barriers and bullying and will create communities of acceptance everywhere."



LCIF Chairperson Wayne Madden shares an athlete's excitement over new glasses at an Opening Eyes screening

Helen Keller Reimagined

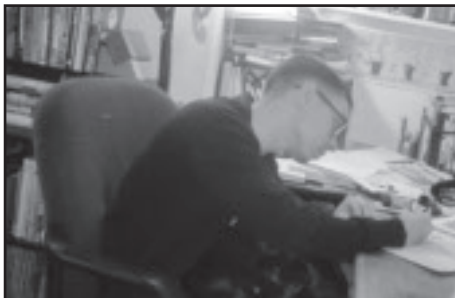
A new graphic novel shows the trials of young Helen Keller and her teacher

by John R. Platt

In 1887 Anne Sullivan made history when she traveled to Tuscomb, Alabama, to become Helen Keller's life-changing teacher. Their relationship is dramatized in the movie "The Miracle Worker" and countless books and narratives over the years. It's a story that many Lions practically know by heart.

But in many ways Keller's story really started more than a decade before she was born when Sullivan herself was a half-blind, illiterate, angry child growing up in a Massachusetts poorhouse. Those experiences shaped young Annie, just as they shape the narrative of "Annie Sullivan and the Trials of Helen Keller," a new graphic novel about the famous duo by cartoonist Joseph Lambert.

The powerful new hardcover book tells intertwining stories about the lives of Keller and her teacher, starting soon after the two met but also flashing back to the defining moments in Sullivan's childhood. Lambert, an exciting, innovative cartoonist, uses bold drawings, sharp dialogue (often drawn from the heroines' own writings) and at times surreal artwork to bring us deep inside the women's lives and minds. The \$17.99 graphic novel, released by Disney/Hyperion in 2012, is available from booksellers everywhere.



Joseph Lambert spent four years drawing the graphic novel on Helen Keller and Anne Sullivan

Lambert originally set out to focus on Keller's life, but the more he read about Anne Sullivan, the more he knew she deserved an equal focus. "It was Annie that really anchored the story for me," the slender, confident 28-year-old artist says from his studio in White River Junction, Vermont, where he lives with his wife and dog. Lambert's research led him to dozens of books written by and about Helen Keller including Keller's collected letters, the famous *Miracle Worker* play and its lesser-known sequel, 1933 biography of Sullivan and newspaper accounts from the 1880s. "It wasn't until I really learned about Annie's life and where she came from before she met Helen that I became emotionally invested. I could relate to Annie and her struggle to overcome the identity that was created for her by her circumstances," Lambert says.

Bringing Anne to Life

In 1874 Sullivan and her brother Jimmy were abandoned by their widower father at a poorhouse in Tewksbury, Massachusetts. There, surrounded by the dying and the dead, they were forced to find what little joy they could in the worst circumstances. Jimmy died at the poorhouse. Young Annie herself only found salvation after she was transferred to the Perkins

School for the Blind in 1880. Dr. Michael Anagnos, the school's director, took the young woman under his wing and directed her anger toward self-improvement. After she graduated, he would ask Sullivan to become Keller's teacher.

Unlike many books about Keller, the graphic novel brings Sullivan's dark and painful past to the forefront. "I think a lot of people were surprised that at least half



Lambert uses bold drawings and concise dialogue to tell the story

of the book was dedicated to Annie's childhood," Lambert says. "Helen should be celebrated because she accomplished so much, but I think a lot of the time Annie gets overlooked." He hopes readers will come away from the book with understanding the symbiotic nature of their relationship. "They both contributed to what we see as Helen, the iconic figure that she became," he says. Providing greater context on Sullivan's childhood also serves to illuminate how and why she fights so hard to succeed with Keller. "Her relationship with her brother is crucial to how she relates with Helen," he says.

Deborah Ford, director of library outreach for the Junior Library Guild, says Lambert's focus on Annie is overdue. "This book introduces aspects of the Sullivan-Keller story that we haven't gotten before," she says. "Helen struggled with her physical problems, but her teacher also had the same kind of physical and emotional struggles. Between the two of them, they did miraculous things."

Drawing Blindness

Annie's story shaped the book's narrative, but Lambert says the chance to visually depict Helen's world was what first attracted him to the assignment. "I knew the story would present a lot of challenging visuals," he says. "That got me excited as a cartoonist." The artist's visually stunning drawings and stories have appeared in numerous comic books and anthologies, multiple volumes of "The Best American Comics" and fine art prints. In 2011 he released "I Will Bite You," a series of dream-like short stories.

Lambert uses the first three pages of the graphic novel to show us the world through young Helen's point of view. The child lives in a world of darkness,

surrounded by indistinct shapes that she does not understand. Frustratingly, she is not alone in the darkness. Unknown hands — later revealed to be Annie's — reach out to her, forcing her to do tasks she can't even begin to comprehend. It is a world of anger, pain and loneliness.

As the book progresses Lambert takes us further inside Keller's head. While she learns, the indistinct shapes become clearer. In addition, sign language symbols and words—taught to her by Sullivan—become a part of the art. This narrative device shows us that young Helen is beginning to understand the world around her: that the substance she feels on her hands is water, or that the wooden structure beneath her is a chair, or the difference between "small" and "very small." It's an effect that could only have been achieved through the visual medium of comics.

"Comics can express ideas and emotions in ways that are unique and memorable," says Peter Gutierrez, the spokesperson on graphic novels for the National Council of Teachers of English. "The graphic novel allows readers to trace Keller's changing consciousness—including her relationship to Sullivan and her very conception of self—by noting the gradual effect that her education has on the content and complexity of the artwork."

At just 80 pages, the graphic novel can't tell the entire life stories for either Keller or Sullivan. Keller is just 11 years old at the end of the book, so we don't get to see her graduate from college, become politically active or challenge Lions to become the knights of the blind. "There's just so much in both of their lives," Lambert says. "Helen lived until she was 80. You could go decade by decade and write one of these books for each period."

Struggles, Then Triumph

The graphic novel is the fourth in a series of historical biographies published by Disney and produced by the staff, alumni and, in some instances, the students of the Center for Cartoon Studies in White River Junction. Founded in 2004, the center is the only accredited college-level program devoted entirely to comics. Lambert, who has been drawing since he was a child, graduated from the school in 2008 with a master's degree in fine arts. He was actually still a student there when the school's founder, cartoonist James Sturm, gave him the assignment.

Now a full-time artist, Lambert says his experiences at the school helped to define his approach to the novel. "I've had a handful of really strong teacher-student relationships over the years. They definitely informed the story," he says.

It actually took Lambert four years to complete the graphic novel, much longer than planned. "I had a really hard time getting the ball rolling early on," he says. "I would report to my editors, who were also my teachers. There were days when I would walk into their office with not as much done as I had planned." The frustration he felt in himself ended up strengthening his storytelling. "I realized I had that same kind of frustrated, disappointing feeling that Annie had when she just could not break through to Helen," he says.

The hard work paid off: the book landed on "best of 2012" lists from *School Library Journal*, the Junior Library Guild and other groups.

Platt is a member of the Boothbay Region Lions Club in Maine.

Dreamers and Doers

Ordinary clubs are taking on extraordinary projects, fulfilling International President Barry Palmer's vision of dreaming big.

by David McKay Wilson

Canadian Club Keeps Harbour Afloat

On a tiny island off the coast of British Columbia, the **Malcolm Island Lions Club** runs the island's busy harbour, where a ferry boat runs six times daily to the mainland, its commercial salmon-fishing fleet is docked and up to 150 recreational boaters visit on summer coastal cruises.

Among the town's 800 year-round residents, 20 are Lions. The harbour is the community's connection to the outer world, and the engine for its local economy.

"Our community has basic needs, we're a service club, and the Lions have responded," says **Lawrie Garrett**, 59, a business analyst for rural economic development organizations, who moved here in 1996.

The club, which celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2013, decided to take on the harbour management in 1989 by establishing the Malcolm Island Lions Harbour Authority, a public agency independent of the

Lions club, and similar to other harbour authorities along Canada's coast. Garrett is among four Lions who sit on the board of the nonprofit organization, which has four employees, and pays the club an annual management fee of \$18,000.

The harbour heats up in July and August during salmon-fishing season and summer vacation. Sailboats and recreational fishing boats pay the Harbour Authority \$1-per-linear-foot a night, so a 40-foot boat pays \$40 a night for a slip at the dock. The Authority collects the fees and maintains the docks.

"We can get filled up in the summer," says Garrett. "We get very busy."

The Malcolm Island Lions Club's involvement at the docks sets the stage for its further investment in the community. The harbour income then gets passed along as the Lions support Malcolm Island community organizations. The club funds youth recreational

programs, subsidizing the tuitions for island youths at a weeklong soccer camp in the summer. It runs the island's summer regatta, shoots off the Halloween night fireworks and rents out its spacious cabin by Mount Cain to youth groups for ski weekends.

When residents decided to launch a \$250,000 project to renovate its old community hall, the Lions club stepped up with a grant of \$10,000 to help shore up the hall's foundation.

Individuals in need also turn to the Malcolm Island Lions. The club's Friends in Need Now program—called FINN—harkens back to the community's early Finnish settlers. It comes in handy for Malcolm Island residents, who are often strapped for cash and require health care services on the mainland. Garrett says about six residents share up to \$6,000 each year to defer health-care costs.

"If you are not that well off financially, and need

help with medical equipment or travel or accommodations near a health care center, the Lions are there," says Garrett. "We try to help out."



Lawrie Garrett and other Malcolm Lions oversee the busy harbour in British Columbia

Florida Club Runs an Eye Clinic

The **Bonita Springs Lions Club** in southwest Florida opened its volunteer-run eye clinic in 2008. How's that for a club project? The Bonita Springs Lions Eye Clinic served up to 600 patients a year—for free. Routine and serious eye problems were detected. Lions saved sight.

But great projects don't always mean everything is great. The need for eye care in the community remained. There weren't enough hours in the day or space at the clinic to account for people's need.

So Bonita Springs Lions dreamed of a larger facility.

Reality, of course, has a way of stifling dreams. Some questioned whether the Eye Clinic could pull off the expansion because Lions had to raise money both for construction costs and operation of the expanded facility. The turning point was receiving a \$75,000 grant from the Lions Clubs International Foundation, which the clinic had to match.

"When we got the Lions Clubs grant, there was no turning back," said **Steve Blad**, 66, a Bonita Springs Lion since 2003 and executive director of the Bonita Springs Lions Eye Clinic, an independent organization located in the club's downtown complex.

The expansion enabled the clinic to double in size to more than 2,000 square feet. The old clinic had two exam rooms and an administrative station. The new clinic has four exam rooms, two waiting rooms and two administrative areas. The clinic served 1,500—more than double its former patient load—when it expanded in 2012.

About 70 percent of its low-income clientele are Latino or Haitian immigrants who suffer from pressing vision problems. To qualify for treatment, patients must have no public or private health insurance, and have income within 200 percent of federal poverty guidelines.

Patients are given comprehensive eye exams. Some just need glasses. Others are treated for pterygium, caused by excessive exposure to strong sun. Yet others have debilitating diseases, such as glaucoma, which can lead to blindness. About once a month, an uninsured patient walks in with undetected glaucoma. These patients may be treated with eye drops or surgery.

Others are referred to a local ophthalmologist, who provides frames and glasses for less than \$40, or the local Lenscrafters outlet, which has a program to provide free glasses to the indigent.

"Right now we're serving patients from a five-county region," says Blad. "And we do it without any marketing."

The clinic is run by a nonprofit that's independently



The expansion of the clinic has allowed Lions to more than double the number of people treated

incorporated. Lions play central roles in the clinic's management and its volunteer staff. Lions help with fundraising and volunteer at the clinic. The Bonita Springs Lions Club membership has remained steady at about 125 members.

The clinic attracts volunteers from other associations as well. The ladies of Delta Gamma Fraternity have adopted the clinic as one of their community projects, and its members now comprise about half of the clinic's volunteers.

The extra exam rooms required more doctors—both paid and volunteer—to conduct the exams and prescribe treatment. Blad oversees an administrative staff of three part-time employees, and a staff of contract physicians, who supplement the pro bono service provided by several local physicians, who either see patients at the clinic or perform procedures in their offices. Volunteers include a core group of retired doctors, whose ages range from their late 60s to 90.

The current annual budget is about \$110,000. This year, the clinic set a fundraising goal of \$150,000 to provide a financial cushion for future years. By mid-July, near the beginning of the 2013-14 fiscal year, the clinic already had pledges for \$85,000. Lions contributed \$40,000 in 2012-13, and local foundations are generous donors.

"It's a great challenge to run a small business with



Dr. Howard Freedman, the clinic's volunteer medical director, examines a patient

volunteers," says Blad. "We don't charge for services, but we need money to operate, just like other businesses. It's a constant effort: recruiting new volunteers, and maintaining our fundraising."

Clubs Collaborate on Camp Lodge

When **Mark Durnford** became district governor in 2010 for a region that covered the province of Nova Scotia in Canada, he wanted to launch a major project to elevate the Lions' image across the district and provide a long-lasting contribution to the island's betterment.

The project was ambitious: the construction of a lakefront camp lodge for children with chronic illnesses at the Brigadoon recreational facility on Aylesford Lake in Annapolis Valley. The Nova Scotia Lions needed to raise \$250,000, and Durnford hoped to find support from most of District N2's clubs to do so.

Lions like to dream big.

"There hadn't been a district project that made a difference for a long, long time," says Durnford, a member of the **Colebrook N2 Lions Club**. "We needed something big to bring everyone on board, to convince the ordinary Lion that this was the right thing to do. It was for the long haul, and that building would be around for 50 years."

In 2011, the project was approved at the district convention in Yarmouth. Under the agreement, the Brigadoon Children's Camp Society would fund the lodge's construction while Lions pledged to raise \$250,000 by 2018 to pay for the facility.

Durnford traveled the province for more than two years, speaking about the project and seeking support. Having a big dream, like the Brigadoon lodge, made it easier to ask for help. The project generated loads of publicity with reports on local television and newspapers as well as nonprofit newsletters.

Over time, the Nova Scotia Lions stepped up to back the project. Fifty-five of the province's 70 clubs got involved, with \$202,000 either raised or pledged including a grant of \$37,500 from the Lions Club International Foundation.

The lodge was completed in the fall of 2011. The



Past District Governor Mark Durnford spurred support for the lodge at the Brigadoon camp

2,500-square foot lodge opens onto the lake, with large windows on its spacious common room opening up on the spectacular view. Five bunk rooms and four bathrooms sleep 28. The year-round facility serves up to 24 kids for a few days or as long as a week.

"The project put us on the map," says Durnford. "It helps to think big. Big lasts for a long time, and once we're paid off, we are still connected."

When first conceived, it was a seven-year project, with the Lions agreeing to pay off the \$250,000 construction project by 2018. The outpouring of support has been so strong that District Governor **Wayne Little**, District N2, expects the Lions will reach the goal in 2014.

"Our clubs are all about youth, especially kids with disabilities," says Little of the Colebrook N2 Club. "We took it on as a seven-year project, and it looks like it will be wrapped up in three."

Oregon Club Does What It Can

When you redeem 360,000 bottles and cans a year, the nickels sure add up.

They add up to about \$18,000 a year for the **Brookings Harbour Lions Club** in southern Oregon, where the club has several containers around town that get emptied twice a day and brought to the redemption center on Friday.

"We had a celebration for our one millionth can," said **Areta Schock**, 77, of Harbour. "We're trying to keep these bottles and cans out of our landfill. And we get to raise money to help our local children and community."

The project began with a receptacle on Route 101, the major state road that runs through Brookings Harbour. There are now six more receptacles around town for returnable bottles and cans for water, soda, and beer—at the Elks Lodge, two fire stations, two grocery stores and a local park. Businesses participate as well.

The Lions collect about 1,000 bottles and cans a week—almost 60 a year for each of the 6,300 residents of Brookings Harbour.

"My husband, **John**, and I have the big run when we go down to the port of Brookings, where there are two restaurants, an RV park, and plywood mill that save their cans for us," Schock says.

The 32-member Brookings Harbour Lions Club keeps busy with the collection project. Each day, a different Lion has responsibility for all the receptacles, which they stop by twice a day to collect the plastic bags filled with empties. They store the bags at home, and then bring them on Friday mornings to the Fred Meyer Recycle Center to redeem. Up to 14 Lions arrive at 7:30 a.m. to process the returnables. They are usually done by 9 a.m. On one Friday this spring, they finished at 10:30 a.m.

"It depends on how much is donated," says Schock. "We had a lot this week."

The project has made Lions well-known in their community. "People appreciate what we do," she says.

The monthly income helps support the Lions philanthropic program in their community, with most of the proceeds benefitting the region's youth, with summer camp scholarships and a vision screening program in the local schools.

The club has its own vision screening equipment, so the club screens schoolchildren from first grade through high school, as well as those who are home-

schooled or in Christian schools. If students need glasses, and their family qualifies under income guidelines, the Lions purchase them for the students. About a dozen students a year receive glasses.

"The Lions are always looking for projects," she said. "We do whatever we can do, especially for our youth."



Areta and John Schock collect some of the 1,000 bottles and cans the Brookings Harbor Lions gather weekly.

photo by Garth Richey

Lions' Vision Brings Sight

For years dairy farmer **Orville Trettin** and his wife, **Elvera**, traveled from Stewart, Minnesota, to Honduras to deliver food, hand out clothing, bring walkers and otherwise help those in need. A decade ago, their volunteerism took on a new dimension. At a minister's home one night, a woman asked Orville if she could borrow his glasses to read her Bible. The next day, he bought her a pair of glasses. As he looked around, he realized that few rural Hondurans wore glasses. That's when the Lion in the Trettins roared.

By 2007, Trettin and Elvera, both past district governors, had founded a non-profit organization, Vision Honduras. For the past six years, the Trettins have led a group of volunteers to Honduras for four weeks with support from 40 Minnesota Lions clubs. The Eyeglass Recycling Center of the Wisconsin Lions provides thousands of eyeglasses.

Bob Wacker, the Trettin's son-in-law and also a farmer, also played a key role in the yearly trips and now in Vision Honduras, as do other volunteers. "We're family who are friends and friends who are family," says Kay Wacker, Bob's wife. "That's how we make this work."

Trettin's group needs to raise about \$5,000 each year to finance the trip, for which volunteers pay about \$600 for airfare and another \$900 while in Honduras for a month.

"It takes stepping outside the box and doing something for somebody else," says Trettin, 77, now a retiree who has been a Lion since 1968. "We come home each year so tired, and say, 'Never again. That's enough.' But after a couple of months, this thing works on you, and you start planning for next year. And that's what I'm doing right now."

Last February, the nine-member Vision Honduras team flew south with 6,100 pairs of glasses and an auto refractor. That's the machine that can measure the proper eyeglass prescription for individuals, which

Trettin and others on the team have been trained to operate. The group travels in a van to remote villages, where they hand out up to 125 tickets a day for people who need glasses. The clinic opens at 9 a.m. The line typically starts forming at 7:30 a.m.

"Finding the right pair of glasses can take five minutes or it can take a half hour," says Trettin. "The Hondurans don't care so much about the color of the glasses frame. They just want to be able to read or sew. Some people haven't read for 40 years."

He likes the small towns in the mountains of northwest Honduras, where people stream into the clinic from the hinterlands. They are grateful when they can see again.

"It's such a great experience," he says. "There are lots of hugs, so many thank yous."

Or sometimes the silence speaks volumes. One man donned his new eyeglasses and teared up gazing at the distant mountains that he had been unable to see for years.



Retired dairy farmer Orville Trettin of Minnesota helps a Honduran with his new glasses

Blackheath Binbrook Lions

The Lions were proud to support the group of 24 scouts and 6 volunteers for their trip to Red Deer Alberta for the Scout Jamboree this summer. The Lions have been long term supporters of the scouts and their fundraisers including buying popcorn for the seniors baskets the Lions give out at Christmas. In the fall the Scouts will come back to give a presentation of the photos taken on the trip and to regale the Lions with stories from the trip.



The cheque presentation of \$1,500.00 included Lion (PDG) Lyle Brenzil, Scout Leader Tammy Koiter, Scout Ty Koiter, Scout Trinity French, Scout Leader Andy Bienhaus and Lion Jim Young



ACCOMMODATIONS

MULTIPLE DISTRICT "A" & DISTRICT A-12
JOINT CONVENTION
May 2 – 4, 2014
Deerhurst Resort
Huntsville

www.MDA2014.ca

Room reservations must be made **directly** with the resort by calling **1-800-461-4393**.

Notes

- > Advise them you are making reservations for the Lions Convention, May 2 to 4, 2014
- > Reservations must be made by April 1, 2014 in order to qualify for the group rate.
- > Room rates do not include the 5% resort fee or HST
- > If you wish to extend your stay - pre and/or post convention – the above rates will be honoured, subject to availability.
- > The resort requires a deposit equal to the first night's stay including tax to be charged to a credit card at time of booking.
- > If you have special accommodation needs, please advise the resort at the time of booking
- > All resort rooms are non-smoking
- > All rooms have a flat panel TV with in-room movies, iron and ironing board, hair drier, wireless internet and kitchen facilities as noted.
- > All rooms include use of the indoor pool, sauna, whirlpool, fitness room, complimentary parking, and walking trails.

The Resort features several excellent restaurants, complete Spa facilities and many other activities including two golf courses, climbing wall, tennis courts, horseback riding, pony rides, treetop trekking, and boating (weather permitting)



Further information is available at www.deerhurstresort.com



MDA & DISTRICT A-12 CONVENTION MAY 2 - 4, 2014 DEERHURST RESORT

ACCOMMODATIONS



ROOM TYPE	COST PER NIGHT	# BEDS	LIVING ROOM	KITCHEN TYPE	COMMENTS
Travellers Guestrooms	\$103.75	1 or 2 queen beds	No	Coffee maker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overlooking golf course or forest • 10 to 15 minute walk to the main building
Lakeside Guestrooms	\$132.25	2 queen beds	No, but has a comfortable sitting area	Coffee maker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overlooking the water • 10 to 15 minute walk to the main building • TV and DVD player
Main Building Guestrooms	\$141.75	1 king or 2 queen beds	No	Coffee maker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • complete with a desk area • separate vanity area • most have a balcony or terrace.
Main Building 1 bedroom suite	SORRY - SOLD OUT				
Summit Lodges Junior 1 bedroom suites	\$160.50	1 king or 2 double beds Double sofa bed in living room	Yes	Kitchenette includes a 2 burner stovetop, microwave, mini-fridge, dishwasher, toaster, kettle, coffee maker, pots, pans, dishes & cutlery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summit Lodges are adjacent to the main building. • 1 to 5 minute walk • 3 stories – no elevator • TV and DVD player • fireplace
One bedroom condos	\$160.50	1 king Double sofa bed in living room	Condo style accommodations with living & dining areas	Full kitchen with full size appliances, microwave, toaster, kettle, coffee maker, pots, pans, dishes & cutlery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • located in various areas around the resort • 5 to 10 minute walk to main building • Overlooking the golf course or forest • fireplace • TV and DVD player
Two bedroom condos	\$246.50	Master bedroom with king bed, TV & bathroom 2nd bedroom - 2 queen beds, TV & bathroom. Double sofa bed in living room.			
Three bedroom condos	\$342.00	Master bedroom - king bed, TV & bathroom 2nd bedroom - 2 queen beds & bathroom 3rd bedroom - 1 queen bed & bathroom Double sofa bed in living room			

Please contact the resort directly to reserve rooms. See above

MULTIPLE DISTRICT "A"/A12 CONVENTION 2014

MUSKOKA ROCKS

DEERHURST RESORT HUNTSVILLE

MAY 2 - MAY 4, 2014



HOSTED BY THE LIONS CLUBS OF DISTRICT A12

A District _____ Club _____

Lion Lioness Leo Partner in Service Highest Office _____ Past Present

Name _____ Name to appear on badge (if different) _____

Mailing Address _____
STREET # or PO BOX CITY PROV P.C.

Phone _____ Email _____

B District _____ Club _____

Lion Lioness Leo Partner in Service Highest Office _____ Past Present

Name _____ Name to appear on badge (if different) _____

Mailing Address _____
STREET # or PO BOX CITY PROV P.C.

Phone _____ Email _____

Hotel registration is being handled by *Deerhurst Resort* and you are responsible for booking your room directly with them. Please refer to the **ACCOMMODATIONS** information flyer - choose your room then call **Deerhurst** and make your reservation. **Deadline for hotel reservations is APRIL 1, 2014.** Book early and avoid disappointment!



PLEASE NOTE:

- **Everyone, including guests and exhibitors** must be registered in order to attend any convention functions, including meals.
- All cancellations must be in writing by mail or e-mail and acknowledged. Cancellations received after **March 1, 2014** will be subject to a \$10 handling fee.
- **NO REFUNDS AFTER April 1, 2014**

FUNCTION TICKETS	COST PER PERSON	"A""B"	TOTAL
Saturday Luncheon	\$ 45	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	\$ _____
Saturday Night Banquet & Entertainment	\$ 70	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	\$ _____
<i>If you purchase both tickets, the cost is \$105</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	\$ _____
Total Amount for Function Tickets Required \$ _____			

Tickets must be ordered by April 1, 2014 and are available only while quantities last. Don't delay!

NO FUNCTION TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE CONVENTION

AMOUNT DUE

Full Registration fee for A	\$25.00= \$
Sunday only A	\$10.00= \$
Full Registration fee for B	\$25.00= \$
Sunday only B	\$10.00= \$
Exhibitor/Pin trader	\$25.00= \$
Registration fee for Leo	\$10.00= \$
Function tickets (as above)	\$ _____
Convention pin <u> </u> x	\$5.00 = \$
Pin trader table <u> </u> x	\$25.00= \$
Commercial exhibitor table <u> </u> x	\$25.00= \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE \$ _____

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Heavenly Hamburg

Lions enjoy a great convention stuffed with stars and spectacle

by Jay Copp

He gently closed his eyes, slightly raised his olive-hued forehead and then delivered a stunning performance of "Ave Maria." Andrea Bocelli's powerful, lightning-bolt voice stilled the 13,000-seat arena in Hamburg. When he finished, Lions sat hushed for a nanosecond and then rose as one and burst into applause. Lions at convention take pride in being part of something that spans the world; after Bocelli finished and gratefully bowed his head Lions instantly understood they had witnessed a world-class performance.

Bocelli awed the convention crowd after Lions Clubs International presented him with its prestigious Humanitarian Award for his foundation's work to help the blind and needy. His performance was one highlight among many at the hard-to-top 96th International Convention in early July. Lions enjoyed five days of oratory, exhortation and performances by the well-known and the well-regarded. Former U.S. First Lady Laura Bush praised Lions for their literacy efforts. Basketball legend Yao Ming of China, taking the stage as an ambassador for Lions' partner Special Olympics, downplayed his status as a superstar and deftly deferred to Special Olympians and Lions as true stars. The venerable but ever-youthful Up with People sang and danced with buoyant optimism for two high-wattage hours at the International Show.



Andrea Bocelli proves he can sing as well as he can do good deeds as a humanitarian

A clean, prosperous city, freshly adorned for a week with Lions flags and logos draped on or over poles, buildings and ships at the Old World city center and along the busy Elbe River, Hamburg was awash in Lions. Nearly 25,000 Lions and guests from 136 nations registered, far more than a typical convention. Germany led the way with 5,918 registrants, followed by Japan with 3,725, the United States with 2,099, France with 1,336 and China with 1,298.



Up with People performs at the International Show



Lions flags fly in the city center as the parade marches around the lake



2012-13 President Wayne A. Madden presents the official gavel to 2013-14 President Barry J. Palmer moments after Madden administered the oath of office to Palmer



Convention is not all play and no service: Lions provide vision screenings for Special Olympics athletes

Thanks to the organizational skills of German Lions, events proceeded with clockwork efficiency. The shuttle buses whisked away the 10,000-plus at the plenary sessions almost as soon as the Lions exited the hall.

The emphasis on efficiency did not detract from the dazzle and excitement typical of conventions. The parade on the convention's second day was particularly memorable. Lions did a one-mile lap in downtown Hamburg around gorgeous Binnenalster Lake. Mounted police officers led the parade followed by Lions' executive officers in horse-drawn carriages and then tens of thousands of flag-waving, folk-singing, ethnically-garbed Lions. Afterward marchers filed into a sprawling Lions Market to devour grilled bratwurst and learn about Lions' projects at stalls and booths.

Traditions and spectacle also filled the other days of the convention.

The popular flag ceremony respectfully and colorfully showcased the flags of the Lions' 200 nations. Outgoing International President **Wayne A. Madden** of Indiana and new President **Barry J. Palmer** of Australia delivered well-received speeches to motivate and inform Lions.

Madden recounted the rousing success of the four-part Global Service Action Campaigns as well as the overwhelming impact of his signature project, the Reading Action Program (RAP). Lions assisted more than 6 million people in completing 73,000 RAP Projects in 2012-13. He also announced that the Lions' board of directors extended RAP for a decade and before an audience of assenting Lions at the first plenary signed a collaborative partnership with Scholastic, the world's largest children's book publisher, to promote literacy.

Madden administered the oath of office to Barry Palmer, who then unveiled his four dreams this Lions year. He will help Lions begin microfinance programs to take women and children out of poverty, establish programs and projects to attract members of all ages and both sexes, reach for a "dream goal" of 1.4 million members and raise the visibility of Lions through social media.

Leadership succession was a prominent element of the convention. Lions elected Past International Director **Jitsuhiro Yamada**, a Japanese neurosurgeon, as second vice president, and **Joe Preston** of Arizona was duly elected as first vice president, meaning Preston will lead Lions as international president in

2014-15 to be followed by Yamada. Lions also elected 17 first-year directors from the seven constitutional areas for the board of directors, and just before the convention convened the incoming 757 district governors took their oath of office.

One of the traditional functions of the convention is to showcase and further partnerships—with the ultimate goal to extend Lions’ service. Hamburg was no different. LCIF committed an additional \$7.8 million toward its partnership with Special Olympics; Lions provide vision screenings and eyeglasses for Special Olympics athletes. LCIF also pledged to raise \$30 million to protect children in poor nations against measles and rubella. Lions are partnering with the GAVI Alliance on the initiative, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the UK’s Department for International Development pledged to match Lions’ commitment, meaning GAVI will receive \$60 million to protect 700 million children in 49 nations by 2020.

Like other conventions, Hamburg proved to be a beguiling bundle of entertainment, enlightenment and enrichment. Lions came to enjoy themselves but also came with a sense of responsibility. They voted for new directors and officers. They crowded seminars to pick up new ideas on service and club operations. They arrived knowing that when they leave they expect to be better able to serve their community. The bonus they received in Hamburg was an unusually rich experience of fellowship and festivity. Lions in Hamburg realized that, similar to doing service, they received more there than they gave at convention. “This is an inspiration. Everyone here is so friendly,” said **John Mundi** of Meridian, Indiana, as he watched a German band play sing-along folk songs outside the exhibit hall. “It’s a shame that the world can’t do what happens here. We disregard all our differences and just be together to celebrate life.”

Happy to be in Hamburg

Gemütlichkeit, the mood of amiability cherished by Germans, is found in abundance in beer halls and at family gatherings. But for five days in Hamburg Lions and others happily found themselves in a sphere of goodwill and good times. Attendees agreed that the international convention succeeds in bringing out the best in people and motivating them to put more into service when they return home.

“It’s really impressive. We have people from communities from all over the world. It’s called Lions International. You can feel it ... people from all over the world.”
— Christian Leupold (with his wife, Kirstin), president of the Freising Lions Club in Germany



“Everyone is so friendly. That’s the way it should be. Everyone is just happy and friendly.”
— Esther Huber of Lake Zurich, Switzerland

“Everyone is friendly. It makes you that way. If you ever come to a convention, you will want to come back.”
— Praveen Chandra Sharma (with his wife, Tara), 322-E District Governor from Patna Bihar, India



“We really like the Lions Market [stalls selling food or showcasing Lions’ projects held after the parade]. It’s brilliant. It gets people in a Lions environment. It should be replicated each year.”

— Mike Baldwin (with his wife, Janet), a Past District Governor from Milton Keynes, England



“You miss a lot not being here. Every Lion should experience this.”
— Lee Eisenhard, 14-T district governor from Mont Alto, Pennsylvania
“You meet so many people and they all have the same thing in common—service.”
— Sandy Eisenhard, his wife

Dogs Champs of Great Duck Race

Five Dogs plunged into the beach at Morrisburg to determine the five winners Great Duck Race and the \$1,000.00 in cash and gift cards up for retrieval! Finnegan an attention loving black Labrador; German Shepherd Alsatian Katie with agility lineage; Cocoa, a charming and flirtatious Shih-Tzu/Cavalier Spaniel mix; fun loving yellow Labrador Addison; and swimmer extraordinaire, Labradoodle Floyd took turns choosing a numbered duck from the 1200 in the St Lawrence River. In successfully retrieving a duck in their own manner and time, the dogs provided much entertainment for the crowd gathered to watch the event. Hosted by the Morrisburg and District Lions, proceeds from this initiative fund five (5) five hundred bursaries for local young adults furthering their education at the Seaway District High School Commencement exercise in October.



Pictured with their owners are the dog champs of the Great Duck Race hosted by the Morrisburg & District Lions Club. Black Labrador Finnegan, German Shepherd Alsatian Katie, Shih-Tzu/Cavalier Spaniel mix Cocoa; yellow Labrador Addison; and Labradoodle Floyd. Holding the sign in the background are the co-chairs of the 2013 Duck Race Lions Judy Charette (left) and Tracey Veinotte

Sweaburg Lions opens “Our Wee Little Library”

Sweaburg Lions have taken a page from Lions in Wisconsin and opened a community lending library.

The library, housed in a convenience store, has no membership and no late fines. The presence of the corner store library also eliminates a trip to Woodstock or Ingersoll to transact normal library activities.

Bob Pate, owner of the store, says people can leave a book which is made available to everyone.

The community exchange overcomes the perennial problem readers have when buying a book – read it once and then it sits on a shelf forever.

A variety of books is available, numbering about 100 and growing daily as people bring as many as 10 or more books to add to the collection.

This Lions-assisted project has captured the imagination of the community and supports Lions literacy goals.

Memorable Moments



The 7-foot-6-inch **Yao Ming** stood next to 2012-13 LCIF Chairperson **Wing-Kun Tam**, who is not tall, upon being introduced at the second plenary. Lions broke out in laughter as Tam smiled good naturedly.

Gently led by her mother, 11-year-old **Maura Loberg of Nebraska**, the grand prize winner of the Lions International Essay Contest for visually impaired youth, shyly made her way across the stage at the plenary hall to receive her award. Recognizing Maura as an embodiment of Lions' service aspirations, the more than 12,000 Lions in the arena rose to shower her with warm applause.



Former U.S. First Lady Laura Bush tut-tutted her favorite ex-president for leaving his socks strewn about the house.



The themes of the three plenary sessions were, respectively, peace, love and understanding, and the first plenary opened with long-haired, hippie-like singers belting out popular tunes from "Hair" and other 1960s classics.



With a lull in the parade, Lions from Israel joyously danced in a circle on the streets of Germany, and spectators joined their hands to become part of the impromptu folk dance.



Lions in the plenary halls gasped as **Past District Governor Aruna Oswal** of India and her husband, **Lion Abhey Oswal**, pledged \$5 million to LCIF, the single-largest donation made to LCIF.



Jenny Park of California, the Peace Poster contest winner, decided to donate her \$5,000 prize to her sponsoring club, the **Northridge Lions Club**, which set up a fund to provide eyeglasses for children in need.



Lions Club's executive officers including Wing-Kun Tam, LCIF chairperson, joined Up with People on stage to sign and dance to "YMCA."



Normally a bustling place with a din, the exhibit hall took on the quieter dignity of a concert hall as the **German Lions Symphony Orchestra** filled the spacious room with lovely classical music, and Lions stopped



what they were doing to wander over and listen in wonderment.

With a deep feeling belying their youth, the **Hamburg Gospel Train Choir** sang "Circle of Life" at the last plenary session.



Outgoing President Madden, a die-hard Hoosier sports fan, in addition to a check to start a literacy foundation, received from Indiana Lions, a basketball signed by Coach Bobby Knight, an Indiana basketball jersey and an honorary membership in the

Indiana High School Basketball Hall of Fame.

New President Barry Palmer choked up in front of thousands of Lions in telling about **Leo Taylor Heersche** of Kansas, who wished to be in Hamburg but died of cancer in the fall. 2012-13 President Madden also poignantly saluted Taylor at the Leo Lion Summit, attended by many of her Leo friends from Kansas, by taking off his suit coat and revealing a "Taylor's Gang" T-shirt.



Classy but also endearingly down-to-earth, **Princess Laurentien of the Netherlands** spoke of her nine-year-old son at the second plenary session in a way every parent and every Lion could relate to. His favorite animal is a lion. When she told him she was speaking to Lions and what they do, he told her, "You see, Mummy! I told you that everyone should have a lion. Then everyone would be happy like me."





Foxboro and District Lions

On May 21, 2013, Foxboro and District Lions Club proudly awarded the prestigious "Helen Keller Fellowship" plaque and lapel pin to **Lion Sue Flanigan**, Secretary of the Club, in recognition of

her 15+ years of dedicated service with the Lions Homes for the Deaf. The award was presented to Lion Sue by **Lion DG Mary Ann Smith**.

Lion Sue has been a dedicated member of Lioness/Lions for three decades, as well as an active member of many other humanitarian organizations.

Congratulations and Thank You Lion Sue for your inspirational dedication to Lionism and the meaning of "WE SERVE".

50 Years of Volunteering

On June 18, 2013, nineteen members of the **Markham Lions Club** prepared and served a Barbeque Lunch to approximately 600 staff members at the Markham Stouffville Hospital (MSH). Lions served up 550 to 600 hamburgers, 42 cartons of potato salad and 38 containers of coleslaw. In addition, **Lion President Mark Carrington** presented Janet Beed, President and CEO of the Markham Stouffville Hospital with a cheque for \$10,000.00 towards the purchase of a Hospital bed. The money was raised from donations from members, a Gala event and part of the proceeds of a Cruise Raffle draw.

The donation to the Hospital Buy a Bed Campaign was part of Lion President Mark Carrington's mandate for the year 2012/2013.

50 Years of Volunteering

On June 6, 2013 District Governor **Lion Tom Gordon** (R) presented **Lion Tom Goldring** of the **Markham Lions Club** with the Monarch Milestone Chevron Award from LCI for 50 years of service volunteering as a Lion. Lion Tom Goldring also received The Government of Ontario Award.



Cannington Lions Club

On February 9th, 2013, the Cannington Lions Club celebrated their 65th Charter Night.

As part of the festivities, **Lion John Argue** was presented with the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in recognition of 45 years of volunteer service to the Cannington community through his involvement with the Lions Club, Cannington Minor Hockey, the Cannington Curling Club, and the Brock Lodge. MPP Laurie Scott presented Lion John with his medal.



L - R: 1st Vice-President Lion Ken Drynan, Janet Beed, President & CEO of the MSH, Lion President Mark Carrington and Donna Doherty, MSH.

MDA Directory Information

Council of Governors' Meeting Dates

- Council Meeting: September, 6/7, 2013
- Council Meeting: November, 1/2 2013
- Council Meeting: February 28/March 1, 2014
- Council Meeting Convention: May 2-4, 2014

District Conventions

Dist	Location	Date
A1	Holiday Inn, Sarnia	April 4-5, 2014
A2	Holiday Inn & Suites, St. Catharines	March 28-30, 2014
A3	Ambassador Conference Resort, Kingston	April 11-13, 2014
A4	Brookstreet Hotel, Ottawa	April 11-13, 2014
A5	Radisson Hotel, Sudbury	April 11-13, 2014
A711	Delta Meadowdale Conference Centre, Mississauga	April 11-13, 2014
A9	Holiday Inn Express, Kincardine	April 4-6, 2014
A12	Deerhurst Resort, Huntsville	May 2-4, 2014
A15	Holiday Inn, Guelph	April 11-13, 2014
A16	Quality Inn, Oshawa	April 12-13, 2014

IMPORTANT DATES

MDA Convention

2013/14 Deerhurst Resort, Huntsville, ON May 2 - 4, 2014

International Conventions

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
101st	Las Vegas Nevada, USA	June 29-July 3, 2018

USA - Canada Forums

Sept. 19 - 21, 2013	Overland Park, Kansas
Sept. 18 - 21, 2014	Puerto Rico
Sept. 17 - 19, 2015	Grand Rapids, Michigan



Goderich Lions Club Honours One Of Their Own

The Goderich Lions Club has honoured **Lion Alvin McGee** with a LCI Life Membership. Lion Alvin has been an active and involved member of Goderich Lions for over 54 years. He has chaired many key committees over the years, and has been the driving force behind many of our successful fund raising projects, and is known for his 'auctioneer' skills when required. He spearheaded several key community improvement projects, and is always there to lend a hand when something needs doing.

The Club has previously recognized his contributions with the Melvin Jones Fellowship award.

Submitted by Lion Bill Hayward



Challenge to Raise CTC Dollars for Dorset

Lion Bob Rutter has challenged Lions across Ontario to match or exceed the #307 in Canadian Tire money raised by **Royal City Lions Club** for Lions Camp Dorset.

The challenge was made June 15 during celebrations to mark the 35th anniversary of Camp Dorset. The money is used by the camp to refurbish, repair and replace recreational equipment used by the dialysis patients and their families while visiting at the camp.

Helen Walker, medical administrator, said in the past two years that CTC Dollars for Dorset has been operation, more than \$4,000 in Canadian Tire money has been raise. In the past,

canoe paddles, fishing equipment and life jackets have been purchased.

Camp Dorset provides state-of-the-art dialysis treatments for patients from renal centres throughout Ontario while offering vacation opportunities for families to get away.



Lion Bob Rutter presents \$307 in Canadian Tire money to Lion Jim Coulson, president of the Camp Dorset corporation during the camp's 35th anniversary celebration

Belle Générosité du Club Lions en 2012-2013 122,775 \$ versés en dons divers

Sous la gouverne du président sortant, Lion Yvon Brodeur, l'année 2012-13 s'étant terminée le 30 juin dernier aura permis de nouveau au Club Lions de Buckingham de démontrer encore une fois sa grande générosité envers divers organismes ou de gens dans le besoin avec des dons totalisant 122,775 \$.

C'est grâce à l'encouragement de toute la population de la région si nous avons été en mesure d'aider autant de gens et tous les membres de notre organisme vous remercient du fond du coeur de votre générosité.

Permettez-nous de faire une brève énumération des principaux dons :

1. Distribution de 313 paniers de Noel aux familles défavorisées de la région ayant totalisé un investissement de 41,411 \$



Les Lions Michel Legault et Yvon Brodeur photographiés avec les dirigeants de l'hôpital de Papineau dans un don global de 92,000\$ qui aura permis aux Lions et à la Fondation santé de Papineau de faire l'achat d'un analyseur PCR pour une analyse rapide des bactéries. Appareil donné à l'hôpital de Papineau qui devenait ainsi le seul hôpital en Outaouais québécois à posséder une telle technologie d'avant pointe

2. Achat d'un analyseur PCR (appareil permettant une détection rapide des bactéries et éclosons) donné de concert avec la Fondation santé de Papineau à l'hôpital de Papineau, une deuxième tranche de 26,000\$ pour un achat total de 92,000\$ pour les deux organismes
3. Visites de Noel à nos aînés en résidence, au CHSLD Vallée-de-la-Lièvre et à nos malades de l'hôpital de Papineau qui ont reçu pour 5,553\$ en cadeaux
4. La TVC Basse-Lièvre qui a reçu une contribution financière de 6,000\$ des Lions
5. Une autre tranche de 5,000\$ à la Paroisse St-Grégoire de Nazianze pour la réfection de la toiture portant notre don à 20,000\$ sur les 25,000\$ promis
6. Camp de vacances pour jeunes provenant de milieu défavorisé; un don de 2,000\$



Le président sortant Yvon Brodeur photographié avec une jeune famille qui a bénéficié de la générosité des Lions puisque les enfants pourront goûter les joies d'un camp d'été

7. Maison de la famille, un don de 5,000\$
8. Fondation de la réussite éducative pour les petits déjeuners, un don de 5,000\$
9. Société canadienne du cancer, des dons totalisant 1,600\$ pour la recherche.

Présent dans sa communauté depuis 1934, les membres actuels vous assurent de continuer à oeuvrer au mieux être des pauvres et des malades pour les années à venir et désirent vous remercier pour l'encouragement démontré pour nos oeuvres au cours des années.



Lion Jean-Pierre Whissel accompagné de bénévoles se préparant à délivrer quelques-uns des 313 paniers de provisions donnés à des familles défavorisées de la région à l'occasion de Noel



Lion Yvon Brodeur remettant un chèque de 6,000\$ à Gilbert Lanthier et Michel Pilote de la TVC Basse-Lièvre

2013 Carkinator Car Rally

Lion Viviane Martin discovered a unique way to celebrate her birthday on July 6th, 2013. She as well as Lions (and husband) **Jim Martin, Bob Bechard** and **Judy Charette** of the **Morrisburg and District Lions Club** participated in the Carkinator Car and Motor Rally.

The Rally, named for NHL defenseman Matt Carkner, brought together hockey fans and car enthusiasts to raise \$47,289.00 for the Winchester District Memorial Hospital. NHLers participating in the event included Matt Carkner of the New York Islanders, Chris Neil of the Ottawa Senators, Terry Carkner formerly of the Philadelphia Flyers, Bryan Helmer formerly of the Washington Capital and Shean Donovan who played with the Ottawa Senators.

Twenty nine (29) teams and 110 participants travelled the rally route following the clues created and designed

by **Lions Keith** and **Linda Robinson**, also members of the Morrisburg and District Lions Club. Lions Linda and Randy Prevost, fellow Morrisburg and District Lions Club member tallied the clues while Lion Keith operated the grill for the post event BBQ, celebration and entertainment led by hockey historian Liam Maguire.

This, the third annual Carkinator Car and Motor Rally, demonstrates Matt's close ties to his childhood community and his ongoing commitment to the hospital despite his NHL career move from the Ottawa Senators to the Islanders.



Birthday Girl Lion Viviane Martin of the **Morrisburg & District Lions Club** poses with NHLers (left to right) **Shean Donovan, Matt Carkner, Bryan Helmer** and **Terry Carkner** following the Club's participation in a highly successful Carkinator Car and Motor Rally that raised in excess of \$47,000.00 for the Winchester District Memorial Hospital. Missing from the picture is NHLer **Chris Neil** who was also on hand for the event

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

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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.

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Lions Parade in Style

It was a great day to be a Lion on the second day of the 96th International Convention in Hamburg. More than 15,000 Lions from 130 nations marched through the streets of downtown Hamburg. Often wearing native dress, the Lions dance, sang and high-fived charmed spectators. After the parade, they descended on a Lions' Market, where 30 booths showcased Lions' service and served international foods. The food was exceptional, the scenery was spectacular and spirits were high. Did we say it was a great day to be a Lion?



Everybody was kung-fu fighting when the Chinese Lions made their appearance



Indonesian Lions make beautiful music from wooden instruments



A Lion from India humbly responds to well-wishers



Lions from Egypt are appropriately regal



The delegation from India sports ethnic dress

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Texas Lions are proud to be from Texas, or can't you tell?